



NAC NEWS

825 7th Avenue, New York, NY 10019 * www.nackidscan.org * Spring 2023



WE HAVE ARRIVED!

We are pleased to announce that we have officially moved into our new offices at **825 7th Avenue** in Midtown Manhattan. The dust is settling and we are slowly welcoming clients into our new space. We are so excited for what's to come. We've expanded our programs and the services we offer. We look forward to welcoming you to our open house this fall. [Stay connected to NAC](#) to learn all about it!

LEARNING AND GROWING WITH NAC KIDS

It was a busy Spring for NAC kids as they eagerly engaged in learning opportunities and attended events that enriched both their minds and hearts. From workshops that **sparked their imagination** to street fairs that **shined a light on mental health issues**, young minds were nourished and inspired.

NAC's Visit to the NBA Offices

Thanks to the generosity of the NBA, NAC kids had the opportunity to spend the day at the NBA Headquarters, in Midtown Manhattan! It was a dream come true for our kids who were able to get up close and personal with NBA staff, learn about the history of the NBA, and have fun exploring all the ultra-cool displays and activities at the Headquarters. Thank you to the NBA for helping to make a difference in the lives of the children NAC serves.

Arts for All

Through NAC's partnership with Arts for All, NAC kids took center stage for a magical spring workshop. Arts for All's Artistic Residency Program, with Teaching Artists Mélissa Smith and Gabriella Baba-Conn, visited NAC to provide a movement-based workshop with an element of clownery for NAC Kids. They played, explored, used their imagination, and had an absolute blast.

NAC Kids Create!

This Spring Break we asked our NAC kids to write or draw **"What Does Education or Literacy Mean to You?"** This inspiring event invited NAC's young artists and writers to showcase their limitless imagination and unleash their creative potential.

Stepping Into A Brighter Future

Mental health is the signature issue of our time and on May 20th, NAC kids from our Youth Strong and Peer Project programs came together to show support for the NAMIWalks NYC Mental Health Street Fest! This exciting event brought the community together for an engaging day that helped shine a light on all of our collective mental health needs.

NAMIWalks NYC is the nation's largest mental health event and since 2007, the event has convened thousands of supporters, including individuals, families, companies, and community organizations. The Mental Health Street Fest was a huge success and we can't wait to be back next year!



NAC'S 10th ANNUAL WOMEN FOR WOMEN LUNCHEON

On May 24, we held our 10th Annual Women for Women Luncheon with Keynote Speaker, **Jonathan Darman** at the Metropolitan Club in New York City. Jonathan is a Journalist & Historian, and Author of *Becoming FDR: The Personal Crisis that Made a President*.

Attendees got a behind-the-scenes look at the writing of this extraordinary and moving book. It was a riveting discussion, shedding light on how a midlife infection from the polio virus upended Franklin Roosevelt's life and made him into an inspiring and compassionate leader, and the man who could lead his country through its own darkest hours. Guests were inspired by his story of courage and perseverance, as well as the triumphant spirit, one shared by our NAC kids. It truly was a great day, and a successful one as well, **raising \$60,000 for the children and families we serve.**

Thank you, Jonathan, for sharing your work with us, and thank you to everyone who made it such an incredible afternoon. By attending this event, guests enable NAC to continue providing comprehensive medical and mental health services for New York City's most vulnerable children.

[To view photos from the event, please click here.](#)

NIGHT FOR NAC JUNIOR BOARD FUNDRAISER

Each spring, our Junior Board hosts **Night for NAC**, a cocktail party fundraiser in New York City to raise funds for NAC kids. This year's event was held at the Metropolitan in FIDI and it was a night we won't soon forget!

It was an incredible evening and thanks to the unwavering dedication and generosity of our community, we were able to **raise over \$45,000 for children with complex medical needs in NYC.** The success of the event would not have been possible without the efforts of our dedicated Junior Board members. Thank you for all you do for NAC kids!

If you would like more information about joining our Junior Board and making a difference in the lives of the medically complex children we serve, [please click here.](#)

Thank You to everyone who made the evening possible

CORPORATE SPONSORS

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AWARDS AND ACCOLADES

Congratulations to Marcia, who was nominated as **NAC's 2023 Outstanding Foster Parent of the Year.** Marcia received her award at the ACS' National Foster Care Month Annual Foster Parent Celebration. Marcia was chosen for her dedication, flexibility, generosity, and the immense care she brings to the role.

Marcia is a foster parent to whom few can compare. She has been a foster parent for over 20 years, and throughout that time she has provided a home for children and teens that is overflowing with love, encouragement, and commitment.

Thank you to all of our incredible foster parents for all you do for NAC kids each and every day!



Outstanding Foster Parent 2023

To learn more about becoming a Foster Parent with NAC, please click here to visit our website

HENRY GELDZAHLER CREATIVE ARTS PROGRAM

NAC's commitment to the creative and alternative therapies remains strong. In our newly expanded Midtown office, we have established dedicated music and art therapy spaces for individual, group and family therapy within our Mental Health Clinic. These creative modalities allow for verbal and nonverbal exploration and expression of thoughts and feelings.

Through music and art, **NAC kids find their voices, discover their inner strengths, and embark on a transformative journey of self-expression and healing** while being supported in the therapeutic relationship. In addition, our trauma-informed yoga and movement groups provide stress reduction, skill building, body awareness, and respite to address the multitudes of life's challenges.

"We look forward to welcoming our clients into the new space. And to our newsletter readers, when you are in the office, please stop by and say hello."

~ Linda Peck, Director, Creative Arts, and Alternative Therapies

FUNDER'S SPOTLIGHT

The **Mother Cabrini Health Foundation** provides grants to improve the health and well-being of vulnerable and diverse New Yorkers. The Cabrini Foundation has generously awarded NAC significant funding to implement evidence-based Multisystemic Therapy (MST) for NAC youth with urgent mental health, family, and social support needs. **The grant will increase our capacity to provide mental health services** to teens, which is more important than ever given the mental health crisis among youth resulting from the pandemic.

The goal of MST is to keep adolescents (age 12 – 17) who have exhibited serious externalizing, anti-social, and/or delinquent behaviors (e.g., criminal activity, truancy, substance use), and their families, functioning responsibly over the long term, and to keep the youth at home, in school, and out of trouble. Thank you, Mother Cabrini Health Foundation, for supporting NAC and the medically-complex children, youth, and families we serve.

SAVE-TH-DATE

ANNUAL GALA

Honoring

Roger Lynch, CEO, Condé Nast

October 24, 2023 * Pier Sixty, NYC