



Children and Family
Services of New York

2450 N. Wading River Road
Wading River, NY 11792-1402

NON-PROFIT ORG.
US POSTAGE
PAID
FLUSHING, NY
PERMIT NO. 1045

Give the Gift of Hope this Holiday Season



The holidays can be difficult for the many children, families, and individuals with developmental disabilities in Little Flower's care. But with your kindness and generosity we can give them hope for a better tomorrow.

Not only does your holiday gift allow the more than 2,000 people we serve experience a sense of connection and belonging, but your support enables us to provide the foundation and tools to our families so they can begin building a stable and successful future and reach their full potential.

As we come together with loved ones during this special time of year, let us remember those that consider us their family and community – our children, families, and residents with developmental disabilities.

We hope that you will include Little Flower in your year-end charitable giving. Your support truly makes a difference!

Yes! I want to help Little Flower's children, families, and residents reach their full potential:
(circle one)

\$5,000

\$2,500

\$1,000

\$500

Other \$ _____

If you would like to give online, please visit www.littleflowerny.thankyou4caring.org.
If you prefer to mail your donation, please use the included envelope.



Children and Family
Services of New York



NEWSLETTER

Fall 2021

Impactful Achievements

We are excited to share that Little Flower Children and Family Services of NY and affiliate, St. John's Residence for Boys have received Council on Accreditation (COA) certification!

Accreditation means that both organizations deliver quality services that meet best national practice standards to clients, support employees, strengthen partnerships and relationships with legislative partners, donors, funders, and the community, and demonstrate compliance with oversight bodies.

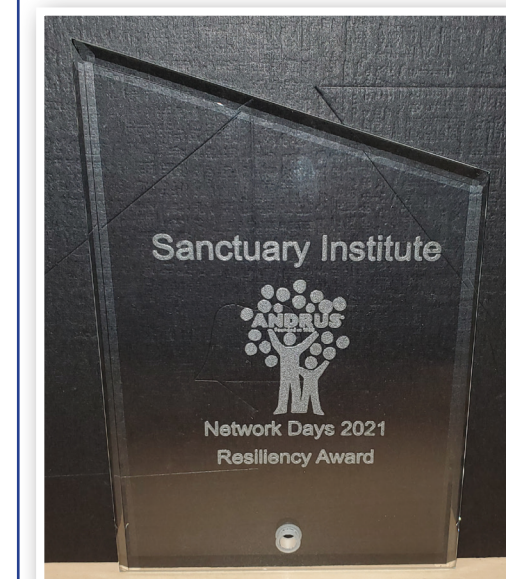
This is a momentous milestone as it is the first quality recognition at the national level. It will have a long term positive impact on those we serve. This certification ensures Little Flower and St. John's are poised to join NY state in the implementation of the new Family First Prevention Services Act.



Little Flower and St. John's began the accreditation process more than a year ago while also navigating the COVID-19 pandemic. The process required the contribution and participation of countless team members and clients, numerous interviews with COA representatives, and site visits.

Accreditation is a badge of honor we will carry with us as we continue to strengthen our work of improving the well-being of the children, families, and people with developmental disabilities in our care.

Little Flower was recognized as a Sanctuary Resiliency Awardee by the ANDRUS Sanctuary Institute at their Sanctuary Network Conference.



Little Flower was recognized for upholding the Sanctuary model and our continued practice supporting our staff and clients throughout the pandemic. Sanctuary is an organizational change model that promotes safety and recovery from adversity by actively creating a trauma-informed community. Sanctuary recognizes that trauma is pervasive in the human experience, equally on both those seeking treatment and the people and systems who provide that treatment.

Some examples of what was done at Little Flower to help our community cope and manage throughout the pandemic include the sharing and promoting of an employee assistance program to address staff mental health needs, successfully launching and implementing telehealth services for families, distributing PPE and electronic devices to families in our community, regular virtual agency-wide check ins with the President & CEO, virtual grief resources and memorials for staff and clients, and the creation of an employee focused wellness program.

We are honored to be recognized for doing what is at the heart of our mission, improving and promoting the well-being of those in our community.

Message from the President & CEO - Corinne Hammons

Dear Friends,

I hope this issue of the Little Flower newsletter finds you and your family safe and well.

The world seems so different, yet almost the same as it was just a year ago. While we have moved past the worst of the COVID-19 pandemic, it is still a force to be reckoned with in the lives of Little Flower's clients and employees, and I am sure in your communities as well.

Little Flower's outstanding essential frontline workers continue to embody our values of excellence and compassion in their care to the children, families, and residents with developmental and intellectual disabilities we serve. We were proud and honored that their heroic efforts were recognized by Suffolk County Legislators Al Krupski and Sarah Anker. They presented a proclamation and certificate of appreciation for their dedication and commitment.

Despite the challenges, our teams have achieved remarkable milestones. Over the last year, staff from across the agency worked together to accomplish Council on Accreditation certification, a significant milestone in our history. We launched our first joint three-year strategic plan with our affiliate St. John's Residence for Boys. We recently deepened our commitment to diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging with a one-year plan to ensure Little Flower is a place where everyone belongs and can thrive.

We honored those ideals at the recent annual Founder's Day event, in which we recognized employees celebrating milestone work anniversaries. One employee celebrated 35 years with Little Flower!

As I reflect on the year, I am in awe of the support we have received from Little Flower heroes like you and our partners. Your thoughtfulness and generosity resulted in transformative opportunities, such as the young men at St. John's learning to swim at the Rockaway Hotel from Imagine Swimming instructors and getting the inside scoop of pro basketball from the LI Nets. Your commitment to those we serve was on full display at the 24th Annual Golf Outing, making our return to the course a memorable one. Partners like The Ticket to Dream Foundation, Famous Footwear, and Bombas have generously provided much needed essentials for the young people in our care. THANK YOU!

I look forward to our continued partnership to achieve our goal of spreading holiday joy and magic to the children, families, and individuals with developmental disabilities in our care!

I wish you and your family a holiday season filled with love and happiness.

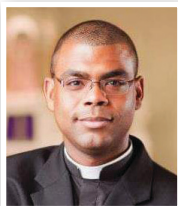
Sincerely,

Corinne Hammons
Corinne Hammons
President & CEO



Welcome to the Little Flower Family

Little Flower is proud to welcome Father Alonzo Cox, Professor Tiffany Graham, and Tami Stark to our Board of Directors.



Father Alonzo Cox is a Pastor at St. Martin DePorres parish, consisting of Our Lady of Victory, Holy Rosary, and St. Peter Claver churches. Father Cox was appointed to serve as secretary for the Diocesan Commission on Racism and Social Justice by Bishop Nicholas DiMarzio of the Brooklyn Diocese.



Professor Tiffany Graham is an Associate Professor of Law and the Associate Dean of Diversity and Inclusion at Touro College, Jacob D. Fuchsberg Law Center. Professor Graham primarily teaches constitutional law and race and the law but has also taught criminal procedure, law and sexuality, and torts.



Tami Stark is a Partner-elect with the global law firm White & Case, LLP. Her practice focuses on representing individuals and companies facing white-collar criminal and regulatory investigations. Tami also sits on the Board of Education for the Cold Spring Harbor School District.

24th Annual Golf Outing!



2021 honoree, Hossam Maksoud, CEO, Community Care Rx with Youth Mission Speaker, Marcus Staton

We could not have asked for a better return to Engineers Country Club or a more inspiring community. Thanks to your incredible support, we raised more than \$220,000 at the 24th Annual Golf Outing!

We enjoyed a beautiful day on the course and with our honoree, **Hossam Maksoud, CEO, Community Care Rx**. Guests heard from our remarkable **Youth Mission Speaker, Marcus Staton**, and learned more about his story and Little Flower's impact.



2021 Golf Committee



Little Flower President & CEO, Corinne Hammons with honoree, Hossam Maksoud, CEO, Community Care Rx

A huge thanks to the **Golf Committee co-chairs, Howard Nolan and Frank Tosto**, and **committee members – Boris Benic, Michael Brachlow, Tom Giarraputo, Ron Gold, Corinne Hammons, Gary Lavery, Hossam Maksoud, Anthony Russo, and Adam Weiss**. Their guidance and leadership resulted in a wonderfully successful event, which was no easy feat in the middle of a pandemic!

Thanks to our major sponsors, **Community Care Rx, The Maksoud Foundation, DIME Bank, Alliant Employee Benefits, Affinity Building Solutions, Elite Glass, Apple Bank, The Beacon Group, Executive Cleaning Services, Kevin A. Seaman, Rivkin Radler, Atlantic Tomorrow's Office**, our meal sponsor, **Epic Insurance Brokers and Consultants, and Marketing Works PR**.

The program video, digital journal, and photos from the day are available at: www.littleflowerny.org/events/2021-golf-outing/.

We look forward to seeing you on the course next year!

Celebrating and Honoring our Employees

Suffolk County Legislator Sarah Anker and Legislator Al Krupski acknowledged and recognized our frontline essential workers for their heroic work throughout the pandemic and their continued commitment with a proclamation and certificate of appreciation!

Just recently, Little Flower and St. John's employees, Tenell Barnes, Fiona Barrett, Dr. Rachel Dale, Kemeisha Douglas-Gibbs, Dorian Fann, and Nicole Goldstein were recognized by the NYC Administration for Children's Services as Excellence in Practice awardees. They were honored for demonstrating superior practice in providing safety, permanency, and well-being to the children and families in their care!



L-R: Legislator Al Krupski, Little Flower President & CEO, Corinne Hammons, Legislator Sarah Anker



Two of the six ACS Excellence in Practice Awardees, Dr. Rachel Dale and Kemeisha Douglas-Gibbs.

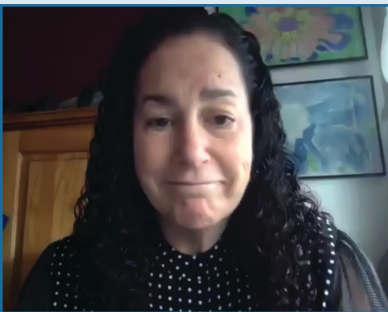
Record Setting Graduation

St. John's Residence for Boys celebrated a record graduation year, honoring 11 young men, the largest graduating class in recent St. John's history!

The 11 young men demonstrated true ability, character, and grit as they persevered through the challenges of last year to cross the finish line!

New York City Assemblywoman Stacey Pheffer Amato joined the virtual ceremony and shared a few words of encouragement and well wishes.

Congratulations!



NYC Assemblywoman Stacey Pheffer Amato



St. John's graduate, Abraham