

## Delia's Date with Destiny



Delia doesn't remember a time when she wore new clothes. Kids from school made fun of her because of her worn out clothes and she felt uncomfortable and sad.

Born and raised in Spanish Harlem in New York City, Delia was raised with 12 siblings, 6 from her parents, the other 6 from their first marriages. Her dad worked as a maintenance person in the project that her family lived in and her mom stayed home to take care of the children. They depended on the government to provide clothes and food.

When she turned 7 years old, one of her brothers started to sexually abuse her. Threatened by her brother, she felt like she couldn't tell anyone and the abuse went on for years. Scared and angry, she started smoking cigarettes and drinking alcohol in the 7th grade. She often skipped school and engaged in unprotected sex with boys. She felt like she was popular and accepted by them.

At the age of 17, she got pregnant. Thrown out of her house,

she moved in with the baby's father. Things did not get better. He gave her marijuana and abused her physically and sexually. To forget her problems, she depended on marijuana more and more. She hung out at different night clubs every weekend and got hooked on black beauties, heroin, and cocaine. To keep her habit, she started selling her body. She thought this kind of life style suited her.

After abusing sex and drugs for over 22 years, she was left with Hepatitis C, diabetes, depression, and mental illness. She tried to kill herself numerous times, and was placed in mental institutions several times. Tired of her life, as a last resort, she knelt down and asked God to help her.



On a Friday not long after her desperate prayer, she met The Relief Bus at 124th street and Lexington Avenue. At first, Delia went to get free food. Then, the volunteers and workers at The Bus wanted to talk with her and to pray for her. She wasn't sure why they were there doing the things that they were doing. But, week after week she kept coming back; she got her food,

talked with the people, and they prayed with her.

About 2 years after she first went to The Relief Bus, she began to see some changes in her life. She started having the desire to stay clean. The Relief Bus connected her with a detox program and a local church where she could be a part and receive counseling.



Delia is now 46 years old. She is completely free from drugs and methadone. Her Hepatitis C has gotten better - from stage 3 to stage 1. She is studying for her GED and hopes to become a substance abuse counselor and help people like her. She said, "I thank God for setting me free from 25 years of addiction and methadone use. Nothing is impossible for the Lord. He knows our every need. I thank New York City Relief for all the times that they dealt with me even when I didn't want to hear about God. You all have the love of God and have a wonderful ministry. Keep up the work you are doing in my community." □

## CityTribe Annual Beach Baptism

In 2003, Juan & Tracy Galloway planted CityTribe Church, for the people surrounding The Hope Center. Every summer, CityTribe takes people out to Sandy Hook Beach in New Jersey for a day of fun and a baptism ceremony. This year, the church took 74 people to the beach and 29 of them were baptized. This event was even featured in the Star Ledger newspaper. ☐



## Raffle / Auction



Our 4th annual fund raising event Raffle/Auction will be held on October 27th. This year we are raffling off a Mini Cooper.

We need your help with collecting auction items. If you have items such as sports events, dinner for two, vacation, golf clubs, and sports memorabilia, please contact Kristine at 908-352-8778 or [kristine@nycr.org](mailto:kristine@nycr.org). ☐

## Our special thanks to these partners who made significant contributions toward our work!

Carlton Hill Family Foundation Inc.  
Gear Up Elizabeth  
Hope for New York  
James Herr Foundation  
NY Mercantile Exchange Charitable Foundation  
The Fred C. Rummel Foundation



New York City Relief is a mobile outreach to the poor and homeless. We base our mission on Isaiah 58:6-12 and Matthew 25:34-40.

We are 501(c)3 non-for-profit organization.



New York City Relief was founded by Richard and Dixie Galloway in 1989.

## Needs

If you would like to contribute toward our specific needs, please contact Anne Jones at 908-352-8778.

- Funds and volunteers for the new kitchen construction.
- We need a good stock of new socks, hats, and gloves. ☐

## Opportunities

Please contact Richard Galloway.

- Internship available for 3-12 months.
- Staff positions available for Resource Coordinator, Mobile Outreach Team Member, and Office Administrator. ☐



## School's in Session!

East Coast School of Urban Ministry started its fall session. Next session starts on October 31 with classes like Urban Evangelism, Prison Ministry, and more. If you are interested in learning how to minister to people in an urban setting, please contact Juan Galloway or Shwantha Hargrove.

Phone: 908-352-8778  
Email: [eastcoastschool@nycr.org](mailto:eastcoastschool@nycr.org)  
Web: [www.ecsum.org](http://www.ecsum.org)

New York City Relief  
Mailing: P.O.Box 64, Times Square P.O.  
New York, NY 10108-0064  
Street: 1181 E. Broad Street  
Elizabeth, NJ 07201  
Phone: 800-736-2773 / 908-352-8778  
Fax: 908-352-6446  
Email: [hope@nycr.org](mailto:hope@nycr.org)  
Web: [www.nycr.org](http://www.nycr.org)