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## ***Outreach 41st Annual Metropolitan Luncheon Raises more than \$1 Million in Critical Funds for Mental Health and Substance Abuse Treatment***

The 41st Annual Metropolitan Luncheon held by [Outreach](#), New York's leading nonprofit provider of high quality, evidence-based behavioral health (substance abuse and mental health) treatment and training programs, raised more than \$1 million for its essential services. The event was held yesterday at Cipriani 42<sup>nd</sup> Street with more than 750 guests in attendance.

"We are so grateful to our generous donors," said Debra Pantin, president and CEO of Outreach. "With the rate of opioid abuse on the rise and deaths escalating, particularly in New York City and Long Island where we operate, the need to expand our reach grows every day. Everyone who made a donation to this year's event helps a family move forward and heal."

This year's Luncheon honored three distinguished Outreach supporters: **Joseph Azzopardi**, business manager/secretary-treasurer of the Painters and Allied Workers Trades District Council 19, recipient of the Labor Leader of the Year Award; **Callie Haines**, executive vice president, Northeast Region Head of the U.S. Office Division of Brookfield Properties, recipient of the Humanitarian of the Year Award; and **James Whelan**, president, Real Estate Board of New York, recipient of the Jim Berg Memorial Award. The event was chaired by Daniel Kindbergh, executive vice president of operations at Brookfield Properties, and chairman of the Outreach Board of Directors.



**Joseph Azzopardi**  
*Business Manager / Secretary Treasurer  
Painters and Allied Workers Trades  
District Council 9*

*"Labor Leader of the Year"*



**Callie Haines**  
*Executive Vice President,  
Northeast Region Head | U.S. Office Division  
Brookfield Properties*

*"Humanitarian of the Year"*



**James Whelan**  
*President  
Real Estate Board of New York*

*"Jim Berg Memorial Recipient"*

"It's been a particularly difficult two-plus years for those challenged by mental health and substance abuse issues," said Pantin. "The support offered to us by our honorees and those who attend our Metro Luncheon each year helps those we serve tremendously."

"The agency offers leading behavioral health intervention, rehabilitation, and training programs at ten facilities in New York City and on Long Island. Its services include personalized mental health assessments, psychiatric evaluations, medication evaluation and management, individual and group therapy, external referrals, and crisis management. It offers care for the entire family including teens, young adults, adults, seniors, and those with co-occurring disorders or in need of mental health services. Services are provided to all in need, regardless of their race, gender

identity, sexual orientation, age, physical ability, language, immigration, or insurance status and, or ability to pay.

An annual tradition since 1981, the Metropolitan Luncheon celebrates the accomplishments of Outreach clients and families and recognizes distinguished members of the New York metropolitan area business, labor, and trade communities who have made a commitment to helping the organization to build healthy lives.

### **About Outreach**

More than 40 years ago, [Outreach](#) opened its doors as a small assessment and referral center to engage people in the community struggling with addiction. Since then, its mission evolved to meet more needs and more communities. Today, Outreach inspires adolescents, adults, and their families to live their healthiest life through high quality, evidence-based behavioral health services and training programs located throughout New York City and Long Island. Outreach's experts in substance use treatment and recovery are available to speak with journalists and reporters.

For more information about Outreach, visit [www.opiny.org](http://www.opiny.org). and follow them on Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, and YouTube. If you or someone you know needs help with a drug or alcohol problem, please call Outreach at 1-833-OPINYORG (1-833-674-6967).

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