



## **The Year of the Father Annual CCHP + ECDC Gala**

**Honorable David N. Dinkins, WABC-TV Anchor Bill Ritter,  
Lorna Kelly of Sotheby's New York ...and notable New Yorkers in attendance**

*May 15th, 2015—New York, NY;* On Thursday May 14th, 2015 New Yorkers gathered to celebrate **The Year of the Father**. This year's event raised a total of **\$98,500**.

Hosted by the **Center for Comprehensive Health Practice (CCHP)** an interdisciplinary family-focused health center offering quality primary care, behavioral health treatment and supportive services in East Harlem, their 2015 annual gala, raised money for CCHP to continue providing quality, compassionate, and comprehensive care to its patients across the city.

“The Year of the Father, brings attention to our patients that struggle with substance use, chronic illness, unemployment, and mental illness, as well as the challenges of fatherhood, whether their children are six months old or 45 years old”, said **Richard Porter, Chief Executive Officer of CCHP**.

This year was the initiation of the **CCHP Distinguished Leadership Award** acknowledging influential leaders in our community that have push forward policies which allow organizations such as CCHP to prosper and offer services to those most in need. The Honorable, David N. Dinkins, former Mayor of the City of New York was inaugurated as the first recipient of this prestigious award, honoring his extraordinary contributions to NYC while he was mayor, and his more recent role as an educator and reformer of urban policy issues. The award was presented to him by his son **David Dinkins Jr.**, who gave a heartfelt speech explaining why the “Year of the Father” was so important to him personally. Mr. Dinkins’ wife **Joyce Dinkins** and his granddaughter joined the former mayor to see him accept his award,

Other highlights from this year’s event include:

- **WABC-TV Anchor Bill Ritter** was the event’s master of ceremonies’ for the second year in a row
- The central theme of the gala was: “**The Year of the Father**”, with a video presentation highlighting the stories of three fathers enrolled in CCHP’s Family and Employment Services Program
- **Lorna Kelly**, the **first female auctioneer at Sotheby's New York**, led the **Raise the Paddle** and the **live dinner auction** in the room.

**Becky Thomas, Director of the Early Childhood Development Center** commented: “When we think of caregivers our society tends to focus on the mother and fails to consider the role of the father. At CCHP, our services focus on the entire family and that includes fathers.”

Guests enjoyed live music, an outdoor cocktail reception and a seated dinner in the **Loeb Boathouse** with stunning views of **The Lake in Central Park**. This year’s gala was produced by **Bee Season Consulting**.

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**ABOUT CCHP:**

The Center for Comprehensive Health Practice (CCHP) is an interdisciplinary family-focused health and substance use treatment center located in East Harlem New York. Accredited by CARF, the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities and supported by OASAS, the Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services and the National Health Services Corp, CCHP serves the most vulnerable communities in New York City, regardless of one's ability to pay. For more information about CCHP click [here](#).

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