

# Transforming Mental Illness Recovery Through Community and Advocacy

July 2023 – June 2024 Annual Report

FOUNTAIN  
HOUSE



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Dear Friends,

We are proud to present our 2024 Annual Report. This year, we closed out our 75th year, a remarkable accomplishment made possible by the unwavering support from our dedicated community. It is thanks to Fountain House's individual and institutional contributors, advocates and partners that we can champion our cause, transforming the way the world sees and treats people living with serious mental illness. Each and every one of you strengthens the impact of our work and helps create a society that values, includes, and empowers all individuals.

We must also recognize the crucial role our members, employees, leadership team, and Board of Directors play in the success of our communities. Their investment fuels our mission to break cycles of stigma, uplift dignity and expand recovery for the 15 million people in the U.S. living with serious mental illness.

Together, our community and partners enable Fountain House to lead pioneering initiatives that extend beyond our clubhouses, positively impacting the national mental health landscape. In the pages of this report, you will see how our collective commitment and belief in our vision make a profound difference in the lives of those we serve.

Thank you,



Ken Zimmerman  
*CEO, Fountain House*



Gregory Baecher  
*Board Chair, Fountain House*

# 2024 By The Numbers

**2500+** people accessed services  
**400+** members have work experience and support  
**488** media mentions including USA Today, NPR and ABC News

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**393** members were served in our housing program

**200** homebound members visited through our “Not Alone” project

OnRamps outreach programs reached more than **350** people experiencing street homelessness, substance use and mental health challenges in Times Square

The launch of Young Adults Connection Center grew from **3%** to **16%** to meet the needs of a growing population

**\$55,000** raised in direct/earned revenue to artists

**170** artwork submissions per exhibition

**200** scholarships awarded



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People with mental illness need a support system. Some people feel like they don't have anyone to turn to — but I just want them to know, this is not the end. There are resources out there. Having mental illness doesn't stop you from living. You can manage it. And not only that, but you can recover.

— Russell  
*Fountain House Member*

# Highlights



Fountain House celebrates its 75th anniversary and launches its new brand.

July 2023

Fountain House Bronx member Minji Nam and New York State Senator Luis Sepúlveda release an op-ed in the New York Daily News on the need for investment in clubhouses.

Fountain House Gallery artists are exhibited internationally at SHARP Gallery in London.

September 2023

August 2023



Live from WNYC's The Greene Space: Fountain House, The Theatre of War, and community advocates reflect on New York City's dual crises of mental illness and homelessness. The evening featured a dramatic reading of Adam Iscoe's New Yorker investigation, "The System That Failed Jordan Neely," performed by actors Jesse Eisenberg (Fleishman is in Trouble, Zombieland, The Social Network), Daphne Rubin-Vega (In the Heights, Rent, Sex and the City), Chad Coleman (The Wire, The Walking Dead, The Orville), and David Strathairn (Nomadland, The Bourne Ultimatum, Good Night, and Good Luck).

October 2023

Fountain House, the Neuroscience Education Institute (NEI), Magnolia Clubhouse and Wayne State University launch free, on-demand training called Partners in Care to provide psychiatrists, mental health professionals and others in the health care space with a deeper understanding of the stigma and health disparities associated with serious mental illness.



Sophie Flack's jewelry line Semper Augustus launches a new mental health line inspired by Fountain House.



Fountain House's CEO Ken Zimmerman was named one of PoliticsNY and amNY Metro's 2023 Power Players in Health Care.

**November 2023**



Fountain House's economic white paper, *Beyond Treatment: How Clubhouses for People Living with Serious Mental Illness Transform Lives and Save Money*, is released.

**February 2024**



**January 2024**

Brandon Saho, former sports reporter and host of the podcast "The Mental Game," joins Fountain House Member Tammy, Fountain House Medical Director Dr. Jeanie Tse and CLOCKWORKDJ for a discussion on mental illness stigma.

Fountain House launches Fountain House United — a new national network to advance mental illness support and solutions. The network, composed of seven organizations operating 11 clubhouses across the country, envisions a world where people most impacted by mental illness have ample resources, are fully integrated into society, and have access to the jobs, housing, opportunities, and community to thrive.

Public Health in Action, a Harvard Public Health production, features Fountain House as its inaugural discussion, with panelists Aida Mejia, executive committee member and Josh Seidman, chief research officer.

Fountain House appoints three new Board members: Alexandra Cawthorne Gaines, Andy Imparato, and Debra Irwin.

Fountain House and Clubhouse International engage 40 clubhouses in more than 18 states in advocacy and outreach for the 2024 Clubhouse Week of Action.



Meditations on Medication: The Pill Bottle Project, a Fountain House Gallery installation conceived by Fountain House Gallery artist Alyson Vega, begins on Governors Island.



The Better Care Playbook profiles Fountain House in its series on implementing evidence-based and innovative care solutions for people with complex health needs.



CDC Director Dr. Mandy Cohen and New York City Health Commissioner Dr. Ashwin Vasan tour Fountain House.

March 2024

May 2024

April 2024



The Strike Out Stigma benefit is held at Yankee Stadium and honors Alexandra A. Herzan, president of the Lily Auchincloss Foundation and longtime director on Fountain House's Board, and Trinity Church Wall Street.

Fountain House hosts author Leanne Toshiko Simpson for the U.S. launch of her debut novel, *Never Been Better*. The book was inspired by her experience living with bipolar disorder and her time at a psychiatric ward. Fountain House members share their work and contribute to important conversations surrounding mental illness.



## Reaching More New Yorkers and Embedding Our Solution in Los Angeles

More than 75 years ago, when Fountain House created its first clubhouse, we established ourselves in a neighborhood that derived its nickname from a gritty history of being known as NYC's "toughest" — Hell's Kitchen. Fountain House is now an undeniable part of the Hell's Kitchen fabric, contributing for decades towards its revitalization and proving that its members, people living with serious mental illness, are not social service recipients but community builders who keep our city vibrant and vital.

In early 2024, the NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene made a historic new investment in clubhouses that will enable Fountain House to significantly increase the number of people living with serious mental illness it serves from 1,400 to 2,400. This expansion will offer more New Yorkers a supportive community that helps break the cycles of incarceration, hospitalization and homelessness faced by many living with serious mental illness.

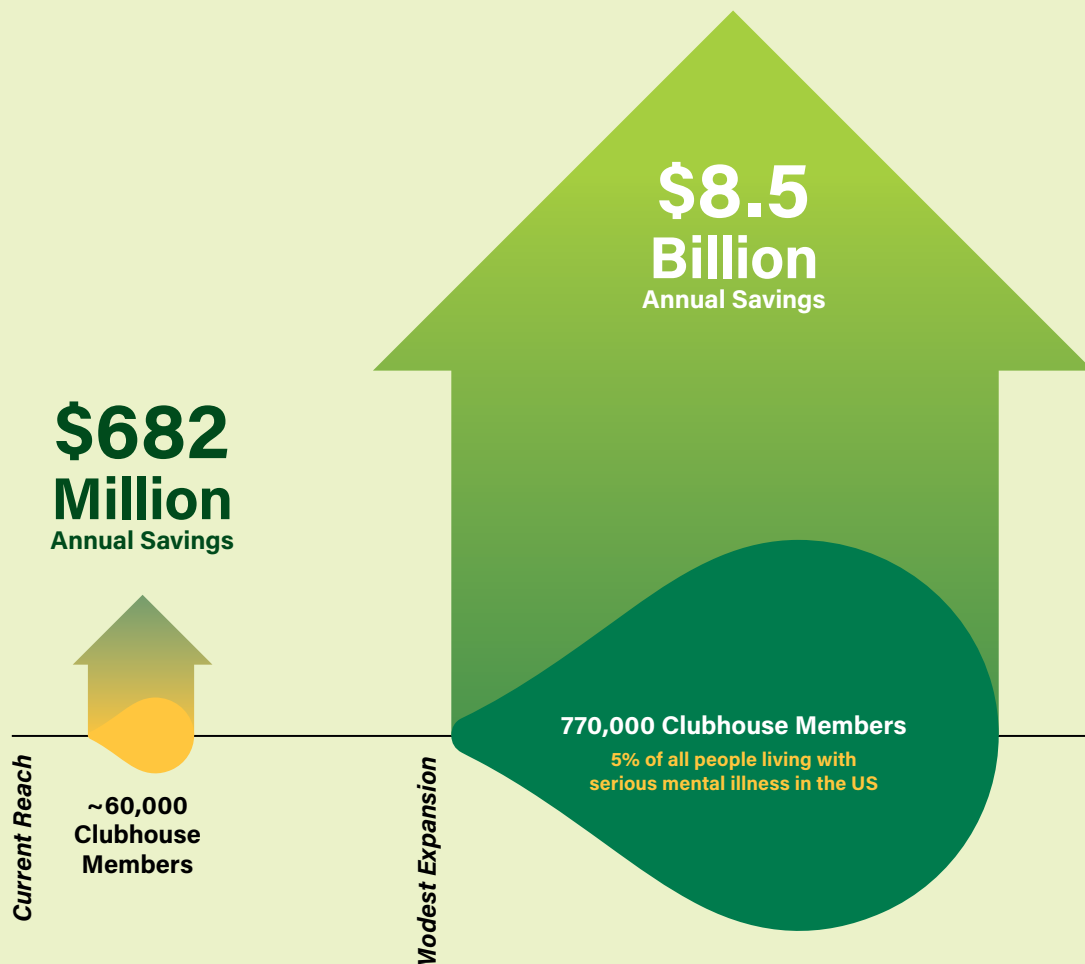
In addition to the flagship location in Hell's Kitchen and its sister clubhouse in the Bronx, Fountain House is establishing a new clubhouse in Central Harlem and expanding its Bronx presence by constructing a state-of-the-art clubhouse in the South Bronx.

And after decades of success in New York City, Fountain House, in partnership with the Hollywood 2.0 initiative, was invited to open the first-ever clubhouse in Los Angeles — Fountain House Hollywood. Fountain House Hollywood is made possible through the generous support of the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health and the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation, who, since 1990, have worked to eliminate the underlying systemic inequities and racial disparities that many Angelenos face in securing housing.

## Clubhouses for People Living With Serious Mental Illness Can Reduce Societal Costs by Billions

Fountain House's new report, *Beyond Treatment: How Clubhouses for People Living with Serious Mental Illness Transform Lives and Save Money*, is released showcasing the tremendous economic and societal benefits of clubhouses, which save the government approximately \$11,000 per person/per year. The first of its kind analysis offers a fuller accounting of the fiscal and societal costs of untreated mental illness — looking beyond health care spending to include lost wages and productivity, disability benefits, repeated emergency room visits and criminal justice impacts — and demonstrates how clubhouses are uniquely positioned to drive down spending across the board.

Read the full report at: [fountainhouse.org/beyondtreatment](https://fountainhouse.org/beyondtreatment)



# Strike Out Stigma



Fountain House's Strike Out Stigma benefit, held at Yankee Stadium, celebrated community leaders transforming mental health services in the South Bronx and the expansion of Fountain House Bronx. The Bronx clubhouse will soon reach upwards of 600 people living with serious mental illness who reside in the borough with the highest rates of psychological distress and psychiatric hospitalizations in the country.

The evening honored Alexandra A. Herzan, president of the Lily Auchincloss Foundation and longtime director on Fountain House's Board, and Trinity Church Wall Street for their dedication to improving the health, dignity and opportunity of people most impacted by serious mental illness.

To close out the evening, Fountain House Bronx Members Fabian "MJ" Roche and Fresh Money Mike stayed true to their "boogie down" roots with a special musical performance in collaboration with renowned producer and DJ CLOCKWORKDJ, who recorded original beats for their song about the Fountain House Bronx community.

Along with private support, Fountain House has received public funding to expand its presence in the Bronx. This includes support from New York State Senator Luis Sepúlveda (D-NY), the New York State Senate, NYC Council Speaker Adrienne Adams, and the New York City Council, as well as U.S. Senator Chuck Schumer (D-NY), U.S. Senator Kirsten Gillibrand (D-NY), and U.S. Representative Ritchie Torres (D-NY).

The gathering reflected the immense support Fountain House has secured across business sectors, government agencies, community partners, and advocates to expand our community-based model of care in the South Bronx.

# 2024 Board of Directors

**Gregory Baecher, Chair**

Elected: 2016

**Reginald D. Williams II, Vice Chair**

Elected: 2016

**Lori D'Angelo**

Elected: 2024

**Meghna R. Desai**

Elected: 2021

**Phillip Fleming**

Elected: 2022

**Alexandra Cathorne Gaines**

Elected: 2023

**Barry Gosin**

Elected: 2024

**Alexandra A. Herzan**

Elected: 1997

**William S. Hilburn**

Elected: 2015

**Andrew Imparato**

Elected: 2023

**Thomas R. Insel, MD**

Elected: 2021

**Debra Irwin**

Elected: 2023

**Charles J. Marsden**

Elected: 2002

**Sonia Pérez**

Elected: 2023

**Arvind Sooknanan**

Elected: 2022

**Liz Zale**

Elected: 2024



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Joining Fountain House allowed me to break free from a routine of constant hospitalization. I haven't been in a hospital in over a decade. And that's what Fountain House does for so many people with serious mental illness. It gives them a chance to break the cycle.

— David  
*Fountain House Member*

# Ways to Donate to Fountain House

On behalf of the entire Fountain House community, we want to extend a heartfelt thanks to our donors. Your contributions have a profound impact on the lives of those we serve.

## Online

Donations can be made one-time or monthly at [fountainhouse.org/donate](https://fountainhouse.org/donate). All donations can be made in someone's honor or memory, or potentially matched by an employer.

## Check

Fountain House  
Office of Development  
425 West 47th Street  
New York, NY 10036

## Wire Transfer

Beneficiary: Fountain House Inc.  
ABA: 026013673  
Checking Acct: 437-4551880  
Swift Code: NRTHUS33XXX

## Stock Transfer

Name: Fountain House  
DTC#: 0226/NFS  
FBO/Account: NBJ020354

## Reservoir Society Planned Giving Program

One of the most powerful ways to support Fountain House is by creating your legacy in your will or Revocable Living Trust. It is a gift that costs nothing today while ensuring that our work can continue for generations to come. To start your legacy today, Fountain House invites you to use FreeWill — a free, online tool that guides you through the process of creating your will in just 20 minutes. It is free, no matter what, and can be used with an attorney to finalize your estate plans.

## Beneficiary Designations

For additional assets not covered in your will, including (but not limited to): 401ks, IRAs, Life Insurance Policies, and Bank Accounts, you must designate a beneficiary.

For questions or to donate, please email us at [give@fountainhouse.org](mailto:give@fountainhouse.org).



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In the future, I want to continue giving back to our clubhouse community. I want to be an inspiration to others who are experiencing homelessness and to advocate for those who can't speak up for themselves.

— Yolanda  
Fountain House Member

# Annual Summary Financial Report 2024

	Year Ended June 30, 2024 Audited	Year Ended June 30, 2023 Audited	Year Ended June 30, 2022 Audited
<b>Support and Revenue</b>			
<b>Private Support</b>			
Foundations and Corporate Support	13,873,956	8,902,898	10,883,545
Individual Donor Support	9,065,609	3,792,877	15,790,688
Investment Income	(1,946,216)	(1,867,245)	(1,848,081)
<b>Total Private Support</b>	<b>\$20,993,349</b>	<b>\$10,828,530</b>	<b>\$24,826,152</b>
<b>Government Agencies Revenue</b>	<b>21,692,412</b>	<b>20,116,255</b>	<b>15,252,672</b>
<b>Earned Income</b>	<b>781,866</b>	<b>453,498</b>	<b>957,593</b>
<b>Total Operating Support and Revenue</b>	<b>\$43,467,627</b>	<b>\$31,398,283</b>	<b>\$41,036,417</b>
<b>Expenses</b>			
<b>Program Services</b>			
Community Services	19,960,566	18,163,059	11,980,885
Housing	11,483,302	9,876,401	9,286,481
<b>Total Program Services</b>	<b>\$31,443,868</b>	<b>\$28,039,460</b>	<b>\$21,267,366</b>
<b>Supporting Services</b>			
Management and general	6,295,369	5,590,271	6,201,625
Fundraising	2,602,720	2,505,112	2,321,876
<b>Total Supporting Services</b>	<b>\$8,898,089</b>	<b>\$8,095,383</b>	<b>\$8,523,501</b>
<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>	<b>\$40,341,957</b>	<b>\$36,134,843</b>	<b>\$29,790,867</b>
<b>Excess / (Deficit)</b>	<b>\$3,125,670</b>	<b>(\$4,736,560)</b>	<b>\$11,245,550</b>
<b>Non-Operating Activities</b>			
Grants for Capital Improvements			480,630
Forgiveness of Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) Loan			1,691,557
Investment Income/Loss other than Amount Available for Operations	\$3,519,415	\$2,960,522	(2,204,601)
<b>Total Non-Operating Activities</b>	<b>\$3,519,415</b>	<b>\$2,960,522</b>	<b>(\$32,414)</b>
<b>Net Excess / (Deficit)</b>	<b>\$6,645,085</b>	<b>(\$1,776,038)</b>	<b>\$11,213,136</b>

# Annual Summary Financial Report 2024

