

COMMUNITY HEALTH ACTION OF STATEN ISLAND

An Alternative to Incarceration (ATI) program funded by the NYC Mayor's Office of Criminal Justice that provides harm reduction counseling, medication assisted treatment, individual and group support, and substance use counseling to individuals with open cases in Criminal and Supreme Court in Staten Island.



Malcolm entered the CHASI Alternative to Incarceration (ATI) program in August 2021 after being arraigned for an A misdemeanor assault charge. At first, Malcolm was hesitant to fully engage with staff members and exhibited some reluctance to comply with the mandates of the program. But as CHASI staff continued to support him, Malcolm began to feel comfortable with the services being offered and did a complete about-face and became active in his healing process.

When Malcolm began CHASI's ATI program, he stated that his goals were to obtain employment and find housing, and he worked closely with CHASI's peer mentor to do both. Malcolm devoted five days per week to fulfilling his program requirements and attending necessary medical appointments. He participated in numerous case management meetings, weekly Anger Management groups, as well as required counseling sessions in the Addiction Treatment Program.

When asked if the program's intensive schedule was too much for him, Malcolm responded, "No, it's good that I stay busy, and until I get a job, I have nothing else to do." Malcolm's attitude is a testament to his desire to change his life and his willingness to put in the effort needed to reach his goals. "I'm willing to do whatever is necessary to satisfy the ATI program and I'm very appreciative of the services you are giving me," Malcolm said after his first month in the program. Malcolm was a dedicated program participant and ultimately successfully completed all program requirements.

Malcolm graduated from the CHASI ATI program in November 2021. Because he successfully completed the program, Malcolm was granted a conditional discharge as long as he is not re-arrested within 12 months. Malcolm has also obtained gainful employment and continues to work with CHASI's peer mentor on a voluntary basis to obtain housing.