A note from the Administrator

As our healthcare facility continues to evolve, we reaffirm our commitment to impacting and enhancing the lives of our patients and all Brooklymites. We, at Bushwick Center, strive to provide both individual and communal support to our constituents and surrounding neighbors. The strong relationship we have cultivated with our Brooklyn Borough Hall Office has enabled us to aid our community in variety of ways. In August, we participated in “Annual Senior Day” at Kingsborough Community College where we had the distinct privilege to engage with hundreds of seniors, recognize their contributions to our society, and encourage civic pride.

In September, we hosted our annual “Family and Friends Day” in which the Royal Palace Adult Center, a local Chaplain, and local Assemblywoman, Latrice Walker, welcomed our residents and their respective family members. All who attended took particular delight in our delicious BBQ, high-quality photo booth, carnival bouncer, and other assorted forms of entertainment. We also hosted a Blood Drive in conjunction with American Red Cross in which our donors selflessly donated to the blood supply in our local area.

Last, but not least, I enthusiastically encourage everyone to visit our newly remodeled lobby. The finishing touches are breathtaking!

At Bushwick Center, summer always ends with good memories!

Moshe Blackstein
The Art Club is in motion with eager to do their thing as artist. The concentration and motivation to want to paint their own way. This month’s design was flowers lilies to be exact and they did a great job. Our Art Club is a relaxing program for our residents to be able to maneuver a paint brush, mix colors and just have a good time doing what they enjoy. Want to give thanks to Mary Lou Williams from our recreation department for the help and support she give our residents.
Family Fun Day 2016

Bushwick Center’s Annual Family Fun Day with all kinds of fun. We had popcorn, cotton candy, nachos and homemade snow cones or like we hispanic people like to call it piragua. It was delicious. They kids enjoyed the bouncer, face painting, balloon animals and the gifts that we provided them with, but the biggest hit was the photo booth that everyone loved the most.
Also during our Family Fun Day we had visitors that have become regulars at our event for the past two years. Latrice Monique Walker running for New York State Assembly and also Royal Palace Adult Day Care Center that look forward to coming and having a great time.

Latrice Monique Walker

Royal Palace Adult Day Care
911 First Responders

To all First Responders NYPD, FDNY & EMS we would like to say thank you for your daily courage and sacrifice you do to protect and serve us. A meal whether it be a hero sandwich for lunch on a somber day. We cannot thank you enough and will NEVER FORGET what you do. THANK YOU! and GOD BLESS YOU and God Bless America.
A note from Kenny

This was quite a summer for Centers Health Care. Our third facility from the state of Rhode Island is joining us just as renovations to Bannister Center in Providence are getting into full swing. The new Kingston Center is nestled in a wooded location where residents can take advantage of the outdoor setting. And our long-awaited transition of three facilities in Rockland County to the Centers Health Care family is on schedule to be completed later this fall.

We expanded several other areas as well. The Awakened at Centers™ program is ready to be introduced in facilities throughout our network, we’ve doubled the size of our specialized Traumatic Brain Injury Recovery Center, and new clinical capabilities have been added in a number of locations. Our Planning, Engineering and Design team has been hard at work renovating facilities from all parts of the Centers family: Deptford, Buffalo, Waterfront, Bannister, Monsey, Fulton and others can now boast new rooms or new therapy suites, new lobbies or new common areas, and in some cases, new everything!

We’ve all heard that the only constant is change, and that is certainly the case at Centers. But all of our changes have one thing in common; to improve the lives and health of the people we serve. Whether we are adding a new facility, introducing a new clinical service, building something new or re-building something old, it is our residents who benefit. And we are seeing the results in things like perfect surveys, increases in our Medicare star ratings, lower re-hospitalization rates and even better outcomes in physical therapy than ever before. We hope that additional new programs that are just beginning, like our introduction of 24/7 bedside physician evaluations, or our new partnerships with hospitals designed to create a seamless transition of care for patients going from the hospital to a Centers facility and ultimately back to their own homes, will soon be commonplace in all of our facilities. It is this dedication to change that has kept us at the forefront of the healthcare industry and allowed us to play a critical role in shaping the way we deliver health care, especially to our senior population in the United States. Our staff members, residents and their families, and the hospitals and doctors we work with can all rest assured that change will always be a part of what’s happening at Centers, and that those changes will continue to result in greater benefits to those we serve.

There’s no fun like family fun. Especially when it’s Family Fun Day at Centers Health Care!

October 9 is the date for our annual Family Fun Day! This year we hope to set a new record by welcoming over 2,000 attendees, so mark your calendar and plan to be a part of the fun. All staff and their families are invited. Whether you join in either the 5K or 10K Race for Charity, or cheer on your friends from the sidelines, you’ll find plenty to do. The petting zoo is returning again along with pony rides for the kids, and the carnival games - well, it’s a toss-up who enjoys them more, the kids or the adults. And our newest addition, the pumpkin carving competition, is sure to bring out the most artistic talent from all of our facilities. So hop on board one of the luxury motor coaches departing from every facility, and get ready for a great day. We hope to see everyone there.
Spotlight on Success: The Neurobehavioral Program at Richmond Center

All across the Centers Health Care family are facilities with daily success stories that inspire us all to go beyond, to tackle the toughest cases, to project a can-do attitude and work tirelessly to the ultimate success. That’s why we record more than 11,000 successful rehabs every year. But from time to time, there’s one that is so amazing and so inspirational to all of us, that it demands to be shared. This is one of those times.

On October 2, 2015, a sometimes-homeless woman named Jane (not her real name) age 34, was found in the street by a pedestrian after being struck by a truck and left in the road. She was admitted to Albany Medical Center in critical condition, where she spent nearly two months, able to speak only one or two sentences and offer her doctors just a few words of response and minimal gestures. Jane remained in medically critical condition, far too critical for any level of care that could be provided in a nursing home, yet her need for dedicated therapy was profound. The progress she had been making in the hospital was stalled. That’s when a team from the Neurobehavioral Program at Richmond Center got involved, assuring doctors at Albany Medical Center that they could provide the necessary level of care as well as the psychological expertise and therapy that was needed if Jane was to continue her recovery. She arrived at Richmond Center in January 2016. She still had considerable upper body pain, especially in her arm and shoulder, and suffered from significant behavioral agitation, and severely limited communication skills. One thing however, was clear; she wanted to return to her hometown of Schenectady, New York.

At the Neurobehavioral Center a care plan that combined extensive, daily, one-to-one situational problem solving and behavioral support was combined with a regimen of psycho-therapy, mental health counseling, community living skills, physical therapy and substance abuse counseling. Jane’s advancement shows just how much can be achieved by a motivated resident who is treated in the right setting, by the right team. Today Jane is a pleasant, personable, immaculately groomed and completely independent young lady, who is a role model for other residents. She offers encouragement to those who are struggling with their own recovery, consistently showing great empathy and patience. In the closing weeks of her time at Richmond Center, she was pain-free and no longer had any behavioral issues. To further prepare her for a return home, Jane was selected to do volunteer work at Project Hospitality on Staten Island.

The final step in her recovery was approved in July, 2016. She returned to her own community of Latham, NY where she lives and works, and where she is giving back to the community as a peer volunteer.

Jane’s commitment and intensity, and the speed of her recovery from such a difficult starting point to a complete success, while rare, says more about the neurobehavioral team at Richmond Center than words can convey. And it serves to highlight two critical elements of a successful recovery that are the underpinnings of a strong relationship between a patient and his/her medical team. One is the critical importance of a patient setting personal goals and having the determination to persevere through the inevitable obstacles. The other is being treated by a fully integrated team, all of whom share the same positive, “we will succeed” attitude no matter how difficult the case may originally present. It’s just one more case that makes everyone here so proud to be a member of the Centers Health Care team.
Centers Health Care is leading the way on a national effort to raise awareness of the importance of Supporting our Senior Citizens

Causes are everywhere these days. Environmental, cultural, political, religious, medical, social, and more. It seems like everyone has a particular cause that means a great deal to them and they do what they can to raise awareness of the cause and to let as many people as possible know about it. Since 1996, long before causes were popular, we’ve had one. Because 1996 is the year that Centers Health Care was started with the goal of improving a small south Bronx nursing home for the betterment of its elderly residents. Those 77 beds have exploded to more than 5,500 beds in three states, nine adult day care centers, three assisted living facilities, medical transportation, home health care, managed care to ensure that our seniors get all of the benefits they are entitled to, home medical equipment, home delivery of meals and prescriptions, specialty care that includes renal dialysis centers, ventilator care units, dedicated AIDS/HIV facilities, and what is rapidly becoming one of the most respected Traumatic Brain Injury recovery centers on the east coast. Last year alone we recorded more than 11,000 successful rehabilitations from strokes, surgeries and other events and helped those people return to their own homes. There’s even more than that, but the point is, our special cause is, has always been, and always will be the care and support of our senior citizens.

Now we plan to lead the way in New York State, in New Jersey and Rhode Island, then throughout the northeast and ultimately nation-wide in building greater awareness and appreciation of our senior citizens and all they mean to our society. We want to make our cause, everyone’s cause. In October, Centers Health Care is going to formally launch Support our Seniors and begin the gratifying work of reminding the country that we’d be nowhere without our seniors. And of course, we have a beautiful ribbon to serve as a constant visual reminder. We’ll begin distributing them in our facilities and to the family members of our residents, then in hospitals and senior centers everywhere. A charitable foundation to raise funds to support the cause is already being formed, and Centers Health Care intends to donate the time, human resources and space that will be needed to manage the charity so that 100% of the gross profit that is raised will go directly to helping seniors in their local communities.

We invite all of our employees to join us in spreading the word. We all know some senior citizens who are very special to us and to our families. Start there. Let everyone you know at home, in your neighborhoods, on your social media channels, that we all need to Support our Seniors (#supportourseniors). Together we can make life better not just for the thousands of people we care for every day, but for millions of very special people from coast to coast – the senior citizens who built this country for us.