

The Intersection of Community Based Organizing and Advocacy

Shailly Gupta Barnes

Kairos Center

West McNeil

Labor Religion Coalition of NYS

Diego Padilla

Part of the Solution (POTS)



The Alliance
for a Hunger Free New York

The New York State

FOOD SUMMIT

PRESENTED BY

||B|| BroadviewSM
Federal Credit Union



Agenda

- Opening
- Panel Name and overview of agenda
- Intros
- POTS Case Study (10 mins)
- Q/A (5-7 mins)
- Small Group Discussion (5-7 mins)
- Kairos Center and LRC Lessons (15 mins)
- Q/A (5-7 mins)



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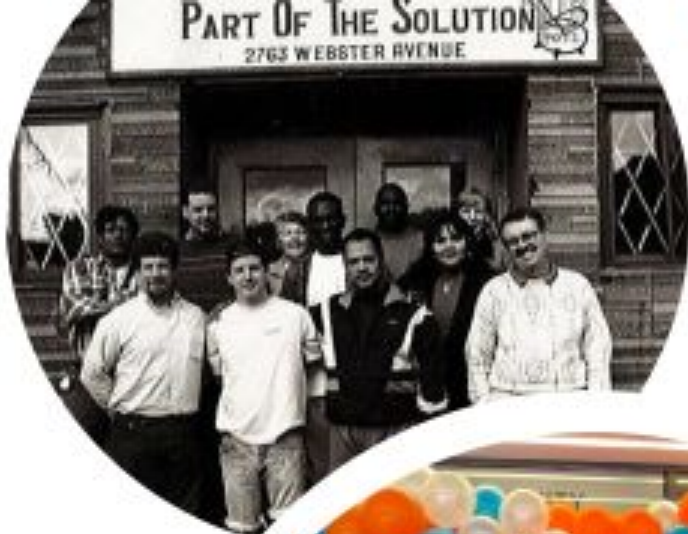


About POTS

MISSION

POTS is a **loving community** in the Bronx striving to serve all who come to our doors.

From meeting **immediate needs** to offering **long-term comprehensive services**, we partner with each individual to empower them to reach their potential.



Dignity and Wellness

Dignity, respect, and access to life's essentials are the core of our service model.



Food Security



At all levels of progression in their journey toward stability, our clients rely on our emergency food program to access the nourishment they need.

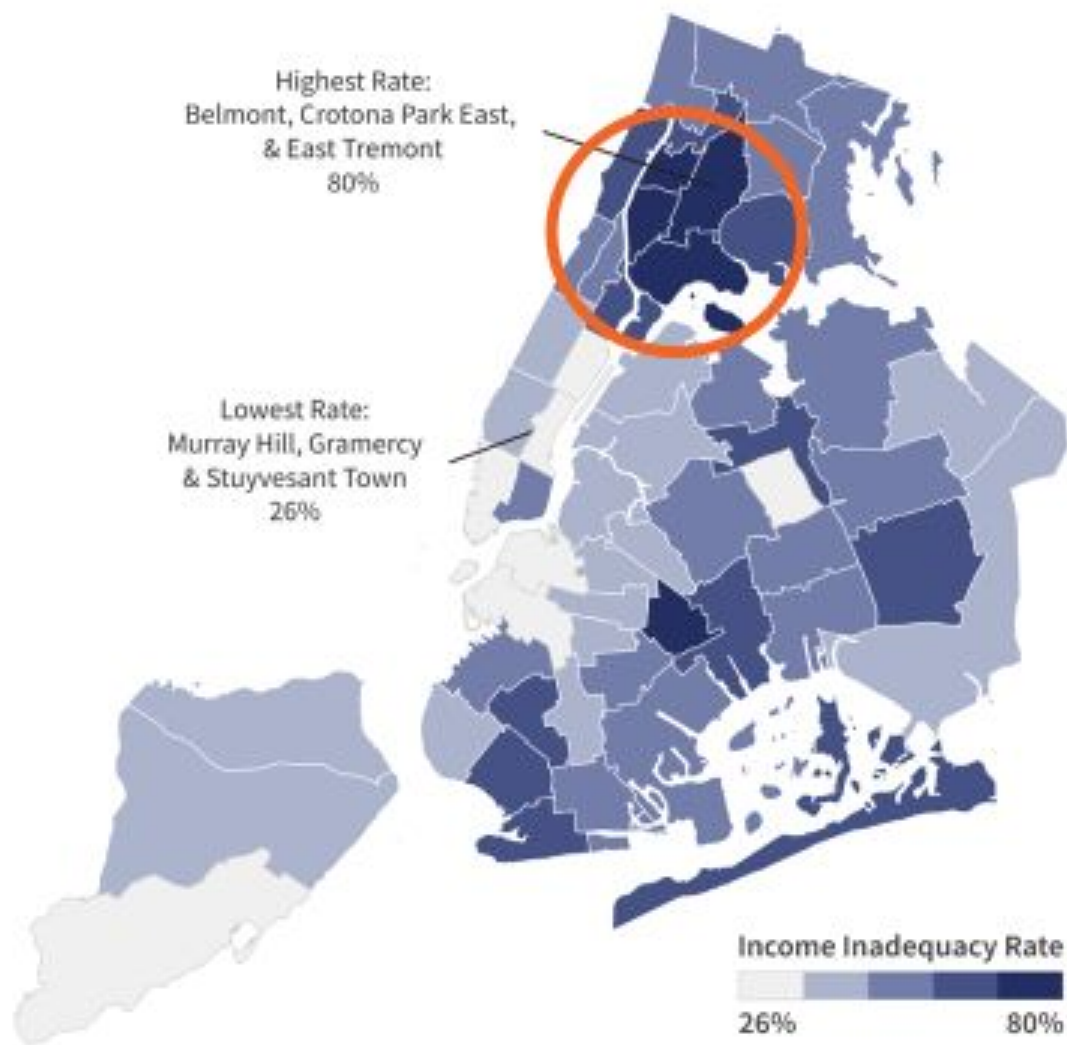
Long-Term Stability

- We partner with our clients to find **achievable and sustainable** solutions.
- We advocate for clients to **build access to income** and **protect against setbacks** like evictions.
- We work with them to achieve short-, medium-, and long-term goals to **transform their lives.**



True Cost of Living Report 2023.

(POTS)



2023 – Launch of Community Advisory Committee

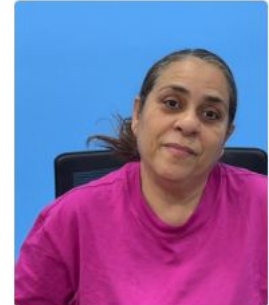
COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE



Berenice Alcantara



Marisol Guaman



Lidia Lopez



Walter Pagan



Edgardo Pellot



Angela Quintana Lee



2023 Budget Cuts, Administrative changes

- 4/23 Hunger Prevention and Nutrition Assistance Program (HPNAP)
- 5/24 Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Programs (SNAP)
- 5/24 Community Food Connections (CFC)

2023-2024 Advocacy: Partnerships/Coalitions





Discussion Questions

- **Are you currently facing similar issues? Which strategies are you using to engage the community you serve?**
- **What are your policy priorities and have you started an advocacy approach?**
- **Have you partnered with peer organizations or coalitions to enhance your advocacy efforts?**

Organizing and Advocacy: Building a Movement to End Poverty







Conditions: Abandonment in the Midst of Abundance

140 million poor and low-income people in the nation (40% of the population)

50+ million people working in low-wage jobs ($\frac{1}{3}$ of the workforce)

40+ million people who are hungry, food insecure

8-11 million people who are homeless or one emergency away from becoming homeless

At the same time.....

+\$20 trillion on war, surveillance, policing, incarceration in past 20 years

+\$1 trillion military budget (bigger than next 10 countries' combined) in 2024

3 people own as much wealth as half the country (fair taxes could raise \$900b a year)

Black Panther Party's Community Survival Programs

A collage of black and white photographs showing various community programs. The top left shows a group of people at a table. The top right shows a man holding a child. The bottom left shows a man standing in a room with people seated at tables. The bottom right shows a man standing over a group of people seated at a table.

Benefits Counseling

Community Health Classes, Free Health Clinics and Ambulance Programs, GYN clinics, Geriatric care, Pediatric clinics, Sickle Cell research, Dental programs

Free Food Programs (pantries, breakfast for children, etc.)

Free Bussing to Prisons

Free Pest Control

Tutoring for high school students

Police Patrols

Liberation Schools

Legal Aid / Clinics

Drama Classes, Film Series, Martial Arts training

A red sign with white text for the Black Panther Party's Free Breakfast for Children program. The sign lists the time as 7:30-9:00 every school morning and provides three locations: Atlantic St. Center, High Point Community Church, and a Neighborhood House.

THE BLACK PANTHER PARTY
WIKED TO INFROM THE PEOPLE OF THESE PROGRAMS:
**FREE BREAKFAST
FOR CHILDREN**
TIME: 7:30-9:00 EVERY SCHOOL MORNING
PLACE: ATLANTIC ST. CENTER
2103 91st So. ATLANTIC St.
HIGH POINT COMMUNITY CHURCH
855th 35th SW
NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSE
1416 So.

Organizing and advocacy for a movement: 6 Panther Ps

Program: BPP had a 10-point program

Projects of Survival: Meeting various community needs at a very local level

Protests: agitating against social, political, economic injustice

Press work: Making sure the analysis, work is being shared far and wide

Political education: Understanding where we are in our economic and political context, drawing on the lessons of history and models of organizing

Plans, not personalities: Going beyond individual leadership, securing the movement for the long haul

Examples of movement organizing: Poor People's Campaign: A National Call for Moral Revival



Discussion Questions

- **How could survival programs in your organization or community engage more people in organizing and advocacy?**
- **What elements of the 6 Panther Ps resonate most with your / your organization's experience? What elements are least familiar?**
- **What relationships could you or your organization cultivate to help build a stronger movement to end poverty?**