



EDITION: WINTER 2019

Don't Miss Out!

Night at the Races
February 7, 2019
The Brownstone
Paterson, NJ

Gala of Hope
April 5, 2019
The Venetian
Garfield, NJ

Golf Outing
June 10, 2019
Ridgewood Country Club
Paramus, NJ

To purchase tickets visit
www.oasisnj.org/events

Oasis Expands Its Impact We help launch Full-Service Community School

What is a Full-Service Community School (FSCS)?

Imagine a school that provides children with expert teachers and effective instruction. Imagine that within the school walls is a health clinic, mental health and parent education services, a job-training center, an emergency food pantry. Imagine the school is open from early morning until evening, and both children and their families can use these services. This is the idea of Full-Service Community School.

Why are educators advocating for community schools?

Community schools support the physical, mental, and emotional needs of the child—and the family. For children to be “teachable,” their basic needs must be met. They need to be healthy, to feel safe, to live in a home environment that nurtures them. These are the conditions for learning which, too often, are lacking in low-income districts. Community schools create the conditions for learning. They have proven to increase student academic performance in low-income urban areas.

How does it work?

Community schools use a lead agency—like Oasis—to mobilize community resources. Together, School 2 and Oasis will implement multiple programs that meet the needs of children, their families, and the community. (Many of the children in our After-School program come from School 2.) Oasis will carry out innovative literacy strategies in an after-school program, offer parenting classes, organize family nights, provide parents and grandparents job training, give coats, hats, and food bags to children and families at School 2. With your help, Oasis will help create the conditions that allow children to learn, and families to prosper.

Who funds this?

The US Department of Education, through its Full-Service Community Schools Program, awarded the city a \$2.5 million grant over five years to support the Full-Service Community School effort in Paterson, which includes several public schools and nonprofit partners. Oasis will bring its many resources to bear to ensure success for the hundreds of new children and families we will now reach!

CHANGING LIVES, ONE WOMAN AND CHILD AT A TIME.



Saturday Rise and Shine Students Show 102 Percent Increase in Test Scores

Is it possible for a first- or second-grader to improve reading skills by *102 percent* in ten weeks? It is for Oasis children participating in the Saturday Rise and Shine Literacy Tutoring program!

The ten-week program centered on teaching first- and second-graders the 220 English sight words. It is impossible to learn to read without recognizing these words—and the children who entered the program had failed to master them.

After ten weeks of Rise and Shine Saturdays, the Oasis kids improved *102 percent* in sight word recognition. With their sight words memorized, these children read more fluently and with better comprehension. They are on the path to literacy.

Reading is the most important skill a child will ever learn. Thank you for giving these kids the gift of literacy.



Message from Executive Director Jennifer Brady



This month we are thrilled to help launch the Full-Service Community School! Community schools have proven to reduce chronic absenteeism, improve test scores, and close the achievement gap for at-risk, poor children. Collaborating with School 2 is a powerful way Oasis can change the lives of hundreds more children and their families.

This is a chance to offer Oasis services—and opportunities—to ever more women and families, multiplying your impact. Wonderful things are happening here!

We have you to thank: The city of Paterson selected and invited Oasis to be the School 2 partner because of our stellar reputation—due to our reliable and faithful donors. People know they can depend on Oasis—if a child is failing in school, or a woman needs a job, or the pantry is bare, Oasis is there.

Your generosity has made Oasis a leader in this community. None of this work would be possible without donors like you. We look forward to great achievements—with your support.

Best wishes for a joyous and productive 2019.



Oasis Tests Women for GED

In Paterson, more than 15,000 women have no high school diploma. Some 16 percent of them did not finish ninth grade. Their lives are on hold.

The Oasis GED program runs from September through June, and registers new students in September and again in January.

Over the past few weeks, we tested a new set of enrolling students. We use the Test of Adult Basic Education, a four-hour standardized test that identifies a tester's grade level. The students are then placed in one of four separate course levels, based on their test scores.

On average, women who enter our GED program score in at an eighth-grade level. Oasis will not deny entrance to any woman based on her entry test scores, unlike other programs in Paterson, which reject anyone testing below ninth grade.

Our Basic Literacy course (Level 1), launched in 2017, serves women who score below a sixth-grade level. Most of the women in this course test in at below a third-grade level, and without Oasis, would have no where to turn.

Oasis believes every woman deserves the chance to get a high school education. With effort, patience, and determination all women can rise. At Oasis, they do.

Lunches with Love

Lunches with Love is a meal sponsorship program where you can provide an entire day of meals for the women and children we serve at Oasis.

Purchase a Lunches with Love as a unique gift for a birthday, anniversary, graduation, or any other date of significance for you or a loved one.

You can even serve lunch on the special day yourself!

Visit www.oasisnj.org to learn more!



Many thanks to all those who donated a

Lunches with Love

From September - mid November

William Paterson University

Julian Hill
in honor of Keisha Hill

Anthony Allgood
(2 lunches)

Beth Davis
in memory of Louise Davis

Allendale-Saddle River Rotary Foundation

Susan Di Pasquale
in memory of Hilde Sigal

Knights of Columbus (Regina Mundi branch - #3969)

Erin Christman

Siobhan Langa
in memory of Kathleen Fitzgerald

Priti Shetty
in honor of Sia Shetty

Toni & John Foerch
in memory of Rich G. Taylor Sr.

Sisterhood of Beth Haverim Shir Shalom

The Fonti Family

Maria Tolia
in memory of Amit Tolia

MaryBeth Gallagher
(4 lunches)

Sheel Dhande

Meghan Hoffman

Maria Tolia
in memory of Ami Tolia

CHANGING LIVES, ONE WOMAN AND CHILD AT A TIME.

Thanks to all who made our holiday season bright!



STRIDES for HUMANITY™

100-DAY RUN TO BENEFIT
OASIS - A HAVEN FOR WOMEN AND CHILDREN

In July, Dr. Larry Grogan of Franklin Lakes, NJ, will run across the country to benefit Oasis. Thousands of people, in their varied communities, will run with him along the way — from Paterson, NJ, to Ventura, CA. The run is meant to facilitate unity and understanding among the many diverse people that compose this great country of ours.

Run, Walk, or Donate!

for more information visit:
www.StridesforHumanity.org