



# **BOLD MOVES in ACTION**

**Annual Highlights Report 2025**

# THE BIGGEST AND BOLDEST MOVE YET



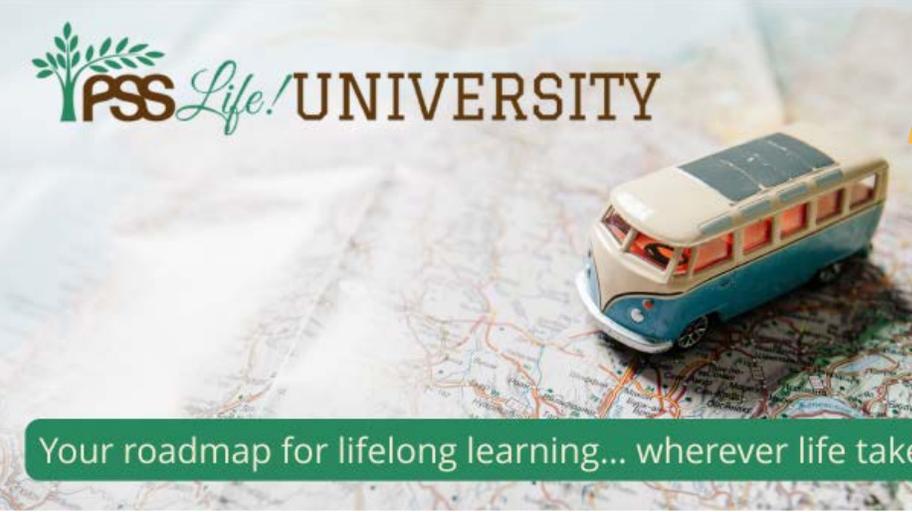
Since its founding in 1962, the administrative offices of PSS operated from a 700-square-foot office donated by the Rutgers Presbyterian Church, for which we are eternally grateful. The agency grew. The space could not.

That all changed this year with the purchase of a new headquarters. The 4,500-square-foot office suite occupies the entire 3rd floor of 147 East 48th Street. The central location near all midtown public transportation makes it easier for the decentralized staff to gather for professional development, strategic partner meetings, and Life! University classes and trainings.

**It's an investment in the future of PSS and New York City. It's about new beginnings, meaningful work, and the lives we care for.**

**Senior leadership also expanded** this year with the addition of a Chief Program Officer and creation of a C-level team to help steer the ship. Chief Program Office Paul Ortiz joins Chief Finance Officer Barbara Hernandez and Chief Human Resources Officer Myesha Pugh to support Executive Director Rimas Jasin.





## PSS LIFE! UNIVERSITY BECOMES A TRUE COMMUNITY

**Life! University had a transformational year with the arrival of Jenny Pisani, the dedicated Director of Lifelong Learning, leading the launch of a membership platform that turns one-time class experiences into a robust learning community.**

More than 800 learners enrolled in Life! U in just its first eight months with the option to choose from dozens of real-time and self-paced courses. The free membership gives these students a way to engage with each other and their instructors. Course materials are all stored for easy reference. It's also possible to translate some of this material into multiple languages.

Many new content partnerships were formed this year. They include the Mount Sinai Hospital, Long Island University and St. John's University Schools of Pharmacy.

Life! University is not just virtual – many classes and activities are in person. Members took a guided “Windows Walk” to explore an NYU Kimmel Windows exhibition on ageism. Life! U Hybrid classes are connecting with more members from PSS's ten Older Adult Centers with the introduction of exciting new offerings like themed karaoke classes and trivia competitions. The number of courses offered in English and Spanish more than doubled.

Thanks to support from the Fan Fox and Leslie R. Samuels Foundation and the Consumer Technology Association Foundation, we were able to upgrade equipment and expand our on-site technology offerings.



## ALBERTA L. ALSTON HOUSE CELEBRATES 40TH YEAR



Residents of the Alberta L. Alston House joined board members and guests to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the affordable housing community's opening in Corona, Queens.

It was also a transitional year for the tightly knit community with the retirement of Sammy Ramos, the Super, who served the building for 38 years.

Aracelis Estrella, the PSS onsite social worker, coordinated dozens of activities each month to keep the multi-cultural community engaged and connected.

## UPGRADES, RENOVATIONS, COMPUTER LABS AND MORE!

PSS Highbridge Center opened the doors to a freshly equipped Computer Lab with state-of-the-art equipment and chairs that are supportive and comfortable. PSS Davidson Center also got a new Computer Lab along with an overall remodeling.





## **OLDER ADULT CENTER MEMBERS SHINE ON**

The year's all-center highlight was the "Ageless Wonders Performance Showcase," a talent show whereby each center hosted an act to compete for the crown before an audience of their peers at the PSS Andrew Jackson Center.

Singing, dancing, high-kicks and poetry all made the show. Performers were assessed for how well they personified that age is not a barrier to talent.

Showcase winner was PSS King Towers Center. Its members decked out in gold lame and proceeded onto the stage with canes adorned with gold. They then threw them aside and made their moves to Motown and soul classics. PSS King Towers members practiced for weeks leading up to the event and the center was rewarded with a special trip.

## **COMMUNITY SOCIAL SERVICES HITS A GRAND SLAM**

When PSS became the Case Management Agency for the Eastern Bronx, it took a big swing that more than doubled the size of the social work team and the services delivered. That was a move worth making with more than 110% of the delivery goal met and accolades from NYC Aging for the quality of service offered under the leadership of Program Director Alexandra Mena.

Getting someone to open up about what they need isn't as easy as it may appear. Clients are assessed and matched with services such as home care, food delivery, and Access-A-Ride.

**Case Management offers a critical lifeline to the home-bound because a social worker can be the only person an older adult speaks to all week.**



## GENERATIONS LEARN FROM EACH OTHER

**A grant from the Pinkerton Foundation funded hands-on intergenerational programs where older and younger people spent fun time together and learned from each other.**

Members of PSS Manhattanville Center teamed with the Graham-Windham Afterschool Program housed in the same building for a mural painting project celebrating their close relationship.

The PSS Highbridge and Highbridge Gardens Center members enjoyed a technology knowledge exchange. The older folks demonstrated electronics from “their day” like rotary telephones, cassette tape players and VCRs. The younger ones showed the elders how to use tablets, smart phones, play certain computer games, and more. Sometimes the roles were reversed and the elders were able to surprise the young ones with their tech savvy.

Lively conversations were encouraged through the use of “With Me” card decks created by Christine Lhowe, a professor at Seton Hall University who piloted their creation with PSS.



## CAREGIVING BECOMES PART OF THE NATIONAL CONVERSATION

Caregiving with the focus on the caregiver took a more prominent place in the national conversation with the release of the PBS documentary “Caregiving.” It shed a spotlight on the upcoming caregiver crisis as the aging population grows and the availability of caregivers declines.

**That’s where Circle of Care enters in. This essential PSS program continues to be there for caregivers—providing the support that makes life more livable.**

The numbers tell the story as Circle of Care received a 100% client satisfaction rating. Among the new partnerships forged this year were the Cope Foundation, which helps families and individuals navigate grief and loss, and Here to Honor, which focuses on cultivating community around end-of-life learning to ensure everyone feels supported in facing mortality.

# NY CONNECTS EXPANDS REACH THROUGH AHRC PARTNERSHIP

This year, NY Connects spearheaded a new partnership with AHRC, positioning its program as a leading connector for disability services in Brooklyn. By expanding access and strengthening coordinated supports, NY Connects is driving equity, deepening community trust, and ensuring families have a central, reliable resource for navigating long-term care and disability services.



## THANK YOU, PATRICIA NÚÑEZ

PSS thanks the Honorable Patricia M. Nunez for her contributions to the Board of Directors in her six years of service.



# FISCAL YEAR 2025 BY THE NUMBERS

**33,395**  
BREAKFASTS SERVED

**97,931**  
LUNCHESES SERVED

**280**  
LIFE U! EVENTS  
WITH **8,261**  
PARTICIPANTS

**4,603**  
INDIVIDUALS SERVED  
VIA NY CONNECTS  
BROOKLYN

**1,250**  
CAREGIVERS SERVED  
VIA CIRCLE OF CARE

**11,273**  
CAREGIVER  
RESPITE HOURS

**129**  
CAREGIVER  
SUPPORT GROUPS

**2,276**  
CONSULTATIONS

**1,614**  
TECHNOLOGY  
TRAININGS  
WITH **12,093**  
PARTICIPANTS

**1,013**  
HOMEBOUND BRONX  
SENIORS RECEIVED  
CASE MANAGEMENT  
SERVICES



**Building capacity. Creating community.**

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

- Josie Lawrence, President
- Maria T. Brilliant, Vice President
- Christina Pagano, Secretary
- Andy Craven, Treasurer
- Jon Chui
- Sherry Haynes
- Laurie Leonard
- Heather Mee

**SENIOR LEADERSHIP TEAM**

- Rimas Jasin, Executive Director
- Barbara Hernandez, Chief Finance Officer
- Paul I. Ortiz, Chief Program Officer
- Myesha Pugh, Chief Human Resources Officer

**THANK YOU TO OUR MAJOR CONTRIBUTORS (\$500 AND ABOVE)+**

- Afro Latin Jazz Alliance
- Maria Brilliant
- Consumer Technology Association Foundation
- Josie Lawrence
- Laurie Leonard
- Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church
- NYC Aging
- NYC District 7 Councilmember Shaun Abreu
- NYC District 13 Councilmember Kristy Marmorato
- NYC District 17 Councilmember Rafael Salamanca Jr.
- NYC District 16 Councilmember Althea Stevens
- NYS Department of Health
- NYS Office for the Aging
- Riverdale Presbyterian Church
- Fan Fox and Leslie R. Samuels Foundation
- Elizabeth Werley



We are proud of our new headquarters and hope you can visit us at 147 East 48th Street.

Go to [pssusa.org](http://pssusa.org) for comprehensive information about our programs and services.

**How You Can Make a Difference**

90 Cents of Every Dollar We Raise Goes to Providing Services and Programs.

**Stay Informed ▶**

Sign up for e-newsletters at [pssusa.org](http://pssusa.org)

**Donate Today ▶**

Make a secure online contribution at [pssusa.org/donate](http://pssusa.org/donate)

**Make A Planned Gift ▶**

Include PSS in your will or estate plan, or donate stock, insurance or other appreciated assets. Find out

**Volunteer ▶**

Find opportunities at [pssusa.org](http://pssusa.org)



147 East 48th Street, 3rd Fl  
New York, NY 10017  
212-874-6633  
[www.pssusa.org](http://www.pssusa.org)

