

HISPANIC COUNSELING CENTER

48th Annual
GALA

Celebrating 48 Years of Opening Doors to the Future
for Long Island Children and Families



September 25, 2025
Crest Hollow Country Club
Woodbury, New York



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WELCOME TO
HISPANIC COUNSELING CENTER'S

48th Annual
GALA

Celebrating 48 Years of Opening Doors to the Future
for Long Island Children and Families



HONORING

STANLEY M. BERGMAN

*Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer
Henry Schein, Inc.*

BERGMAN FAMILY CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

JAMES P. LENTINI, D.M.A.

*President
Molloy University*



A MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD PRESIDENT



Welcome, and thank you for joining us today to celebrate the extraordinary accomplishments of our three distinguished Honorees: the Bergman Family Charitable Foundation; James B. Lentini, D.M.A. President, Molloy University; and Stanley M. Bergman, Chairman of the Board and CEO, Henry Schein.

You will learn more about our honorees during the program but I will briefly highlight facts about each honoree. The Bergman Family Charitable Foundation, led by Mr. Stanley Bergman, Dr. Marion Bergman and their family, is an important supporter of organizations fostering the arts, higher education, cultural diversity and grassroots health care and sustainable entrepreneurial economic development initiatives in the United States, Africa and other developing regions of the world. President

Lentini, in addition to leading Molloy University, is also an award-winning composer and classical guitarist, and a voting member of the Recording Academy's Grammy Awards. Stanley M. Bergman, Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer of Henry Schein Inc., a Fortune 500 company with locations in more than 33 nations and territories world-wide, is a recipient of the Ellis Island Medal of Honor and the 2017 CEO of the Year Award by *Chief Executive Magazine*.

This evening we also recognize the accomplishments of the many programs and services of HCC, with special recognition of all the staff of the Hispanic Counseling Center, led by CEO Claudia Boyle, LMHC. We also recognize and celebrate the many other people who make HCC special: its generous supporters, its volunteers, and its Board and Fundraising Committee.

It has been an honor and a privilege to serve as an HCC Board Member for the past four years, and now as recently elected Board President. You may not be aware, but HCC's annual gala is the agency's principal fundraising event. Your attendance and support this evening help make it possible for HCC to continue to provide its important programs and services to the Long Island community.

In closing, I would like to thank the Board of Directors and the Fundraising Committee for their endless support and commitment to this event. Many thanks are also extended to everyone—Board members, the Gala Committee, and HCC staff—for giving their time and energy in planning this event.

Thank you again for being with us, and please enjoy this beautiful evening!

Yesenia Galeas-Vasquez

Board President



A MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



It is with pride and gratitude that I welcome you to the 48th Annual Fundraising Gala. This special evening recognizes and celebrates HCC's 2025 honorees who inspire us through their dedication, leadership, and unwavering commitment to their respective fields. It is a privilege to honor such extraordinary partners whose vision strengthens communities, near and far. Please take a minute to learn more about each honoree in this journal.

This evening also celebrates nearly five decades of HCC providing services to the Long Island community and reaffirms HCC's enduring mission: to provide compassionate, culturally sensitive programs that uplift all whom we serve. Over nearly 50 years, HCC's programs and services have grown

to meet emerging needs of individuals and families across Long Island. Today, HCC's programs span behavioral health, counseling, family support services, youth programs, education, and advocacy—services that reflect HCC's commitment to meet the evolving needs of the community.

HCC's progress has been strengthened by the many partnerships we have built with community leaders, organizations, and institutions, many of whom are with us this evening. Many thanks to each of our partners who help HCC broaden its reach. HCC looks forward to building and strengthening these collaborations and partnerships for our mutual benefit.

Our work would not be possible without the dedication of the HCC staff, whose passion is evident in every service we provide; the HCC Board of Directors, whose steadfast guidance strengthens our foundation; and most of all, the clients, whose courage and resilience inspire us each day. Each of you is an essential part of HCC's story. I am grateful to each one of you for your trust and partnership.

As we celebrate this 48th anniversary, we look to the promise of tomorrow—with optimism and determination, to foster hope, promote well-being, and create pathways to brighter futures for generations to come. On behalf of HCC, many thanks again to each of you, for being with us this evening to celebrate our accomplished honorees!

Claudia M. Boyle, LMHC
Chief Executive Officer



A MESSAGE FROM THE GALA FUNDRAISING CHAIR



Welcome to an evening of great celebration! Tonight, we applaud the accomplishments of our three exceptional Honorees, as well as celebrate the legacy of 48 years of exemplary service by the Hispanic Counseling Center.

It is a pleasure to serve as Chairperson of the 48th Annual HCC Gala. My involvement as a volunteer for the Hispanic Counseling Center is a most rewarding and fulfilling experience. I am humbled and honored to volunteer for this extraordinary organization which provides such needed and invaluable services to the Long Island community. I hold the highest regard for CEO, Claudia Boyle, and the entire HCC staff, all of whom work on a daily basis to make miracles, big and small, happen at this wonderful agency.

The Annual Gala is the agency's principal fundraising event of the year, but it is so much more: it is an opportunity to recognize and celebrate all of the people who make HCC special: its generous supporters, as well as its special staff members, and volunteers.

I would like to thank the Gala Committee for their tireless support and commitment to this event. Their willingness and responsiveness to support the Gala is remarkable, and most appreciated, and has made my job as Gala Chairperson an easy one. Many, many thanks are extended to everyone for giving of their time and energy in planning for this event.

In closing, I would like to thank the many sponsors and supporters of this Gala whose generosity is helping to assure that the work of the Hispanic Counseling Center continues and thrives. Please know that your support is greatly appreciated and is put to excellent use in the programs and services of the HCC.

Please enjoy this wonderful evening! Thank you for being part of the 48th Annual HCC Gala!

Nanette Malebranche

Gala Fundraising Chair



MISSION STATEMENT AND ORGANIZATION PROFILE

The mission of the Hispanic Counseling Center is to enhance the strengths of Long Island's families and children through bilingual, bicultural counseling, prevention, vocational, and educational services to enrich their lives, foster economic independence, and nurture dreams for the generations to come.

The Hispanic Counseling Center (HCC) is a multi-service agency with culturally competent, fully bilingual/bicultural treatment and prevention services for chemical dependency, mental illness, and youth and family services. The agency was established in 1977 by the Nassau County Department of Drug and Alcohol Addiction to provide substance abuse services to a growing Latino population in Nassau County. Services are available to anyone, regardless of race, religion, ethnicity, or economic status; no one in need is turned away due to an inability to pay or for lack of insurance. Programs include Mental Health; Chemical Dependency; Youth and Family Services; Child and Family Respite Support Services; Supported Housing for the Mentally Ill; Domestic Violence Prevention; Teen Drop-In Center; and Mental Health Programs for People with HIV/AIDS.

Since its inception, HCC has grown from one program and four staff in a 600 square foot rental office, to ownership of a 38,000 square foot modern facility with 17 programs and a staff of 90 serving over 1,850 clients monthly in 2025.

HCC has the proud distinction of being the only agency in the region which is licensed by both the NY State Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services (OASAS) and the NY State Office of Mental Health (OMH) to provide bilingual, bicultural behavioral health services. In 1986 HCC was licensed by OASAS to provide substance abuse treatment, prevention, and education services, and alcohol abuse treatment. In 1990, HCC was licensed by OMH to operate the first bilingual/bicultural mental health outpatient treatment clinic in Nassau County.

HCC's current budget is just over \$9.3 million, with nearly half of the budget designated for mandated and contracted services as part of New York State funding to the agency, for the provision of mental health and chemical dependency services. Referrals are made to HCC in a variety of ways: the agency works closely with local hospitals and mental health outpatient clinics which refer patients under their care; with Nassau County agencies including the Department of Social Services, Child Protection Services, Family Court, the District Court, and the Probation Department; other social service agencies; local school districts including Freeport, Hempstead, Mineola, Uniondale, and Westbury; with churches and religious institutions, and with attorneys and medical providers.

HCC is well recognized in the Long Island community and throughout New York State. Agency programs demonstrate a high utilization and completion rate; the agency consistently meets funders' expectations; and the agency has historically been re-licensed for the maximum length of time. In addition to being recognized by regulating agencies and other social service providers, HCC is held in high regard by its target audience, the Hispanic and minority community population. As it has been over the past 48 years of service to Long Island, the Hispanic Counseling Center continues to be a beacon of hope for those in need.



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The HCC Board of Directors
proudly congratulates the
2025 Gala Honorees

STANLEY M. BERGMAN

Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer
Henry Schein, Inc.

BERGMAN FAMILY CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

JAMES P. LENTINI, D.M.A.

President
Molloy University

*The Board of Directors
Hispanic Counseling Center Inc.*



HCC 48th ANNUAL GALA





Team Schein would like to thank the



for honoring Henry Schein and our Chairman and CEO

Stan Bergman

We are **honored** to work with an organization that has broad and meaningful impact. HCC's commitment to **empowering** Long Island families is inspiring and we are pleased to **support your important work**.

As Team Schein, we remain **committed to caring** for our community and **partnering** with organizations that share our **values**.



CONGRATULATIONS ON TONIGHT'S EVENT
AND TO ALL HONOREES

HCC 48th ANNUAL GALA HONOREE SPONSOR





GALA HONOREE



STANLEY M. BERGMAN

Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer
Henry Schein, Inc.

Since 1989, Stanley M. Bergman has been Chairman of the Board and CEO of Henry Schein, Inc., a Fortune 500® company and the world's largest provider of health care products and services to office-based dental and medical practitioners, with more than 25,000 Team Schein Members worldwide and operations or affiliates in 33 countries and territories. In 2024, the Company's sales reached \$12.7 billion. Henry Schein has earned a top score on the Human Rights Campaign Foundation's Corporate Equality Index since 2015.

Mr. Bergman serves as a board member or advisor for numerous institutions including: as Chair, Dean's Strategic Advisory Council, New York University College of Dentistry; Chairman of the Board, the University of the Witwatersrand Fund; Governor and Former Co-Chair, Global Health & Healthcare Governors Community, World Economic Forum; and Director Emeritus, Board of Overseers, Penn Dental Medicine. Mr. Bergman is an honorary member of the American Dental Association and the Alpha Omega International Dental Society. Mr. Bergman is a recipient of the Ellis Island Medal of Honor; the *CR Magazine* Corporate Responsibility Lifetime Achievement Award; the 2017 CEO of the Year award by *Chief Executive Magazine*, the National Association of Wholesaler-Distributors (NAW) Dirk Van Dongen Lifetime Achievement Award; Honorary Doctorates from The University of the Witwatersrand, Western University of Health Sciences, Hofstra University, A.T. Still University's Arizona School of Dentistry and Oral Health, Case Western Reserve University, Farmingdale State College (SUNY), and The Hebrew University of Jerusalem; and Honorary Fellowship from King's College London - Dental Institute and the International College of Dentists.

Stanley and Dr. Marion Bergman and their family are active supporters of organizations fostering the arts, higher education, and cultural diversity, as well as grassroots health care and sustainable entrepreneurial economic development initiatives in the United States, Africa, and other developing regions of the world.

Mr. Bergman is a graduate of The University of the Witwatersrand in South Africa and is a South African Chartered Accountant and a NYS Certified Public Accountant.

The Bergman family
is pleased to celebrate
the Hispanic Counseling Center's vital work
to provide bilingual, bicultural counseling, vocational
and educational services to enrich lives and
nurture dreams for generations of
Long Island's families and children.



It is a great honor to be recognized alongside

JAMES P. LENTINI, D.M.A.
PRESIDENT, MOLLOY UNIVERSITY

Your dedication to cultivating service-minded
leadership and empowering individuals
and communities to create meaningful
change is truly inspiring.



**Stan and Marion Bergman
and Family**

HCC 48th ANNUAL GALA HONOREE SPONSOR





GALA HONOREE

BERGMAN FAMILY CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

THE STANLEY, MARION, PAUL AND EDWARD BERGMAN FAMILY FOUNDATION

The Bergman family actively supports organizations fostering the arts, higher education, cultural enrichment, grassroots healthcare and sustainable entrepreneurial economic development initiatives in the United States, Africa and other developing regions of the world. Stanley, Marion, Paul and Eddie all serve as board members or advisors for numerous university and non-profit institutions.

Since 1989, Stanley Bergman has been Chairman of the Board and CEO of Henry Schein, Inc., a Fortune 500® company and the world's largest provider of health care products and services to office-based dental and medical practitioners, with more than 26,000 Team Schein Members and operations or affiliates in 33 countries. Henry Schein has been a Fortune World's Most Admired Company for more than two decades, and was recently honored as a Fortune Change the World Company.

Dr. Marion Bergman practiced Pulmonary Medicine and Critical Care for 33 years, including serving as President of the medical staff of Brookhaven Memorial Hospital Medical Center and its Medical Director of Respiratory Care Services. Marion now devotes considerable time and energy to rural health and development projects in the developing world. She directs Global Healthcare projects for MCW Global (Miracle Corners of the World), and in this capacity has played a leadership role in improving the state of oral health and building the capacity of health professionals in Tanzania and other parts of Africa.

Eddie Bergman is President of Innovative Development Services (IDS), a firm focusing on New York City real estate management and global hospitality marketing. Eddie is also CEO of Proxima Hospitality Group, a restaurant management company which owns Hill and Bay (Murray Hill, NYC). In 1999, Eddie co-founded and currently serves as President of the Board of MCW Global (Miracle Corners of the World), an NGO with a vision for communities around the world to achieve greater levels of education, improved health, and increased economic security.

Paul Bergman is Executive Chairman at Advancing Eco Agriculture. Paul has dedicated his career to leading dynamic global agriculture and food companies in their development into sector leaders, across Asia, Latin America, North America, and Africa, including significant work in the international plant nutrition sector. Prior to joining Advancing Eco Agriculture, Paul was an executive at Fertilaqua, a leading plant nutrition company in Brazil, where he remains a board member through his role as advisor to Aqua Capital, a South American private equity fund focused on agribusiness and food.



MOLLOY UNIVERSITY

proudly celebrates these visionary leaders who inspire excellence across industries and communities.

Congratulations to our esteemed President,
Dr. James Lentini,
whose leadership continues to elevate Molloy University's mission of academic distinction, innovation, and service.

and
Stanley M. Bergman,
Chairman of the Board and CEO of Henry Schein, Inc.,
whose commitment to advancing healthcare and education have made a lasting difference, as evidenced by the good work of
The Bergman Family Charitable Foundation.

We honor your achievements.

Molloy University, an independent Catholic university based in Rockville Centre, Long Island, New York, was founded in 1955. The University serves a student population of approximately 5,000 undergraduate and graduate students. Molloy students can earn degrees in a variety of outstanding academic programs, including nursing, business, education, social work, music therapy and many more.

Founded by the Dominican Sisters of Amityville.

www.molloy.edu
1000 Hempstead Ave.,
Rockville Centre, NY 11570



**MOLLOY
UNIVERSITY**

HCC 48th ANNUAL GALA HONOREE SPONSOR





GALA HONOREE



JAMES P. LENTINI, D.M.A.

President
Molloy University

James Lentini, D.M.A., began his appointment as Molloy University's seventh president in June 2020. Under his leadership and vision, Molloy has moved from college to university status, achieved record enrollment numbers, and earned status as a Hispanic Serving Institution (HSI). Dr. Lentini led the development of Molloy's new strategic plan, focused on meeting the needs the New York metropolitan region for traditional college goers and adult learners. In partnership with businesses and healthcare systems, Molloy has developed high-demand workforce development programs to augment traditional academic pathways.

Prior to his appointment at Molloy, Dr. Lentini served as Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost at Oakland University, where he played a key role in the establishment of a new medical school. As professor of music at Wayne State University in his hometown of Detroit, Michigan, he created a highly successful degree program in Music Technology. Dr. Lentini also served as Dean of the School of Creative arts at Miami University and as Founding Dean of the College of Arts and Communication at The College of New Jersey.

In addition to his executive leadership, Dr. Lentini is an internationally recognized composer. He is a recipient of the Andrés Segovia International Composition Prize, among many accolades. Pulitzer Prize panelist Howard Reich of the *Chicago Tribune* named Dr. Lentini's recording entitled "Through Time and Place" one of the Best Classical Recordings of the Year for 2020.

Dr. Lentini currently serves as a Board member of the Long Island Association. He is First Vice Chair for the Commission on Independent Colleges and Universities and is the Chair of the Dominican Higher Education Council. Dr. Lentini was named to a list of "Power 25 in Education" by *Long Island Business News* in 2020 and was included on the *Long Island Press* "Power List" in 2021 and 2022.



HISPANIC COUNSELING CENTER, INC.

- 1977** The Hispanic Counseling Center is established by the Nassau County Department of Drug and Alcohol Addiction to provide substance abuse treatment services to growing Hispanic population in Nassau County
- 1979** Nassau County Youth Board awards funding for prevention, education, and counseling services to limited English speaking youth and families
- 1986** HCC is licensed by New York State to become first bilingual, bicultural alcohol and drug rehabilitation clinic in Nassau County
- 1987** Summer Program begins for children ages 7-12
- 1989** After school homework help and tutoring sessions are available to all school age children.
- 1992** HCC awarded license from New York State for mental health outpatient clinic
- 1993** Supported Housing Program inaugurated for mentally ill clients in need of housing
- 1994** English as a Second Language Program available to all HCC clients
- 1995** Respite Program established to provide services for children having serious emotional problems
- 1996** Domestic Violence Program created to fill a gap in services for victims and perpetrators
- 1998** HCBS Waiver Program established to provide in-home services to developmentally disabled adults and children
Literacy Program instituted to teach adults how to read and write in Spanish
Early Intervention Program created to provide social work services at HCC and in the home
- 1999** Medicaid Service Coordination Program begins for developmentally disabled adults and children to provide case management to live at home rather than an institutional setting
- 2001** Ryan White Mental Health Program begins for people with HIV/AIDS
- 2003** HCC moves to 344 Fulton Avenue, Hempstead, the new building owned by the agency
Teen Drop-In Center begins
- 2008** HCC purchases 336 Fulton Avenue, Hempstead, to expand the Mental Health program



TIMELINE AND HISTORY

- 2011** Kinship program begins to provide support to grandparents/caregivers of children whose parents are incarcerated, deported or hospitalized
- 2012** Project Hope starts after Super Storm Sandy to provide crisis counseling
- 2014** Super Storm Sandy Program provides multiservice support to storm victims
- 2017** Care Coordination to provide case management
Mental Health Clinic Crisis Stabilization Services begins, to provide intensive services
Empire State After-School Program begins, to provide after school and Saturday academic and counseling support to youth and their parents
Partners in Prevention begins, to provide evidence-based drug prevention services
- 2018** Community Health Connections Program begins, for residents of the Village of Hempstead
- 2019** Partnerships established with LI Cares Kids Cafe and Hofstra University STEM Program
- 2020** HCC Suffolk County Mental Health Clinic opens in Bay Shore
Regional Prevention and Support Services in partnership with Northwell Health begins, to provide intensive case management to decrease the risk of HIV infection
Project Hope begins, to provide COVID-19 related crisis counseling and referrals
Nassau Mental Health Clinic expands services for children affected by domestic violence with funding from Mother Cabrini Health Foundation
- 2021** State Opioid Response II Program begins, a multi-year prevention program in partnership with AHN and other agencies and organizations
- 2022** COMHPS Program evolves from NY Project Hope
- 2023** HSD Middle School After-School Program begins with funding from the Mother Cabrini Foundation to provide academic and counseling support
- 2024** The Amplify partnership between HCC and Northwell Health seeks to enhance mental health awareness through training and support for teens and adults
HSD Middle School After-School Program continues with funding from the U.S. Department of Education to provide academic and counseling support



HCC SERVICES AND PROGRAMS AT A GLANCE

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH PROGRAMS

Mental Health Outpatient Clinic

Treatment services for children ages five and older, adolescents, adults, seniors, and families:

- Individual, family, and group therapy
- Psychiatric evaluations
- Medication management
- Services for victims and children exposed to domestic violence

State Opioid Response (SOR) IV Program

Program for at risk youth and their families to increase awareness of opioid and substance use problems:

- Evidence-based prevention workshops
- Prevention information and referrals
- Tools and strategies to avoid drug use

Substance Use Outpatient Program

Treatment services for individuals recovering from drug and alcohol related problems:

- Individual, family, and group counseling
- Crisis and family intervention
- Psycho-educational series
- Psychiatric evaluations, toxicology exams, and medical screenings
- Prevention services and education

Ryan White Mental Health Program

Provides treatment services for those who are affected by HIV/AIDS and are not eligible for other insurance:

- Individual and family counseling
- Referrals for evaluation and medication

Community Mental Health Promotion and Support (COMHPS)

Provides short-term counseling in order to establish, maintain, and improve individual and community mental health and wellness:

- Free and confidential
- Referrals to licensed MH professionals
- Brief counseling and emotional support
- Individual and group support

Domestic Violence Batterer's Intervention Program

Serves individuals who are referred by courts, child welfare agencies, and other sources due to charges stemming from domestic violence and child abuse:

- Twenty-six week psycho-educational program to reduce potential for family violence
- Education on legal implications and the effect of violence on family members

SUPPORT SERVICES PROGRAMS

Health Home Care Coordination for Adults

Provides case management services to adults with serious behavioral and/or physical issues:

- Helps individuals navigate the health care system
- Services include support for financial, health, housing, and educational needs

Regional Prevention and Support Services Initiative

Provides services to individuals who are at risk of, or are living with HIV/AIDS:

- HIV/STI/Hep-C prevention and support
- PrEP/PEP education and screening
- Informal counseling, education on HIV related issues, and other assistance

Supportive Housing Program

Provides advocacy for adults with a serious mental illness diagnosis to prevent homelessness and provide permanent housing:

- Financial assistance with rent, utilities and home furnishings
- Referrals to community resources necessary to maintain independent living

YOUTH AND FAMILY SERVICES

Family Peer Support and Respite Services

Provides weekly temporary care of children with emotional and behavioral issues to give parents and caretakers a period of rest in care-giving:

- Family and peer support
- Social skills and recreational activities
- Parent educational workshops and advocacy for children

Youth and Family Program/ Teen Drop-In Center (TDIC)

Serves youth ages 12-17 and offers supervised informal learning during the critical after-school and early evening hours:

- Homework help, computer literacy, peer mentoring, counseling, and prevention workshops
- Educational workshops for parents

Empire After-School Program

Program offered in collaboration with Hempstead High School for newly arrived students and their parents:

- ESL/ENL, math and literacy tutoring
- Informal counseling and support
- Education and information

Parenting Education Program and Green-tree Foundation "Good Neighbor" Fund

Program for parents to maintain a healthy relationship and improve parenting skills and overall communication with their children:

- Education on respect, communication, effective discipline skills, self-esteem, and more
- Child abuse and neglect education
- Evidence-based program





IMPACT

The Impact of the Hispanic Counseling Center Expressed in the Words of HCC Program Clients

In the words of a COMHPS Program client:

“I am happy to belong to the MAPAS support group. In these group meetings, we learn to strengthen emotional well-being. It guides us, provides us with tools, like setting boundaries, to face the daily challenges of a full and productive life. Our guides, Diana and Carolina, listen to us and look for ways to help us. They connect us when we need support for our problems. In my daily life, I put into practice the teachings of this group both at home and in my community. Thank you for creating this space where mental health is essential, helping us face stress, anxiety, depression, and improve personal relationships.”

In the words of a Mental Health Outpatient Clinic client:

“I’m someone who has been receiving mental health therapy. When I first heard that word, I thought to myself, “Well, I’m not crazy.” That’s what many of us think when we don’t have any information about the topic. But the truth is, we have no idea how important it is to overcome certain stages in our lives. I started therapy about a year ago. Honestly, it was really hard for me to accept that I urgently needed it. Like many people who come to this country looking for a better future, we leave everything behind and go through very tough and unfair situations—situations we often can’t talk about or face, whether out of fear, shame, or even threats. And so, we stay silent.

Now I know—and I live it—that life is beautiful when there’s peace and love inside of us. I still go to therapy. I’m no longer the same. I’m focused on new things, motivated because I know I can. Now, I can cry from happiness, and I thank God and all those people who have the gift of offering help. I’m very grateful to my therapist, and I always tell her—and will keep telling her—thank you for listening to me when I needed it the most!”

In the words of Respite Program clients:

“The Respite Program has been a true blessing for our family. My child has grown more confident and social since joining. I feel at peace knowing they are in a safe, supportive environment.”

“The Respite Program has taken us on so many trips that I never could’ve done on my own. My kids got to experience things I never imagined they would, and my family and I made moments we’ll never forget. I’m so thankful for everything they’ve done for us.”

“Every week, the Respite Program brings me clothes, food, and things I need for my home. I’m so grateful for everything they do. I always look forward to that knock on my door—they never forget about me. I would truly be in need if they didn’t come. I also love going on the activities and trips with my kids. We get to bond and enjoy time together in ways we normally wouldn’t. One of our favorite trips was Cirque du Soleil—it was an experience we’ll never forget. We really appreciate everything the program has done for us.”



EMCEE



MONICA MORALES

PIX 11 Reporter

Host, “Monica Makes It Happen”

Monica Morales is a seven-time Emmy Award-winning investigative reporter for PIX11 News, where she anchors the “Monica Makes It Happen” segment weekdays at 5:45 p.m. Known for her impactful advocacy journalism, Morales is one of the few reporters in the nation dedicated to covering public housing issues in the United States.

In addition to her daily reporting, Morales hosts the “Monica Makes It Happen” TV show, supported by JPMorgan Chase and Goya Foods. The show tackles pressing issues such as food insecurity and human trafficking, while also uplifting underserved communities through strategic partnerships, funding, and scholarships via Goya Cares. Morales also launched the “Monica Makes It Happen” Podcast in 2025, where she interviews celebrities, CEOs, and changemakers about financial empowerment—covering how to make, save, and invest money.

A proud advocate for the Hispanic community, Morales was elected to the Board of Governors of the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences New York Chapter in 2024. She is the recipient of the 100 Hispanic Women Community Service Award, the Ellis Island Medal of Freedom for immigrant advocacy, and was named a Latina of Distinction by *El Diario Nueva York*. She serves on the board of Casa de las Américas at LaGuardia Community College and the Advisory Council of the Ellis Island Honors Society.

Her work has been profiled by the *Columbia Journalism Review*, and her 2020 TED Talk, “Moms Make It Happen,” focused on the power of women driving change in their communities. Morales credits her late mother, Maria Teresa Morales, a Bolivian immigrant who worked three jobs to support her family, as her lifelong inspiration.

Morales’ reporting has earned her a National Emmy for Breaking News, six local Emmys, and an Edward R. Murrow Award. Her “Monica Makes It Happen” series won a Continuing Coverage Emmy in 2020 and garnered Community Service Emmy in 2024 and nominations in 2021 and 2022 for her persistent coverage of New York City’s housing crisis.



THANK YOU





YOUR SUPPORT HELPS HCC PROGRAMS THRIVE





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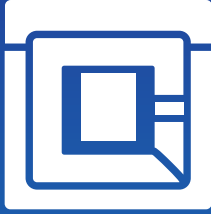


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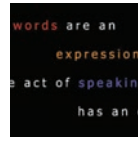
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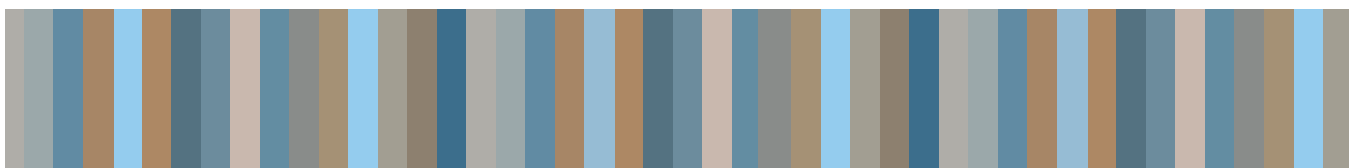


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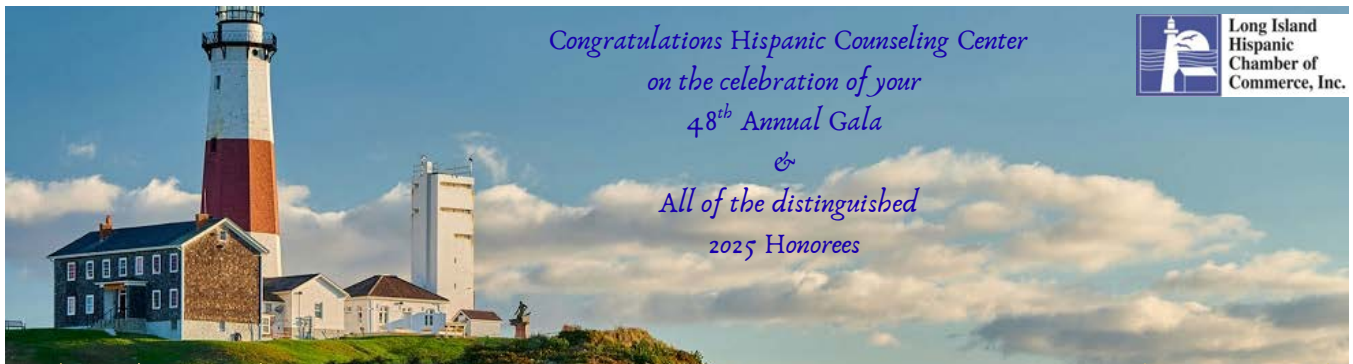
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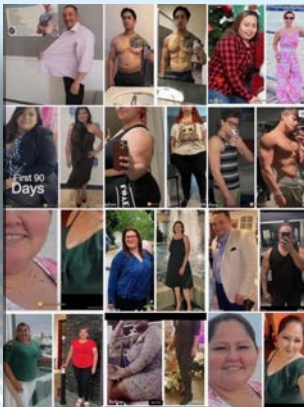
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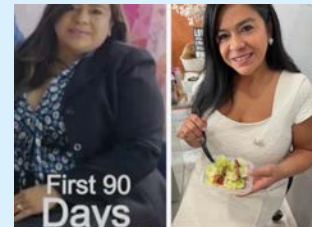
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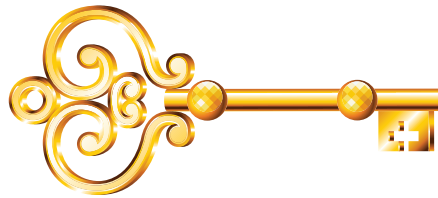
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