Dear Friend and Community Partner,

RiseBoro Community Partnership unleashes the potential of communities to thrive, no matter the odds, by offering services designed to meet the economic and social needs of people across New York City. A pioneer in community development, RiseBoro reaches across generations—serving over 36,000 individuals a year with innovative programs that support seniors, empower youth, and create healthy, vibrant neighborhoods with an engaged community fabric.

RiseBoro was founded in 1973 as a senior services organization and quickly grew to become much more. Today, we are one of New York City's premier multiservice agencies with 80+ programs across divisions of Housing, Seniors, Empowerment, Education, and Health. This growth continued in 2019 with significant expansions to our housing development portfolio and the rollout of innovative new initiatives designed to connect people to the resources they need to lift themselves out of poverty.

2019 saw the conclusion of the inaugural RiseBoro Impact Competition (RIC), through which we challenged staff to design new solutions to meet community needs. We are proud to announce our winner: Ann Donaldson of RiseBoro’s senior case management team! Ann’s entry, Esperanza Counseling Services, will bring in-home counseling to homebound seniors who are struggling with depression. Over the next year, RiseBoro will provide Ann with $20,000 in startup funding as well as assistance from our Community Affairs team to design and launch this exciting new program.

This year, we would like to give special recognition to the contributions of our infrastructure staff. The hard work of our Human Resources, Finance & Accounting, IT, Legal/Compliance/Risk Management, and Community Affairs teams, which often happens outside the spotlight, is crucial to RiseBoro’s continued growth and success.

2019 brought new challenges, opportunities, and successes, and we are excited to continue building the power of our community to effect positive change.

In partnership,

Scott Short
Chief Executive Officer,
RiseBoro Community Partnership

Although the COVID-19 pandemic did not happen during the timeframe of this report, I would be remiss to not mention the profound impact it has had on RiseBoro and the communities we serve. It has been heartbreaking to see the burden of the crisis fall disproportionately on those who are least able to bear it. It has been maddening to watch structural racism and historical inequity determine the winners and losers of this real-time life and death battle. RiseBoro has adapted to meet the emerging need in many ways, and you can learn more about our response here. Now more than ever, we are grateful for and dependent on the support of all our friends and stakeholders.
The Divisions and Functional Areas of RiseBoro

- Seniors
- Housing
- Education
- Health
- Empowerment
- Community Affairs
- Infrastructure
RB Education offers youth and adults the space, skills and support, both social and emotional, they need, with programs and workshops on career development, arts, language, recreation and more.

**By The Numbers**

- **5,783** youth served
- **2,061** youth enrolled in workforce development programming
- **94%** of our High School graduates enrolled in college
- **76%** of adults in HSE classes achieved diplomas
- **655** adult literacy program attendees

**Highlight**

**RB Education Division**

**Partners with SQA Foundation to Bring Digital Literacy to RiseBoro’s Adult Population**

The Education Division partnered with SQA Foundation, a non-profit organization, allowing us to incorporate the innovative Tech Lab course into our adult ESOL curriculum. Tech Lab is a blended learning course, with both in-person and online components, which leverages technology and innovation to promote achievement and social transformation. The partnership project includes the teaching of computer skills and Google Tools as well as preparation for employment and professional growth.
Eric Espino had a difficult life, from growing up in Bed Stuy during the drug epidemic of the late 1980’s, to his adolescent years when his family was still living in public housing to dealing with the fear of dying from violence in his neighborhood. When he entered Junior High School he met a guidance counselor, Francis Blacklock, the man he says changed his life.

Read more about Eric’s Story here.

“My Voice Theatre has had a huge impact in my life, and is the reason why I stand strong today. As a business owner, father and a Director of Photography for the National Football League, I always let people know about My Voice Theatre, my first true family, and Francis Blacklock, my first true Parent.”

— Eric Espino
RB Empowerment addresses long-standing issues such as homelessness and unemployment by providing community members with resources such as workforce development and homelessness prevention programs.

**By The Numbers**

- **101** jobs secured
- **150** individuals rehoused to the community
- **1,450** evictions prevented
- **724** households received direct financial assistance
- **1,828** households enrolled in SNAP

More than a mentoring program, Next STEPS is a fixture in the Brownsville community.

The Next STEPS-Brownsville program provides mentorship and support to Brownsville youth through a cognitive therapy-based curriculum designed to help change negative mindsets and behavior. Over the last three years however, Next STEPS-Brownsville has become more than just a mentoring program... we are a fixture in the Brownsville community. Our staff have developed positive working relationships with law enforcement, tenant associations and families seeking services. We plan to continue the momentum of our work and engagement in this community and beyond. 27 Brownsville youth have successfully completed the program while over 50 have been served in total.
Betty was referred to RiseBoro's Puerto Rican Evacuee Assistance (PREA) program in the Empowerment division, where she received housing assistance. While Betty and her husband re-establish a life in New York outside of their retirement, they will now have the stability of a home in a supportive community.

“Nothing is impossible but everything takes work. Things don’t just fall from the sky. If I got things for free I don’t think I’ll appreciate them,” said Betty.

Betty and her husband were enjoying their retirement in Puerto Rico when the worst happened, Hurricane Maria devastated the island in September 2017.

“No body could prepare for that, it’s impossible.”

—Betty
Wellness Rising was a new program funded for one-year through a DSRIP grant. For this program, a team of three Community Health Workers (CHWs), a nurse and an administrator were hired. We enrolled 150 people, mainly from Woodhull Hospital, who had one or more of these chronic health problems: hypertension, diabetes, and/or obesity. Our program offered clinical interventions, (health talks, health referrals, one-on-one nurse consultations), nutritional interventions, (subsidized farm share boxes, cooking classes), and lifestyle interventions, (CHW consultations, exercise classes). And we got results.

Outcomes: There were a number of statistically significant findings from our program.

- 10% reduction in people who drank a sugar-sweetened beverage more than once per day
- 11% reduction in eating cooked food from a bodega more than once per week
- At study end, 19% fewer members ranked their health as fair, with 18% reporting an improved health status, (good or very good)
- At study end, 15% more members reported that they knew which foods are healthy.
I’m so grateful that we have this wonderful space to share and learn. I have learned so much and my students too. We are more conscious about what we eat and what we put back on the earth. I think the garden is a place that inspires us, the community, to be more in touch with the part we play in the ecosystem. I love our community farm!!!”

—Sylmarie Quinones, Food Justice program

“Yes, I have benefitted, I have diabetes, type two diabetes, and since I have changed the way that I eat, it’s helped in that my A1C has gone down.” —Participant, Wellness Rising program

“They are very attentive, very collaborative, they’re always on top of us.” —Participant, Wellness Rising program

“The garden makes me feel free and alive.”
—Isabelle Morales, 9 years old.
RB Housing is a leader in affordable housing development, property management and supportive services with a focus on economic, social and environmental sustainability.

By The Numbers

- **$3,417,293** new and expanded service funding awarded
- **173** new units in construction
- **5,000** units in pre-development
- **7,384** visits and calls with our senior residents

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Casa Pasiva Retrofitting Completed

Casa Pasiva is an 8 building preservation project through which RB is retrofitting existing buildings, with tenants in place, to the Passive House Standard. It’s the 1st project of its kind in NYS. In conjunction with this project, RB won over $1MM RetroFitNY grant through NYSERDA. We are also partnering with the Massachusetts Institute of Technology to study Indoor Air Quality from current conditions through renovation.

- **Solar Ready**
- **60% reduced fossil fuels**
- **Up to 80% reduction in energy use**
- **Controlled and filtered air ventilation**

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RB Housing is a leader in affordable housing development, property management and supportive services with a focus on economic, social and environmental sustainability.
Once the tenant filed a police report, she visited RiseBoro’s social service office for assistance in replacing her documentation. What followed was a series of required forms, approvals and meetings that she needed assistance with. Some of the identification cards were easily replaced, such as her Medicaid and SNAP benefit ID card. Others had more requirements and steps. There were fee waivers to be filed, and follow up requests from the US Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) for additional documentation.

After many months of uncertainty and extensive advocacy by the social services team, the tenant obtained her replacement permanent resident card, allowing her to re-apply for SSI benefits, thereby increasing her income and resources. Throughout the process the tenant received advocacy, guidance, monitoring, and intensive case management to complete the process. Staff continue to work with the tenant, as with all tenants, to ensure she is successful in maintaining her ongoing financial stability.
By The Numbers

- **5,919**
  - senior center and club annual memberships
- **2,050**
  - daily meals delivered through MOW
- **10,847**
  - trips with transportation services for 135 clients
- **2,734**
  - seniors participated in education and recreation classes
- **1,365**
  - hours of friendly visits

SAIL, Staying Active and Independent for Life, is one of many ground breaking programs to hit senior centers. As an evidence-based program, SAIL has been researched and proven effective for many older adult settings across the country. The program combines 12 weeks of physical activity and health education. Instructors are trained to provide health tips while engaging older adults through music and lively exercise routines. The program also focuses on increasing muscle flexibility, strength, and balance. SAIL has been a great addition to the Diana Jones Innovative Senior Center and we have expanded the program to additional senior centers.

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**RB Seniors** is a comprehensive program of senior services offering nutritious meals, arts, education and recreation and many opportunities for socialization.
“Once I was walking with a cane, and I came and I started, instead of going to the computer classes and the art classes I started going to the exercise classes. And eventually I put down that cane. That cane has been hanging on the door now for over a year. And when I don’t come and take a lot of exercises I can feel more pain. So it’s very beneficial. And also, you come here and you meet people from different places. You sit down and you have discussions, you listen to what life was for them, and their culture. It’s a very good thing to have senior citizen centers. Cause this way you take the seniors out of their house, and they’re not home sleeping and not getting a lot of exercise and not socializing. You come here, there’s a lot of socializing at the centers.”

“Senior Citizens need lots of programs to get seniors out of the house and to get them more active. This way they live longer, they have a better life. I believe. That’s my belief.”

—Rena from the Diana H. Jones Senior Center
Infrastructure: It’s What it Takes to Deliver on our Mission

Funding the innovation needed for our continued effort to fight poverty
Beyond the Program: The Entire Organization Supporting Our Mission

- **Human Resources:** Recruiting and retaining talent and building a positive organizational culture

- **Finance & Accounting:** Diligence, excellence and integrity in ensuring funds are accounted for and optimized

- **Information & Technology:** Creating and managing technology platforms that help staff to be productive and effective

- **Legal/Compliance/Risk Management:** Leading the charge to ensure all business requirements are evaluated and proactively managed

- **Community Affairs**
  - **Marketing:** Building brand awareness through various channels
  - **Community Engagement:** Building community partnerships to enhance engagement
  - **Development:** Fundraising to support the mission
  - **Strategic Initiatives:** Incubating and developing the next mission-driving programs
RiseBoro Total Revenue
Total $103,889,239
- Health: 49%
- Housing: 30%
- Seniors: 12%
- Empowerment: 11%
- Education: 6%
- Admin: 5%

Social Services Revenue
Total $29,401,746
- Seniors: 42%
- Empowerment: 36%
- Education: 21%
- Housing: 3%
RB FINANCIALS

July 1, 2018–June 30, 2019

Social Services Revenue

- Homecare: 95%
- Moffat ALP: 4%
- Nutrition: 1%

Real Estate Revenue

- LPs: 33%
- 202s: 33%
- HDFCs: 18%
- Managed Only: 5%
- RiseBoro Management: 11%

Financials continued on next page
Real Estate Assets
Total $296,475,576*

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*Depreciated Value

Real Estate Assets
Total $296,475,576*

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