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## **<u>Celebrating 50 Years of Innovative Programs</u>**

[West Babylon] Federation of Organizations began in 1972 as a small group of parents advocating for better care for their loved ones struggling with mental illness. The West Babylon-based organization has since grown into a major health and human services agency providing a wide range of health and wellness services, senior and children's services, housing, and support services for thousands of vulnerable community members in Long Island and New York City.

Throughout its 50 years, Federation's mission has been the same: giving individuals the tools and support they need to improve their health, live independently, and achieve their dreams. Federation has fulfilled it mission by developing innovative, evidence-based, and cost-effective programs and services for individuals in recovery, those living with chronic medical conditions, adult home residents, the homeless, low-income seniors and at-risk children.

Federation continued to provide its essential services throughout the pandemic and even progressed with new programs over the last couple of years. New programs include the Home-BEST (Home Based Empowerment Support Team) program, which provides intensive counseling and crisis prevention services to support Nassau residents under age 21 diagnosed with serious emotional disturbances and/or who are at risk for hospitalization or out-of-home placement. Federation also expanded their Wyandanch Clinic as a Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic (CCBHC), which has allowed Federation to provide more comprehensive and integrated care to the clients of the Suffolk County based mental health clinic.

Federation also recently achieved certification from OASAS (New York State Office of Addiction Services and Supports) to open a new chemical dependency outpatient treatment program, which is now up and running in Copiague.

The agency has also continued to move forward with two major affordable housing developments including a 119-unit complex in Brooklyn, expected to be completed in September 2022; and a 118-unit complex in Far Rockaway with an expected completion date of July 2023.

Some of Federation's long-running programs include the Foster Grandparent program, which provides low-income seniors a stipend to serve as volunteers in schools and daycare centers, assisting the teacher in providing educational and emotional support for at-risk children. There is also the Senior Companion program, which trains seniors to provide support and companionship to frail isolated older adults to help them maintain their independence in the community.

Federation would not be where it is today without its incredible team of about 600 employees. The team is the core of Federation and comprises a diverse group of dedicated people from many walks of life, with varying backgrounds and talents.

"Some people have been here for decades, while others are new to the team," Barbara Faron, Chief Executive Officer for Federation. "What they all have in common is a desire to help people and a passion for the work we do. We would not have gotten through the challenges of the last two years without our amazing staff, who continued to show up for work, caring for the people we serve and helping us continue to carry out our mission to improve the lives of thousands of vulnerable community members."

We look forward to celebrating our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary during a gala celebration on November 10, 2022 at Russo on the Bay; more details will be announced soon.

For more information about Federation of Organizations please visit www.fedoforg.org/50, or contact Melissa Rose, Vice President of Marketing Works, at melissa@marketingworkspr.com.