

**HWCLI**

Health & Welfare Council of Long Island

**— 2021 —**

**ANNUAL REPORT**

**EMERGING STRONGER  
TOGETHER**



# 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.

We work with local, state, and federal government partners to advocate for effective policy decisions that will impact our neighbors and hometowns.



We bring together nonprofits, business leaders, and lawmakers to implement solutions to our region's challenges.

We operate a series of programs that connect Long Islanders with the services they need.

# FROM OUR LEADERSHIP



Dear Partners and Friends:

At the Health and Welfare Council of Long Island, we believe in a future that enables all Long Islanders to live their best lives. Guided by gratitude for the opportunity to serve the region in which we live and work, we end this year reflecting with intentionality on our many accomplishments and the great need that still exists for families across Long Island. COVID-19 has changed how we operate as a society and we have reflected and responded as an organization to meet the emerging complexities of challenges faced by Long Islanders grappling with economic instability, health impacts, death and grief, psychological impacts and so much more. We continue to invest in cross sector stakeholder collaboration to bolster the economic and social sustainability of our communities and have strengthened our investment in our health equity work, which has become even more critical as COVID-19's impact was exacerbated by segregation. HWCLI has continued to be a leader in fighting hunger on Long Island, leading our disaster response for the sector and pivoting repeatedly to address emerging needs and new policies from the State, making sure that Long Island benefits from opportunities and families benefit from relief.

HWCLI has been able to advance awareness and action around critical issues impacting our communities in partnership with our extraordinary network of nonprofit organizations. Together we address both the symptoms and the systems that are harmful to the families we serve. We are thankful to our Board of Directors, our funders, our nonprofit network, and our cross-sector partners for collaborating with our team and working hand in hand to address Long Island's ever-growing needs. We are also grateful to our partners in the federal, state and local governments, with whom we continually advocate, partner and seek to lift up our greatest potential for the region.

At HWCLI, we believe every crisis is an opportunity to emerge stronger, better and more whole. In addition to strengthening our work with national, state, and local partners, we have implemented new and exciting programs to seize the opportunity that exists today. Our Restaurant Meals partnership with Choice for All is a trailblazing program in New York aimed at local economic investments in restaurants that then feed those in need with balanced, nutritious hot meals. We have also built a program to help navigate families in need in our region that are facing much greater complexity to be able to benefit from the multiple layers of government and nonprofit services and to maximize the federal and State relief opportunities that were birthed due to the pandemic and ever growing need. This program has taken the extreme distress associated with accessing services and provided families with access, hope, and opportunity. In 2022, we will advance our mission and use what we've learned during this crisis, as we continue to reinvent and rebuild to maximize opportunity for every family and in every corner of our region. We are incredibly thankful for the opportunities we've had this year to lead, partner and respond together to the growing complexities of life in suburbia. We remain grateful and are excited to create a transformative year in 2022 that positions Long Island for the future it richly deserves.

Sincerely,



**REBECCA SANIN**  
*President/CEO*



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

# OUR TEAM



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



**LORI ANDRADE**  
*Chief Operations Officer*



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



**MARISSA HIRUMA**  
*Project Manager*



**HERBERTH REYES**  
*Fiscal Director*



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



**KIERSTEN BARTOLOTTA**  
*Client Services Manager*



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



**YOKAIRY GALVEZ**  
*Healthcare Access Specialist*



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



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



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



**FATIMA LASSO**  
*Healthcare Access Specialist*



**JAKE RYAN**  
*Program Associate*



**DONNA VARGAS**  
*Health Advocacy Coordinator*



**KEVIN JIMENEZ**  
*Outreach Specialist*



**CARLOS BAUTISTA**  
*Outreach Specialist*

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

# OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS



## DAVID NEMIROFF

President/Chief Executive Officer  
Long Island FQHC

## REBECCA SANIN

President/Chief Executive Officer  
HWCLI

## ADRIAN FASSETT, VICE CHAIR

President/Chief Executive Officer  
EOC of Suffolk, Inc.

## BOB DETOR, TREASURER

Retired President/CEO  
LI Home/South Oaks Hospital

## JEFFREY WEIR, SECRETARY

Head of Marketing &  
Communications, Global Thermostat

## THOMAS MALIGNO, ESQ., COUNSEL

Executive Director  
Touro Public Advocacy Center

## JOSE CALDERON

Past President  
Hispanic Federation

## DAVID A. BISHOP

Partner  
Kirby McInerney LLP

## MARIANELA CASAS

Assistant Commissioner of  
Community Engagement  
Nassau County Police Department

## SAMUEL CHU

Chief Innovation Officer  
Edgewise Energy

## CORINNE HAMMONS

Chief Executive Officer  
Little Flower Children & Family Services of NY

## JOSEPH LAMANTIA

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

Senior Wealth Planning Strategist  
Wells Fargo

## ASHLEY CHAUVIN

Corporate Communications Director  
PSEGLI

Did You Know? HWCLI has been serving Long Island for **74** YEARS

# OUR NETWORK OF NONPROFITS

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/UFCA  
Long Beach Latino Civic Association  
Long Beach COAD\*  
Long Island Adolescent and Family Services (LIAFS)  
Long Island Advocacy Center  
Long Island Against Domestic Violence, Inc.\*  
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 Curisillo  
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-Mine 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 1158, Inc. (East Rockaway COAD)  
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 Tildon  
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 2021

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



6

POPULATION **2,840,341**

NASSAU 1,356,509  
SUFFOLK 1,483,832



OF  
THOSE  
NEARLY  
THREE  
MILLION,  
*(approximately)*  
**58,967**

HOUSEHOLDS  
ARE BELOW THE  
POVERTY LINE

COVID-19 CASES  
*(as of January 21, 2022)*

SUFFOLK: 406,417

*and*

NASSAU: 382,820



**50,356**  
HOUSEHOLDS  
RECEIVE SNAP  
BENEFITS

**58,967**

INDIVIDUALS DO NOT HAVE  
HEALTH INSURANCE



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

*Health & Welfare Council of Long Island Leads Discussion on Health Equity, Digital Divide, and the Future of the Sector*

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WE NEED TO COME TO AN UNDERSTANDING HERE ON LONG ISLAND, AS A COUNTRY, AND GLOBALLY THAT THERE IS NO PROGRESS UNLESS THAT PROGRESS IS EQUITABLE PROGRESS.

SAMMY CHU, CONFERENCE PANELIST FROM EDGEWISE ENERGY

”

**100+** ATTENDEES  
OVER ZOOM





AN OVERVIEW OF  
THE HEALTH AND WELFARE COUNCIL OF LONG ISLAND  
**TECHQUITY**  
& TRANSFORMATION  
REIMAGINING OUR CONNECTEDNESS

# THE "WHY" BEHIND TECHQUITY & TRANSFORMATION

June 10, 2021

The past year highlighted the undeniable strengths of technology - and showed us vulnerabilities that are exacerbated when the world as we know it shuts down. We've seen tools and apps, programs and systems provide high-quality, effective care - and have also seen the tremendous need for human connectedness. With so many opportunities to build upon all that we've learned in the past fifteen months, how do we move into the future with strengthened networks - both human and digital - with accessibility and equity at the forefront?

In convening both the region's health and human services disaster response coalition (Long Island Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster - LIVOAD) as well as the Health Equity Alliance of Long Island (HEALI), we at HWCLI saw the opportunity to convene our partners to look critically at the how we can better bridge divides, enhance accessibility along with equity, and combat deepening inequalities of the digital divide.

On June 10, HWCLI hosted the Health Equity conference, "Techquity & Transformation: Reimagining our Connectedness", featuring passionate speakers and expert panelists who inspired and guided us to continue working collaboratively as a sector toward an equitable, accessible, and transformed Long Island. We are so grateful for all of the conference sponsors who made this possible, and allowed our network to attend at no cost to participants. By breaking down barriers to participating in these informational and collaborative efforts, our region harnesses the incredible strength of our passionate partners.

The recording of the full conference can be found by [clicking here](https://youtu.be/QzvKmsRSwa8) (or copying and pasting this link into your browser: <https://youtu.be/QzvKmsRSwa8>)



## COMMUNITY RESPONSE COLLABORATIVE

As COVID-19 surged throughout the region over the last year and a half, the pandemic took a tremendous toll on Long Island families, businesses, and individuals living in under-served and under-resourced communities. As a result of these hardships, people are in desperate need of assistance.

In 2021, HWCLI responded to this need by creating a new program called the Community Response Collaborative: Connecting People to Resources & Referrals. Through this program, HWCLI works with other community-based organizations to build a coordinated network of resources and referrals to address the multitude of health, economic, and social care needs of our Long Island populations. This program has been an incredible and important opportunity to create better connective systems with partners and ensure all people of Long Island are receiving the services they need.

## RESTAURANT MEALS PROGRAM ADVOCACY

In September 2021, HWCLI played a key role in advocating for the enactment of legislation that would create a statewide restaurant meals program. The Supplemental Nutrition Education Program (SNAP) would enable people experiencing homelessness, people over 60, and people with disabilities to use their SNAP benefit to purchase meals at restaurants. The program is even more crucial now amid the pandemic, when people and small businesses are struggling more than ever to meet their basic needs.

Governor Hochul also announced the creation of a restaurant resiliency program, wherein food banks have the ability to contract with restaurants to supply meals for people in underserved communities, closely resembling HWCLI's restaurant work on Long Island. This is an exciting time in our state's history and an unprecedented opportunity for greater nutritional equity, cross sector partnerships, economic revitalization and, of course, greater consumer dignity and choice.

In 2020, HWCLI partnered with World Central Kitchen, Choice for All, and Family Service League to contract with local restaurants to provide hot meals to people in the community as well as support our local economy. The program was a tremendous success for people in the community as well as for the restaurants themselves, which had been struggling financially as a result of the pandemic. The success of the World Central Kitchen Model was an important lesson learned in 2020.

In 2021, HWCLI and Choice for All began to identify opportunities to create a similar program that would have both longevity and replicability across the Island. With funding from Hispanic Federation and the New York State Health Foundation, the Roosevelt Senior Meals program began in August 2021. Serving 800 meals every day Monday through Thursday every week, the program is an important lifeline for participants. It also provides a pathway for seniors to receive other resources, referrals, and information daily in their meal package.

## RESTAURANT MEALS PROGRAM: NATIONAL CONVENING FOR ADVOCATES

On December 16, 2021, HWCLI convened advocates from across the state to discuss the soon-to-be created restaurant meals program. This is a unique time to work together, and we plan to make the most of this important program in partnership with our state and local agencies. The convening featured speakers from Maryland, California, and Long Island's own Jacob Dixon of Choice for All. There was robust discussion, reflection and agreement that the coming year will be a pivotal moment for state and nationwide partnerships and cross-sector collaboration.





## NUTRITIONAL SECURITY

### SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (SNAP) ENROLLMENT

Demand for the Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program continued to break records throughout 2021. Coordinators worked around the clock to provide assistance with SNAP benefits and to provide additional referrals for clients with multiple needs beyond food insecurity. SNAP coordinators established new relationships with many community-based organization partners to extend our reach, and served nearly 13,000 Long Islanders for their SNAP needs.



## ECONOMIC STABILITY

### VIRTUAL VOLUNTEER INCOME TAX ASSISTANCE (VITA)

In 2021, HWCLI was selected to become a CodeForAmerica GetYourRefund partner, out of hundreds of applicants. HWCLI underwent a rigorous screening process before finally making the cut. The GetYourRefund program enabled HWCLI to offer completely remote VITA service during the 2021 season and granted us access to the technological tools to text and speak with clients remotely and review their documentation with a custom portal. GetYourRefund is the only program of its kind and is operational in 42 states. This important innovation took place at a time when the VITA landscape on Long Island was shrinking tremendously. Other VITA providers have scaled down their operations considerably.



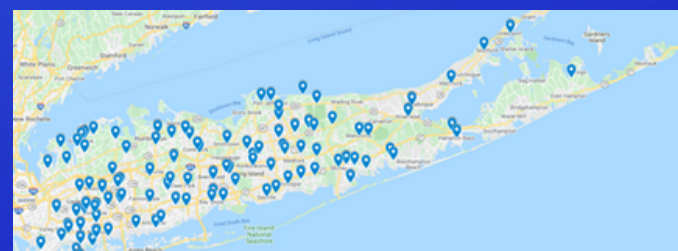
The remote landscape was a godsend for many clients, but extremely difficult for others, especially seniors and those without access to technology at home. HWCLI worked around the clock with seniors, spending hours on the phone with them to explain the process with compassion and care. Additionally, HWCLI partnered with libraries and other CBOs to assist high needs clients with the online intake form — scanning and uploading documents on their behalf to make the process more accessible. The program was a great success and HWCLI exceeded its targets for the season.

### EMERGENCY FOOD AND SHELTER PROGRAM (EFSP)

As the regional administrator for the Emergency Food and Shelter Program, HWCLI's oversight and improvement of the EFSP program across Nassau and Suffolk Counties succeeded in distributing nearly \$4 million to 20 local organizations. These funds assured clients received necessary support from these local shelters, food pantries, and human service agencies.

EFSP assisted close to 1,000 households with rental and utility assistance, assuring Long Islanders remained in safe housing with access to necessities such as water, heating/cooling, and fuel.

The map on the right highlights rental/mortgage and utility assistance provided across Long Island through HWCLI's management of the EFSP program, highlighting the vast area across which HWCLI's work enables meaningful and impactful help.





## HEALTH INITIATIVES

### HEALTH CARE ACCESS

HWCLI Certified Navigators, through a partnership with Central Nassau Guidance, assists New Yorkers in applying for affordable health insurance through the New York State of Health Marketplace. HWCLI Navigators help clients learn about different policies and provide information on various plans to help clients choose the right option for themselves and their families. Through their extensive knowledge and expertise in New York State marketplace practices, these Navigators are successful in addressing and overcoming common barriers that community members often face when applying for health care. **The HWCLI team is also multilingual, which ensures meaningful access to information and services for all communities of Long Island.** Enrollment of these services has been strong at HWCLI due to the Navigator's commitment to outreach and excellent customer service, with over 800 individuals and families enrolled since 2020.



### COMMUNITY HEALTH ADVOCACY (CHA)

HWCLI's Community Health Advocates program is an innovative, free, one-on-one service that helps Long Islanders navigate the complex health care systems of New York. Advocates assist clients in understanding and using their health coverage in a variety of ways, including finding in-network physicians, addressing surprise billing and other billing issues, informing clients about the appeals process, and educating clients on other relevant health programs as well as Medicare. CHA advocates also served as a resource for vaccination education and information for our communities, helping clients learn more about the COVID-19 pandemic and helping them schedule vaccination appointments. Since 2020, HWCLI Community Health Advocates have assisted nearly 400 clients, mostly from underserved communities, to ensure health care access through advocacy, support, and information.



### HEALTH EQUITY ALLIANCE OF LONG ISLAND (HEALI)

The Health Equity Alliance of Long Island is a coalition of more than 80 agencies working together to engage health and human service agencies, community members, and other stakeholders to ensure equitable health and life outcomes for all Long Islanders through cross-sector partnerships, innovative funding strategies, and improvements in the health & human service delivery system. We use our collective power to influence public policy and investment decisions by funders.



Throughout 2021, HEALI continued to work together on a pilot to use the NowPow online service directory for referrals between agencies. HEALI and its Steering Committee also played a key role in addressing vaccine disparities through advocacy work with Northwell Health, particularly related to vaccine availability for homeless populations. During the fall of 2021, HEALI was a key leader of education and advocacy for a new Medicaid waiver being proposed by the NYS Department of Health.



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



The Long Island VOAD is Long Island's regional human services disaster response coalition. HWCLI convenes the LIVOAD and liaises between government and nonprofit partners. After focusing on COVID-19 during 2020, HWCLI took on the dual role of continuing to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic while also engaging in traditional VOAD work in 2021, to ensure ongoing preparedness for the wide variety of disasters and events to which the LIVOAD is responsible for responding to.



2021 was a year of unprecedented natural disasters for Long Island, New York, and the U.S. During 2021's incredibly active hurricane season, HWCLI coordinated closely with county partners, FEMA and the state VOAD to prepare and respond to emergency weather events throughout the year.

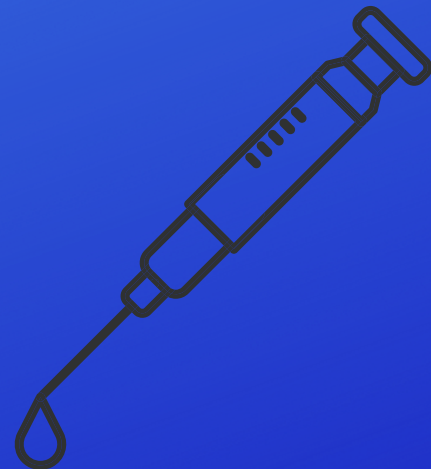
In a year of unpredictable weather events and an unprecedented public health crisis, LIVOAD's 4 Cs - cooperation, communication, coordination, and collaboration - were invaluable for achieving cooperation between nonprofit and government partners.

## LONG ISLAND VACCINE EDUCATION INITIATIVE

As vaccines became readily available across the region, HWCLI closely monitored vaccination rates across both Nassau and Suffolk County. When trends emerged indicating vaccination rates in communities of color lagged significantly behind other communities, HWCLI utilized the strength of its partners - particularly those involved in its 2020 Census work - to convene community leaders to share vaccination education materials, educational strategies, and to collaboratively address vaccine hesitations and fears among various communities.

To support community leaders in their efforts to provide clear and valid vaccine information to their networks, HWCLI hosted brainstorming sessions on addressing vaccine hesitancy, offered educational events featuring Long Island physicians to answer common questions about the vaccines, and developed and promoted a vaccine education webpage featuring key, sharable vaccine information with linguistic needs and cultural sensitivities in mind.

As the COVID-19 positivity rate surges at the end of the year, HWCLI continues its vaccination grant work by developing and implementing a comprehensive outreach and education program with a goal to reach our most vulnerable populations including recently arrived immigrants and people of color. This program includes not only information on vaccination education and vaccination locations but also connects these impacted families to health and human services such as food, legal services, behavioral health services, and rental assistance. The success of this program is based on the continuous building of networks with knowledgeable HWCLI staff, communities at risk and partnerships with human service agencies, local government, public schools, and faith-based institutions to assure that all populations have the support and information they need during this difficult time.



# KEY EVENTS & QUARTERLY NETWORK MEETINGS

12



Throughout 2021, HWCLI's day to day work of coalition and program building brought together hundreds of partners for regular operational meetings.

## Combatting COVID-19: Convening our Sector

January 21, 2021

HWCLI hosted a discussion about recovery efforts throughout the region, which featured local government officials and representatives from our healthcare anchor institutions discussing cross sector partnership opportunities and initiatives in the new year. Featured speakers were: Joe LaMantia of Northwell Health; David Nemiroff of the LIFQHC; Carlos Ortiz of Sun River Health; Lisa Black, Chief Deputy Executive for Suffolk County; and John Donnell of NuHealth.



## COVID-19 Recovery: Regional Vaccine Education

February 8, 2021

On Feb. 8, HWCLI led a call with over 100 participants and New York State officials focusing on vaccination efforts, giving the sector the opportunity to advocate for their clients and an equitable recovery for Long Islanders.

## The Year Ahead - NYS 2021 Budget Convening Call

February 22, 2021

On Feb. 22, HWCLI Pres/CEO Rebecca Sanin moderated a convening of the nonprofit sector to learn about the State's 2021 budget and human service priorities led by Commissioner Sheila J. Poole of New York State Office of Children and Family Services.

## One Year Into the Pandemic: Reflections

March 25, 2021

HWCLI convened our network of partners to reflect on the past year of the pandemic. What followed was a robust conversation that both recognized the hardships faced in the past year and also highlighted the strengths of our collaborative efforts. Though a year full of many unspeakable hardships, we have all seen opportunities, innovations, stories of hope, and our sector's relentless commitment to improving the lives of our neighbors and our communities overall.

ONE YEAR IN THE PANDEMIC

REFLECTIONS

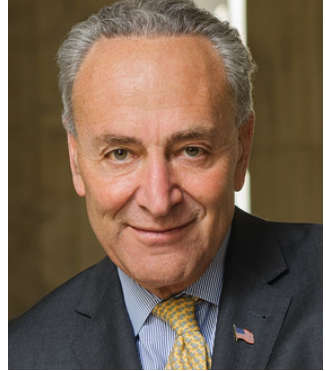
# KEY EVENTS & QUARTERLY NETWORK MEETINGS



## Senate Majority Leader Charles Schumer and the American Rescue Plan

April 30, 2021

We were pleased to host Senator Schumer for a conversation with 130 nonprofit CEOs and leaders about the impact of the American Rescue Plan on the Long Island region, as well as the increased need for human services provided by community-based organizations.



## ANNUAL MEETING

September 21, 2021

**Embracing Change and Looking Forward:  
Cross-Sector Collaboration For An Equitable Future**

**Annual Meeting (virtual)**  
September 21, 2021 11AM

Speakers:

**Dr. Lawrence E. Eisenstein**  
MD, MPH, FACP  
Nassau County  
Commissioner of Health

**Michael J. Dowling**  
President and CEO of  
Northwell Health

**Dr. Gregson H. Pigott**  
MD, MPH  
Suffolk County Health  
Commissioner

HWCLI's Annual Meeting featured Nassau County Health Commissioner Dr. Lawrence E. Eisenstein, Suffolk County Health Commissioner of Health Dr. Gregson Pigott and Northwell CEO Michael Dowling, who discussed the importance of cross-sector partnership and the resilience and dedication of the nonprofit sector.

All three speakers emphasized how the health and wellbeing of everyone in our community is interconnected. This crisis presents a unique opportunity for nonprofit, public and private sectors to rewrite Long Island's history with a new chapter, and to redefine and reimagine our services to maximize the opportunity and potential of every part of Long Island.



We are very thankful to have had the region's leading health experts join us on Zoom for this important conversation.

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## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

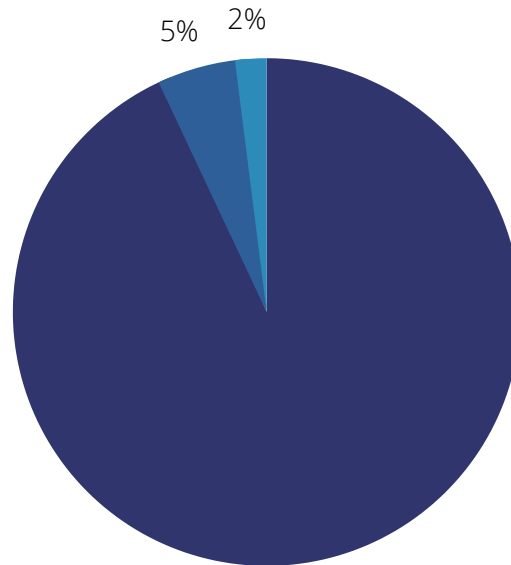
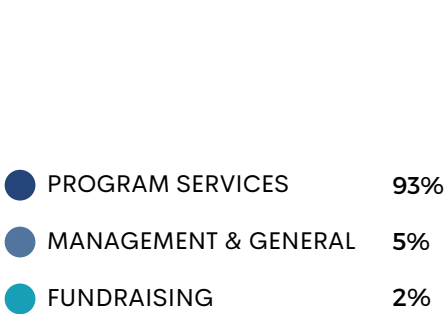
2020

<b>ASSETS</b>	Current	1,732,328
	Non Current	30,560
	<b>Total Assests</b>	<u>1,762,888</u>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; NET ASSETS</b>	Liabilities - Current	67,423
	Loan Payable	159,937
	Net Assets	<u>1,535,528</u>
	<b>Total Liabilities &amp; Net Assests</b>	<u>1,762,888</u>

## STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

2020

<b>SUPPORT &amp; REVENUE</b>	Total Support & Revenue	<u>1,858,253</u>
<b>EXPENSES</b>	Personnel & Fringe	1,270,156
	Non Personnel	521,304
	<b>Total Expenses</b>	<u>1,791,460</u>
<b>CHANGE IN NET ASSETS</b>	Increase in Net Assets	<u>66,793</u>
	Net Assets - 1/1/20	<u>1,468,735</u>
	<b>Net Assests - 12/31/20</b>	<u>1,535,528</u>
<b>FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES</b>	Program Services	1,668,529
	Management & General	88,999
	Fundraising	33,932
	<b>Total Expenses</b>	<u>1,791,460</u>



93%



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