



## ANNUAL REPORT 2019



### 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,

Some 108,000 people in Suffolk County live below the poverty line – and nearly ten percent of all Long Islanders use the services of a local food pantry on a weekly basis.

And as the county's designated Community Action Agency, EOC of Suffolk is here to serve our low-income neighbors.

We promote self-sufficiency by helping to revitalize communities, by operating innovative programs, and by coordinating the deployment of a range of government and private resources.

Today, with America facing serious public health challenges, our work becomes particularly important. That's because low-income people frequently face tougher health issues than the rest of society in respect to such chronic health conditions as diabetes or heart disease.

Looking back on 2019, our agency expanded our Empire State and Advantage After School Programs to work with the Patchogue-Medford and Sachem school districts. Those communities joined existing successful programs in the Bay Shore, Brentwood, Central Islip, South Country, William Floyd, and Wyandanch districts.

We received a Department of Housing and Urban Development grant to implement a Rapid Rehousing for Homeless program that delivers financial assistance and services to prevent homelessness.

And state passage of bail reform negated the need to continue the Charitable Bail Bond program EOC of Suffolk launched in 2017. We were ahead of the curve – and found ourselves in the forefront of this social justice cause.

Amid big Medicaid cuts, our organization has worked to focus our energies on those Medicaid-assisted programs that are needed most by the communities we serve.

I'm proud to continue to serve as president of the National Community Action Foundation where we fight to ensure that America's Community Action Agencies remain a federal priority.

Locally, I was appointed by Suffolk County Executive Bellone to serve on the county's Campaign Finance Board. And I continue service on the boards of the Community Development Corporation of Long Island and the Health & Welfare Council of Long Island.

And sadly, in 2019 we mourned the passing of two cherished members of the EOC of Suffolk family. We lost a beloved board member, William "Corey" Huston, widely known as a big man with a big heart.

And tragically, Health Home Care Coordinator Anastasia Fox was killed in an ATV accident while on vacation in Greece. We will miss Anastasia's personality and smile, which would light up a room.

Let me close with a message of gratitude to the staff and volunteers who work so hard to help us fulfill our critical mission.

Sincerely,

## EOC IS ABOUT PEOPLE



Gary was a U.S. Navy Veteran who after his honorable discharge had a history of chronic homelessness since January 2018. He and his wife resorted to living in their car after being evicted from their apartment. EOC's SSVF team stepped in, helped Gary obtain a HUD-VASH voucher for a one-bedroom apartment in Bay Shore, helped Gary save enough money

for his first month's rent, and assisted with the security deposit and broker fee. Gary and his wife proudly moved into their new home on May 15, 2019.

Enrolled in the Health Home Care Coordination Program due to numerous medical issues, Willie was "couch surfing" and staying on the streets and in shelters. He received a Section 8 voucher 30 years ago but landed into some legal trouble, losing his voucher, apartment, and job. When EOC's Care Coordination team entered the picture, they were able to help Willie obtain new housing, in



addition to addressing his numerous health conditions and transportation needs. Willie continues to work with EOC's Care Coordination team to maintain his physical health and successful housing status.



Wyandanch 10th grader Justin Brooks was devastated when his grandfather, a smoker, died of lung cancer. Soon after his father, also a smoker, got sick with lung cancer, but after a painful series of chemo treatments, pulled through.

These two life-changing events have motivated Justin to want to pursue a career in the medical field to help find a cure for cancer. Justin credits EOC's Leaders of the Future club (LOTF) as an inspiration. They raised more than \$200 for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society (twice the average high school) and were presented with the Silver Champion pennant! And at the LOTF awards, Justin was honored with the Ralph Etchepare award. "Wow, I am being recognized for being a leader, showing ambition and helping others in my school and community!" Justin said. We wish Justin much luck in his future endeavors.

In 2017, Prevention Services of Long Island's (PSLI) first enrollment was an HIV+ client who had been off HIV medicine for nine years, had Pott's Disease (spinal TB), and a viral load of over 850k.

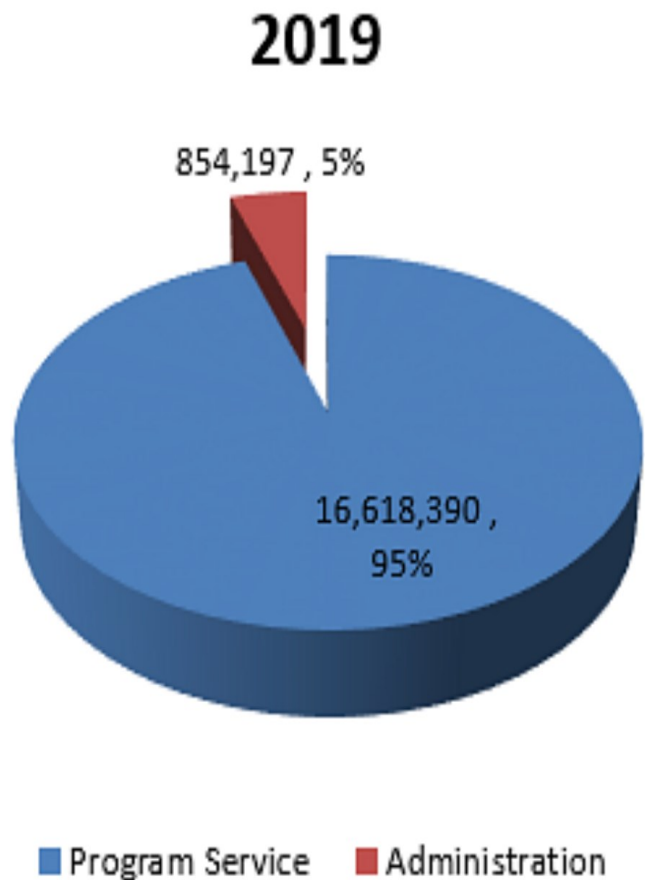
EOC immediately began peer services and made linkages to primary care and an infectious disease specialist. Poor medication adherence worsened his condition, forcing him into a nursing facility. An EOC peer worker visited the client and was successful in developing strategies for the client to become active in their own healthcare. Today, the client graduated from PSLI, moved to his own apartment, and has a job that allowed him to purchase a car. The client largely attributes his success to support from EOC's PSLI peer navigation and support services. The most important thing, he says, was being able to speak with someone who could genuinely relate to his situation and share how they overcame their own obstacles.





# FINANCIALS

		2018	2019
<b>Assets</b>	Current	\$3,009,159	\$4,211,912
	Non Current	\$153,615	\$132,945
	Total Assets	\$3,162,774	\$4,344,857
<b>Liabilities &amp; Net Assets</b>	Current Liabilities	\$856,559	\$1,843,544
	Non Current	\$0	\$0
	Total Liabilities	\$856,559	\$1,843,544
	Net Assets	\$2,306,215	\$2,501,313
<b>Revenues</b>	Total Revenues	\$15,641,254	\$17,667,685
<b>Expenses</b>	Personnel & Fringe	\$10,304,060	\$11,381,675
	Non Personnel	\$5,228,214	\$6,090,912
	Total Expenses	\$15,532,274	\$17,472,587
	Excess of Revenue	\$108,980	\$195,098
	Net Assets 1/1		\$2,306,215
	Net Assets 12/31	\$2,306,215	\$2,501,313
<b>Expenditures</b>	Program Service	\$14,716,262	\$16,618,390
	Administration	\$816,012	\$854,197
	Total Expenses	\$15,532,274	\$17,472,587



## OUR PROGRAMS

- Chronic Health Care Coordination
- Community Based Initiative
- Credible Messenger Initiative
- Delivery System Reform Initiative Payment (DSRIP)
- Family Development
- HIV/AIDS/HIV(-) Programs
- Housing Programs
- Montauk Child Care
- Prevention Services of Long Island
- 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](http://www.EOC-Suffolk.com)  
[www.TheWayToGrow.com](http://www.TheWayToGrow.com)  
[www.MontaukChildCare.org](http://www.MontaukChildCare.org)



## 2019 BY THE NUMBERS

**4,851** Number of families served.

**3,817** Number of families served living at or below the poverty level.

**1,621** Number of children under 18 served.

**1,305** Number of disabled individuals served.

**901** Number of people served who have attended college.

**829** Number of single-parent households served.

**313** Number of families assisted by the food pantry.

**326** Number of families served that were homeless.

**55** 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  
Fundraising Committee

**LIZBETH CARRILLO**

Public Appointed  
Mayor Paul Pontieri

**ANNE STEWART**

Community Elected  
Fundraising Committee

**DONNA PEDONE**

Private Sector

**LEG. JASON RICHBERG**

Publicly Appointed  
Babylon Councilman  
DuWayne Gregory

**CHARLES RANDALL**

Ex-Officio



## 2019 Highlights



Clockwise from top left: Newfield High School senior Loui Chen and Commack High School senior Katherine Kelly were honored with the 2019 Butch Dellecave Award; Peer Navigator Augustine Sciabarassi was a guest speaker at the 7th International Conference on HIV/AIDS, STDs and STIs.

SNUG Staff were congratulated on attaining 365 consecutive days of no shootings in Wyandanch from May 2018 to May 2019; Newsday featured Halim Kaygisiz, our Director of Health Outreach Services, who after serving time went on to work for EOC of Suffolk and now helps low-income Long Islanders find services they need; StaceyAnn Castro-Tapler, an Employment Specialist with our SSVF program, was appointed to the Suffolk County Women Veterans Advisory Board. She is pictured with Suffolk County Executive Steve Bellone at the annual 5K for Fighters race.

## 2019 AGENCY HIGHLIGHTS

- ⇒ We expanded our Empire State and Advantage After School Programs to work with the Patchogue-Medford and Sachem school districts. Those communities joined existing successful programs in the Bay Shore, Brentwood, Central Islip, South Country, William Floyd, and Wyandanch schools.
- ⇒ To help make the law enforcement workforce to better reflect the diversity of the county, EOC of Suffolk covered the cost of the \$125 exam fee for the Suffolk County Police Department test for applicants with incomes that are at or below 120 percent of the poverty level.
- ⇒ We received a Department of Housing and Urban Development grant to implement a Rapid Rehousing for Homeless program that delivers financial assistance and services to prevent homelessness. Case management helps stabilize people once housed, by connecting them to services and supports and helping people navigate barriers to maintaining housing.
- ⇒ "Teen Talk About Prevention & Wellness: HIV, Pregnancy, STDs, and Violence" featured presentations by the State Police, Planned Parenthood, and the Suffolk County Office of Minority Health. The program, held at the Wyandanch Library, was facilitated by Student Peer Educators from EOC of Suffolk's Leaders of the Future club.
- ⇒ Our innovative Charitable Bail Fund Program was deemed obsolete with the passage in 2019 of bail reform legislation in New York State for people accused of misdemeanors and nonviolent crimes.
- ⇒ Our agency's C.E.O., Adrian Fassett, participated in a "Critical Town Hall Meeting" along with Erase Racism, the NAACP, and the Urban League of Long Island to address the findings in a Newsday Investigative Report "Long Island Divided" about racial discrimination in housing.