

Our History:

On a summer morning in 1992, Henry Buhl was exiting his loft on Greene Street in SoHo when a homeless man asked him for \$20. Figuring, “if you give a man a fish, he eats for a day; teach a man to fish, he eats for a lifetime,” Henry offered the man \$20 in exchange for sweeping the sidewalk in front of his building, and then rallied the stores in his neighborhood to do the same.

Within months, word had spread about the new initiative. Recovering homeless men and women were eager to join the sweeping crew and get the chance to start rebuilding their lives. Henry began to accept referrals from homeless outreach and charity organizations, and soon founded the SoHo Partnership, which was followed by the TriBeCa and NoHo/Bowery Partnerships. In 1997, the Association of Community Employment Programs for the Homeless (ACE) was created as an umbrella organization to unify the New York City initiatives.

Our Founder:

Henry Buhl, philanthropist, community activist and art collector, was born and raised in Detroit, MI. After attending Trinity College in Hartford, CT, he worked as a stock analyst and institutional salesman on Wall Street for ten years. In 1961, he moved to Geneva to manage mutual funds for Investor’s Overseas Services, eventually becoming the IOS Executive Director.



He returned to the United States in 1972 and continued his career in investment banking until 1980, when he began pursuing photography and art collection, developing The Buhl Collection.

Henry is available for speaking engagements upon request.

ACE IN NUMBERS

- Since 1992, ACE has helped 2,000 formerly homeless individuals rebuild their lives.
- On average, 65% of our Project Comeback participants find full-time jobs within 6 months of program entry.
- 62% of our graduates remain employed one year after completing the program.
- Each year, the ACE crew logs 90,000 hours over 362 days, keeping NYC clean and tidy, and making an impact in the home environments of 600,000 New Yorkers.