New York has many unemployed people. It also has many unfilled jobs. Club members have found a way to address both problems. Volunteers Bruce Bockmann, ’67, Richard Kane, ’68, and Barry Puritz, ’65, led the effort to bring together employers unable to find workers with the right skills and educators willing to tailor a curriculum to teach those skills.

The Medical Billing Certificate Program at LaGuardia Community College in Queens produced its first class of 23 graduates in May. Seventeen had jobs waiting at Weill Cornell Medicine when the program ended; the rest were interviewing at Weill, NYU Langone Medical Center, or other hospitals. “We’re changing lives here,” Kane said.

Students attended free thanks to funding from the New York City Department of Small Business Services and the New York Alliance for Careers in Healthcare.

Club members are already looking to expand the program in New York, and want to encourage HBS Clubs in other cities to start similar projects. Learn more on hbscny.org

“When you volunteer, you get to work on something you’re passionate about — and you get to meet great people.”

Katherine Bahamonde Monasebian, ’07
HBSCNY President
Alums in the Alley
GIVES STARTUPS A LEG UP

As the founder and CEO of Two Hudson Ventures, Diana Dowling, ’93, knew entrepreneurs were hungry for advice on how to grow their businesses. As a Club member, she knew many established HBS alumni were eager to help people just starting out.

“There was a desire to connect from both sides, but there was no platform to do that, so we decided to create one” Dowling recalled. “The idea is to allow alums to jump in and help without a substantial commitment of time.”

The new platform, Alums in the Alley, links experienced executives with local entrepreneurs in several ways, from monthly breakfast meetings to two-day advising workshops called Startup Partners.

While its name evokes New York’s “Silicon Alley” tech scene, the program itself helps entrepreneurs in many industries, such as fashion and consumer products.

“The Harvard Business School Club of New York is a powerful platform connecting the leadership and management expertise of HBS alumni with the vital, creative, and dynamic Greater New York City community. Our programs provide the opportunity for all alumni at all ages and all career stages … to work together around common passions and to add value to their lives and their community.”

Bruce Bockmann, ’67
HBSCNY Chairman

Learn more on alumsinthealley.com
Volunteering:
NOT FOR PROFIT, BUT FOR GOOD

Community Partners arranged for nearly 200 HBS alumni to do pro bono consulting for 40 nonprofits. The services, from marketing the Ghetto Film School to advising the American Liver Foundation, were worth $4.9 million.

“Alumni can participate in our three- to four-month consulting projects, which can involve 10 to 15 hours per month, or they can opt for one of our single-evening brainstorming sessions,” said Charles Toder, ’62. “With a broad range of clients, we enable our volunteers to strengthen organizations they are passionate about.”

Clare Peeters, ’00, noted: “Our projects are organized across four interest groups: arts and culture, education, environment and health, and social services.”

HBSCNY also launched the Community Partners Leadership Awards to recognize New York City area nonprofits that demonstrate excellence in leadership and organizational development. Separately, it also gave six nonprofit executives full scholarships to HBS social enterprise programs.

Learn more on hbscnycommunitypartners.org
HBSCNY MAKES IT EASIER TO be an angel

Once a month, opportunity knocks on a conference room door in the Midtown offices of the law firm Wilson Sonsini. For five entrepreneurs, it is an opportunity to raise capital. For the members of HBS Alumni Angels of Greater New York (HBSAANY) crowding the room, it is an opportunity to invest early in fast-growing companies.

“We’re seeing companies with real products and real customers,” said Jason Klein, ’86. “This is, without a doubt, one of the strongest investor networks in New York.”

Over five years, HBSAANY have invested $6 million across 47 funding rounds, participating in over $100 million in startup funding.

Each month, Angels choose five promising startups from 30 applicants. After entrepreneurs make their presentations, Angels meet privately to decide if they want to invest. The Angels say the process can help inexperienced investors learn best practices in angel investing, in a real-world setting.

Learn more on hbsangelsny.com

HBSAANY members invested in Manicube’s seed round in August 2013. Elizabeth Arden Red Door recently acquired the company.

HBSAANY members invested just before Encore Alert began at the 500 Startups accelerator. Meltwater acquired it six months later.
HBSCNY fêted five professional pacesetters at its 49th Annual Leadership Dinner on May 18. Honorees were John Paulson, MBA ’80 (Business Statesman Award), Jane Fraser, MBA ’94 (Leadership Award), Wynton Marsalis, Hon. Mus. D., Harvard College ’09 (John C. Whitehead Social Enterprise Award), Jeffrey C. Walker, MBA ’81 (John C. Whitehead Social Enterprise Award), and Leslie Wohlman Himmel, MBA ’78 (Entrepreneurship Award). The dinner, held at the American Museum of Natural History, drew more than 600 people and raised money to support HBS and HBSCNY operations and mission, including professional development activities for alumni and pro bono mentoring and consulting for the Greater New York community. Deborah Farrington, MBA ’76, chaired the event. Learn more on hbscny.org.

HBSCNY recruits speakers from a variety of disciplines, such as finance, marketing, media, tech, career development, art, social enterprise, and nonprofits.

“Jack Welch, Hank Paulson, Martha Stewart, and Bill Ackman have spoken at previous events, and Port Authority executive director Patrick Foye and Robin Hood Foundation president Ron Levy are coming soon. New York Times columnist Tom Friedman is also on the schedule,” said Lance Stuart, ’78.

“Club events are an intimate environment where you learn about speakers’ personal lives, not just their business,” said Barrie Moskowitz, ’92.

Learn more on hbscny.org
MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

Join HBSCNY

Harvard Business School alumni join the HBS Club of New York for many reasons — to make a difference, to mentor, to learn, to make friends, or to network.

More than 1,300 of your fellow alumni have joined, gaining access to dozens of volunteer opportunities and their choice of more than 100 events. “Volunteers can get as much out of the arrangement as the people they help. Advising a nonprofit or mentoring an entrepreneur gives me an opportunity to contribute,” said Meg Langan, ’92.

Joining is easy, and membership can open many doors, both professionally and personally. “The connections I’ve made at the Club — the networking — have been absolutely critical to my business,” said Ken Shoji, ’92. “I can’t imagine how I would do it without the Club.”

Learn more on hbscny.org

VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

“Volunteering through the Club is an opportunity to do something good, with very tangible benefits.”

Barry Puritz ‘65