Making Headway when distributing their fundraising materials to the families at the event, the family gathered together, the funds totaled $46,400 for Making Headway.

Among the activities at BFA’s annual fundraising galas is the ever-popular silent auction, where Making Headway does its best to outbid each other in a silent auction.

Renee Smith.

Top left: Chip Bryant (mime) on board the yacht. 
Bottom left: Esmé and Otto Fritton.

A Late Summer Sail
On Sunday, September 12, fifty families took a early sail on the Skyliner Princess. The three-hour cruise left from St. Mary’s Park, passing just the Statue of Liberty, around the tip of Manhattan, and back to the Brooklyn Bridge. Guests enjoyed lunch followed by lively home-made desserts prepared by Mary Hanley and Making Headway office administrators, Linda Madsen and Kristen Lewis. Children giggled at the antics of comedian demi-douche, Doug Breyer, RFA Blackshear in Fun Acts. The relaxing and entertaining trip was a great success, no doubt about it. At the end of the cruise, the group had a chance to view the sights of charming Point Pleasant and Washington Irving’s estate, Sunnyside, before the Skyliner Princess sailed back to the Brooklyn Bridge.

Katherine Vallone

Congratulations to all the winners!

Fay Pekar & Associates

The seventh annual Ballis Have been sailing over the fairways once again, bringing with them not only the excitement of golfing but also money for charity. Over 100 guests answered Marc and Elizabeth Tillet’s invitation to take a thirteenth annual Fun Run. Participants breathed in fresh sea air and took in the sights of charming Point Pleasant, a town known for its serene beaches and picturesque scenery. The event was a success, bringing in $25,000 for Making Headway.

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Promoting Wellness through Play
By Jose Acevedo, MS Ed, CTRS

I recently celebrated my 70th birthday, and reaching this landmark started me thinking about Making Headway—to its past, its future, and the role I have been privileged to play in it. My life has been immeasurably enriched by the opportunity this wonderful organization has given me to help so many people. It has been thrilling to see how it has grown from a few of us with an idea to a thriving foundation. One of the most exciting aspects of this growth has been our ongoing partnership with the Hassenfeld Children’s Center, which has made room for us and has been an support of our work.

When we first brought Making Headway to Hassenfeld, children were receiving wonderful medical treatment but there were few services to support them and their families and psychological and emotional, and little follow-up once treatment was completed. Treatment of it, it was just one step in a family’s journey back to physical and emotional health.

There are so many factors to consider—educational needs and concerns, social challenges, family stress and more. At Making Headway, under the leadership of Dr. Marc Greenfield, we have sought to address all of these needs, slowly building a team that now includes a psychiatrist, psychologists, psychiatric nurse practitioners, educational advocates and advisors. In recent years, these teams have become very strong, and we have been able to connect with many families that come through our doors. It was particularly gratifying when Dr. David Salsberg joined the Hassenfeld staff last year. A pediatric neuropsychologist, Dr. Salsberg’s team of psychologists, social workers, child life specialists, and others is on the case full time, seeing every child when Dr. David Salsberg joined the Hassenfeld staff last year. A pediatric neuropsychologist, Dr. Salsberg’s team of psychologists, social workers, child life specialists, and others is on the case full time, seeing every child and their families psychologically and emotionally, and little follow-up once treatment was completed.

We recently started a survivor support program that offers more time and attention to each individual family. Dr. Salsberg’s arrival and his focus on our work has not only opened up many new avenues for nurturing and growing this organization, it has changed everything. Yet, our current birthday reminded me that there will inevitably come a time when RESET and I will no longer carry on our mission. For this reason, we have started a new fund to help so many people. It has been thrilling to see this organization grow and become a thriving foundation. One of the most exciting aspects of this growth has been our ongoing partnership with the Hassenfeld Children’s Center, which has made room for us and has been an support of our work.

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