



The ARIAH Foundation Fundraising Landscape Analysis, August 2023

Douglas C. Brooks, LCSW-R

Douglas Brooks began his career in child welfare in the fall of 1990 after graduating from Temple University in Philadelphia. Mr. Brooks began as a foster care/adoption caseworker with Lutheran social Services, assigned to their Manhattan Offices. Working with vulnerable children and families at the height of New York City's crack cocaine and AIDS crisis, had a profound impact on his life, giving him the call of service.

Mr. Brooks, shortly enrolled and later graduated from Columbia University, earning a Master's of Science in Social Work in 1994. Mr. Brooks then became an adoption coordinator, and later foster care supervisor of Lutheran's Queens/Long Island Offices. At this time, he also became a psychotherapist working at Safespace's child and family clinic.

In 1995, Mr. Brooks then worked at Community Counseling & Mediation's Crown Heights Multi-Service Center. First, as the Director of Adolescence HIV/AIDS Preventive Services, and later adding the responsibilities of Psychotherapist, and then that of Site Director. The Crown Heights Center provided various social services, including 10 programs, for at-risk families and youth.

After 12 years of direct service provision, Mr. Brooks joined New York City's Administration for Children Services as Chief of Staff and Director of Special Projects to the Deputy Commissioner of Policy and Planning of Children's Services. It was during this time that Mr. Brooks conceptualized and developed the "Well-Being Initiative" that is being used today to measure the wellness of the children and families involved with child welfare.

Mr. Brooks then moved onto the Commissioner's Office serving as Deputy Chief of Staff with a focus on program development. After two years, Mr. Brooks then moved onto become the Deputy Director of Administration for the Manhattan Borough Office. It was there that Mr. Brooks was able to bring change with the re-naming of the field offices to "Borough Offices."

Mr. Brooks is also an educator. He is an Adjunct Professor at New York University's School of Social Work and at The City University of New York's College of Staten Island, teaching social welfare policy to graduate students. He also is a field instructor having guided over 25 social workers into the profession.

In 2008, Mr. Brooks left Children's Services to become the Director of Family and Children's Services at Brooklyn Community Services (BCS). At BCS, Mr. Brooks managed \$13.1 million portfolio of programs and services that help children reach their full potential and strengthen families.



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Mr. Brooks returned to Community Counseling & Mediation in 2015 to oversee development and implementation of Ruby's Place, a supportive housing facility serving 71 adults with some form of disability. In addition to directing Ruby's Place, he worked on the development of Beverly's Place, a 70-unit facility to serve individual, couples and families suffering from mental illness and other disabilities.

In June of 2015, Mr. Brooks founded the Brooks Counseling Group, LLC. The Brooks Counseling group has a team of therapists to provide psychotherapy, coaching and supervision for people in need and for professionals to enhance their professional development.

After the sudden passing of his father Emory Brooks, the Founder, President and Chief Executive Officer of Community Counseling & Mediation in November 2023, Mr. Brooks (Douglas) resumed the mantle of becoming CCM's next Chief Executive Officer. CCM provides mental health, health, supportive housing youth and education services to New York City's most vulnerable populations. CCM has an annual budget of approximately \$25 million dollars with a staff of over 250 people serving eight sites in Brooklyn and Manhattan.

Mr. Brooks has spent over 33 years of his professional life towards helping individuals and families, improving service delivery and educating the workforce to make a difference in the lives of New York's most vulnerable. Today, he is dedicating his work with helping others via Community Counseling & Mediation and The Brooks Counseling Group.