



ACT NOW
FOUNDATION

Dementia Resource Center

7TH ANNUAL

*Music &
Memories
Gala*

a new note of hope

Saturday, March 7th, 2026

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The Board of Trustees of
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together with Renee Bettinger,
Gala Chair

Present the 7th Annual

Music & Memories Gala

a new note of hope

With Special Recognition

Mayor Richard F. Turner

Mayor of Weehawken

Master of Ceremonies Since 2018



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(609) 292-6000

MIKIE SHERRILL
GOVERNOR

March 7, 2026

Dear Friends,

On behalf of the State of New Jersey, I am pleased to extend a warm welcome to all those in attendance at the 7th annual Music and Memories Gala, presented by the Act Now Foundation.

Since its inception, the Act Now Foundation has remained steadfast in their mission to empower families, educate communities, and advocate for everyone who is affected by dementia, or a common disease, receives the support, dignity and the care they deserve. This is particularly evident in their Alzheimer's Resource Center in North Jersey offering a supportive environment for families living with Alzheimer's disease. As Governor, I am proud of the Act Now Foundation for raising awareness and connecting our Garden State residents to vital community resources for those afflicted by this dreaded disease. I would also like to commend their initiative in developing new and innovative approaches to advance the quality of life for seniors.

Congratulations, again, and know that the State of New Jersey stands behind you as you continue to create a dementia-friendly future for families affected by Alzheimer's disease.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Mikie Sherrill".

Mikie Sherrill
Governor

Music & Memories Gala

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 406,
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



ACT NOW
FOUNDATION

Dementia Resource Center

Music & Memories Gala

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**ON THE SUCCESS OF
THE MUSIC & MEMORIES GALA**

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED
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ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE AND
RELATED DEMENTIAS!**

**YOUR EFFORTS HELP BRING UNDERSTANDING,
SUPPORT, AND HOPE TO MANY.**

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Music & Memories Gala

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 7th 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

Kristine Allen

Cary Lopez, Executive Director

Cary Lopez



Music & Memories Gala

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**Congratulations to the Act Now Foundation
On the Seventh Annual Music & Memories Gala**

**With Heartfelt Appreciation,
Anthony & Michele Catanio**

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Music & Memories Gala

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Linda Lembo, Vivian Matias, Kathleen Nowack

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Music & Memories Gala

Acknowledgements

THANK YOU!

Gala Committee



Arnold Bettinger

Division Chief, County of Hudson,
Former Hudson County Freeholder,
Former Jersey City Deputy Mayor,
Former Jersey City Councilman
10 Year Committee Member



Renee Bettinger

Gala Chairperson,
Principal & Interior Designer
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Pete Oneglia

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Anthony Catanio

Owner of Lee Ann Development
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Music & Memories Gala

Acknowledgements

THANK YOU!

Gala Committee



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5 Year Committee Member



Linda Lembo

Bergen Community College
Adjunct Nursing Professor,
Care Coordinator & Disease
Educator Act Now Foundation
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Caregiver
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and dementias.

Music & Memories Gala

A Message from Gala Committee Chair Renee Bettinger



Dear Friends of Act Now,

It is my honor and privilege to Chair again the 7th Annual Music & Memories Gala to benefit the life changing work of Act Now Foundation. I want to express my sincere appreciation to the entire committee for their hard work, dedication & belief in the power of this cause.

My personal thanks to Kristine Allen and Cary Lopez for their motivating force to advocate and educate all of us on Alzheimer's and related dementias. I personally have experienced their countless hours in providing emotional support to all the caregivers in our time of need.

You may be wondering why tonight is called the Music & Memories Gala. We chose this name because when Alzheimer's steals names, dates and daily details, it often cannot erase music. Music lives in a different place in the brain. In those moments when a song is played, the fog lifts, and music unlocks memories that we thought were gone forever. That is what tonight represents.

Lastly, I would like to extend my deepest gratitude to our sponsors, our donors, and every guest attending this evening. Your generosity, your partnership, and your belief in this mission make tonight possible. Because of you, caregivers will receive support. Families will gain education. And more moments of connection will be created.

Thank you again for being here, and for helping us turn music into lasting memories. Please enjoy the music yourself to make wonderful memories of your own!

Sincerely,

Renee Bettinger, Gala Chairperson

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Renee Bettinger".



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Music & Memories Gala

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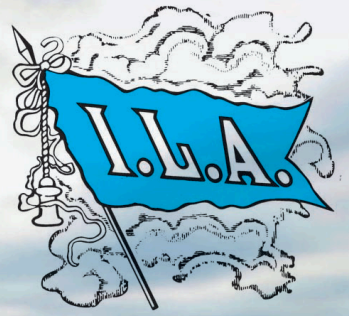
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*Music & Gala
Memories*

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Music & Memories Gala

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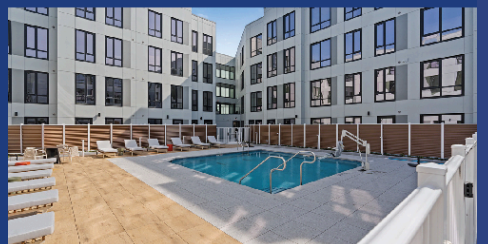
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& The Board of County Commissioners

Master of Ceremonies and Special Recognition to



Mayor Richard F. Turner
Mayor of Weehawken

Act Now Foundation is honored to recognize Mayor Richard F. Turner of Weehawken, who has proudly served as Master of Ceremonies for the Music & Memories Gala since 2018.

Mayor Turner's continued leadership and support reflect a deep commitment to community service and to families impacted by Alzheimer's disease and related dementias. We are grateful for his longstanding partnership and honored to welcome him once again this evening.



Because things may break, but our determination won't.

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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

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ONE MIND AT A TIME!**

Music & Memories Gala

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Music & Memories Gala

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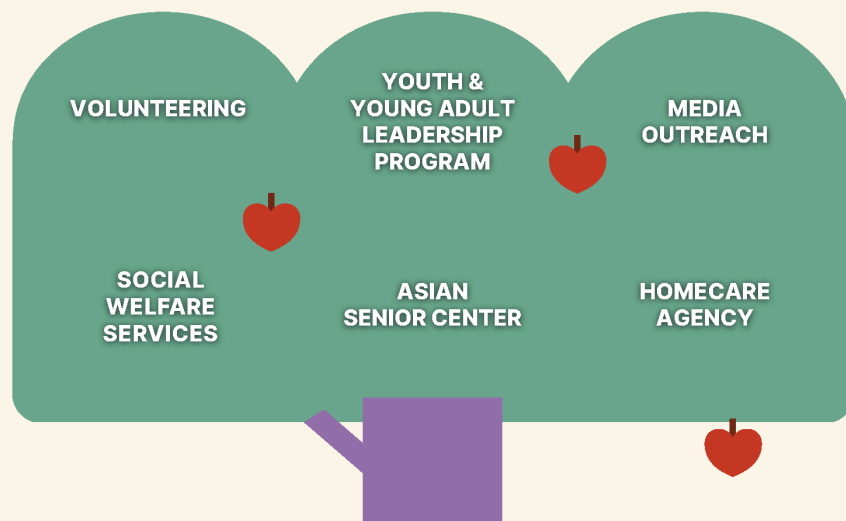
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IN HUDSON COUNTY

Both excel at navigating the politics there to further their policy goals – which in its own right is laudable – increasing Alzheimer's 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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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.



**Our Co-Founders & Act Now Foundation
made **Insider NJ's Policymakers Power
List** for the 4th consecutive year!!**

INSIDERNJ | INSIDER 100 POLICYMAKERS 2023

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50 Kristine Allen & Cary Lopez

Act Now Foundation in Hudson County

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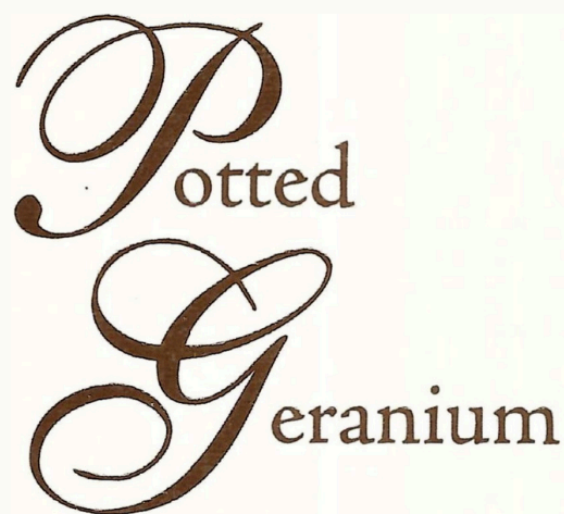
56 KRISTINE ALLEN AND CARY LOPEZ
ACT NOW FOUNDATION IN HUDSON COUNTY

The pair have built and expanded their non-profit, Act Now Foundation, into a leading Alzheimer's care and awareness organization advocating for those afflicted with the disease – including patients, caretakers, and family. Having been part of Statehouse legislative efforts in the past, they combine policy expertise with a real-world understanding of the reality of Alzheimer's.





***Gala Centerpieces Courtesy of
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The Morelli-Diurno family and friends honor the life of Linda Delaney. We recognize the heartache that her loved ones endure but cherish the love and memories that will live on in our hearts.

We extend our extreme gratitude for everything that ACT Now provided to Linda, as well as all the organization has done and continues to do to support Kathleen Nowack.

We are honored to attend this year's gala and celebrate with bittersweet emotions the life of Linda Delaney.



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IN HONOR OF OUR FRIENDS

*Renee & Arnold
Bettinger*

ACT NOW FOUNDATION

THANKS FOR THE
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Nancy and Nathan Sambul

From: Commissioner William O'Dea



Congratulations and Best Wishes
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

**CONGRATULATIONS to the
ACT NOW FOUNDATION
on your 7th Annual Music & Memories Gala!!!
We believe in your mission and we appreciate all
the work you do for the dementia community!**

Best wishes,

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*In honor of the dedicated Gala Committee
and the meaningful work they do
in support of families living with dementia.*

*With special recognition to
Renee & Arnold Bettinger*

*for your leadership, generosity, and
commitment.*

*With admiration and love,
Matthew Bettinger*



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ONE-TIME GIFTS

Make an immediate impact for families in need.

How to Give:

- 1 Text **DONATE** or **GIVE** to **888-546-9132**.



- 2 Visit ActNowFoundation.org and click on our donate button.



DONATE ONCE

3

SCAN ME



MONTHLY GIVING

Create lasting change with consistent support.

Why Monthly?

- Supports families year-round.
- Flexible, automatic donations.
- Small gifts = big impact over time.

How to Give:

1

Visit
ActNowFoundation.org
and click on our donate
button.

2

SCAN ME



BECOME A MONTHLY DONOR



*Your generosity fuels hope and lasting
change for families in need.*



Paladium Builders Inc.

Is a proud supporter of

ACT NOW FOUNDATION

**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.”**