

THE CENTER FOR LAW AND SOCIAL JUSTICE AT MEDGAR EVERS WILL HOST SECOND ANNUAL GARDEN PARTY FUNDRAISER SEPTEMBER 13

The Center for Law and Social Justice (CLSJ) at Medgar Evers College/CUNY will host their Second Annual Garden Party Fundraiser on Sunday, September 13, 2009 at The Japanese Garden in Brooklyn. The program features selections from talented vocalist Abby Dobson, presentations from CLSJ and supporters, food, and beverage. The special event, to be held at a community garden (located at 339 Bedford Avenue, between DeKalb Avenue and Willoughby Avenue), will take from place from 3:00pm to 7:00pm. The requested donation is \$50. Proceeds will support CLSJ's various services and special projects, all of which are free to the public. For more event information, please call 718.270.6297.

This theme for this year's fundraiser is "We Are Here!" It derives from the Japanese Ever-

green tree. This tree, which surrounds the Japanese Garden, represents permanence. "The ongoing mission of the Center for Law and Social Justice is also based in permanency," states Esmeralda Simmons, Esq., Founder and Executive Director of CLSJ. "For over 20 years, we have been here in service to the community and we are here to stay. Our annual fundraisers create an opportunity for us to present our accomplishments to the community, as well as our plans for the future, she adds.

Last year's fundraiser raised over \$2,000. This year, CLSJ plans to surpass that mark. In addition to donations from community members, funding from organizations such as the New York City Council, New York Community Trust, Concord Baptist Church Fund and others enable the center to fulfill its mission.

PRAXIS HOUSING INITIATIVES PURCHASES LINCOLN HOTEL

Praxis Housing Initiatives has purchased the Lincoln Hotel located in the Crown Heights section of Brooklyn. Praxis had previously been renting this property since 1999. It currently houses 40 residents in individual rooms sponsored by HRA (Human Resources Administration).

As an integral part of the Praxis strategic plan, the Lincoln Hotel purchase offers the opportunity for funding future projects. The New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene recently selected Praxis to receive funding for supportive housing. With the purchase of the Lincoln Hotel, Praxis will have the equity for securing additional funding as it expands the organization into permanent supportive housing.

Working closely with architects to ensure that the Lincoln can be converted to a green building, Praxis not only ensures that it is adhering to its strategic plan, but also making an environmental impact while improving the existing resi-

dence.

Praxis Housing Initiatives is NYC's largest provider of transitional housing to homeless people with HIV/AIDS with the lowest cost/highest service. From the moment a client first steps into a Praxis facility, they are on the road to a better and stable life.

Operating four residences and providing a wide variety of permanent housing placement options through our Brooklyn-based scatter site program, Praxis houses nearly 400 people a night and approximately 1,200 homeless individuals with HIV/AIDS each year.

Clients are offered 25-30 workshops and support groups per week covering topics such as harm reduction, treatment adherence, coping skills, addiction counseling and recovery support. Since 2000, Praxis's Housing Specialists have placed over 1,250 individuals in permanent housing - apartments, supportive housing and long-term congregate care.

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