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January 9, 2015

## Rebuilding Together NYC January 2015 Newsletter

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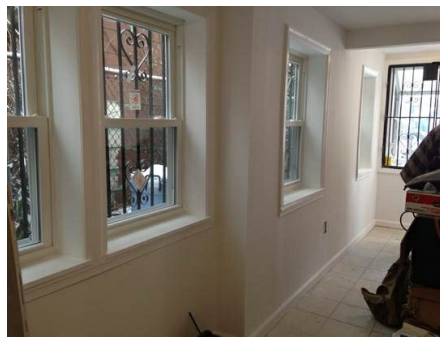
### Project Highlight: Tzu Chi Volunteers Help Community Center in Far Rockaway



On December 6th, volunteers from Tzu Chi partnered with Rebuilding Together NYC to provide renovations to a New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) community center in Far Rockaway, Queens. The Beach 41st Street Community Center provides child and adult programming to residents in the Rockaway community. The community center sustained serious damages during Hurricane Sandy, including flooding in the gymnasium and the kitchen. With Tzu Chi's support, we were able to provide painting and renovations, install mirrors in the dance room, set up new pool tables in the center's game room, and paint basketball backboards and install new hoops and nets.

To view a video produced by Tzu Chi about the event day, click [here](#).

### Homeowner Spotlight: Adeline and Irving Barker



Adeline and Irving Barker, a couple in their eighties, suffered serious damages when Hurricane Sandy battered their home two years ago. The Barkers took in four feet of water in their family room and have been unable to use the first floor of their home since the storm. Rebuilding Together NYC has provided the following repairs to the Barker's home:

- Repair framing throughout the downstairs
- Rebuild a wall in between the laundry room and the living area
- Insulate the first floor, helping to reduce the heating bills for the homeowners
- Drywall the entire first floor of the home
- Install four energy efficient, double pane windows
- Install two weatherized doors
- Provide new lighting fixtures
- Trim and painting throughout
- Repair broken handrail to prevent falls on the stairs

With Rebuilding Together NYC's help, the Barker's have a safe and healthy home again.

**To view our application for free home repairs, click [here](#).**

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## Video Release: Hurricane Sandy Recovery PSA

We are proud to present a video about Rebuilding Together's Hurricane Sandy recovery efforts for the past two years. The video features our Executive Director, Kimberly George and Board President, Stephen Dundon, who share the challenges the Northeast continues to face in rebuilding homes post-Sandy.



## Volunteer Spotlight: Amanda Donnellan



Amanda Donnellan found Rebuilding Together NYC through one of our volunteer partners, Race 2 Rebuild. Amanda regularly comes out to help our construction staff during the week and she brings friends with her! When asked why she volunteers with Rebuilding Together NYC, Amanda said, "I volunteer specifically to support the continuing efforts of bringing home families who were displaced by Superstorm Sandy. I am a Long Island native and Brooklyn resident who has seen firsthand the devastating storm effects and am aware of the ongoing recovery. Overall, I believe volunteer service is a healthy component of society. Time is an individual's most precious resource and to give one's time freely in helpful service of another is a good act." Amanda shared what she enjoys most about volunteering with Rebuilding Together NYC. "I have found the people involved [RT NYC staff] to be absolutely wonderful. It's an organization populated by big-hearted folks devoted to an important cause."

**To learn more about volunteering with Rebuilding Together NYC, click [here](#).**

## Announcements

### **RT NYC Board Member Les Hiscoe to Become CEO of Shawmut Design and Construction!**

Beginning July 1, 2015, Les Hiscoe will succeed Tom Geomaat as the CEO of Shawmut Design and Construction. Currently the President of Shawmut, Les is also a dedicated and highly valued Board Member of RT NYC. Les consistently works to advance Rebuilding Together NYC's mission and vision by using every resource he can garner to support the organization. Les offers his construction expertise, business management skills, and wide network of professionals to help Rebuilding Together NYC achieve





success. On behalf of the Rebuilding Together NYC staff and Board of Directors, we would like to congratulate Les on his new position and wish him the best of luck as he embarks on this new phase in his career.



To read an article in the **Boston Business Journal** about Les' promotion, click [here!](#)

## Rebuilding Together NYC Obtains its NYC Home Improvement Contractor's License!



We are proud to announce that Rebuilding Together NYC is now licensed and bonded in New York City as a Home Improvement Contractor! We hope that this status will help us attract additional supporters, allowing us to help more low-income New Yorkers live in safe and healthy housing.

## Upcoming Events Calendar

- January 3, 2015- Build-On volunteers in Rockaway, Queens
- January 17, 2015- Tzu Chi volunteers in Rockaway, Queens
- January 19, 2015- Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service with FEMA Corps volunteers
- January 19-23, 2015- Capacity Corps Martin Luther King Jr Service week in New Orleans
- January 21, 2015- Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints volunteer day, project TBA
- January 28, 2015- Heffernan Insurance Brokers volunteer day in Red Hook, Brooklyn
- January 29, 2015- New York City Public Advocate's Office volunteers in Red Hook, Brooklyn
- February 17-20- Sustainable South Bronx volunteers, project site TBA
- April 25, 2015 – Spring Neighborhood Revitalization Project
- April 30, 2015 – *HomeComing: A Gala for Rebuilding Together NYC*

Rebuilding Together NYC  
285 Van Brunt Street, FL 1  
Brooklyn, NY 11231  
Office: (718) 488-8840  
Fax: (718) 488-8847  
[info@rebuildingtogethernyc.org](mailto:info@rebuildingtogethernyc.org)

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Rebuilding Together NYC  
285 Van Brunt Street  
Brooklyn, New York 11231  
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