

6TH ANNUAL

## Music & Memories

## GALA

An Evening in Paris

1.31.2025

7:00 PM - 12:00 AM

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#### The Board of Trustees of Act Now Foundation together with Renee Bettinger, Gala Chair

Present the 6th Annual



An Evening in Paris

## Honoring

ISA Legacy Award

Honoring a Lifetime of Dedication:

A Surprise Tribute to a True Champion of Change

CORY A. BOOKER NEW JERSEY



January 31, 2025

Act Now Foundation 400 38<sup>th</sup> Street Suite 402 Union City, New Jersey 08087

Dear Friends,

It is a pleasure to extend my warmest greetings as you gather for Act Now Foundation's sixth annual Music & Memories Gala.

For years, Act Now Foundation has been a guiding light for individuals, families, and communities affected by dementia in New Jersey. Through advocacy initiatives and providing an array of vital resources, such as crisis management, caregiver support groups, and long-term care planning, Act Now Foundation continues to improve awareness, promote access to care, and champion those faced with the daily challenges of Alzheimer's and related dementias. As you celebrate, please know that I grateful for all that you do to uplift, empower, and advocate for New Jersey residents impacted by this disease.

Again, congratulations on another year of dedicated service! I look forward to celebrating your continued success.

Sincerely,

Cory A. Booker United States Senator



#### Our Mission

To raise awareness, advocate, and educate New Jersey about Alzheimer's disease prevention, and early detection in order to improve the quality of life of those living and suffering from Alzheimer's Disease & related dementias.

#### **Our Promise**

To reduce the impact of Alzheimer's disease in New Jersey, to promote public awareness of Alzheimer's, and to engage communities to build supportive, capable, and Alzheimer's educated environments.

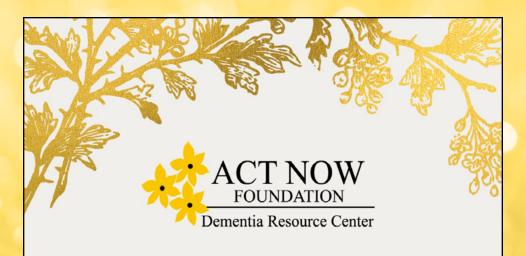
#### Our Pledge

To offer programs and services that decrease the emotional, physical and financial tolls on families, caregivers and communities



400 38th Street, Suite 402, Union City, NJ 07087 201-721-6721 www.ActNowFoundation.org

Act Now Foundation, a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organization, receives operating support in part from Hudson County office on Aging, Hudson County Office of Inclusion & Accessibility, Bergen County Division of Senior Services, Essex County Division of Senior Services, CDBG Hudson County & Bergen County, CDBG & CSBG Jersey City, CDBG Hoboken, Office of Faith Based Initiatives, Ponce De Leon Bank Foundation, Eisai Pharmaceuticals, and other Corporations, Foundations, and Private Donors.



## Congratulations

ON THE SUCCESS OF THE MUSIC & MEMORIES GALA

THANK YOU FOR YOUR EFFORTS TO RAISE AWARENEESS ABOUT ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE AND RELATED DEMENTIAS.



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# Music & Memories ALA

#### A Message from our Co-Founders Kristine Allen & Cary Lopez

Dear Friends,

On behalf of our Board of Trustees, our Gala Committee, and the entire staff at Act Now Foundation, we would like to thank you for attending our 6th Annual Music & Memories Gala.

Our mission has always been clear: to provide unwavering support to those affected; and strive relentlessly towards a world without dementia. Together, we have made significant strides. Yet, the battle is far from won.

We implore each of you to stand with us tonight in this fight. Whether you're a donor, a volunteer, a caregiver, or someone who has been touched by dementia, your role is crucial, and your dedication fuels our progress.

We are at a pivotal moment. By banding together, we can turn the tide against dementia. Each action, no matter how small, is a step closer to a world where this disease no longer robs individuals of their memories and dignity.

Tonight, we SHINE a light on dementia in hopes of raising awareness about a disease that affects us all.

Tonight's proceeds will benefit Act Now Foundation's programs and services that support, educate, screen, and advocate for families who are living and struggling with Alzheimer's disease or related dementias.

I urge you to join us in our unwavering commitment to defeat Alzheimer's. Together, let's create a future where families are no longer burdened by this devastating illness.

Thank you for your ongoing support and dedication. Together, we are making a difference.



Kristine Allen President



Cary Lopez

Executive Director



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# Music & Memories CALA

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Katia Suttile, Program Manager
Alba Sepulveda, Program & Marketing Manager
Linda Lembo, Vivian Matias, Kathleen Nowack
Care Coordinators & Disease Educators
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## Music & Memories



Acknowledgements

## THANK YOU!

#### Gala Committee



Arnold Bettinger
Division Chief, County of
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Former Jersey City Councilman
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Renee Bettinger
Gala Chairperson,
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Pete Oneglia Co-Owner Insider NJ, Act Now Board Secretary 9 Year Committee Member



Lisa Catanio
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## Music & Memories



Acknowledgements

### THANK YOU!

#### Gala Committee



Ed Shea
Risk Manager
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New Committee Member



Linda Lembo
Bergen Community College
Adjunct Nursing Professor,
Care Coordinator &
Disease Educator Act Now
Foundation
New Committee Member



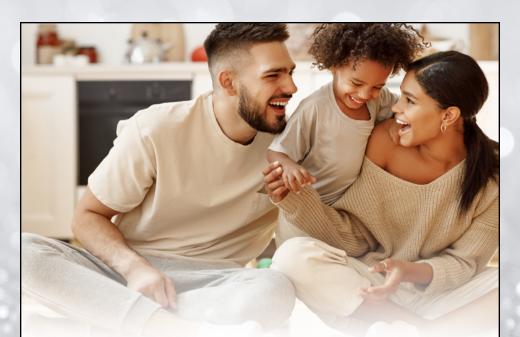
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# Music & Memories GALA

#### A Message from Gala Committee Chair Renee Bettinger



Dear Friends of Act Now Foundation:

It is my honor and privilege again to Chair the 5th Annual Music & Memories Gala to benefit the life changing work of Act Now Foundation. I would like to express my sincere appreciation to the entire committee for their hard work, enthusiasm and dedication in making this event a success.

My personal thanks to Kristine Allen and Cary Lopez for their motivating force to advocate and educate all of us on Alzheimer's Disease and related dementias. I personally have experienced their countless hours in providing emotional support to all the caregivers in our time of need. Act Now Foundation is not just comprised of these two selfless women. They are blessed with an amazing group that includes Stacy Hutsell, Jessica Vega-Conza, Katia Suttile, Alba Sepulveda, Linda Lembo, Vivian Matias & Kathleen Nowack, as well as many volunteers and interns who donate their time.

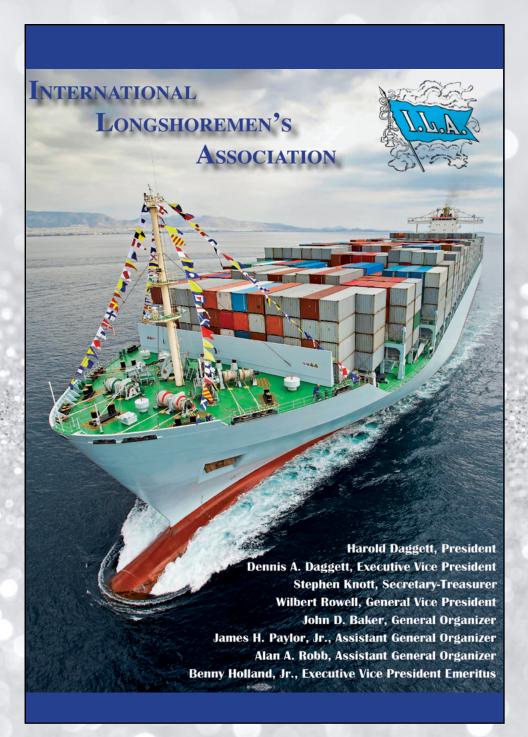
Finally, amidst the glamour and celebration, I'd like to thank all of our sponsors, donors and guests. Please relish the knowledge that you are not just a spectator, but a crucial part in making this fundraiser a success. Thank you for being the driving force behind our collective journey towards a brighter, more compassionate future.

So tonight, we celebrate your generosity and the impact magnified by your selfless giving. Now enjoy the music to make wonderful memories of your own!

Sincerely,

Renee Bettinger

Renee Bettinger, Gala Chairperson



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## Music & Memories

## GALA

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### THANK YOU!

#### Gala Volunteers

Arnold Bettinger Renee Bettinger Akilesh Shivajirao Bhonsley Ivon M. Bhonsley Jackie Cangelosi Lisa Catanio James Cruz Alex DiMartino

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## Music & Memories



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Congratulations to the Act Now Foundation
On the Sixth Annual Music & Memories Gala
We deeply respect and admire your unwavering
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With Heartfelt Appreciation, Anthony & Michele Catanio



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and its mission to support seniors and their caregivers as they navigate the challenges of Alzheimer's and dementias.



## Act Now Foundation's program priorities are driven by the needs of the community.

Our mission is to improve the quality of life of those suffering from Alzheimer's disease & related dementias and those that care for them – our Dementia Care Heroes!

To be successful in this we listen closely to the concerns of our clients and community partners and design programs based on specific needs. Daily interaction with local seniors and caregiver's is the basis for Act Now Foundations programming.

Our Board reviews findings and prioritizes recommendations based on our field discoveries and Community Needs Assessment and includes the following programs:

- Evaluations Testing and Early Diagnosis
- Long-Term Care Planning
- Support Groups
- Crisis Management
- Care Coordination
- Educational Workshops for Family Caregivers
- Training for Professionals Including First Responders
- Resources and Advocacy for families
- Diversity & Outreach Programs
- Brain Health Initiative

## BUILDING AWARENESS ONE MIND AT A TIME!

# Music & Memories CALA

#### Isa Legacy Award Honoree

Honoring a Lifetime of Dedication: A Surprise Tribute to a True Champion of Change

In the symphony of our Music & Memories Gala, we take a moment to honor an extraordinary individual whose unwavering commitment has resonated far beyond the notes of our melodies. Tonight, we celebrate this distinguished advocate who has become a beacon of hope in the relentless fight against dementia. This surprise honoree embodies the spirit of our Music & Memories Gala through their dedication, passion, and commitment to our cause.

Tonight, we express our deepest gratitude for their unwavering commitment to creating a world where dementia is met with compassion, awareness, and effective support. As we unveil these surprise advocates, we celebrate not only their dedication but also the unexpected pathways through which they've contributed to the fight against dementia.

Let us join in expressing our heartfelt gratitude for their dedication and support, enriching the tapestry of our Music & Memories Gala and leaving an indelible mark on our hearts. May their unexpected journeys inspire us to continue the fight with renewed vigor, creating a world where compassion and understanding prevail."



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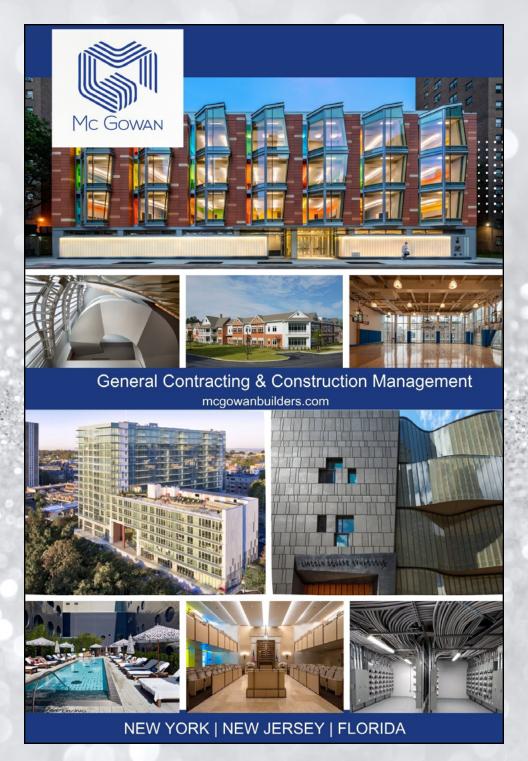
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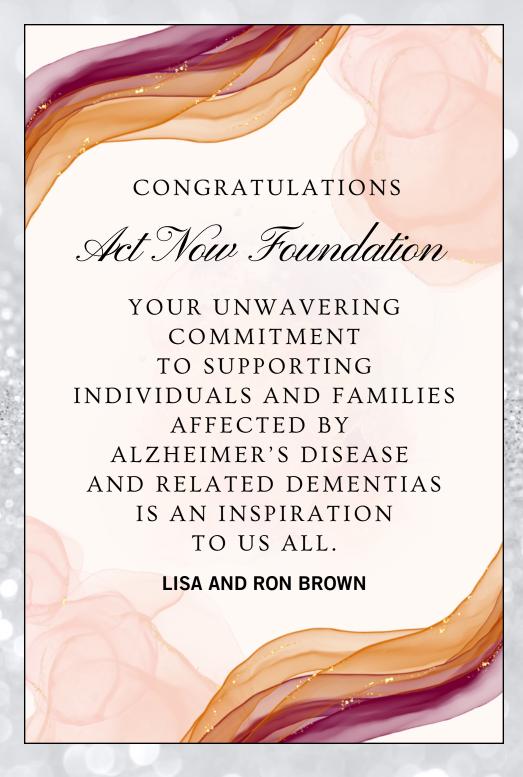
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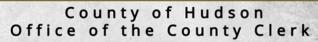
Fanny Cedeño Kenneth Kopacz Yraida Aponte-Lipski Albert Cifelli Caridad Rodriguez William O'Dea

## Congratulations To The Act Now Foundation



Enjoy This 6th Annual Music & Memories Gala!

## Hudson County Executive Craig Guy



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Congratulations
on your 6th Annual
Music & Memories
Gala





#### **CONGRATULATIONS** to the

ACT NOW Foundation Dementia Resource Center on your 6th Annual Music & Memories Gala

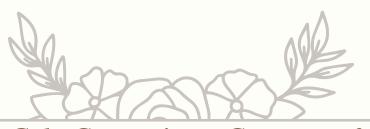
Best Wishes,

YOUR HUDSON COUNTY CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS





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#### Act Now Foundation

for your unwavering commitment to Alzheimer's awareness, support, and education in our community. Your efforts empower family, bring hope, and create lasting change for those affected by this disease.

With appreciation,





#### From: Commissioner William O'Dea



To
Act Now Foundation
Dementia Resource Center

Music & Memories Gala
To help raise awareness, advocate, and
educate New Jersey about Alzheimer's
disease, prevention and early detection



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and stand together in their fight to support, care and educate families and individuals impacted by Alzheimer's Disease



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We appreciate everything the foundation does to support the community members affected by Alzheimer's and Dementia.

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#### Our Co-Founders & Act Now Foundation made Insider NJ's Policymakers Power List for the 3rd consecutive year!!

INSIDER 100 POLICY MAKERS 2024



#### KRISTINE ALLEN & **CARY LOPEZ**

ACT NOW FOUNDATION IN HUDSON COUNTY

Both excel at navigating the politics there to further their policy goals - which in its own right is laudable - increasing Alzheimers awareness, care, and funding. They combine policy chops with an on-the-ground understanding of the reality of the issue, advocating in the Statehouse, while caring directly for those afflicted patients, caretakers, and families.



INSIDERNJ INSIDER 100 POLICYMAKERS 2023



## Kristine Allen & Cory London & Cary Lopez

#### **Act Now Foundation in Hudson County**

Both excel at navigating the politics there to further their policy goals - which in its own right is laudable - increasing Alzheimers awareness, care, and funding. They combine policy chops with an on-the-ground understanding of the reality of the issue, advocating in the Statehouse, while caring directly for those afflicted - patients, caretakers, and families.









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Congratulations and continued success, In providing support and advocacy to families in need.



"While no one can change the outcome of Dementia or Alzheimer's, with the right support, you can change the journey."