On the Ground at Morris Avenue: A Construction Update from Our COO

By Robert Edes, Chief Operating Officer, Bridgeway Behavioral Health Services

At Bridgeway, we understand that healing begins not just with the right services, but in the right space. That's why I'm proud to share a construction update on the renovation of our outpatient facility at 567 Morris Avenue in Elizabeth, which will soon reopen as our Center for Integrated Outpatient Services.

This renovation is a central part of our \$2 million Capital Campaign: A Legacy of Impact. A Future of Recovery, and I'm honored to oversee the work bringing this project to life.

What's Happening Now

Bridgeway's site at 567 Morris Ave in Elizabeth is being transformed into a modern facility, every wall, wire, and pipe is being replaced to meet today's standards for safety, efficiency, and accessibility. Today, the project stands at approximately 60% complete. The interior has been fully cleared and rebuilt with new framing, electrical wiring, plumbing, and HVAC systems—each designed for long-term sustainability and ease of maintenance. The goal was to improve energy efficiency, and structural reinforcements to ensure that the building will stand for future use.

The transformation is becoming visible. New walls are taking shape, systems are being tested, and the building's interior is beginning to reflect its purpose: a space designed to serve the community. The next phase will bring the final finishes—paint, flooring, lighting, and fixtures—that will complete the vision and make the building fully operational.

Once finished, this 8,000-square-foot facility will be a hub for supportive services. With modernized infrastructure, accessible design, and flexible interior spaces, it will provide a welcoming environment for the community.

What's Ahead

Every detail is designed to support access, dignity, and seamless integration of care. Once complete, this transformed 8,000-square-foot facility will feature:

- Separate reception areas for youth and adults
- 8 individual counseling rooms
- 8 group therapy rooms
- 2 exam rooms and 2 medication rooms
- A welcoming environment informed by trauma-responsive design
- Dedicated case management and flexible workspace for staff

Why This Matters

Too many people in our community still struggle to access timely, local, and compassionate behavioral health services. This Center will change that, offering walk-in urgent care, outpatient therapy, substance use treatment, and wraparound supports all in one place. It will also reduce pressure on hospitals, emergency services, and overwhelmed families by providing a clear, direct path to healing and stability.

Help Us Build the Future of Recovery

We're incredibly grateful to the donors and partners who are making this project possible. If you'd like to support the renovation of 567 Morris Avenue, we invite you to visit our <u>Capital Campaign website</u>. Every contribution helps move us closer to opening the doors to this essential community resource.

Stay tuned! We'll soon be announcing Open House dates where you can tour the site, see the progress in person, and learn more about our plans to bring this space to life.