



30TH

ANNIVERSARY

Fundraising Gala

Industry City
September 18, 2025





Mission

Founded in 1995, Bridge Street Development Corporation (“Bridge Street”) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization whose mission is to provide civic and economic opportunities to the residents and small businesses of Central Brooklyn, with an emphasis on low-to-moderate income individuals and families.





BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Edward Odom Jr. - Chair

Phyllis D. White - Thorne - Vice Chair

Valerie E. Kendrick - Cousin - Secretary

Abitzel D. Robinson - Hobson - Treasurer

Drexel B. Harris

Fitzgerald Miller

Niles D. Stewart

Joan Bartolomeo

Rev. David B. Cousin, Sr.

Tamara Charles

Shimonah Israel

Janel Shervington

Bonny O. Williams

Omar Washington

PROGRAM

Cocktail Hour

Board Chair Welcome Remarks

Invocation

Reverend David B. Cousin Sr.

Master of Ceremonies

Dr. Malik Yoba

Bridge Street Video Presentation

President & CEO Welcome Remarks

Award Presentations

Founding Institution

Bridge Street AME Church—Dr. Robert Williams, Jr.

Economic Development Champion

Suzette Bather-Taylor

Founding President & CEO

Colvin Grannum

Closing Remarks

Gregory Anderson

Dinner

Entertainment

DJ Prince Albert

Dessert





GREETINGS FROM THE CHAIR

It is an honor for me to greet you this evening on behalf of Bridge Street Development Corporation (BSDC). I have had the pleasure of being a member of this great organization's board for twenty eight of its thirty year history. Initially as a board member, treasurer, vice chair and for the last seventeen years board chair. I have been impressed with the dedicated service rendered by my fellow board members, President/CEO and staff. Their hard work and outstanding talent is the reason why BSDC continues to function as a staple community development organization that develops neighborhoods in Bedford Stuyvesant and Central Brooklyn. By collaborating with key stakeholders, we ensure that our initiatives align with the unique needs of a diverse population. Our focus is on fostering economic growth, promoting civic engagement, and addressing social challenges through targeted programs and services.

As a Community Development Corporation we are focused on revitalizing distressed communities, particularly those with low-income populations. We work to improve both the physical and social conditions of these communities through various initiatives, such as developing affordable housing, creating economic development opportunities, and providing social services to both youth and seniors.

We are so thankful for your ongoing support of our organization's events. Your generous sponsorship and donations has made a tremendous impact on our cause and we would like to express our sincere appreciation for your dedication.

Your generosity helps make the world a better place, "one gift at a time." Thank you for believing in our mission and standing with us.

Enjoy your evening.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'E. Odom, Jr.', written in a cursive style.

Edward Odom, Jr.

REFLECTIONS FROM THE PASTOR AND EXECUTIVE MINISTER



Greetings Beloved;

It is with the joy of Jesus that Rev. Valerie and I greet you on this auspicious occasion of the 30th Anniversary of Bridge Street Development Corporation (BSDC).

When we were assigned to Bridge Street AME Church in June 1997, BSDC had been in operation for almost two years under the leadership of Colvin Grannum and his office was located on the second floor of the church. I was blessed to witness BSDC's growth from a staff of one to over forty employees. This could not have been possible without creative, innovative directors with vision for creating programs and services to address the needs of the community.

This year's celebration is a testament to the dedication and commitment of the current and former directors and their staff to improving the quality of life for residents of Central Brooklyn and making the community a more sustainable place for families to live and work.

Congratulations Bridge Street! You have lived up to your mission of "Building on Community Strength."

Rev. David B. Cousin, Sr., Pastor

Rev. Valerie E. Cousin, Executive Minister



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT & CEO

It is with great pride and deep gratitude that I welcome you to Bridge Street Development Corporation's 30th Anniversary Gala. Tonight, we celebrate three decades of Building on Community Strength and the people who have made this journey possible.

Since 1995, Bridge Street has worked to preserve affordable housing, support small businesses, prepare young people for meaningful careers, and ensure older adults can age with dignity. Our progress has been guided by community voices and made possible through dedicated staff, a committed board, and partners who share our vision for a thriving Bedford-Stuyvesant and Central Brooklyn community.

This evening we also honor leaders who embody that vision: Colvin Grannum, our Founding President & CEO, whose bold leadership built the foundation we stand on today; Bridge Street AME Church, our founding institution, with special recognition of Dr. Robert Williams, Jr., a longtime member and founding board member; and Suzette Bather-Taylor, our Economic Development Champion, for her tireless advocacy for opportunity and diversity in business.

Looking ahead, Bridge Street remains steadfast in our mission. With your continued support, we will expand housing preservation, deepen small business ownership opportunities, create new pathways for youth success, and strengthen the civic bonds that make our neighborhoods resilient.

Thank you for celebrating this milestone with us and for believing in our mission. Together, we will carry forward the promise of the next thirty years and beyond.

With gratitude,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Gregory Anderson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial 'G'.

Gregory Anderson

President & CEO

Bridge Street Development Corporation

Master of Ceremonies

DR. MALIK YOBA

Founder & CEO, Yoba Development



Dr. Malik Yoba is a well-known actor, filmmaker, educator, entrepreneur, and emerging real estate developer. A native of the South Bronx, he grew up witnessing the challenges of communities of color without access to quality education or affordable housing — an experience that fueled his lifelong passion for using the arts, education, and real estate development to expand opportunity and generational wealth.

Since 1996, Yoba has been active in real estate investing and later development, founding Yoba Development, a mission-driven company that combines storytelling, education, and entrepreneurship with sustainable development projects.

Alongside his business ventures, Yoba has earned acclaim as a 3-time NAACP Image Award-winning actor, with iconic roles in *Cool Runnings* and *New York Undercover*, as well as more than 50 film credits and numerous television appearances. His career in the arts informs his belief in the power of storytelling to educate, inspire, and mobilize communities.

As an actor, filmmaker and advocate, Yoba understands the power of narrative to inspire action and has devoted his career to making a positive difference in the lives of others.

Bridge Street is honored to welcome Dr. Malik Yoba as Master of Ceremonies for our 30th Anniversary Gala, reflecting our shared commitment to advancing equity, creating opportunity, and building stronger communities through housing, economic development, and youth empowerment.



Bridge Street Development Corporation – Building on Community Strength

For thirty years, Bridge Street has worked hand in hand with Central Brooklyn residents to create opportunities, strengthen neighborhoods, and improve quality of life. Our programs serve thousands of youth, families, older adults, and small business owners every year. Together, they form a comprehensive approach to community development:



Economic Development

Revitalizing commercial corridors, strengthening merchants associations, and supporting small businesses. From Open Streets and Juneteenth Unity Marketplace to storefront improvement and ownership initiatives, we help local entrepreneurs thrive.

Youth Civic & Workforce Development

Placing over 1,000 young people annually in paid jobs and internships through SYEP, and offering hands-on training in technology, trades, and green jobs. Programs like MYBASE build leadership, civic engagement, and pathways to meaningful careers.



Older Adult & Tenant Services

Operating Quincy Senior Residences and offering health, wellness, and social programs that help older adults age with dignity. Providing case management and housing application support for families seeking affordable housing and rent protections.



Community Engagement, Organizing & Advocacy

Our Community Engagement team works block by block to empower residents to become active citizens, fully involved in improving the quality of life in their community. Leading the Bed-Stuy Works Alliance of Block & Tenant Associations, uniting 70+ resident groups to address neighborhood concerns and strengthen civic participation.

Affordable Housing & Real Estate Development

Developing and preserving over 600 affordable homes, renovating 79 one-to-four family houses, and advancing new projects that keep families in their community. Providing below-market commercial space for small businesses and nonprofits. Through our 202 Preservation Project, we are leading efforts to preserve and modernize senior housing across Brooklyn, and beyond.



Financial Literacy & Empowerment

Equipping residents of all ages with tools to build wealth, manage credit, and plan for the future. Workshops cover budgeting, debt management, small business finance, and retirement planning, often in partnership with trusted financial institutions.

Bed-Stuy Youth Serve Community Through Pandemic in Local Internship Program

Bridge Street Development Corporation has persevered to maintain its youth internship program when it was needed most

Jackson Ferrari Ibelle
Dec 16, 2020 7:47 PM



Bridge Street Development Corporations Intern cohort. Photo Supplied.

When the pandemic brought New York City to a screeching halt in March, leaders at the [Bridge Street Development Corporation](#) in Bed-Stuy knew their work would only become more essential.



Flower Bed-Stuy celebrates 15 years of neighborhood beautification and civic pride

By Paul Frangipane & Kirstyn Brendlen
Posted on May 5, 2025



Flower Bed-Stuy, a local civic engagement and community beautification project, celebrated its 15th anniversary on May 3.
Photo by Paul Frangipane

Transformative Times

Published 3 years ago on September 1, 2022
By Fern Gillespie



Mecca for Black Girl Magic: Tompkins Avenue near Gates is five city blocks from the geographic center of New York City. And, by extension, it is an epicenter of entrepreneurs, artists, designers, and more. For these school-age girls, we can see where the site may hold keys to opportunities for their future. They told Our Time Press they claimed the street for a greater purpose: a runway for their fashion show and an expanse for their dance (BG).

Bridge Street Development Corporation's Innovative Community and Business Initiatives in Central Brooklyn

By Fern Gillespie

When major institutions like the Bridge Street Development Corporation partner with community groups like the Tompkins Avenue Merchant Association (TAMA), the benefits to the community are immeasurable. And so are the business success stories, large and small — which Our Time Press is currently following. This past Sunday, we connected with Gregory Anderson, BSDC President and CEO, at the TAMA Open Streets event for photos. In a recent interview, below, Mr. Anderson, shared some of BSDC's other Success Stories. Anderson, who joined BSDC in 2019, has over 25 years of public finance investment banking experience.

OUR TIME PRESS
The Local Media Outlet for the City of New York

Gregory Anderson: Bridge Street Development Corporation & Brownstoners of Bed-Stuy United in Effort to Strengthen Support to Homeowners

Published 3 months ago on May 30, 2025
By David Mark Greaves



"Bridge Street Development Corporation is proud to stand in solidarity with Borough President Reynoso, Council Members Chi Osse, Farah Louis, and Sandy Nurse, homeowners, and community advocates demanding increased investment in the fight against deed theft," said Gregory Anderson, BSDC President & CEO, at BP Reynoso's press conference at City Hall recently on deed thefts.



30TH

ANNIVERSARY



HONORING OUR PAST



HONORING OUR FOUNDATION

Thirty years ago, Bridge Street Development Corporation was born out of the vision and leadership of Bridge Street AME Church — one of New York's oldest African American congregations and a beacon of faith and social justice since 1766. The same church that once sheltered freedom seekers on the Underground Railroad and welcomed Harriet Tubman and Frederick Douglass to its pulpit inspired the creation of an organization dedicated to advancing justice, opportunity, and community strength in Bedford-Stuyvesant and Central Brooklyn.

We recognize, give honor, and offer thanks to Bridge Street AME Church for the foundational principles of faith, justice, equity, community and opportunity that are deeply embedded in the organizational DNA of Bridge Street Development Corporation.



"Holding in their hearts and minds nearly 450 years of collective memory, these six elders...were among the 1938 congregation of Bridge Street Church who left the old building at 309 Bridge Street...and marched to meet the future at their home on Stuyvesant Avenue" (David Mark Greaves & Bernice Elizabeth Green. Photo by Walter Taylor).

Bridge Street Prep School



Published 21 years ago on January 1, 2005
 By **admin**

By Freddie Hamilton

"Bridge Street students today, America's leaders tomorrow", says Rev. David B. Cousin, Sr., Pastor of Bridge Street AWME Church. This gives a glimpse into the reason why he has had such a profound commitment to the support of the Bridge Street Preparatory School since his arrival in 1997 as Pastor of the church. The Prep school, located in the heart of Bedford Stuyvesant, is a grade school that serves kindergarten through 6th grade. The school has a strong Christian, Africentric, child centered program that promotes high self-esteem, the motivation to excel and a thorough understanding of the African American role in history throughout the world.

"Africentric is purposely spelled with an i, not an o because Africa is our center" says Principal Rev. Deborah Finley-Jackson. Bridge Street Prep School follows New York State Standards and is equipped with computers and other technological equipment. Enrichment activities in music, dance, art and drama are provided.

Underground Railroad:



Published 20 years ago on September 10, 2005
 By **admin**

A Few More Clues in Brooklyn

By Danielle Douglas

The heritage of The Underground Railroad signifies the depth of Black strength through struggle. The network's mere existence speaks to one of Black America's extraordinary moments in history, hence the need for the preservation of discovered safe houses and checkpoints along the route.

Within New York State, there are over 30 recognized sites, several of which are located in Brooklyn, such as the Lafayette Avenue Presbyterian Church, and the original Bridge Street Church. However, a local group of homeowners on Duffield Street believe they have found another station beneath their homes in downtown Brooklyn. But the homes are slated for demolition to make way for Willoughby Square Park, the centerpiece of the Downtown Brooklyn Redevelopment Plan's new office development.

BRIDGE STREET VETERANS, MINISTRY DONATES CLOTHING FOR HOMELESS VETS



Published 13 years ago on July 16, 2012
 By **admin**

The Veterans' Ministry of the Bridge Street AWME Church recently donated men's clothing to the Homeless Services Division of Black Vets for Social Justice (BVSJ). L-R: Michael Smith representing Assembly woman Annette Robinson; Carl Callendar, Director of Homeless Services for BVSJ; Timothy Moses, co-Chair, Outreach for Bridge Street's Veterans' Ministry who served in the U.S. Air Force; Tyrone Williams, who served in the U.S. Army and is now BVSJ's COO; and Greg Jones, Sr., Bridge Street Church. The Ministry will be conducting a coat drive beginning in the fall to provide coats to the homeless vets. Also, the Ministry will host a special church service in conjunction with Veterans' Day on Sunday, November 11, 2012.



Honoring Our Leaders

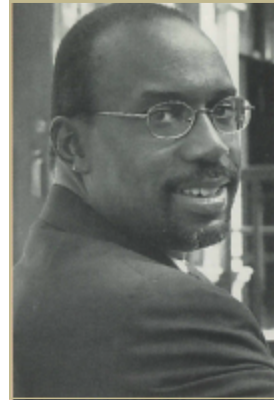
For the past 30 years, Bridge Street Development Corporation has been blessed with strong and dedicated leadership. Each leader has played a vital role in guiding our mission, building bridges in the community, and laying the foundation for the work we continue today.

We celebrate our prior leaders with gratitude: honoring those who came before, uplifting the one who continues to lead us today, and remembering with love the leader who has passed.

Together, their vision and service represent the heart of Bridge Street as we mark 30 years of impact and look ahead to the future.

COLVIN W. GRANNUM

**Founding Chief Executive Officer, Bridge
Street Development Corporation
1995-2001**



"For me, community development is a spiritual enterprise, and the opportunity to help build BSDC has been one of the major blessings of my life. Bridge Street Church has an incredibly rich and inspiring history of accomplishment which I have sought to uphold.

This is likewise reflected in BSDC's board of directors, an extraordinary collection of wise and progressive community leaders. In the early days, a good number of friends supported BSDC early and often. The support of local elected officials and Community Planning Boards Nos. 3 and 16 was also essential to BSDC's forward movement. We give thanks to community residents who accepted and used our services, and spread the word about our respect and passion for the community and commitment to our work.

Our phenomenal staff and their tremendous patience, perseverance and commitment helped BSDC to incorporate new programs, responsibilities and people. These efforts were broadened and deepened by talented consultants. Deborah Thompson deserves special recognition for investing her many talents in BSDC, broadening and deepening the organization's capacity, and stabilizing the corporation during the recent leadership transition. Keep the faith."

Colvin W. Grannum

IN LOVING MEMORY



RHONDA A. LEWIS
PRESIDENT AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
2001-2011

“Community development is my life's work, and my work now leads me to this very special organization. To me, Bridge Street feels like a warm home extending a heartfelt welcome to its community. People come here with spiritual and economic needs, and our mission is to help them realize their aspirations in both. I have been exceptionally nourished when working with faith-based organizations: they are committed to harnessing our collective potential toward the betterment of the community. Bridge Street Development Corporation is born from people with rich history and strong character - people seeking homeownership, entrepreneurial opportunities, and stability for their families. With the community as our partner, Bridge Street is committed to making Bedford Stuyvesant a place where all positive and progressive people will want to call home.”

Rhonda A. Lewis

EMILIO DORCELY

Chief Executive Officer, Bridge Street
Development Corporation
2011-2019



“In my mind, a community development movement is more than housing. It’s about housing, jobs, health, safety and education. CDCs should reflect the neighborhoods and the cities in which they are working. There is not one size fits all. It’s about the people in your neighborhood and your city. What do they need to be successful? That’s why I think CDCs in many ways are going to consistently evolve. They are not meant to be static. The goal is to create opportunities for people to live a vibrant life and to have equal access to opportunity.

Really the mission is quite simple: It’s to strengthen communities and families, and we do this by building affordable housing and creating opportunities to engage with communities – both organizations and residents. We also help build wealth primarily through home ownership and helping people build credit and savings.”

A decorative graphic in the bottom right corner consisting of numerous thin, overlapping, wavy lines in shades of yellow and orange, creating a sense of movement and flow.



30TH

ANNIVERSARY



HONOREES

COLVIN W. GRANNUM

Founding Chief Executive Officer, Bridge Street Development Corporation



Colvin Grannum is the Founding President & CEO of Bridge Street Development Corporation and Retired President & CEO of Bedford Stuyvesant Restoration Corporation.

Colvin led Bridge Street through its formative years, transforming the vision of Bridge Street AME Church into a thriving community development corporation. Under his leadership, Bridge Street established a strong foundation in affordable housing, small business support, and youth and senior services — work that continues to impact thousands of residents today.

In 2001, Colvin assumed leadership of Bedford Stuyvesant Restoration Corporation, the nation's first community development corporation, where he served for two decades. There, he advanced ambitious initiatives in housing, commercial revitalization, job training, health and wellness, and cultural programming, leaving a legacy of innovation and impact that has touched generations of Brooklyn residents.

Colvin's leadership extends far beyond Central Brooklyn. He currently serves as chair of the Center for New York City Neighborhoods and Bedford Stuyvesant Early Childhood Development Center, Inc. as well as a member of the boards of the Levitt Foundation and Carver Federal Savings Bank. He has served as a member of the Executive Committees of the Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC), the Association for Neighborhood & Housing Developers (ANHD), and the Metropolitan Museum of Art. Other former boards include New York City Workforce Investment Board, the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce and NYC Housing Development Corporation.

LISC and the New York Housing Conference recognized him with lifetime achievement awards. Prior to his leadership roles in community development, Colvin practiced law in both the private and public sectors. He is a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania and Georgetown University Law Center.

Colvin's visionary leadership, integrity, and lifelong commitment to empowering communities have made him one of Brooklyn's most respected civic leaders. His enduring contributions exemplify Bridge Street's mission of Building on Community Strength, and his legacy continues to inspire the next generation of community builders.. He has been married to Sandra J. Grannum, Esq. for 45 years with whom he shares a son, Jordan Jefferson Grannum.



DR. ROBERT WILLIAMS

Bridge Street Church

Dr. Robert Williams, Jr. is a proud Vietnam Veteran, lifelong Bedford-Stuyvesant resident, and devoted son of Bridge Street AME Church. For more than forty years, he has been a pioneering educator and speech-language pathologist, dedicating his career to helping children and adults find their voices.

Inspired by his own early challenges in a college phonetics class, Dr. Williams transformed difficulty into purpose. He went on to earn advanced degrees from Emerson College, Florida State University, and Columbia University, and became a respected scholar and practitioner. His career has spanned teaching at Howard University and Old Dominion University, directing the Speech and Hearing Center at Harlem Hospital, and decades of service in Atlanta and New York City public schools, where he championed innovative therapies and assistive technologies for students with special needs. He continues to teach at Borough of Manhattan Community College, inspiring new generations of students.

Beyond his professional achievements, Dr. Williams has always been a servant leader. At Bridge Street AME Church, he has served as trustee, Church School Superintendent, and leader in the Veterans Ministry and Lay Organization. As President of the 575 Hancock Street HDFC, he has advanced affordable housing for local families, ensuring that Bedford-Stuyvesant remains a place where neighbors can thrive.

Dr. Williams attributes his many accomplishments to his faith, his family, and the enduring support of the Bridge Street community. His life is a testament to perseverance, service, and the transformative power of education and faith.

SUZETTE BATHER-TAYLOR

Port Authority NY NJ - Economic Development Champion



Suzette Bather-Taylor is a dynamic leader in Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, and a proud resident of Bedford-Stuyvesant. As Program Director for Business Diversity at the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, she has played a central role in advancing participation goals on some of the region's most ambitious infrastructure projects, including the \$19 billion redevelopment of JFK Airport. Her work ensures that minority- and women-owned businesses, service-disabled veteran-owned businesses, and small enterprises have access to opportunities in finance, design, construction, and airport operations.

Suzette's career reflects a deep and lasting commitment to opening doors for underrepresented entrepreneurs. At the NYC Mayor's Office of Minority and Women-Owned Business Enterprises, she helped increase MWBE participation in a \$2.8 billion contract from less than 1% to 20%, and secured \$41 million in financing for disadvantaged contractors through a groundbreaking banking summit. She has also managed hundreds of millions of dollars in diversity contracting at the New York Governor's Office of Storm Recovery and revitalized the NYC MBDA Business Center, expanding its reach and resources.

Her professional journey began in finance, with a decade at JPMorgan Chase, where she gained valuable experience in corporate strategy, global supplier diversity, and product development. Coupled with her executive training at the Tuck School of Business at Dartmouth and an MBA from Pace University, Suzette has built a career defined by innovation, leadership, and measurable impact.

Recognized for her vision and tenacity, Suzette has received honors from Airports Council International-North America and the Northeast Chapter of the American Association of Airport Executives. She is also a member of the ACE Health Foundation's ACE Global Leaders of Excellence Network.

A champion for equity, opportunity, and community, Suzette embodies the spirit of Bedford-Stuyvesant. Her leadership reflects the very mission of Bridge Street Development: building pathways for inclusion, creating opportunity, and ensuring that our communities continue to thrive for generations to come.





DISTRICT ATTORNEY
KINGS COUNTY
350 JAY STREET
BROOKLYN, NY 11201-2908
(718) 250-2000



Eric Gonzalez
District Attorney

September 18, 2025

Dear Friends of the Bridge Street Development Corporation,

It is my honor to extend heartfelt congratulations to the Bridge Street Development Corporation as you celebrate 30 years of profound impact in Central Brooklyn. Since its founding, Bridge Street has been a cornerstone of community empowerment—transforming lives, uplifting families, and strengthening neighborhoods across Bedford-Stuyvesant and beyond.

Bridge Street has been steadfast in promoting community engagement, economic development, financial empowerment, youth enrichment, and much more to thousands of families across Brooklyn. Bridge Street has also been an essential partner to the District Attorney's Office, helping to facilitate Project Restore Bed-Stuy, a gang-violence intervention program aimed at altering the life trajectories of young people through mentorship, restorative justice healing circles, life skills training, and internship opportunities.

The work you do—rooted in service and guided by a vision of equity—aligns deeply with our shared mission of creating a borough where every person feels safe, supported, and valued. As Brooklyn's District Attorney, I am inspired by your sustained efforts to expand opportunity, uplift the vulnerable, and strengthen the well-being of our communities.

On behalf of my office, I thank the Bridge Street Development Corporation, its leadership, and its founding institution, Bridge Street AME Church, for three decades of unwavering service and impact. Congratulations on your 30th Anniversary Gala, and I look forward to continuing our partnership in the years ahead.

Sincerely,

Eric Gonzalez
Brooklyn District Attorney



THE ASSEMBLY STATE OF
NEW YORK
ALBANY

STEFANI L. ZINERMAN
Member of the Assembly
56th District, Kings
County

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DEPUTY MAJORITY WHIP

CHAIR
Sub-Committee on Emerging Workforce

COMMITTEES
Aging
Agriculture
Corporations, Authorities, and
Commissions
Labor
People With Disabilities
Tourism, Parks, Arts and Sports
Development

MEMBER
Black, Puerto Rican, Hispanic and
Asian Legislative Caucus
Legislative Women's Caucus
Black Legislative Task force
Puerto Rican/Hispanic Task force
Task force on Women's Issues

September 4, 2025

Gregory Anderson, President & CEO
Bridge Street Development Corporation
460 Nostrand Avenue
Brooklyn, NY 11216

Dear Mr. Anderson and the Bridge Street Development Corporation family,

Congratulations on Bridge Street Development Corporation's **30th—Pearl—Anniversary**. BSDC's three decades of building on community strength have produced lasting beauty through **Flower Bed-Stuy** and resilience with the **Bed Stuy Works Alliance**—uplifting seniors with dignity, empowering youth with opportunity, and advancing equitable economic growth across Bed-Stuy and Central Brooklyn.

I warmly congratulate tonight's honorees—**Colvin Grannum; Bridge Street AME Church** with special recognition of **Dr. Robert Williams, Jr.**; and **Suzette Bather-Taylor**—whose leadership and service continue to shape our shared future. I also salute my longtime friend, **Dr. Malik Yoba**, for hosting this evening and for modeling—and teaching—what real, community-centered development looks like.

On behalf of the New York State Assembly and the people of the Vibrant 56th District, thank you for thirty years of impact and for the many years ahead.

With admiration and solidarity,

Assembly Member Stefani L. Zinerman
New York State Assembly, 56th District
Deputy Majority Whip | Chair, Subcommittee on Emerging Workforce

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THE COUNCIL
OF
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

CHI OSSÉ

COUNCIL MEMBER, 36TH DISTRICT, BROOKLYN

CO-CHAIR
BROOKLYN DELEGATION

COMMITTEES
CONSUMER AND WORKER PROTECTIONS
CULTURAL AFFAIRS, LIBRARIES,
AND INTERNATIONAL INTERGROUP RELATIONS
FINANCE
GENERAL WELFARE
PUBLIC HOUSING
PUBLIC SAFETY
YOUTH SERVICES

September 18, 2025

Dear Friends of Bridge Street Development Corporation,

It is my great pleasure to congratulate Bridge Street Development Corporation on 30 years of outstanding service to Central Brooklyn. Since its founding, Bridge Street has been a beacon of community strength, preserving affordable housing, expanding opportunities for young people, and uplifting residents of all ages across Bedford-Stuyvesant and beyond.

As Council Member for the 36th District, I have seen firsthand the incredible impact of Bridge Street's work. From tenant support and homeownership preservation services that protect our neighbors' stability to innovative youth initiatives such as MYBASE and workforce development training programs, Bridge Street is creating pathways for the next generation to thrive. I am equally grateful for your commitment to cultural programming in our district and for your invaluable services to older adults, including your partnership in my Annual Senior Day of Pampering this year.

The mission you carry forward to advance equity, dignity, and opportunity reflects the very best of what it means to serve community. I am proud to stand with Bridge Street and to celebrate this milestone anniversary with you.

On behalf of the residents of the 36th Council District, I extend my heartfelt congratulations to Bridge Street Development Corporation, its leadership, and its founding institution, Bridge Street AME Church, for three decades of unwavering impact. I look forward to continuing our work together to build a stronger, more just, and more vibrant Central Brooklyn.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chi Ossé", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Council Member Chi Ossé – District 36

CHAIR
CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

COMMITTEE MEMBER

AGING
BANKS
CODES
HOUSING, CONSTRUCTION &
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
LIBRARIES
NEW YORK CITY EDUCATION

**THE SENATE
STATE OF NEW YORK**



JABARI BRISPORT
SENATOR, 25TH DISTRICT

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E-MAIL: BRISPORT@NYSenate.GOV

September 11, 2025

To the incredible team at Bridge Street Development Corporation,

On behalf of the 25th Senate District and the New York State Senate, I extend my heartfelt congratulations to you on the occasion of your 30th Anniversary Gala.

For three decades, Bridge Street has been a cornerstone of community empowerment in Bedford-Stuyvesant and Central Brooklyn. Your unwavering commitment to affordable housing, economic development, and civic engagement has transformed lives and neighborhoods, and your legacy continues to inspire.

As you honor the visionary leadership of Colvin Grannum, the foundational role of Bridge Street AME Church, the legacy of Dr. Robert Williams Jr, and the economic advocacy of Suzette Bather-Taylor, we celebrate the collective impact of your work and the strength of the community you've helped build.

Thank you for your dedication to justice, equity, and opportunity. I look forward to continuing our shared mission of uplifting Brooklyn's communities.

Warmest regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "J. Brisport", written over a decorative background of overlapping orange and yellow wavy lines.

Senator Jabari Brisport

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-3203

September 18th, 2025

Dear Friends:

Please accept my warmest greetings as you gather with Bridge Street Development Corporation for its 30th Anniversary Fundraising Gala. I am grateful for the opportunity to recognize Bridge Street for its impactful work throughout Brooklyn, its leadership, and its team on this momentous occasion.

Since its inception in 1995, Bridge Street has remained steadfast in its mission to provide civic and economic opportunities to the residents and small businesses throughout Central Brooklyn, specifically those from low-to-moderate income backgrounds. Through its impactful programs such as the Tenant Housing Resource Fair and health and wellness workshops, Bridge Street has consistently advanced financial empowerment, social justice, and racial equity throughout Brooklyn. Bridge Street's community-centered approach is guided by the idea that long-term sustainability and growth begins with recognizing and building up communities to foster economic growth, promote civic engagement, and address social challenges. For the past 30 years, Bridge Street has succeeded in improving the lives of thousands of individuals, families, and businesses through its vast network of services.

On behalf of all New Yorkers, thank you for your profound commitment to building up economic independence, growth, and addressing social injustices. The work of Bridge Street Development Corporation has transformed Brooklyn over the last 30 years, giving its residents phenomenal support and resources to enhance their lives and businesses. I know that Bridge Street will continue its outstanding efforts for years to come. Best wishes for a wonderful event!

Sincerely,



Charles E. Schumer
United States Senator





OFFICE OF THE --- BROOKLYN BOROUGH PRESIDENT

Gregory Anderson
Bridge Street Development Corporation
460 Nostrand Avenue
Brooklyn, NY 112160

September 2025

Dear Friends,

Congratulations, Bridge Street Development Corporation, on your 30th Anniversary Gala!

For 30 years, Bridge Street has promoted and advanced financial empowerment, social justice, and racial equity in Central Brooklyn. This vital work has helped preserve Brooklyn's cultural heritage while creating new opportunities for generational wealth.

With its community-driven approach, Bridge Street has proven itself a vital asset for local residents. Throughout its history, Bridge Street has helped organize six merchants associations, developed over 600 units of affordable housing, and organized countless community events that bring our neighbors closer together. This work has helped build a more vibrant, livable borough for all of us to enjoy.

Bridge Street's service is emblematic of the neighborly love that binds Brooklynites together and the spirit of civic engagement that defines Brooklyn. I'm proud to have Bridge Street as a partner as we work together to build a borough where every Brooklynite is healthy, housed, and supported.

On behalf of the greatest borough in New York City, I wish you continued success in 2025 and beyond.

Sincerely,

Antonio Reynoso
Brooklyn Borough President



30TH

ANNIVERSARY



**Acknowledging our
Sponsors, Partners,
and Supporters**

The Board of Directors & Staff
At
Brooklyn Neighborhood Services
Salute



'As they celebrate 30 years of service to Bedford-Stuyvesant and Central Brooklyn'

Thursday, September 18, 2025
6:00pm-9:00pm
Industry City, Brooklyn, New York 11232

Congratulations to the Honorees

-  *Colvin Grannum, Founding President and CEO*
-  *Bridge Street AME Church, Founding Organization*
-  *Suzette Bather-Taylor, Port Authority, NY NJ Economic Development Champion*



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CONTACT US

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Bridge Street

DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

**Congratulations on celebrating 30
years of impact and success!**

**WE WOULD ALSO LIKE TO WISH A
CONGRATULATIONS TO THIS YEAR'S
HONOREES:**

COLVIN GRANNUM

SUZETTE BATHER-TAYLOR

BRIDGE STREET AME CHURCH

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COLVIN GRANNUM
ON HIS 30 PLUS YEARS OF DEDICATION TO COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
all the best to you CG!



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30TH ANNIVERSARY FUNDRAISING GALA**

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Celebrating Colvin Grannum: A True Pioneer

Join us in congratulating Colvin Grannum on his well-deserved recognition as a pioneer for Bridge Street Development Corporation! His dedication, vision, and unwavering commitment to community development has truly made a lasting impact.

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Wayne J. Riley, M.D., MPH, MBA, MACP

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Congratulations,



for three decades of dedicated service
to the world's most recognized neighborhood and ...
your role in building that legacy, block by block.
Congratulations are also extended to the event honorees:



**COLVIN W. GRANNUM
SUZETTE BATHER-TAYLOR**

for their respective life works and



**HISTORIC BRIDGE STREET
AME CHURCH**

for its more than two centuries
of walking by faith in the community
and setting the example
for the generations.

David Mark Greaves, DBG MEDIA
& Bernice Elizabeth Green, Legacy Ventures
Co-Founders

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We're proud to support Bridge Street Development Corporation as you celebrate 30 years of building on community strength.



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CONGREGATIONAL HOME LEGACY FUND

Proud to support and partner with Bridge Street Development Corporation to preserve and improve affordable housing for seniors.





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New York City

Congratulations to Bridge Street on 30
Years of Building on Community
Strength!

We salute Honorees Colvin Grannum,
Bridge Street AME Church, and Suzette
Bather-Taylor.





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Strength!

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Bridge Street AME Church, and
Suzette Bather-Taylor.



**BEDFORD STUYVESANT
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DEVELOPMENT CENTER**
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Dear Colvin,

On behalf of BSECDC, thank you for more than a decade of unwavering support and commitment to our children and families. Your dedication has been a cornerstone of our success, providing crucial programs and resources.

We also congratulate you on your outstanding leadership in the Bedford Stuyvesant community. Your vision, tireless efforts, and compassionate approach have inspired and impacted countless lives. The positive changes you've spearheaded and the lasting legacy you're building are evident in the thriving children and stronger families we serve. We are incredibly fortunate to have had your partnership and guidance.



**Congratulations to
Bridge Street
Development
Corporation**
on 30 years of leadership

and to

**Honoree
Colvin W. Grannum**
for your tireless dedication
and enduring pursuit of
community development.





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Congratulates

Colvin Grannum,
Bridge Street AME Church,
&
Bridge Street Development Corp.

For 30 years of impact and
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Congratulations!

*Bridge Street Development Corporation
on 30 Years of Service to Our Community.*

The Center for NYC Neighborhoods extends our warmest congratulations to tonight's distinguished honorees. This well-deserved recognition reflects your dedication, leadership, and service, all of which have made a lasting impact. Colvin, we salute your commitment, tireless energy and countless contributions to Bridge Street Development Corporation, residents across Brooklyn and so many NYC institutions!



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The N.E.S.T. salutes Bridge Street on 30 years of impact in our community. Congratulations to Honorees Colvin Grannum, Bridge Street AME Church, and Suzette Bather-Taylor



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**Here's to another
30 years of
fostering
economic growth,
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**Congratulations on celebrating
30 years of impact and success!**

Congratulations to Honorees

Colvin Grannum

Suzette Bather-Taylor

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DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Bridge Street Development Corporation

30 Years Of Contributing To Economic Development &
Fostering Communities in Central Brooklyn

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Thank you to all our sponsors,
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for 30 years of Building on
Community Strength — we look
forward to continued future
partnerships and growth!



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