



Message from the CEO

Federation has provided high-quality health and social services to Long Island and New York City communities for 50 years. While we are very proud of our accomplishments so far, there is still much work to be done to ensure that everyone has access to the information, services, and resources they need to succeed and thrive. Working with local partners, peers, and funders, we are constantly improving, innovating, and implementing best practices.

We had a busy start to 2023, which included expanding our Safe Options Support (SOS) teams and our Aging in Place program, both of which we established last year in partnership with New York State. Our three SOS teams have been working to combat homelessness in Brooklyn and Queens, while our Aging in Place program is providing extra supports to help older residents in our non-licensed housing live as independently as possible as they age.

Looking ahead to the third quarter, we are busy preparing for the grand opening of Herkimer Gardens, our 120-unit, eight-story affordable senior development in Brooklyn. We also have our Sunset 9 and Dine Golf Outing at Stonebridge Country Club in Smithtown on the calendar for July 19. We are grateful as always for your support of our mission, and we hope you will enjoy learning about some of our current programs and activities.

Sincerely,
Barbara Faron, Chief Executive Officer



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New Job for Companion Program Participant

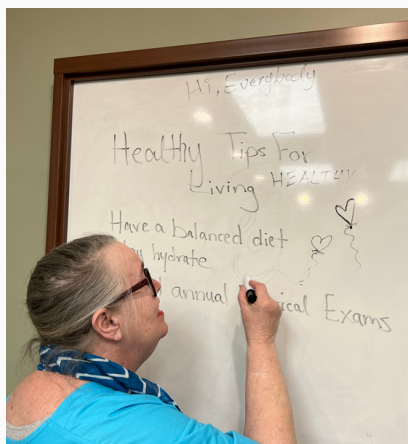
Rosemary R. has been a volunteer in the Companion Program since 2012. Federation's Companion Program provides opportunities for people in recovery to explore vocational goals by volunteering at community sites such as social programs, adult homes, hospitals, outreach programs and food pantries. For the past 11 years, Rosemary has volunteered at the Brookhaven Town Adult Home. And now, her volunteer assignment has led to paid employment: Rosemary has been offered a position as recreation staff at the home.

"Rosemary is a very pleasant individual with a very positive and cheerful attitude. She always has a smile on her face," says Rudi Woods, Program Supervisor for the Companion Program. "I was very excited to hear that she was offered a position at her volunteer site. It is so rewarding to see our volunteers grow from our program and move forward in a way that demonstrates one of the main goals of the program, which is to promote employment readiness."

Rosemary says participation in Federation's programs has made her feel healthier physically, mentally and emotionally. "It gave me the strength to stand on my own two feet. I always tell myself, the longer you can focus and concentrate, the better your quality of life," she says.

"It is not what we get. But who we become, what we contribute that gives meaning to our lives."

TONY ROBBINS



The Homelessness Crisis: Q&A with CEO Barbara Faron



Homelessness has garnered increased attention nationwide as numbers of homeless people have soared in recent years. In New York City, for instance, homelessness has reached the highest levels since the Great Depression, with 68,884 homeless people sleeping each night in municipal shelters in December 2022, according to the Coalition for the Homeless. Federal and state government agencies have increased funding for homelessness programs and are partnering with nonprofit organizations to develop solutions to combat the crisis. Federation of Organizations' CEO Barbara Faron, LMSW, CPRP, discussed what's being done and what more needs to be done to address homelessness in our region.

Given the New York State government's increased focus and incremental funding for combatting homelessness, do you think this is enough to address the crisis? If not, what more needs to be done, or what needs to be done differently?

While we applaud Gov. Kathy Hochul's increased funding and commitment to addressing homelessness in New York City and New York State, we know that more is needed, and that the funding and programs need to be sustained over time.

Homelessness is a complicated problem and, in order to address it, we have to tackle issues like the social determinants of health, wealth disparities, access to quality mental health care and support services, equity in education, raising the minimum wage, and much more.

What is Federation of Organizations' role in combatting homelessness now and in the future?

Federation has long been the champion of the vulnerable, underserved and overlooked members of our society. Our organization was forged out of the core beliefs that all members of our society are entitled to equity, opportunity and respect – the tenets espoused by the family-based grassroots advocacy groups that created us. We are here to help individuals, families and communities help themselves to improve the quality of their lives.

As a pioneering force in the fight to end homelessness, Federation does outreach in the community, the streets and the subways to engage, connect with and support people experiencing homelessness, in an effort to help them reach a point where they can be transitioned into residential services. One by one, our staff are working to get homeless individuals off the streets. At the leadership level, we are advocating with our elected officials, government agencies, and community leaders for continued funding to sustain our current programs, expand them to new communities, and continuously use data and evidence to strategically shape and guide new programs.

What will Federation do to innovate and remain at the forefront of addressing homelessness and services for vulnerable populations?

For more than 50 years, innovation has been a major part of our survival and success. We engage and actively listen to our clients and our peers. Our Directors and Managers are continuously learning and researching the latest strategies and technologies that are being developed, implemented and evaluated in the field. Our frontline staff are valuable links to our target populations, and we will continue to incorporate their input and guidance as we develop and enhance our evidence-based, multi-faceted programs to combat homelessness now and in the future.

Grateful To Be Home

Following the loss of her husband, Marianne was faced with financial challenges and needed assistance with her housing. In 1997, she became a client of Federation's Non-Licensed Residential Housing Program. Over the years, having steady housing allowed Marianne to work and experience stability. She served as a Companion in the Companion Program and really enjoyed assisting others in the community. Through Federation's Housing Program, Marianne also receives monthly visits from Federation's staff. She looks forward to her conversations with her Case Manager, Linda. Marianne said she is very thankful for everything Federation has done for her throughout the years. She particularly expressed her appreciation for her apartment, which is by the water. She says living by the water gives her peace.

Federation's SOS Team Featured on NYS Video

Last year, Federation received New York State funding to establish and operate three Safe Options Support (SOS) teams – two in Brooklyn and one in Queens – to help combat the homelessness crisis. SOS teams conduct outreach to homeless individuals and provide them with intensive case management, with the goal of getting them into permanent supportive housing.

Federation participated in Governor Kathy Hochul's media campaign highlighting the work of the statewide SOS Program. Our former SOS Program Director Perri Bernstein and current SOS Queens Team Leader Duha Ess were captured on video speaking about the program. Governor Hochul used the promotional video on her social media and elsewhere to increase understanding and gain more support for the SOS Program.

Federation's SOS teams are composed of 12 multidisciplinary members, including clinicians, case managers, peer specialists and nurses. Since beginning their work in July, Federation's SOS teams have made over 2300 contacts, enrolled more than 100 homeless individuals, and moved many of them into permanent supportive housing.



Are you looking for a career with purpose? Federation's programs and services continue to grow and we are always looking for people who are passionate about helping others and making a difference in their communities. We have several current openings available in NYC and Long Island, including:

- ▶ Respite Workers
- ▶ Peer Specialists
- ▶ Naloxone Trainers
- ▶ Social Workers
- ▶ Intake Coordinators

Our benefits include flexible schedules, career growth, paid training, paid holidays and generous time off, and a generous benefits package.

Visit www.fedoforg.org/join-our-team/ for more information.

Aging in Place in Federation's Residential Housing

About 3.2 million people across New York State are ages 65 and older. As they age, nearly 9 in 10 Americans ages 50 to 80 years old say they want to remain in their homes – which is known as “Aging in Place” – according to the University of Michigan National Poll of Healthy Aging. Seniors who age in place can realize many benefits, including maintaining their independence, dignity and community connections, along with cost savings versus higher levels of care.

Since 2022, with funding from New York State, Federation has been providing the Aging in Place Program for individuals 55 and older within Federation's Non-Licensed Residential Housing Program in Nassau and Suffolk counties. “The goal of the program is to support our residents as they continue to get older so they can live as independently as possible for as long as possible, without having to transition to a higher level of care,” says Ryan Busuttill, LMSW, Director of Non-Licensed Residential Services for Federation.

The program currently serves 60 individuals, ages 55 and older, in Federation's Non-Licensed Residential Program for Nassau and Suffolk. These individuals receive two monthly visits from a case manager who helps coordinate their care and links them to personal care attendants, home health aides, community senior programs, and other resources that support daily living and combats loneliness and isolation. “The individuals we have worked with so far have been receptive and happy to have the extra support,” Mr. Busuttill says.



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