



## Staff React to News of Workplace Recognition

"It's an honor to be recognized as one of the Forbes Best Midsize Employers and I think it speaks volumes to our dedication to excellence," said Michael Weinberg, Vice President of Residential Services. "I consider this recognition not just for the work we do with people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families, but also for our overall mission, which includes being a go-to workplace for people, one that reflects our passion, diversity and inclusiveness."

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Safaa Abdelaziz, DSP, has worked for 16 years at AHRC NYC's Hirsh Residence in Queens. "AHRC NYC is a good place to be," she said. Abdelaziz had a son with Down syndrome, who died at age 36. "From the time I started here, I see the people I support like my family."

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"I've been with AHRC NYC 21 years in May, and my longevity definitely speaks for my satisfaction with the agency," said Charlotte Diaz, LMSW, and Program Director for the Bronx. "I've had an opportunity for professional growth, to participate in different projects, collaborate with colleagues from across departments, have been granted the ability to pursue my professional interests and passions, and have benefitted greatly from the relationships I have established with the people we support and all of their families. It has been phenomenal to work in a team setting with everyone and to have been afforded the opportunity for coaching, mentoring, and development."

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Christine Bishara-Murtagh, LEED AP, NCARB, Associate vice President, Design, Construction and Capital in AHRC NYC's Department of Real Property, came to the organization 10 years ago. "What I like best about working for AHRC NYC is the same reason I gravitated to the agency and why I continue to work in the field: Passion, collaboration, and support," she said. "There is a genuine spirit of collaboration and shared goals all revolving around the people we support. This inspires you to work your hardest and feel good when you go home at the end of the day."

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Matthew Halder, a Community Support Professional with Bronx Day Hab Without Walls, holds multiple master's and bachelor's degrees, He found himself connecting strongly with the people he supports. "I love them. Really, I love to work with them," said Halder who has worked four years with AHRC NYC. A friend of Halder's recently left a security job and joined him because he had heard how much Halder enjoyed his work.