



New York Nonprofit Press

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servicing people who serve people

Community Access Gala Brings In \$535K

On May 7th, Community Access hosted the most successful fundraising event in its history -- its 39th Anniversary Good Neighbor Gala, which raised \$535,000 to help support individuals overcoming mental illness and homelessness.

A celebration of “Breaking New Ground” in affordable housing and health care, the Gala was held at Battery Gardens restaurant on the waterfront in Battery Park and attended by 300 —just some of many good neighbors who are at the heart of Community Access’ continuing growth in New York City and beyond. The event was chaired by board member David Kuperberg, CEO of Cooper Square Realty, a stalwart advocate for Community Access for more than 20 years.

Honored at this year’s Gala were Karen Backus, recipient of the 2013 Partnership Award, and Maggi Knox, recipient of the Lifetime Achievement Award. As one of New York City’s leading real estate consultants, Karen Backus, president of the real estate firm K. Backus & Associates, is a devoted friend, supporter and advisor to Community Access, having helped them to shape far-reaching strategic initiatives. Maggi Knox has been at Community Access for 25 years and, as Director of Real Estate, has overseen and nurtured the project development and construction of 20 supportive hous-



David Kuperberg, Karen Backus, Steve Coe

ing programs (residences) in Manhattan, Brooklyn, and the Bronx, which are home to more than 1,100 individuals.

“We are grateful to the outpouring of support for this year’s event,” said Steve Coe, CEO of Community Access. “Community Access remains deeply committed to building housing and health care solutions that are a resource for New York City’s most vulnerable citizens. Support for our Gala directly benefits over 2,000 New Yorkers who are counting on us for a home, education, counseling—and so much more.”