

# HWCLI

Health & Welfare Council of Long Island

## Unmasking Opportunities Together: A Year of Reinvention



*2020* | **ANNUAL REPORT**

# FROM OUR LEADERSHIP



When we rang in the New Year at midnight on December 31, 2019, surrounded by friends and loved ones, we could have never imagined just what 2020 had in store for us. It has been, on many fronts, a year of great pain and suffering in our region and around the world. What was previously deemed foundational and commonplace became abnormal or the exception. Indeed, it has been a wildly unique year - and one worthy of significant and robust reflection.

We frequently hear of the great longing of those wishing for a swift return to normal - the pre-pandemic days before "social distancing" was ever in our lexicon. Yet we know that normal as it existed before COVID is not a normal to which many Long Islanders wish to return - nor is that our hope for the region.

Before the pandemic, "business as usual" meant antiquated and multilateral systems of government in the two most financially distressed counties in the state. "Normal" meant that segregation was continuing to get worse, not better - as institutional racism in real estate, healthcare, and education continued to exacerbate disparities in life outcomes. In fact, it was accepted that if you were born on Long Island, the most important determinative factor in your life circumstances was the zip code in which you were born. This is not a Long Island any of us should accept.

This was the pivotal year for us to look forward to reinvention rather than backward to the comforts of the expected. We witnessed a great and powerful awakening as the realities of racial injustice in this country became a much larger part of the conversation in many communities. And as we suffered - upended, confused, and afraid - we came together as a region in a way many of us would never have thought possible. We must seize the imperative opportunity with which we are now presented to reinvent our region and work collaboratively in pursuit of sustainable, new models and systems of care to allow all Long Islanders thrive.

With gratitude as a core operating principle here at HWCLI, we are incredibly thankful for the opportunities we have had this year to lead our sector in inventive new ways to shape Long Island's future. We are excited to continue to build an equitable, more just region in 2021 as we look towards innovation and continue to work with our communities as we heal from this time of extraordinary crisis.

Sincerely,



**REBECCA SANIN**  
*President/CEO*



**DAVID NEMIROFF**  
*Chair, Board of Directors*

# OUR MISSION



Established in 1947, the Health and Welfare Council of Long Island (HWCLI) is a regional, nonprofit umbrella organization for health and human service providers. We are dedicated to improving the lives of Long Island's most vulnerable residents by responding to their needs through the promotion and development of public policies and direct services.

HWCLI serves the interests of poor and vulnerable people on Long Island by convening, representing, and supporting the organizations that serve them; and through:

- Illuminating the issues that critically impact them
- Organizing community and regional responses to their needs
- Advocacy, research, and policy analysis
- Providing services, information and education

# OUR APPROACH

At HWCLI, we operate a series of programs that address the day to day challenges of suburban poverty, including nutritional security, access to healthcare, affordable health insurance, and economic security. Together with our network of nonprofits, we provide a unique, crucial safety net for our neighbors who fall into an under-recognized category of suburban poverty – those who earn too much to qualify for federal assistance programs, but not enough to sustain the high cost of living on Long Island.

Simultaneously, we engage with local, state, and federal government to advocate for strong policy agendas that improve existing systems. We partner with agencies across the island to unite our region's nonprofit community because we understand that together, our sector is more resilient and our voices, more powerful. We believe grassroots community engagement is essential.

Our direct service programs inform our policy, advocacy, and convening work and vice versa. Each branch of our work is strengthened by the insights and understanding provided by the others.



# OUR TEAM



**REBECCA SANIN**  
*President/Chief Executive Officer*



**LORI ANDRADE**  
*Chief Operations Officer*



**CELESTE HERNANDEZ**  
*Manager of Special Events & Community Engagement*



**MARISSA HIRUMA**  
*Healthcare & Human Services Manager*



**HERBERTH REYES**  
*Fiscal Director*



**TOMMI-GRACE MELITO**  
*Regional Economic Resiliency Programs Manager*



**MARIA CARVAJAL**  
*Suffolk Nutrition Outreach & Education Coordinator*



**DAVID CHAVEZ**  
*Nassau Nutrition Outreach & Education Coordinator*



**STEPHANIE D'HAITI**  
*Eligibility Specialist*



**CAROLINA FLORES CRUZ**  
*Client Services Specialist*



**KEVIN JIMENEZ**  
*Outreach Specialist*



**FATIMA LASSO**  
*Healthcare Access Specialist*



**JACK NIX**  
*Program Assistant*



**DONNA VARGAS**  
*Health Advocacy Coordinator*

Did You Know? **71%** of our staff is **BILINGUAL** & **36%** hold **ADVANCED DEGREES**

# OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS



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President/Chief Executive Officer  
Long Island FQHC

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President/Chief Executive Officer  
HWCLI

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Global Thermostat

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Leader

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Assistant Commissioner of  
Community Engagement  
Nassau County Police Department

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Chief Executive Officer  
Little Flower Children & Family  
Services of NY

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Senior Vice President  
Ambulatory Services, East Region  
Northwell Health

## COLLEEN MERLO

Chief Executive Officer  
Association for Mental Health & Wellness

## BEDEL SAGET

Graphics & Multimedia Editor (Sports)  
The New York Times

## MELISSA SIDOR

Of Counsel  
Campolo, Middleton & McCormick, LLP

# OUR NETWORK OF NONPROFITS

Did You  
Know?

HWCLI has  
been serving  
Long Island for

73  
YEARS

Abilities Inc. at The Viscardi Center  
Adelante of Suffolk County, Inc.  
Adopt a House (Lindenhurst COAD)  
AHRC  
Alliance for Quality Education of New York  
Alpern Family Foundation, Inc.  
Alternatives, Inc.  
Alzheimer's Association Long Island\*  
American Diabetes Association  
American Red Cross on Long Island\*  
Amoachi & Johnson PLLC  
Association for Mental Health & Wellness\*  
Asthma Coalition of Long Island  
Catholic Charities – Disaster Action Response Team (DART)  
Catholic Charities Community Services, Archdiocese of New York  
Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Rockville Centre\*  
Catholic Health Services of Long Island  
Cenacle Sisters Ronkonkoma  
Central American Refugee Center (CARECEN-NY)  
Central Nassau Guidance & Counseling Services  
Centro Corazon de Maria Inc.  
Cerini & Associates, LLP  
Chadbourne & Park, LLP  
Child Care Council of Nassau, Inc.\*  
Child Care Council of Suffolk, Inc.\*  
Children's Rights  
Choice for All  
Christ Episcopal Church  
Circulo de la Hispanidad  
Colonial Youth & Family Services  
Community Action Southold Town (CAST)  
Community Development Corporation of Long Island  
Community Housing Innovations, Inc.\*  
Community Legal Advocates of New York  
Community Program Centers of Long Island, Inc.  
Community Voices for Youth and Families  
Concern for Independent Living, Inc.  
Congregation of the Infant Jesus  
Daughters of Wisdom  
Docs for Tots\*  
Dominican Sisters of Amityville  
EAC Network\*  
Economic Opportunity Commission of Nassau County, Inc.  
Economic Opportunity Council of Suffolk, Inc.\*  
El Dorado Consulting\*  
Empire Justice Center  
Empowerment Collaborative of Long Island\*  
Energiea Partnership  
EPIC Long Island\*  
Episcopal Ministries of Long Island\*  
Family & Children's Association\*  
Family Residences and Essential Enterprises, Inc. (FREE)\*  
Family Service League\*  
Farmingdale Chamber of Commerce\*  
Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)  
Fordham University School of Law  
Friends of Freeport NY (COAD)  
Friends of Long Island (COAD)  
Friends of Shirley and the Mastics (COAD)  
Greater Patchogue COAD  
Harbor Child Care  
Healthfirst  
Hempstead Hispanic Civic Association\*  
HELP Suffolk

Hispanic Brotherhood of Rockville Centre, Inc.  
Hispanic Counseling Center\*  
Hispanic Federation  
Hofstra University\*  
Hope Floats Long Island, Inc.  
Hope for Youth  
Housing Help, Inc.\*  
Human Rights First  
Immigrant Justice Corps  
Incorporated Village of Mastic Beach  
Interfaith Nutrition Network\*  
Island Harvest\*  
Island Public Affairs  
L.I. Against Domestic Violence (LIADV)\*  
Latino Justice PRLDEF  
Legal Aid Society of Nassau County, Inc.  
Legal Aid Society of Suffolk County, Inc.  
LGBT Network  
Lindy Manpower (Lindenhurst COAD)  
Little Flower Children and Family Services of New York  
Local 1102 RWDSU/UFCW  
Long Beach Latino Civic Association  
Long Beach COAD\*  
Long Island Adolescent and Family Services (LIAFS)  
Long Island Advocacy Center\*  
Long Island Cares Inc. – Harry Chapin Food Bank\*  
Long Island Children's Museum (LICM)  
Long Island Civic Engagement Table (LICET)  
Long Island Community Foundation (LICF)  
Long Island Council of Churches  
Long Island Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence (LICADD)  
Long Island Episcopal Cursillo  
Long Island FQHC, Inc.\*  
Long Island Housing Partnership (LIHP)  
Long Island Housing Services, Inc.\*  
Long Island Immigrant Students Advocates  
Long Island Jobs with Justice  
Long Island Minority AIDS Coalition Inc. (LIMAC)  
Long Island Network of Community Services, Inc. (LINCS)  
Long Island Volunteer Center  
Lupus Alliance of LIQ  
Lutheran Counseling Center  
Make the Road New York  
Maureen's Haven\*  
Melville Chamber of Commerce\*  
Mental Health Association of Nassau County (MHA)\*  
Mentor Kids\*  
MercyFirst\*  
Middle Country Library Foundation\*  
Missionary Sisters of St. Benedict  
Mutual of America  
Nassau Community College  
Nassau County Office of Emergency Management (OEM)  
Nassau County Storm Recovery  
Nassau Suffolk Law Services Committee, Inc.\*  
Nassau-Suffolk Hospital Council, Inc.\*  
National Black Leadership Commission on AIDS (NBLCA)  
National Center for Suburban Studies at Hofstra University  
National Conference of Vicars for Religious (NCVR) – Brooklyn  
National Conference of Vicars for Religious (NCVR) – Rockville Centre  
Neighbors In Support of Immigrants (NISI)  
Neighbors Supporting Neighbors (Babylon COAD)  
New York Civil Liberties Union (NYCLU)  
New York Committee for Occupational Safety & Health (NYCOSH)  
New York Communities for Change (NYCC)  
New York Immigration Coalition (NYIC)

Nixon Peabody, LLP  
North Shore Child & Family Guidance Center  
North Shore Counseling Group  
Northwell Health\*  
NuHealth  
NY Rising Community Reconstruction Program  
NYS Department of Labor  
NYS Division of Homeland Security & Emergency Services  
Oceanside ACTION (COAD)  
Opportunities Industrialization Center of Suffolk, Inc.  
Options for Community Living, Inc.  
Pal-O-Hine Equestrian\*  
Pan American Administrative Service  
Peace Valley Haven, Inc.  
Pet Safe Coalition – Nassau County SPCA  
Planned Parenthood Hudson Peconic, Inc.  
Planned Parenthood of Nassau County, Inc.\*  
PSEG Foundation  
PSEG Long Island  
Rebuilding Together Long Island  
Roosevelt Community Revitalization Group (COAD)  
Rural & Migrant Ministry  
Safe Passage Project  
Salvation Army of Greater New York  
Sandy Support, Massapequa Style (COAD)  
SCO Family of Services\*  
Setauket Presbyterian Church  
Sisters of Charity Halifax  
Sisters of St. Joseph  
Sisters of the Good Shepherd  
Skills Unlimited, Inc.  
Society of St. Vincent de Paul\*  
South Shore Child Guidance Center – EPIC Long Island  
Sterling National Bank  
Suffolk County Office of Emergency Management (OEM)  
Suffolk County SPCA  
Suffolk Perinatal Coalition  
Suffolk Y Jewish Community Center (SYJCC)  
Team Rubicon  
Terry Farrell Firefighters Fund  
The 11518, Inc. (East Rockaway COAD)  
The City of Long Beach Building Department  
The Door  
The Elevated Studio  
The Long Island Home  
The Maurice A. Dean School of Law at Hofstra University  
The New York Conference/The United Methodist Church NYAC  
The Port Washington Crisis Relief Team (COAD)  
The Retreat, Inc.\*  
The Safe Center LI\*  
Touro Law Center Disaster Relief Clinic  
Town of Islip Office of Emergency Management (OEM)  
Transitional Services of NY for Long Island, Inc.\*  
U.S. Green Building Council – LI Chapter (USGBC)  
Unitarian Universalist Congregation at Shelter Rock  
Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Huntington  
United Methodist Church Disaster Response  
United Way of Long Island  
Ursuline Sisters of Tildonk  
Variety Child Learning Center  
Victims Information Bureau of Suffolk (VIBS)\*  
Visiting Nurse Services of New York  
WellLife Network  
Wyandanch Homes & Property Development Corporation (WHPDC)  
Youth Enrichment Services (YES)

\*Organizations who contributed financially to HWCLI in 2020



# HWCLI SERVES LONG ISLANDERS. A LOOK AT OUR REGION BY THE NUMBERS

POPULATION **2,844,465**

NASSAU 1,356,564

SUFFOLK 1,487,901



(approximately)

**60,672**

people living in poverty

OF THOSE ALMOST THREE MILLION: (and an additional)

**144,309**

have no health insurance

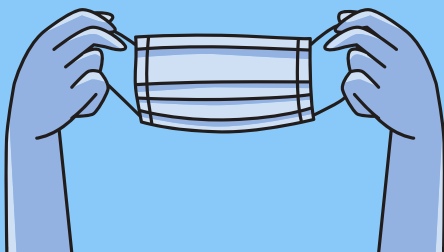
## COVID-19 Cases

as of December 10, 2020

Nassau: 67,203

Suffolk: 69,996

Total: 137,199



**52,066 households**



RECEIVE SNAP BENEFITS



HWCLI helps Long Islanders navigate the region's complex systems and connects our neighbors with the resources they need.

**2** COUNTIES

**13** TOWNS

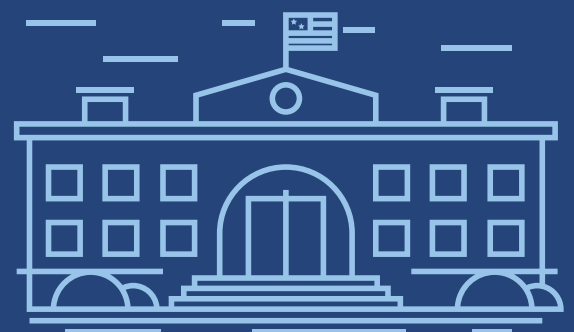
**2** CITIES

**96** INCORPORATED VILLAGES



**124**

SCHOOL DISTRICTS



# OUR PROGRAMS & INITIATIVES:

## HEALTHCARE ACCESS AND EQUITY



## HEALTH INSURANCE ENROLLMENT

Through a partnership with Central Nassau Guidance, HWCLI assists Suffolk County residents in enrolling in a quality, affordable health insurance plan through the New York State of Health Marketplace. Since April, HWCLI staff also volunteered to assist clients state-wide with enrollment services to ensure coverage during the COVID-19 pandemic, and simultaneously continued remote outreach efforts locally to ensure Long Islanders who had lost coverage due to the pandemic were aware of the variety of affordable plan options available.

*In 2020, HWCLI staff enrolled over 1,500 clients in affordable health plans through the New York State of Health Marketplace*



## COMMUNITY HEALTH ADVOCATES (CHA)

HWCLI's Community Health Advocacy (CHA) program helps clients utilize their health insurance plans, assisting clients with a wide variety of needs such as finding in-network physicians, navigating complex billing issues, assisting with appeals processes with providers, and educating clients on Medicare. Community Health Advocates work tirelessly with their clients so that no Long Islander faces barriers to receiving care afforded them by their health plans. In 2020, HWCLI assisted over 500 CHA clients in accessing care.

## HEALTH EQUITY ALLIANCE OF LONG ISLAND (HEALI)



The Health Equity Alliance of Long Island (HEALI) continues to convene health justice leaders and advocates to address health inequities across Long Island and positively impact health outcomes for Long Islanders. To maximize our regional impact, HWCLI brings in national leaders to monthly HEALI meetings to address matters related to the social determinants of health, including innovative ways to address health inequalities. This alliance also provides a broad forum for leaders across Long Island to discuss and address new and emerging issues - such as those that have emerged or been exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Positioning Long Island to be a national leader in innovative collaborative systems, HWCLI leads a pilot program of a technology that allows agencies to send and receive referrals quickly and effectively, to ensure clients are directly connected with organizations that can provide needed services. The pilot continued to expand in 2020, as additional organizations joined the pilot which will continue on into 2021. Additionally, HEALI leads region-wide work in developing a data governance framework to ensure safe and secure data sharing, setting the foundation for regional, cross-sector work to ensure clients in every zip code get access to the care they need.

# OUR PROGRAMS & INITIATIVES:

## ECONOMIC STABILITY AND NUTRITIONAL SECURITY



## EMERGENCY FOOD AND SHELTER PROGRAM

In 2020, HWCLI was named the Regional Administrator for the Emergency Food and Shelter Program (EFSP). The program, previously locally administered by United Way of Long Island, is a FEMA program that provides much needed financial assistance to clients and providers alike. For example, it funds both homeless shelters and provides individual clients with rental payments, making it a critically important and life-saving program for our region. HWCLI took over the program in the height of the pandemic and successfully oversaw the rollout of two concurrent rounds of funding, and over \$2 million to be used to support Long Island communities and community-based organizations. This is also a tremendous opportunity to leverage our leadership role to start to change the culture of human services on Long Island. There is a desperate need for holistic, person-centered care and solution building.



## ECONOMIC STABILITY

### Virtual Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA)

HWCLI made history as the first and only nonprofit community-based organization in the Long Island region to become an IRS-designated VITA site. Through a unique partnership with Bethpage Federal Credit Union in the recruitment and training of volunteers, HWCLI was able to launch our very own Valet VITA Program.

For the 2021 season, HWCLI has been selected to participate in Code For America's nationwide Get Your Refund Program. The service is provided completely remotely, but does not sacrifice any of our premium customer service. It is a unique model and it is the future for VITA across the country.



## NUTRITIONAL SECURITY

### Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Enrollment

The COVID pandemic created an unprecedented need for nutritional access throughout the Long Island region. Coordinators worked around the clock to provide assistance with SNAP benefits and hundreds other referrals. Nearly 2,000 clients were served in the early days of the pandemic.

### Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants & Children (WIC) Coordination

HWCLI also seized this opportunity to convene and coalition-build with nutritional security stakeholders across Long Island. As a member of the Board of Directors for the New York State WIC Association, HWCLI has taken a leadership role in convening WIC providers and working across sectors to raise awareness about the WIC programs.







## LONG ISLAND VOLUNTARY ORGANIZATIONS ACTIVE IN DISASTER (LIVOAD)

Since 2001, HWCLI has convened the Long Island Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (LIVOAD), a coalition of nonprofits and government agencies working collaboratively on disaster planning, response, and mitigation. As has been done for nearly 20 years, the LIVOAD continues working across the aisle with government and nonprofit partners alike to ensure the planning and implementation of live-saving measures around sheltering, volunteer and donations management, and various other facets of disaster work, layering in the ongoing lessons learned of pandemic response in this long-term planning.

## LIVOAD COVID-19 RESPONSE

Through the LIVOAD coalition, HWCLI has been the lead on COVID-19 response in the health and human services network on Long Island.

Seemingly overnight, in early 2020, Long Island became one of the earliest epicenters of the COVID-19 outbreak. With little guidance or knowledge about this deadly disease, the region found itself on the front lines of response.

Immediately, HWCLI began convening the health and human services sector as the region braced for a response and recovery never before seen. In the months that followed, the pandemic escalated into three overlapping crises: public health, economic fall-out, and racial justice. And so, while simultaneously providing necessary technical information related to the pandemic, HWCLI consistently ensured discussions incorporated lessons learned over decades of advocacy for our most marginalized neighbors.



As the year progressed, HWCLI understood the importance of maximizing opportunities learned from the pandemic for concurrent and future disaster response and recovery. And so, while the COVID-19 work continued on at full-steam, HWCLI continued to convene the LIVOAD around traditional disaster planning with COVID-19 lessons in hand.

### Critical COVID Communications



Since the onset of the pandemic, HWCLI has convened "callinars" featuring FEMA, New York State, County Government, nonprofit leaders, and policy experts to raise important issues and educate sector leadership in the nonprofit sector. To keep up with the rapidly changing landscape, HWCLI coordinated twice-weekly or weekly "callinars" with varied speakers from the beginning of the pandemic through the summer.

To coincide with and amplify the reach of the LIVOAD coalition calls, HWCLI staff wrote and distributed resource digest emails following each call. The digests soon took on a life of their own and became a key mechanism for dissemination of information and resources. These emails were meticulously crafted by HWCLI communications, and edited for accuracy and ease of use by multiple HWCLI staff.

Within days of convening around the pandemic, HWCLI also developed a COVID-19 resource website as a centralized repository for COVID-19 information from all coalition partners as well as in-depth research by HWCLI staff, allowing for quick access to a variety of information to ensure partners had the information necessary to best serve communities.

# OUR PROGRAMS & INITIATIVES:

## DISASTER RESPONSE & RECOVERY

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### COVID-19 Disaster Response Subcommittees

Because of this early work, and upon gauging the various pressing needs of agencies and communities they serve, HWCLI quickly established several critical subcommittees to respond to those needs. These subcommittees have continued to evolve in response to changing and emerging needs, and have grown stronger, more collaborative, and more holistic in their approaches to combating both COVID-19 as well as persisting issues that have been exacerbated by the pandemic.

#### Nutritional Equity

The seismic shift in consciousness of nutritional equity lead to the creation of a new group, focused on short- and long-term nutritional equity. The group now encompasses providers from across the sector with an interest or involvement in nutritional access. The group is currently focusing on coordinated outreach and partnerships with school districts as well as collaborative partnership with DSS (Department of Social Service) to improve services and reform our systems and culture of care.

#### Domestic Violence

Domestic violence providers focus on advocacy and awareness as well as ensuring maintenance of the highest standards for remote counseling and prevention. While simultaneously still addressing access needs and opportunities for domestic violence clients, the subcommittee also developed provider education and awareness, and is part of a larger HWCLI effort to advance and alter the culture of service for the Long Island human services sector.

#### Behavioral Health

The subcommittee has and continues to address regional needs such as trainings for agency staff, addressing mental health needs of first responders, behavioral health of adolescents and children during the pandemic, and coordination of services between agencies, particularly among committee members funded for crisis counseling through New York State's Project HOPE program. As behavioral health needs continue to be urgent and pressing, the subcommittee continues to keep its finger on the pulse of needs across populations.

#### Legal

Though this subcommittee, pro bono legal providers and bar associations have had the continued opportunity to collaboratively address trends and issues clients face, and coordinate client access to the services offered by the growing subcommittee network. The subcommittee has been a particularly effective mechanism in identifying and addressing changes to federal legislation, eviction moratoria, and other quickly changing laws in order for the legal community to provide necessary, effective services to clients.

### Volunteer Planning Group: COVID-19 Response and Beyond



Volunteer agencies across the region collectively recognized the need to restructure and reframe volunteer operations in a during- and post-COVID environment, and reconvened in October of 2020 to integrate lessons learned and new considerations arising from the pandemic response to develop sustainable, long-lasting plans that are increasingly responsive and adaptable to a broader variety of disasters that could impact our region. This group is also working closely with PSEGLI around their volunteer needs for their Life Saving Equipment (LSE) wellness checks, wherein they are mandated by New York State to visit the homes of people who own life-saving equipment to ensure that they are safe if they lose power.

# OUR PROGRAMS & INITIATIVES:

## KEY PARTNERSHIPS IN DISASTER RESPONSE & RECOVERY

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In evaluating the needs and available resources, it became quickly apparent that the scale of this disaster made it one in which efficiency and the leveraging of resources and partnerships would be necessary to serve the sheer number of Long Islanders impacted by the pandemic. HWCLI is grateful to have facilitated the development of partnerships and the acquisition of grants and donations to maximize the collective impact in our region.

### World Central Kitchen

HWCLI created a partnership between international, national and local non-profit organizations to help address the growing crisis of hunger on Long Island by bringing fresh, hot meals to families in Roosevelt and Huntington Station. HWCLI helped to secure a donation of \$100,000 from the Hispanic Federation, a national non-profit empowering and advancing the Hispanic community, and a \$100,000 match donated from World Central Kitchen, an international non-profit addressing hunger by working with local restaurants to provide jobs for their staff and meals for those in need. Family Service League in Huntington Station and Choice for All in Roosevelt, two local community non-profits in HWCLI's network, assisted with food delivery and distribution, as well as Helping Hands Rescue Mission and the Huntington Assembly of God Church.



*Through this partnership, 1,375 seniors were served each week in Roosevelt, and over 1,000 families were served each week in Huntington through the spring and summer.*

This groundbreaking model represents a future mechanism to simultaneously fight hunger and revitalize the local economy - both of which are tremendously important for rebuilding Long Island!



### Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)



### Distribution

With the support of Bank of America, Governor Andrew Cuomo's Office, New York State VOAD, and All Hands All Hearts, HWCLI distributed over 100,000 cloth and paper masks to hundreds of partners across the region, ensuring safety for clients and staff.

### AmeriCorps VISTA

HWCLI was awarded an AmeriCorps VISTA grant, which will provide capacity-building work related to COVID-19. The AmeriCorps VISTA program is sometimes referred to colloquially as the "domestic Peace Corps", where individuals commit to a year of service to working on anti-poverty issues around the country. HWCLI secured funding through this grant for five VISTA members to work on legal matters, communications, and community engagement around our COVID-19 response and ongoing health and human service sector collaboration, which will provide our disaster response coalition with invaluable support with long-lasting impact not just during COVID-19 response, but for future disaster response efforts locally and nationally.



AmeriCorps

# HWCLI LEADING THE WAY:

## Regional Convening and Reinventing

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As the acute public health emergency that characterized most of 2020 progressed, it became apparent that a longer term economic crisis loomed in the near future. As New York began to "reopen", HWCLI realized immediately the need for transformative change throughout our sector and systems of care. During this time, HWCLI emerged as a paragon of progress - both in thought-leadership and boots-on-the-ground action and programming. But even before the pandemic hit our region, HWCLI knew the importance of convening our sector, facilitating conversations with government, agency executives, and subject matter experts to set the wheels in motion on how to evolve and reinvent the ways in which we operate. HWCLI hosted a series of special network-wide events which focused on topics of urgent interest to our partners.

## Lt. Gov. Kathy Hochul and the NYS Fiscal Outlook

Nearly 100 partners from the human services sector gathered to hear from our Lt. Governor Kathy Hochul as she discussed Governor Cuomo's budgetary agenda for the year and engaged attendees in a robust Q&A. This presented a unique opportunity for partners to collaboratively discuss the unique challenges associated with providing services in a suburban region in the context of statewide priorities and goals, while laying the groundwork for what - unknown at the time - would be a year of necessary forward-thinking collaboration as fiscal distress troubled the sector.



## HWCLI Nonprofit Regional Roundtable

The COVID-19 pandemic unexpectedly plunged Long Island's health and human sector into an ever-changing mode of operation rife with uncertainty and fears about sustainability as well as the well-being of the clients they serve. Despite many organizations still functioning in crisis mode, HWCLI took the reins in convening nonprofit executive to conduct a needs assessment and address the sector's most pressing concerns. Through the Nonprofit Regional Roundtable, HWCLI developed a foundation from which innovative, transformative work will be built to ensure the continuation of critical service delivery and organization health and stability. In the first phase of work emerging from the Roundtable, HWCLI immediately launched a Region in Recovery series, to prime the sector for sustainability work in 2021 utilizing inventive strategies.

## Region in Recovery

HWCLI developed this initial series designed to educate and advise Long Island nonprofits on the future of agency sustainability, resource maximization, and innovative workflows, setting the necessary foundation for a second phase of work to put plans into motion. By bringing in local and national experts, HWCLI continues to fight for Long Island to be at the leading edge of innovation and consistently poised to serve our communities. We eagerly look to continuously moving the needle on:

**Shared Resource Models:** Social Impact Commons gave our sector guidance on how we move forward by eliminating silos and partnering with agencies from fiscal and programmatic perspective, giving local agencies the tools to evaluate what partnership development in 2021 and beyond will save dollars and streamline backend operations.

**Scenario Planning:** The Bridgespan Group, a leading social impact consultant and advisor to nonprofits, sparked the process of all agencies to best identify their core operating principles to ensure nonprofits can navigate through the uncertainty of the coming months and years. Not only does this clarify the future for an agency, it strengthens the ability of Long Island agencies to have clear, critical impact in the region.

**Strategic Partnerships:** La Piana Consulting and Human Services Center have given our nonprofit network the key benefits of partnering and exploring new collaboration models. As the umbrella organization of Long Island's nonprofit sector, HWCLI is poised to continue to facilitate these opportunities among partners to ensure a "multiplier effect" to increase capacity and improve outcomes for clients.

# VIRTUAL THANKSGIVING DINNER



Though a challenging year, the health and human services sector has demonstrated our collective strength and tireless dedication to serving our neighbors in need. In recognition of this, HWCLI brought together partners and supporters for a virtual Thanksgiving fundraiser to give thanks for a year of reinvention and partnership, and to also to raise dollars needed to support our continuously growing efforts to ensure all Long Islanders thrive. In particular, support for our Virtual Thanksgiving Dinner helped HWCLI ensure continued and enhanced COVID-19 response and rebuilding work so vital to Long Island in 2021 and beyond.

Though unable to celebrate achievements over the past year together, our virtual event recreated the warmth, gratitude, collaborative nature at the core of HWCLI and all of our events. Honored guests shared words of encouragement to reinvigorate us as we enter a new year, local favorite restaurants whet our holiday appetite with delicious recipe demonstrations, and we celebrated pillars of Long Island's health and human service sector.

Thanks to our generous sponsors and supporters, HWCLI's programs will continue to serve and expand directly in response to the needs of our most vulnerable neighbors.



## The First Annual Ruth Bader Ginsburg Social Justice Award

New York State Attorney General Letitia James was honored with HWCLI's first Ruth Bader Ginsburg Social Justice Award in recognition of her tenacious work to protect and empower New Yorkers.



We are very thankful to have had special appearances by internationally celebrated chef and World Central Kitchen Founder Jose Andres, as well as U.S. Senators Chuck Schumer and Kirsten Gillibrand

## Honoring Retiring Leaders of Our Sector with the Lifetime Achievement Award

Michael Stoltz, Association for Mental Health and Wellness

Lance W. Elder, EAC Network

Jan Barbieri, Child Care Council of Nassau



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# FINANCIALS

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## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

ASSETS	Current	
	Non Current	
	Total Assessts	
LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS	Liabilities - Current	
	Net Assets	
	Total Liabilities & Net Assests	

2019

1,513,219  
36,555  
1,549,774

81,039

1,468,735  
1,511,793

## STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

SUPPORT & REVENUE	Total Support & Revenue
EXPENSES	Personnel & Fringe
	Non Personnel
	Total Expenses
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	Increase in Net Assets
	Net Assets - 1/1/19
	Net Assests - 12/31/19
FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES	Program Services
	Management & General
	Fundraising
	Total Expenses

2019

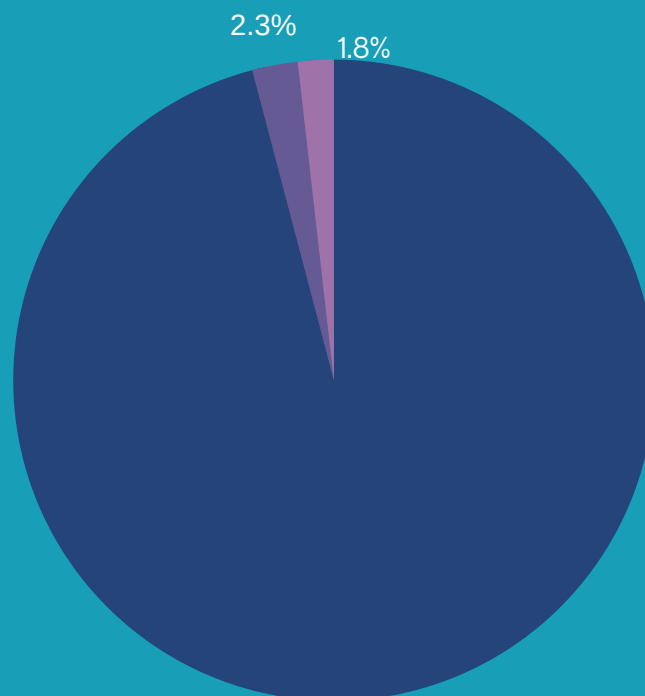
2,547,670

1,156,239  
1,296,094  
2,452,333

95,337

1,373,398  
1,468,735

2,351,067  
56,951  
44,315  
2,452,333





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