Bridgeway's 2026 Chairperson's Dinner Celebrates a Legacy of Impact and a Future of Recovery

An evening of gratitude, recognition and generosity brings the community together to Give Hope a Home.

Bridgeway Behavioral Health Services welcomed **140** guests to its 2026 Chairperson's Dinner on Thursday, October 22, at the Grand Marquis in Old Bridge, NJ. The evening celebrated nearly six decades of service, recognized outstanding community partners and rallied support for an exciting new chapter in Bridgeway's history.

Marlene Baldinger, Chair of Bridgeway's Board of Trustees, and Cory Storch, President and CEO, welcomed guests and officially kicked off the evening, expressing appreciation for the generosity, partnerships and shared commitment that continue to advance Bridgeway's mission.

With the theme "Give Hope a Home: A Legacy of Impact. A Future of Recovery," the celebration highlighted Bridgeway's $2 million capital campaign to transform its longtime location at 567 Morris Avenue in Elizabeth into the new Center for Integrated Outpatient Services.

Celebrating Our 2026 Honorees

The evening recognized three distinguished honorees whose leadership, generosity and commitment to stronger communities reflect Bridgeway's mission.

Bristol Myers Squibb Foundation was honored for its valued partnership and generous support of Bridgeway's community-based services, including its investment in the Supportive Housing Program, which helps individuals achieve greater stability, independence and wellness.

The City of Summit, represented by Mayor Elizabeth Fagan, was recognized for its leadership and commitment to building a healthier, more supportive community.

The Summit Police Department, led by Chief Ryan Peters, was honored for its dedication to compassionate policing and innovative partnerships that strengthen responses to behavioral health crises. Sergeant Kathleen Maggiulli was also recognized for her important contributions to these efforts.

Together, these honorees demonstrate how collaboration among community organizations, government, philanthropy and law enforcement can make a lasting difference in people's lives.

A Celebration of Hope and Community

Guests enjoyed an extended cocktail reception, dinner, music, dancing and opportunities to connect with colleagues, friends and community partners.

A special video highlighted Bridgeway's impact and its vision for the Center for Integrated Outpatient Services, a welcoming, modern facility designed to bring coordinated behavioral health services together under one roof.

One particularly meaningful activity invited guests to add their signatures to a commemorative canvas celebrating the new center. Those signatures will become part of a permanent artwork displayed in the building, symbolizing the many people whose generosity and commitment are helping bring this vision to life.

The evening also featured a lively Prize Raffle, with an impressive assortment of 30 donated items, including New York Yankees and NJ Devils hockey tickets, golf outings, dining experiences, original artwork, jewelry, gift baskets and much more. A 50/50 raffle added to the excitement while supporting Bridgeway's mission.

With Gratitude to Our Generous Sponsors

Bridgeway extends heartfelt appreciation to the organizations whose generous sponsorships helped make this special evening possible.

Our **Champion of Hope Sponsors**, Bristol Myers Squibb Foundation and Woods System of Care, provided extraordinary leadership and support.

We also gratefully recognize our **Community Builder Sponsors**: Rapps Pharmacy, Homestead Smart Health Plans, JKJ, Citizens Bank, the City of Summit and the Summit Police Department.

Our **Pathway Sponsors** included Conner Strong & Buckelew, Withum, Brian's House, Provident Bank and Washington Pharmacy.

We extend sincere thanks to our **Bridge Sponsors**: Philadelphia Insurance Companies, Summit Police Athletic League, Charlie Health and Rutgers School of Health Professions.

We are equally grateful to the many businesses, organizations and individuals who purchased advertisements in our Online Event Journal, helping support the event while sharing messages of congratulations and encouragement with Bridgeway and our honorees.

Special appreciation goes to the generous donors who contributed prizes, experiences and gifts to our raffle, giving guests even more reasons to celebrate while supporting an important cause.

Recognizing the People Behind the Evening

Events like the Chairperson's Dinner are made possible by the dedication of many people working together.

Bridgeway extends sincere gratitude to its **Board of Trustees** for its continued leadership, guidance and commitment to the organization's mission.

Special recognition goes to **Fund Development Committee members Rob Spitzer and Sudha Kantor**, whose exceptional dedication and hands-on involvement in event planning, fundraising, sponsorship development and countless details were instrumental in bringing the evening together.

Special appreciation goes to **Jeannine Arlotta, Senior Executive Assistant; Erica Smith, Receptionist/Administrative Support; and Karen Kaufman, Vice President of Marketing and Communications**, for their dedication and hands-on involvement in coordinating the countless details that made this year's Chairperson's Dinner possible.

We also extend sincere thanks to **Christine Backiel, Program Director; April Cistrelli, Director; and Karen Kaufman** for their leadership and efforts in organizing the Prize Raffle, along with the many Bridgeway staff and volunteers whose contributions helped make the evening a success.

Together, We Give Hope a Home

Beyond the celebration, this year's Chairperson's Dinner represented an important investment in Bridgeway's future.

The new Center for Integrated Outpatient Services will strengthen Bridgeway's ability to provide accessible, coordinated care that addresses the whole person, supporting individuals and families on their journeys toward wellness, independence and recovery.

To our honorees, sponsors, advertisers, raffle donors, guests, Board members, staff and volunteers: Thank you.

Your generosity, partnership and belief in Bridgeway's mission make a meaningful difference in the lives of the people we serve.

As we look toward the opening of the new center and the opportunities ahead, we are reminded that the most meaningful progress happens when a community comes together around a shared purpose.

Together, We Give Hope a Home.