

Helping People. Changing Lives.

# **ANNUAL REPORT 2022**



**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,

As the CEO of the Economic Opportunity Council of Suffolk, I am pleased to share our accomplishments in 2022, a year marked by progress and adaptation. Though COVID-19 continued to impact our world, we moved forward with resilience and determination.

Early in 2022, we continued to maintain strict COVID-19 safety protocols, allowing us to return all operations to pre-pandemic levels by the year's end. I am proud to report that our diligent adherence to these protocols ensured that no staff members were hospitalized during the pandemic.

In response to an Executive Order declaring a statewide emergency on gun violence, EOC of Suffolk was named lead agency on a significant state grant to bolster youth engagement and development programs for at-risk youths ages 14 to 21 in areas with high gun violence levels. From sports to arts and community engagement, these programs provided safe, unique opportunities for our youth and encourage home-grown solutions to violence. We helped ensure that all partnered organizations met the stringent requirements, while striving to make Suffolk County a safer place for our future generations.

In 2022, we expanded our services for individuals with developmental disabilities to all five New York City boroughs, in addition to our Long Island services. Our selection for this expansion highlights our past success working with this vital and vulnerable population.

I was honored to continue my role as president of the National Community Action Foundation and locally as vice-chair of the Health & Welfare Council of Long Island. In addition, I serve on the boards of the Community Development Corporation of Long Island, the Suffolk County Workforce Investment Board, and the Patchogue Business Improvement District.

I extend my heartfelt appreciation to the EOC of Suffolk staff, whose unwavering dedication and creativity in delivering our services and programs have made a lasting impact on the communities we serve.

Together, we look forward to continued growth and success in the years to come.

Sincerely,

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ADRIAN FASSETT Chief Executive Officer

### FROM CHAINS TO CHANGE: TEENS SPUR PROGRESS WITH BICYCLE REPAIR INITIATIVE

The Bicycle Refurbishing Project began with 10 eighth grade boys from Brentwood North Middle School who recognized a need in their community. "We use bikes to get around, but chains pop, tires go flat, and we don't know how to fix them. We don't even have a bike shop in our community."

The boys connected with Phil Ryan of Bike Cave in Commack, who taught them how to repair and assemble bicycles. As a result, they collected, refurbished, and distributed over 50 bikes to young people in Brentwood.

The young men did such a great job that the Economic Opportunity Council of Suffolk was able to provide each one of the boys their very own brand-new bicycle.



## MAKING CHILDCARE ACCESSIBLE IN SUFFOLK

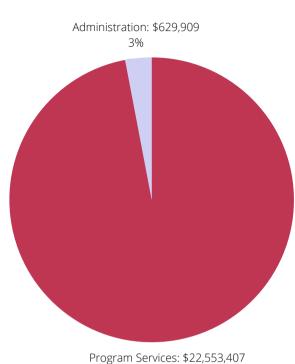
We were able to substantially increase access to affordable childcare for low and middleincome families through a New York State childcare subsidy program. It raised the income eligibility limit to 300 percent of the federal poverty level from the earlier 200 percent.

A robust childcare system is fundamental to a strong economy. With the post-pandemic return to office work, the need for quality, reliable childcare is more critical than ever. The EOC of Suffolk's Way to Grow Child Care Learning Center in East Patchogue stands as a testament to this, providing a safe and nurturing environment for children while parents engage in their careers.

This expansion was facilitated by the injection of an additional \$7 billion into childcare funding, significantly reducing childcare costs for eligible families and offers a new path forward for parents, particularly mothers. This not only strengthens the economy but also ensures the well-being of the next generation.

# FINANCIALS

|                            |                     | 2021       | 2022       |
|----------------------------|---------------------|------------|------------|
| Assets                     | Current             | 6,114,125  | 6,712,660  |
|                            | Non Current         | 96,216     | 6,282,573  |
|                            | Total Assets        | 6,210,341  | 12,995,233 |
| Liabilities and Net Assets | Current Liabilities | 2,305,937  | 3,004,356  |
|                            | Non Current         | -          | 5,526,664  |
|                            | Total Liabilities   | 2,305,937  | 8,531,020  |
|                            | Net Assets          | 3,904,404  | 4,464,213  |
| Revenues                   | Total Revenues      | 19,121,694 | 23,743,125 |
| Expenses                   | Personnel & Fringe  | 10,759,507 | 13,560,341 |
|                            | Non Personnel       | 7,809,701  | 9,622,975  |
|                            | Total Expenses      | 18,569,208 | 23,183,316 |
|                            | Excess of Revenue   | 552,486    | 559,809    |
|                            | Net Assets 1/1      | 3,904,404  | 3,904,404  |
|                            | Net Assetts 12/31   | 3,904,404  | 4,464,213  |
|                            |                     |            |            |
| Expenditures               | Program Service     | 17,950,340 | 22,553,407 |
|                            | Administration      | 618,868    | 629,909    |
|                            | Total Expenses      | 18,569,208 | 23,183,316 |



rogram Services: \$22,553,40 97%

### **OUR PROGRAMS**

- Chronic Health Care Coordination
- Community Based Initiative
- Corporate Compliance Program
- Credible Messenger Program
- Emergency Assistance Program
- Family Development Programs
- HIV/AIDS/HIV(-) Services
- Housing Programs
- HUD COC Rapid Rehousing Program
- Montauk Childcare
- Services for People with Developmental Disabilities
- SNUG Violence Prevention
- Suffolk Family Court Children's Nursery
- Supportive Services for Veteran Families
- Way to Grow Childcare Center
- Wyandanch Weed and Seed
- Youth and Adolescent Services

### **ON THE WEB**

www.EOC-Suffolk.com www.TheWayToGrow.com www.MontaukChildCare.org



## **2022 BY THE NUMBERS**

- **4,103** Number of individuals served.
- 3,668 Number of households served.
- 3,474 Number of families served living at or below the poverty level.
- **1,814** Number of children under 18 served.
  - 975 Number of disabled individuals served.
  - 911 Number of single-parent households served.
  - 742 Number of people served who have attended college.
  - **264** Number of families served that were homeless.
  - 223 Number of veterans served.
  - **96** Number of families assisted by the food pantry.
  - 45 Number of pregnant and parenting adolescents served.

# JEROME J. LINDER BOARD ROOM

In memory of our long-time board member who passed away earlier this year, we officially renamed the board room at our Patchogue office the "Jerome J. Linder Board Room."



A father of nine, grandfather of 20, and great-grandfather of seven, Jerry is dearly remembered as a man of love, kindness, and faith in action. He was also a proud veteran of the Army National Guard.



### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

#### OFFICERS

CHAIRPERSON SONDRA PALMER RANDALL Public Appointed Assemblyman Fred Thiele

> VICE-CHAIRPERSON FREDERICK COMBS Community Elected Executive Committee

TREASURER DANIEL COPPOLA Private Sector Chairperson, Audit/Finance Committee

SECRETARY MARK T. GAGEN, CLU, ChFC Community Elected Executive Committee

### MEMBERS

ANNE STEWART Community Elected

#### LIZBETH CARRILLO Public Appointed

Public Appointed Mayor Paul Pontieri

#### MONICA BYNOE

Publicly Appointed Suffolk County Legislator Jason Richberg

> JANICE EULAU Private Sector

JOSEPH ANIDI Private Sector

CHARLES RANDALL Ex-Officio



Longwood SEPTO Resource Fair and Family Fun Day; Leveraging CSBG discretionary funds, we provided over 100 backpacks filled with essential school supplies to needy schoolchildren; We organized a Baltimore-area college tour for 38 Bellport and Brentwood high school students. They visited the University of Maryland, York College, Lincoln University College, and Towson University while also having some fun bowling, dining, gokarting, and sightseeing in nearby Washington, DC.

Hauppauge and Ava Lily Sumwalt of Riverhead; Our

Targeted Prevention staff recently attended the



## **2022 AGENCY HIGHLIGHTS**

- In 2022, our agency made significant strides towards strengthening our identity and enhancing our public perception by implementing a comprehensive branding policy, ensuring a consistent, coherent, and impactful presence across all our interactions and communications.
- In a noteworthy achievement for our agency, Quality Assurance Manager Julia Adamo secured certification as a ROMA Implementor in 2022, further reinforcing our commitment to resultsoriented management and accountability, and enhancing our capacity to deliver high-quality, impactful services.
- Under the Stabilization Round 2, our Emergency Assistance Program, financed by the federal Community Service Block Grant (CSBG) via the CARES Act, offered critical financial aid in 2022 to eligible Suffolk County residents impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. It covered expenses such as rent arrears, first month's rent, broker's fees, security deposits, mortgage arrears, utility bills, and other major expenses to those that were able to demonstrate sustainable future income.
- In a commendable collaboration with the Brentwood School District's North Middle School, we instituted a robust Social Emotional Learning (SEL) program in 2022, emphasizing self-love and self-esteem among students through curricular activities and exercises focused on key areas such as belonging, curiosity, friendship, kindness, confidence, courage, and hope.