

## NOTES AND UPDATES FROM COMUNILIFE

APRIL 2025



### WOODHULL II RIBBON CUTTING

#### New Residence Offers a Lifeline to Vulnerable New Yorkers

Ribbon Cutting Ceremony held on March 14, 2025 in Brooklyn for Comunilife's newest affordable and supportive residence.

Integrating healthcare intervention services to help homeless & chronically ill patients stabilize their lives

Located on the campus of **NYC H + H/Woodhull Hospital**, Woodhull II is the second phase of an affordable and supportive development that includes the original Woodhull Residence. Together they provide **182 apartments and essential services** for some of new York's most vulnerable residents, integrating Comunilife's goal to reduce homelessness, promote housing stability, and improve social and health outcomes.

### Elvis Is In The Building!

**And we could not be happier for him.**

Elvis's journey highlights resilience and the power of support amid adversity. Before the pandemic, **Elvis was a contractor**; but, an accident on the job led to **severe injuries** and **unemployment**. In 2022, **the death of his mother and brother, and the ensuing loss of his home, left him battling depression** and untreated schizophrenia. Elvis found hope in Comunilife's **Medical Respite** program, **after two years of living in his car. He learned how to manage his medication**, connect with **community care**, and obtain **Social Security disability benefits** while preparing for surgery, all in the hope of finding permanent housing.

Woodhull Residence, Brooklyn, NY



Receiving the **keys to his new apartment** marked a **transformative moment** in Elvis's life. At the Woodhull II ribbon-cutting ceremony, he tearfully shared his **inspirational story of recovery**. His journey emphasizes the vital role of community support in helping individuals rebuild their lives and thrive. With continued funding, we can provide resources for more individuals like Elvis.

**[Learn more...](#)**

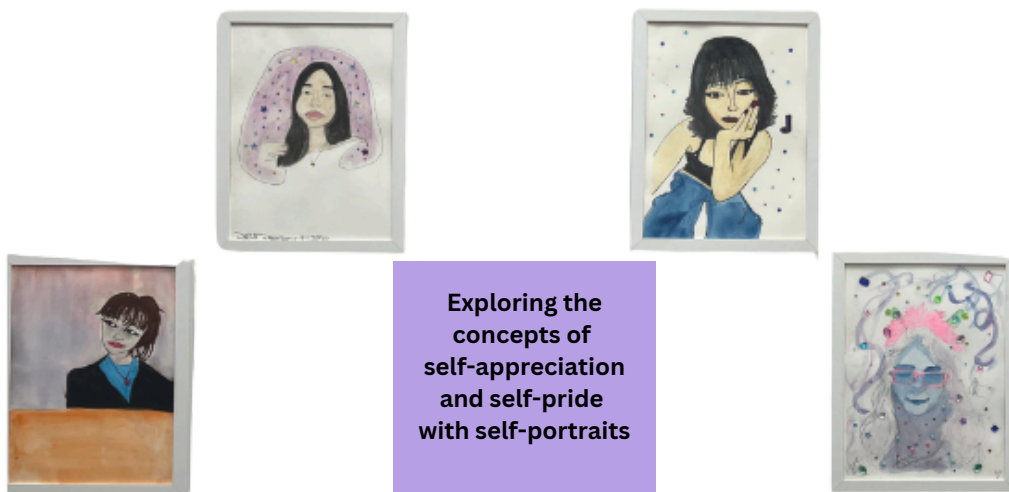


## Life is Precious™ Now Provides Services in Hempstead, Long Island

Life is Precious™ recently opened its doors with a beautiful new site in Hempstead, Long Island. Earlier this month, LIP staff participated in the **Society for the Prevention of Teen Suicide Youth Summit** that provided the opportunity to connect with community healthcare professionals and learn more about the mental health needs facing Long Island families. **To learn more about LIP, contact Julie Laurence, Vice President of LIP, [jlaurence@comunilife.org](mailto:jlaurence@comunilife.org)**

### I am a Work of Art

Mixed Media Artwork by the Life is Precious™ Community



### LIP Teens Share Their Experiences

“The sense of community has helped me open up to new experiences and a broader way of thinking, it’s helped me see how many people have gone through similar experiences and how they’ve coped with it. **Throughout the time I’ve been at LIP I’ve found it to be a relief and a safe place to express myself, not have to put up an act and pretend to be something I’m not...**Regardless of how I feel I know at LIP I don’t have to mask my feelings and pretend I’m confident in what I’m doing but instead I can be raw and vulnerable.”

“**I am not the same person I first was when I joined LIP but I can say my biggest take away was learning to truly love myself,** and I learned to once again have a healthy relationship with food...I want to help others the way I’ve been helped and (will) go to college to become an art therapist.”

“**LIP has changed my life** in a way I will never fully be able to word, the sense of community, the help, the encouragement, the support and the memories will forever be something I’m grateful for.”

“**When I first joined LIP, I was scared to do things. However, now I am more confident in myself and I am proud to be a Dominican woman from the Bronx, who is trying to make a better future for myself.**”

Thank you for reading!

*To discuss how you can support our efforts to fight homelessness and mental health issues call or email Illyse Kaplan at 212-219-1618 x6166, [ikaplan@comunilife.org](mailto:ikaplan@comunilife.org)*

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