



ANNUAL REPORT • 2017



Mission Statement

Our mission is to promote a goal of self-sufficiency by broadening the minds of children, revitalizing communities, and assisting families and children in need through the provision of services and to coordinate available federal, state, local and private resources.



A Message from
Adrian Fassett
Chief Executive Officer



Dear Friends,

The Economic Opportunity Council of Suffolk, Inc. (EOC) works to mobilize an array of public-sector and private resources to help fortify our communities – and to help build lives of greater promise and self-sufficiency for more than 100,000 Suffolk County residents living in poverty.

In 2017, we proudly marked our 50th year of service to the families and children of our county. EOC's golden anniversary year culminated in a gala held September 22 at the Venetian Yacht Club in Babylon. We were proud to host David Bradley, Co-Founder and CEO of the National Community Action Foundation, as our keynote speaker.

In 2017, EOC'S workforce grew from 170 to 240 people, a 40-percent increase. Most of this growth was in the Self-Directed and Fiscal Intermediary Services program. This initiative helps people with developmental disabilities exercise greater control over their lives – and in particular, over the various forms of support and services they receive.

We carried forward our precedent-setting Charitable Bail Fund, a revolving fund assisting low-income, misdemeanor defendants. Our agency also advanced our long-standing efforts to improve healthcare delivery, battle drug abuse, provide housing services, support Veterans, and address other pressing concerns.

For example, we continued our successful partnership with Stony Brook Medicine on an innovative Medicaid Reform Initiative developed by the New York State Department of Health called the Delivery System Reform Incentive Payment program (DSRIP). EOC completed more PAM (Patient Activation Measure) surveys – surveys that determined patients' ability to handle their own medical needs – than any other partner agency.

We expanded our Health Homes program by embedding a caseworker at Brookhaven Memorial Hospital – allowing patients to seamlessly enter our Health Homes program – reducing hospital stays and thereby reducing healthcare costs.

Our Wyandanch-based, anti-violence SNUG (guns spelled backwards) program has seen great success in 2017. There was a record 165 days of no shootings and zero gang-related homicides in Wyandanch in 2017. We are also grateful to Assemblywoman Kimberly Jean-Pierre for securing a legislative grant to further enhance our SNUG program.

I am honored to continue serving as a member of the board of the National Community Action Foundation, helping to ensure that Community Action Agencies around the nation remain a priority in Washington. Locally, I was pleased to be elected to the board of the Community Development Corporation of Long Island, one of our great partner agencies.

As times change, a community's needs change, too. At EOC, we keep our ear to the ground to make sure we are providing services that best address present circumstances. We're always poised to reallocate resources so that services are being delivered effectively and efficiently.

I wish to close by extending my gratitude to EOC's highly committed staff, our management team, and Board of Directors for their vision and dedication.

Sincerely,

Adrian Fassett
Chief Executive Officer

EOC IS ABOUT PEOPLE



Leticia Rivera was first referred to Way to Grow from the Department of Labor Work Program in 2012. As a classroom assistant, she proved herself to be dedicated, trustworthy, loving, and caring. When a regular position

became available in 2015, she happily joined the staff and quickly became an intricate part of the team. Leticia strives daily to provide exceptional care and education. She loves working with new families to help them get accustomed to the center and make them feel welcomed. We have watched Leticia blossom, becoming a licensed driver, making her first car purchase, and attend college to get her Child Development Accreditation. All the while, Leticia is providing a warm, loving home for her two beautiful children as a single parent.

Maranda Cherry can't say enough good things about her experience in EOC's Leaders of the Future (LOTF) program at Brentwood West Middle School. She recalls, "I remember gaining so much wisdom by just being in the right atmosphere and having the important conversations that I couldn't have anywhere else." She added that a lot of the values and morals that are a part of her life today are a direct result of her experience with the program. "I came from a family that didn't speak about feelings," Maranda added. "Coming to LOTF and actually hearing other people and their struggles helped me understand why people do what they do. It equipped me with tools that I didn't know I needed until now. Thank you for being a part of my foundation."



When Melissa Ryan contacted EOC in 2015, she was disabled and homebound from a car accident, struggling with heroin addiction, and had serious financial issues. In addition, her relationships with family and friends had disintegrated. With the help of her EOC caseworker, Melissa is over two years sober and is more independent now that she has transportation and can regularly follow-up with her medical providers. Melissa has

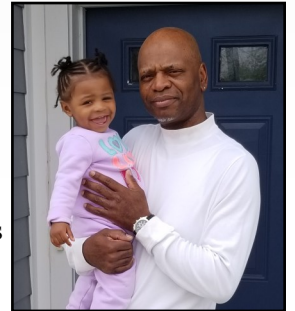
also become stable financially with the help of SSA and SNAP benefits. She has become resilient through her adversities and her personal relationships have flourished. Melissa is now especially close with her 18-year-old son. She has also started working on one of her lifelong dreams – to write a book. Melissa recently connected with longtime friends on social media, and in the process, fell in love with an old classmate through Facebook.



Lailani Gibson, a Class of 2016 Brentwood High School student, is a blossoming political activist. But she credits the Economic Opportunity Council of Suffolk's after-school program for giving her a solid foundation for growth. She writes, "Thanks so much for inspiring me all through middle and high school. I don't know where I'd be without EOC's after-school program."

Lailani is featured in a Facebook video produced by the office of U.S. Senator Bernie Sanders advocating for DACA and the DREAM Act. "I feel that for those people who want to help the best thing to do is to reach out and take those proactive steps to make that change," Lailani said in the video. She has recently been involved with Make the Road NY, the Women's March, and several other political and human rights causes. Lailani currently attends Farmingdale State College where she studies Business Management and is part of the Student Government Association.

When U.S. Army Veteran Alvin Brickers was discharged under "other than honorable conditions," he was referred to EOC of Suffolk's Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) program through the agency's partnership with Haven House. At the time Alvin was residing at one of their emergency shelters while his three daughters were in foster care because of instability at their mother's home. The SSVF team worked with the Courts, Touro Law Center, and the Empire Justice Center to help Alvin to move into his brother's home, allowing him to get his daughters out of foster care. SSVF then helped Alvin to secure permanent housing at Liberty Village, Concern for Independent Living's Amityville project for Veterans. With permanent housing now in place, Alvin is working to obtain full custody of his daughters. Alvin is gainfully employed and loves his new apartment which is close to his daughters' child care facility and job.

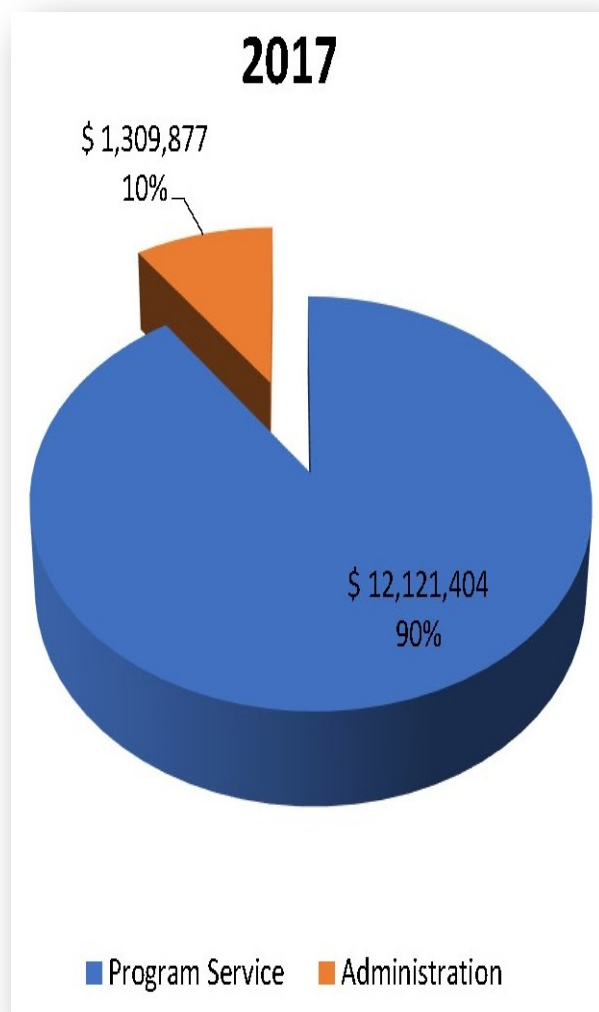


Rick*, a U.S. Army Veteran who served from 2004 to 2010, suffered a traumatic brain injury (TBI) while on active duty. After his discharge, Rick utilized the G.I. Bill to attend college but soon realized that he couldn't function well in school or work due to severe PTSD and TBI. As a result, Rick received full disability as well as SSDI. Unfortunately, while he, his wife, and three children were living in the home of another family member, the house went into foreclosure. With no one in the area to help, Rick and his family were homeless. That's when SSVF Caseworker Esther Rock (pictured) stepped in. Esther worked with Rick to reconnect him with the Northport VA Hospital to take care of his medical needs. She also secured permanent housing; an apartment in Farmingville. Rick has been attending his medical appointments regularly and is now working with a VA social worker to go back to school and re-enter the workforce.

** Name changed for confidentiality.*

FINANCIALS

		2016	2017
Assets	Current	\$2,768,074	\$2,885,522
	Non Current	\$203,892	\$177,165
	Total Assets	\$2,971,966	\$3,062,687
Liabilities & Net Assets	Current Liabilities	\$1,099,815	\$865,452
	Non Current	\$0	\$0
	Total Liabilities	\$1,099,815	\$865,452
	Net Assets	\$1,872,151	\$2,197,235
Revenues	Total Revenues	\$12,774,888	\$13,756,365
Expenses	Personnel &	\$8,177,991	\$8,762,896
	Non Personnel	\$4,335,110	\$4,668,385
	Total Expenses	\$12,513,101	\$13,431,281
	Excess of Revenue	\$261,787	\$325,084
	Net Assets 1/1	\$1,610,364	\$1,872,151
	Net Assets 12/31	\$1,872,151	\$2,197,235
Expenditures	Program Service	\$11,681,472	\$12,121,404
	Administration	\$831,629	\$1,309,877
	Total Expenses	\$12,513,101	\$13,431,281



OUR PROGRAMS

- Charitable Bail Fund Program
- Chronic Health Care Coordination
- Community Based Initiative
- Delivery System Reform Initiative Payment (DSRIP)
- Family Development
- HIV/AIDS/HIV(-) Programs
- Housing Programs
- Montauk Child Care
- Sensationally Sweet Gourmet Candy Store
- Services for People with Developmental Disabilities
- SNUG Violence Prevention
- Suffolk Family Court Children's Nursery
- Veteran Services
- Way to Grow Child Care Center
- Wyandanch Weed & Seed
- Youth and Adolescent Services

ON THE WEB

www.EOC-Suffolk.com
www.TheWayToGrow.com
www.MontaukChildCare.com
www.Sensationally-Sweet.com



2017 BY THE NUMBERS

- 4,537** Number of families served.
- 4,309** Number of families served living at or below the poverty level.
- 1,420** Number of children under 18 served.
- 1,095** Number of disabled individuals served.
- 913** Number of people served who have attended college.
- 833** Number of single-parent households served.
- 745** Number of families assisted by the food pantry.
- 229** Number of families served that were homeless.
- 43** Number of teenage parents who were provided baby items.



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

OFFICERS

CHAIRPERSON

SONDRA PALMER RANDALL

Public Appointed
Assemblyman Fred Thiele

VICE-CHAIRPERSON

FREDERICK COMBS

Community Elected
Executive Committee

TREASURER

JEROME LINDER

Private Sector
Chairperson, Audit/Finance
Committee

SECRETARY

MARK T. GAGEN, CLU, ChFC

Community Elected
Executive Committee

MEMBERS

DANIEL COPPOLA

Private Sector
Audit/Finance Committee

WILLIAM C. HUSTON

Public Appointed
Mayor Paul Pontieri
Audit/Finance Committee

ANNE STEWART

Community Elected

NADIA INIGUEZ

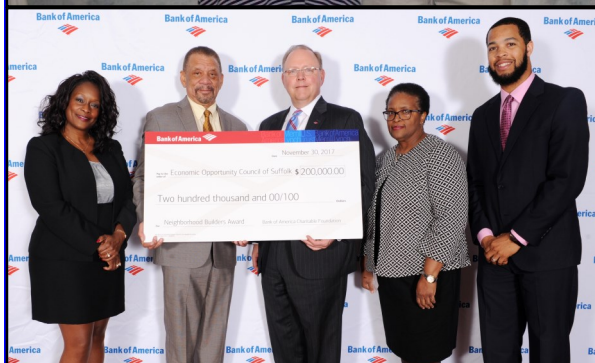
Private Sector

JASON RICHBERG

Public Appointed
Presiding Officer
Legislator DuWayne Gregory



2017 Highlights



Clockwise from top left: C.E.O. Adrian Fassett joins community leaders at National Night Out in Bellport; dignitaries honor EOC of Suffolk at its 50th Anniversary gala; C.F.O. Songhi Davis receives a "Top 100 Women" award from Long Island Business News; EOC of Suffolk accepts a \$200,000 Neighborhood Builders® grant from Bank of America; 2017 Butch Dellecave Award winners Katie Murphy of Hauppauge High School and Patrick Carter of West Islip High School.

2017 AGENCY HIGHLIGHTS

- ⇒ Our **50th Anniversary** gala was held on September 22, 2017 at the Venetian Yacht Club in Babylon. We were proud to host David Bradley, Co-Founder and CEO of the National Community Action Foundation, as our keynote speaker. Dozens of community leaders from the public and private sectors joined us for our golden anniversary celebration.
- ⇒ We received a \$200,000 grant from Bank of America as part of its **Neighborhood Builders®** grant program. Launched in 2004, Neighborhood Builders® is the nation's largest philanthropic investment in nonprofit leadership. According to Robert Isaksen, Long Island Market President of Bank of America, "We know that by investing in EOC of Suffolk, we are helping to combat the cycle of poverty by revitalizing communities and empowering individuals and families."
- ⇒ EOC of Suffolk, Inc. again hosted the **17th Annual Butch Dellecave Awards** breakfast and ceremony. Named in memory of the legendary educator, official, and coach Gaetano "Butch" Dellecave, the award is a partnership with local schools, the Butch Dellecave Foundation, and Newsday. Students were honored for their athletic, academic, and community-based achievements.
- ⇒ In collaboration with the Women Marines Association, we hosted and sponsored the **"5K 4 Fighters Race"** on Sunday, October 8, 2017, a fun event to recognize and honor the brave men and women who fought for our freedom. Proceeds from the event will assist female veterans by giving them access to the resources they need to live and work on Long Island.