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## Care For the Homeless Hosts 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Summer Solstice Success Celebration

New York non-profit holds event to celebrate New Yorkers who have overcome the incredible obstacles presented by homelessness.

**New York, N.Y.** – Care For the Homeless (CFH), in partnership with Broadway Community Inc., will host its 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Summer Solstice Success Celebration on Thursday, June 20<sup>th</sup>. The event will be held at Broadway Presbyterian, 601 West 114<sup>th</sup> Street in Manhattan. Doors open at 4:30 p.m. for a free meal before the main program commences at 5:30 p.m. Attendance is free and open to the public.

The celebration rewards individuals who have overcome the many obstacles presented by homelessness. Awards are given to those who have conquered health issues, obtained and maintained stable housing, and who've been instrumental in CFH's ongoing campaign for better policies to prevent and end homelessness.

Among this year's honorees is Victor S. Victor won a 25-year battle with heroin and currently maintains a job as a drummer, traveling the world to venues in Belgium, England, and other parts of Europe.

"I get a lot more done now," said Victor in an interview. "I have goals and I'm working towards things that I wanted to get done 30-years ago. I'm also a lot closer to my family, my kids, and my lady. This process has changed a lot for me."

Joining Victor is Agnes C., her daughter Rosario, her son Ruben, and her two grandchildren. This resilient family prevailed in the face of several challenging health issues that would've devastated the best of families.

Additionally, CFH is recognizing their own exceptional providers, all of whom have played a pivotal part in the success of their patients.

To round out the celebration, the winner of the CFH Annual Short-Story-of-Success Essay Contest, will read their piece.

"The Summer Solstice is a heartwarming celebration of individual success and hope against overwhelming odds," commented Regina Olasin, CFH's Chief Medical Officer. "We all have the opportunity to continue to learn from our patients as partners in care every day."

The Summer Solstice Success Celebration was created in 2014 by the CFH Consumer Advisory Board to destigmatize homelessness and humanize the people that experience it.

"So much of the public narrative surrounding homelessness is negative," says CFH Executive Director, George Nashak. "CFH feels a responsibility to remind everyone, that homelessness is a temporary, curable condition. Our Summer Solstice event celebrates people who have successfully returned to permanent housing and who have achieved improvements in their health. Our goal is to celebrate those successes and change the narrative."

This year, organizations from over 30 cities across the country will show solidarity in celebration of these monumental accomplishments.

## **About Care For the Homeless:**

Care For the Homeless (CFH) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit and is committed to providing individuals experiencing homelessness with high quality medical, mental, and behavioral health care services. In addition, CFH actively advocates for policies to fight, prevent, and end homelessness. Since 2008, CFH has operated Susan's Place, a transitional shelter for mentally ill and medically frail women. CFH currently operates 24 health centers across New York City and has plans to open more shelters in the coming year. For more information, visit www.careforthehomeless.org.

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