WELLIFE HELPED ME TO FIND MY DAUGHTER AGAIN AFTER TWO YEARS OF DRUGS. THE COUNSELORS HELPED HER TO FIND THE ROOT CAUSE OF HER EXPERIMENTATION AND AVOID HOSPITALIZATION. SHE'S BETTER NOW.

WELLIFE NETWORK IS COMMITTED TO CREATING A WORK AND PROGRAMMATIC CULTURE THAT IS RELEVANT AND RESPONSIVE TO THE INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES WE SERVE.

I FOUND A COMMUNITY OF FRIENDSHIP AND CARING AT WELLIFE. THEY ARE HELPING ME TO FIND SELF-WORTH AND BE A WOMAN WHO CAN STAND UP ON HER OWN. I'M LEARNING HOW TO BE MORE INDEPENDENT AND WILL SOMEDAY REUNITE WITH MY FAMILY.

WELLIFE NETWORK IS FOSTERING A PERSON-CENTRIC CULTURE AND HAS TASKED OUR STAFF TO THINK OUT-OF-THE-BOX BY INVENTING NEW SOLUTIONS THAT DELIVER VALUE.

WE SUPPORT OUR EMPLOYEES BY BUILDING AN INCLUSIVE AND DIVERSE CULTURE AND BY EMPOWERING THEM, THROUGH PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES, TO ENSURE THEIR HEALTH, SAFETY AND SATISFACTION IN THE WORKPLACE.

RELEVANCY AND RESPONSIVENESS ARE INCREASINGLY VIEWED AS KEY MEASURES OF SUCCESS FOR ORGANIZATIONS TASKED WITH DELIVERING CREATIVE AND VALUE-BASED HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES.

MISSION
WellLife Network embraces its commitment to the complex challenges faced by individuals and families throughout New York and Long Island communities. Our goal is to empower individuals and families, with diverse needs, to realize their full potential by achieving meaningful life goals, guided by the principles of independence, health, wellness, safety and recovery.

VISION
WellLife Network will increase its scale and capabilities to thrive and grow in a changing health care environment, allowing it to compete more effectively and with sustainability in the health and human services arena. For some 40 years, WellLife Network has brought, and continues to bring, vital services to those who are among our most vulnerable citizens.

VALUES
To our mission of assisting people to heal, recover and become more independent in the community, our agency brings a core set of values – compassion and caring, combined with quality, efficiency and accountability. These values drive us to create, with technology, innovative solutions to the social and economic challenges that face the people we serve and the communities in which they live.
Performance Recognition
A Year of Honors

NATIONAL RECOGNITION
2019 proved to be a year of change and recognition. Most notably, Forbes named WellLife one of the Best Employers in New York State, a testament to our commitment to staff development, retention, and career development. Only 16 organizations in New York State received this singular designation, including many major New York hospitals.

For the third year in a row WellLife Network was awarded the Platinum GuideStar Nonprofit Profile Seal of Transparency. This award is the highest level of recognition offered by GuideStar, the world’s largest source of nonprofit information. We can now easily share a wealth of up-to-date organizational metrics with our supporters as well as GuideStar’s immense online audience.

WellLife Network was also honored with a prestigious 2019 Top-Rated Award by GreatNonprofits, the leading provider of user reviews about nonprofit organizations. This award is based on positive reviews written by volunteers, donors and program participants.

These highly-regarded recognitions provide further validation of WellLife Network’s steadfast commitment to staff development and upholding operational transparency, accountability and improved performance.

Report to the Community
A Year of Innovation and Achievement

We are often asked how WellLife Network continues to thrive in such a challenging healthcare environment.

Our answer is twofold. First, we have a dedicated Board of Directors committed to collaborating for the greater good. Volunteers invest countless hours overseeing our complex health and human services system. Highly trained professionals compassionately practice state-of-the-art wellness and recovery practices, and a highly engaged staff of caregivers play a vital role in helping individuals to achieve their life’s goals.

Secondly, everyone on our team understands that to execute our core mission, a strategy of providing value-based, high-quality and compassionate care, each staff member must be empowering, respectful and proactive to those in their care. WellLife Network continuously changes to meet the needs of our participants and the communities we serve.

At WellLife Network we firmly believe that —
We Change · We Improve · We Innovate

RESIDENCE RENOVATIONS
Renovations of our residences for individuals with intellectual/developmental disabilities population continue to enhance the communities in which they are located. Our redesigned facilities and technology match the quality of the professional staff who work in our direct care programs. In 2019, WellLife Network relanscaped some 20 residences.

INNOVATIVE IMPROVEMENTS
Many other changes and improvements are also underway. We are revamping our IT Department and its infrastructure as we improve and expand our electronic healthcare records system. This initiative will capture all of our program participants’ records displayed in an electronic platform. It will provide our caregivers access to participants’ records wherever treatment or services occurred and will also make it much easier for the individuals and families we serve to track all of their care.

THE VALUE OF TEAMWORK
Value-based, high-quality and compassionate care happens when everyone on our team identifies what that means for each individual we serve, each service we provide, and to each community to which we reach out.

We at WellLife Network thank you for your trust in us and the support you provide as we help individuals and families live a healthier, more satisfying and “well” life. The achievements in this report reflect the commitment of all staff working at WellLife Network and our partners to deliver the best health and social care outcomes for the people of New York City and Long Island. We value and appreciate their incredible dedication and hard work.

WellLife Network has always adapted to meet the health challenges faced by people in New York. That ability — to adapt and change — remains one of our longstanding strengths — as relevant now as it has ever been.

As people live longer, the need for customized services steadily grows. The key is transforming the services people receive from WellLife Network into improved outcomes.

We respect those we serve and realize that they expect more than groundbreaking innovation and industry expertise in the health and human services sector. They want to work with partners who are technologically sophisticated and can be trusted to use data to improve services and outcomes. They want to work with partners who use new technologies to help society, while creating inclusive workplaces and communities where diversity, innovation and creativity thrive.

Jeffrey Finkle
Chairperson

Sherry Tucker
CEO
2019 IMPACT

**BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES**

- **2,000** Individuals, facing mental health issues, were helped daily through our network of behavioral health services.

- **1,175** New Yorkers who participate in WellLife Network Behavioral Health Residential Services have a warm, nurturing environment to call home.

- **$1.1M** WellLife Network was awarded $1.1 million dollar HCBS Infrastructure Funding for its HealthFirst Adult HCBS

**ADDITION RECOVERY SERVICES**

- **3,500** Youth, adults and professionals received drug prevention outreach services and clinical training on a array of topics.

- **4,773** unique cases received substance use services.

**CHILDREN & FAMILY SERVICES**

- **454** Families coping with children with serious mental health issues were strengthened and moved from crisis to stability.

**AWARDS**

- **GUIDESTAR PLATINUM RATING**
  For the third year in a row WellLife Network has earned the Platinum GuideStar Nonprofit Profile Seal of Transparency, awarded to the top 2% of charities nationwide.

- **FORBE’S BEST IN NYS EMPLOYER**
  WellLife Network was named one of New York State’s Best Employers in the healthcare and social services sector.

- **TOP-RATED AWARD BY GREAT NON PROFITS**
  As a Great Non Profit WellLife Network’s Award is based on positive reviews by volunteers, donors and program participants.

**INFRASTRUCTURE**

- **12** Multidisciplinary and committed members of the WellLife Network Board of Directors

- **1,800** Staff, volunteers and interns help 25,000 individuals and families cope with life’s challenges.

- **103** Unique programs were offered in 2019 at WellLife Network.

- **347** Federal, state, local, foundation, volunteer, college & universities and Corporate partners who help to enhance the good work of WellLife Network.

- **870,300** square feet of space, supports our service delivery of residential, behavioral health, disabilities, youth and families, addiction recovery, employment/vocational and administrative services.

- **436** Multi-service hubs, satellite offices, facilities, residences and off-site locations.

**DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES**

- **$444,000** Private fundraising events and foundation grants.

**FINANCE**

- **90¢** of every dollar spent by WellLife Network goes directly toward client services and programs.

**INTELLECTUAL/DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES**

- **707** Individuals with intellectual/developmental disabilities received residential, family support, day and community habilitation and entitlement and eligibility services.

- **43** Group homes and supported apartments, throughout New York City, offer adults with I/DD an array of residential services. These residential services offer 24-hour supported residences to apartment living for those who can live with greater independence in the community.

- **707** Individuals with intellectual/developmental disabilities received residential, family support, day and community habilitation and entitlement and eligibility services.

**DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES**

- **$444,000** Private fundraising events and foundation grants.
Behavioral Health Services

Achieving Recovery through the Freedom to Choose

WellLife Network provides comprehensive behavioral health service models and clinical interventions that aim to improve outcomes while reducing costs.

Our performance-driven, evidence-based services include: psychiatric rehabilitation, case management, care coordination, family and peer support, individual self-help, drop-in centers and residential services.

Our programs are licensed by the New York State Office of Mental Health (NYSOMH) and The New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene.

Assertive Community Treatment (ACT)

ACT is a team-based treatment model that provides 24/7 flexible, multidisciplinary treatment and support to people with severe mental illness. This year some 340 persons were assisted through our ACT teams.

Care Coordination Services

WellLife Network assists individuals with complex chronic conditions access and manage services through improved care coordination and service integration among providers. This coordination is critical to managing health care costs and improving health outcomes.

WellLife Network proudly partners with state-designated Lead Health Homes, each with a network of care coordination agencies and providers. We also receive referrals from Single Point of Access (SPOA) for individuals who do not have Medicaid. Our programs help individuals to live more successfully in the community.

PROS

The Personalized Recovery Oriented Services (PROS) program offers individuals living with a persistent mental illness person-centered, goal-focused rehabilitation services. In 2019, PROS assisted some 560 persons overcome barriers to achieve their life goals and develop the skills needed to help them live, work and thrive successfully in the community.

NYC Working Peer Specialists Annual Conference

WellLife Network is proud to support the New York City Working Peer Specialists Conference. This conference brings together some 370 peers to a day long series of workshops to individuals working across the spectrum of New York City’s mental health service delivery system. Peers provide knowledge, experience, emotional, social or practical help to individuals facing mental health challenges. For the past three years, WellLife Network’s Communication Department has offered its expertise in developing the marketing materials to publicize this innovative event.

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MILO UNDERSTANDS LONELINESS

Milo R. has spent most of his life in and out of mental health institutions. Milo is proud of his Rastafarian culture and uses its tenets to live a life of respect for all mankind. Today, he is one of 1,175 individuals who live at one of WellLife Network’s 267 residences across New York City and on Long Island. He has set goals of living more independently in the next three years.

“I am learning to trust myself and then others.”

Milo R., Resident
**Offering a Continuum of Behavioral Health Residential Alternatives**

The Difference is in A Staff that Cares

Each day, WellLife Network housing alternatives provide the direct care that meets the needs of some 1,175 people with mental health challenges in New York City and Long Island, allowing them to live lives of greater dignity and independence while at the same time recognizing and celebrating each individual’s cultural traditions.

Our person-centered approach offers a broad array of housing and residential alternatives, from 24-hour staff-supervised settings for those with the greatest needs, to apartment living with ongoing supports for those able to live more independently.

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**HONORING CULTURES & TRADITIONS**

This past fall WellLife Network celebrated Minority Mental Health Awareness Month. Some 350 residents met at Cunningham Park in Queens to celebrate this occasion with a barbecue, honoring their cultures and traditions. Clients shared their family’s country of origin and other cultural highlights of their childhood. Residents also engaged in activities that helped them to build trust with staff and with their house peers.

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WellLife Network focuses on helping residents develop key life skills and assimilate within their neighborhoods. We also ensure that residents can access necessary medical and mental health care as they become more self-reliant and connect with appropriate educational and employment programs.

**Expanding Mixed-Use Housing Opportunities**

This year, WellLife Network was allocated 10 additional beds through the Empire New York State Supported Housing Initiative. Welllife Network was also awarded $1.518 million in tax credits from the New York City Department of Housing Preservation and Development for the construction of a new mixed-use 66-unit apartment building in Glendale, Queens. Groundbreaking is slated to occur in the spring of 2020. WellLife Network is grateful for the assistance of New York City’s Mayor Bill de Blasio, the New York City 15/15 Supportive Housing Initiative, and the New York State Office of Mental Health in helping our Agency achieve this major expansion in its mixed-use residential portfolio.

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“Making my flag of Puerto Rico makes me feel fulfilled and motivated to compete in many of the competitions.”

*Vincent G.*
I am proud to be a part of Clean Corp. and helping others.

Joe S., Supervisor
WellLife Clean Corp.
Providing Personalized Care to an Aging Population

Exceptional Experiences for the Golden Years

WellLife Network’s new Day Habilitation Center for Intensive and Geriatric Care provides compassionate and comprehensive care to an aging population who face health and age-related challenges.

As the population with intellectual/developmental disabilities ages, WellLife Network realizes the importance of offering special programs for seniors. Our program specializes in offering person-centered care planning and decision making to a wide range of special needs and geriatric individuals. We also offer recreation and leisure opportunities for individuals who want to retire or attend part-time.

WellLife Network’s caring staff provides services both in-house and out in the community. We offer a rich array of activities, including arts and crafts, therapeutic cooking, games, self-improvement, retirement planning, exercise, yoga and tai chi classes for mind and body wellness and more.

Developmental Disabilities

Achieving Self-Reliance through the Freedom to Choose

A Continuum of Residential Alternatives

Having a safe, stable and secure home is essential for long-term health and wellbeing. WellLife Network offers a broad range of housing, day habilitation and prevocational services to individuals with intellectual/developmental disabilities. Each day, more than 400 people live with dignity and as independently as possible in WellLife Network’s housing and day habilitation programs throughout New York City and Long Island.

Our homes integrate care into the community and celebrate residents’ cultures and traditions. Using a person-centered approach, WellLife Network’s housing and residential programs cover a broad array of alternatives, from

24-hour staff supervised residences to serve those with the greatest needs, to apartment living with ongoing supports for those able to live more independently in the community. Our model of care focuses on assisting residents to develop key life skills, become integrated within their neighborhoods, receive necessary medical care, develop pre-employment skills and become more self-reliant.

Innovation

It’s a New Day Habilitation Services

"My friends at the house I live at are my family. We love one another and do a lot together. The house manager is like a sister."

Gretta H.

Achieving Self-Reliance through the Freedom to Choose

A Continuum of Residential Alternatives

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24-hour staff supervised residences to serve those with the greatest needs, to apartment living with ongoing supports for those able to live more independently in the community. Our model of care focuses on assisting residents to develop key life skills, become integrated within their neighborhoods, receive necessary medical care, develop pre-employment skills and become more self-reliant.
To thrive and grow WellLife Network depends on a cadre of lay, professional and volunteer leaders who, together, help us to carry out our vital mission.

The Mets Spirit Award
Thousands cheered on September 8th at Citifield as the New York Mets recognized WellLife Network with its “Mets Spirit Award” for its outstanding service to the community. The turnout was amazing! More than 300 seats assigned to WellLife Network and its supporters were filled. WellLife’s program participants, Board and Associate Board, staff, family and friends represented our Agency. The Mets generously donated a portion of their proceeds to support the essential services at WellLife Network.

In a pregame ceremony, six WellLife representatives were honored on the home plate, including: Sherry Tucker, CEO, WellLife; Steve Bernstein, Licensed Realtor, Douglas Elliman Real Estate, President, S.J. Bee LLC and WellLife Board Member; Ben Blumberg, Partner, Stark Office Suites and WellLife Supporter; Michael Lamber, Regional Sales Manager, Lamb Insurance Services and WellLife Associate Board Member; Bradley Bernstein, Associate, Goldman Sachs and WellLife Associate Board Member; and James Cusato, WellLife program resident.

Volunteers make a significant and valuable contribution to WellLife Network by donating thousands of dollars in goods and services to hundreds of individuals and families in need throughout New York City and on Long Island.
Offering a Continuum of Children and Family Services

The Difference is in Our Standard of Care

When a child is living with mental health challenges, the whole family may be affected. Parents sometimes don’t know where to turn for help. That’s where we intervene. WellLife Network is committed to helping each family and child we serve reach their full potential. We are there for them every step of the way.

In 2019, WellLife Children’s and Family Services went through a major redesign as New York State’s Medicaid Benefit led to the expansion of our services. These services broaden eligibility and enable a greater focus on prevention and early intervention.

Each child or adolescent that comes to us for help is treated as a special member of the WellLife family. Our programs and services assist youth in developing support networks and coping skills. These skills help children become more resilient to crisis as they gain greater independence through a continuum of family-driven, youth-guided, trauma-informed and strength-based services.

Our Services

WellLife Network partners with various children’s providers in the community to achieve the triple aim of improved care, better outcomes and a service delivery system that expedites access to an integrated network of health care and social service supports. WellLife Network offers a broad cadre of services that have the goals of identifying the needs of the child with early intervention; maintaining youth in the community in the least restrictive settings; and a focus on recovery and building resilience.

• Youth Care Management - these services ensure that all aspects of a youth’s care, including medical, behavioral health, social services and more, are appropriately coordinated to support the health and wellness goals of the child and the family.
• Children and Family Treatment and Support - these mental health and substance use services give children and their families the power to improve their health and wellness. Offered to children and youth, covered by Medicaid and who have mental health and/or substance use needs
• LINK - The LINK program provides intensive, short-term crisis intervention and stabilization, family education and service linkages to prevent psychiatric hospitalization.
• SSTAAY - Services, Supports, Transitions, Advocacy and Access for Youth - enhances the ability of youth who have or are at risk of developing a serious emotional disturbance [SED] to maintain emotional and behavioral stability; strengthen support systems and avert the need for higher levels of care.
• Community Residences - provide 24/7 care for youth facing serious mental health challenges. The residences help to enhance the social, emotional, and behavioral development of each youth.
• Mobile Early Intervention Program - assists families in keeping their child, who experiences significant challenges due to serious emotional disturbance, at home. The program also expedites the reunification of a youth to their family should out-of-home placement be needed.
• HCBS - Home and Community-Based services include short-term planned respite services for family and caregivers needed to enhance the family/caregiver’s ability to support the child’s mental health care issues.
• W.A.V.E. Youth Leadership Group - The Work, Achievement, Values and Education (W.A.V.E.) Youth Leadership Association is youth-run and staff-guided. Teens have the opportunity to build the skills and attitudes necessary to be successful in their lives through fundraisers, social gatherings, educational advocacy events.

Family Bonds Camp

Each year, WellLife Network offers a unique weekend retreat of recreational, educational and bonding activities to the children and families we serve. In 2019, 13 families were offered a time to bond and build lasting memories of hope, happiness and success.

“ I love my mommy and she knows it. I am trying to be better and not yell all the time. Nice people are helping me to learn how. Vincent G.”
Innovation at WellLife Network
A Year of Change

WellLife Network is dedicated to bringing innovation to its programming and infrastructure. We embrace this challenge in creating meaningful change and discovering previously untapped possibilities to develop a sustainable organization that positively impacts on the people we serve and the staff who brings our mission to life.

WellLife Network believes a true culture of innovation is fostered and nurtured when the entire organization, not just its leadership, structures itself around the commitment to become entrepreneurial and transform ideas into new and enhanced services that help individuals and families realize their life’s goals.

We highlight four innovative ventures developed this past year.

**Wellness Room**
**Bringing Healthy Choices to Life**

WellLife Network has embraced a trend to offer wellness rooms to staff. In a pilot project at its Executive Offices, a Wellness Room was designed to offer a respite for staff to engage in mindfulness activities. Guest lecturers offer classes on Guided Meditation, Essentrics, and Yoga. Studies show that mindfulness improves one’s creative and critical thinking, reduces stress, and smooths out interpersonal relationships, both at work and home.

**Children at Work**
**Preparing a New Workforce**

WellLife Network welcomed more than 20 girls and boys of our staff who attended National Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Day. The children explored career planning in helping them to make informed decisions about their future goals and career paths. They also painted totem poles which adorn the gardens of our residences.

WellLife Network will continue hosting this special day to allow our youth to share knowledge and advice around education, career choices and relevant skills required in today’s workplace.

**Cultural Celebration**
**Respecting Heritage and Customs**

WellLife Network encourages, honors and respects diversity in the workplace. Diversity in the workplace ensures a variety of perspectives.

This past fall, WellLife Network staff gathered to celebrate its inaugural Cultural Celebration Luncheon. Some 45 nations, reflecting our staffs’ origins were recognized with flags, costumes, traditional foods and storytelling. Staff bonded and formed new friendships while developing a greater appreciation of their co-worker’s heritage.

**Tele-Health**
**Bringing Healthy Choices Home**

WellLife Network continues its efforts to incorporate cutting-edge technology to deliver more cost-efficient and effective services. Telehealth, the delivery of health-related services and information via communications technologies, is a way for healthcare professionals to provide immediate care and avoid costly emergency room visits. Staff use a PC telehealth platform, offering HIPAA compliant videoconferencing. This new outreach system allows us to seek care for individuals in distress, improving their overall quality of care.
Our Approach

Our Addiction & Recovery Services (ARS) Department focuses on the prevention, education and treatment of substance use disorders. We help individuals cope with the symptoms of addiction/substance use disorder diseases and promote the development of community awareness through education.

We believe it is important to include substance abuse education and prevention in schools because these intervention programs help students avoid trying substances and reduce the risk of developing a substance use disorder later in life.

This year, WellLife Network reached some 2,045 students in Suffolk County, using the evidence-based drug prevention curriculum Too Good for Drugs. Our outreach programs are licensed by the New York State Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services (OASAS).

Addiction Recovery

Living Drug Free
the Freedom to Choose

Moving toward an Attainable Goal

WellLife Network helps thousands of individuals coping with addiction to alcohol and other forms of substance use to become sober. For more than 60 years we have worked with individuals and their families to help them lead more informed and substance free lives.

Addiction is a progressive and pervasive disease that affects every aspect of a person’s life. WellLife Network provides person-centered treatment services that support individuals and/or their significant others as they seek recovery and wellness. Most importantly, our treatment services offer daily same-day access, using well-established clinical and medication modalities, and providing them at a reasonable cost.

At WellLife Network, we believe recovery is attainable, sustainable and maintainable.

“I knew that I would end my addiction when I viewed my determination to ‘stop using’ as a sign of strength.”

Glen R.

We Believe Recovery is Attainable, Sustainable and Maintainable

Substance Use Education & Prevention

Clinic Services

Jessie’s childhood was filled with familial abuse at the hands of an alcoholic father. She dropped out of high school, which led to a life on the “streets” and one filled with drugs and prostitution.

After an overdose, a hospital social worker directed her to a WellLife Network outpatient clinic where she made new friends and received the support and guidance to start “fresh.” She struggles daily with her addiction, but now sees a clear path to a better life.
A Year of Celebration at WellLife Network

A Year of Change

You Make It Happen

WellLife Network held four spectacular events this year including its Annual Dinner, the World Mental Health Awareness Day, a Feed Our Neighbors Campaign and a WellLife Network Day at CitiField with the Mets.

These successful fundraising initiatives were sponsored by our corporate and volunteer network of supporters and program participants and their families.

Feed Our Neighbors
Providing 500 Holiday Meals

Participants of the Astoria, Station Road and Ann Mittasch Day Habilitation Programs joined forces to raise more than $400 in support of our four Long Island Food Pantries. The donation was matched by senior executive staff and, with the generous outpouring from our Board and vendors, more than $250,000 was raised for families on Long Island.

Through the sale of hand-crafted items, some 500 families received a nourishing Thanksgiving and December holiday meal in a basket.

The story was covered by Channel 7, WABC Eyewitness News and featured on their #BeKind stories.

Annual Gala
Honoring Brian Rooney

WellLife Network held its Annual Benefit Dinner held in June at Mutual of America headquarters in Manhattan.

WABC News anchor Bill Ritter was the evening’s special guest and host. The evening raised more than $250,000 for the organization. The capacity crowd paid special tribute to long-time supporter Brian Rooney, Senior Vice President, Mutual of America who received the Corporate and Philanthropic Leadership Award. Ashley Griffin, playwright and actress gave a riveting keynote address on sexual trauma. Beverly Garcia received the Lani and Thomas A. Blumberg Staff Inspiration Award for her outstanding dedication to our behavioral health residents.

Honored by the Mets
WellLife Network Mets Spirit Award

Thousands cheered on September 8th as the New York Mets recognized WellLife Network with its Mets Spirit Award at CitiField in Flushing, Queens.

The Mets generously donated a portion of their proceeds to support our services.

The turnout was amazing! More than 300 seats assigned to WellLife Network and its supporters were filled. WellLife’s program participants, Board and Associate Board, staff, family and friends represented our Agency at the game (see story on page 14).

World Mental Health Day
Let’s End the Stigma

Some 300 residents of the WellLife Network Residential Division celebrated World Mental Health Day this fall at Cunningham Park in Queens. The residents celebrated this day with a healthful picnic and engaged in activities that fostered awareness, helping them to build trust with staff and their house peers.

In October, a fundraising initiative led by Angela Ranieri, a marketing expert and friend of WellLife raised funds to heighten community awareness of World Mental Health Day. Working with Colorvat Nail Salon in Manhattan, 5% of its service sales during a two day period, were donated to our agency.
More than 125 people donated their time and professional and personal skills to us last year. Volunteers and student interns make a significant and valuable contribution to WellLife Network.

Through Project Volunteer, volunteers from both the corporate and private sectors gave generously of their time to landscape and beautify WellLife Network residences. Volunteers also donated thousands of dollars in goods and services to hundreds of individuals and families in need. Volunteers donated and wrapped toys for children during the holidays, assisted veterans in finding and preparing for employment and assembled baskets of food for holiday meals.

Be Well for Life Art Program
This year, the WellLife Network Be Well for Life Art Program expanded with the sale of posters initiated through generous grants from Mutual of America, and TGIF Office Automation. This innovative program offers art therapy workshops and learning experiences for individuals of all ages, abilities and talents to emerge as artists, through the exhibition of their art as posters, note cards and wearable items.

Internships for Real Life
Our Internship Connections offers college students and advanced degree candidates on-site experiences in a variety of “real life” settings throughout New York City and Nassau and Suffolk Counties. The program assists students in defining and exploring career opportunities in the health and human services field. This year, some 43 college students from 25 colleges and universities in the New York City metropolitan area benefitted from these experiences. An internship experience at WellLife Network offers a variety of settings, including: mental health clinical training, developmental disabilities, health administration and medical nursing.

Vanessa Edwards, a former intern stated, “My internship experience at WellLife Network has given me excellent training for my new role as a direct service professional. I have learned the importance of documentation and the overall care and compassion which is needed when serving individuals with intellectual/developmental disabilities.”
Fiscal Responsibility

In fiscal year 2019, WellLife Network made significant progress in the financial transformation work it began last year. The operating budget grew by $1 million to reach $113,759,996 in revenues at the end of the fiscal year. This increase was driven primarily by expansion of our residential housing services, reduced emergency room visits, and improved rate structures in our developmental disabilities services.

This year 90 cents of every dollar spent went directly toward client services and programs. This reflects an improved indirect charge of 10%.

While we are pleased with this year’s accomplishments, we are also looking for other opportunities for improvement. We are committed to achieving fiscal responsibility, including the delivery of quality value-based services, while promoting and safeguarding the health and wellness of the people we serve.

Where the Money Comes From

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How It Helps

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<td>Behavioral Health</td>
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<td>Addiction Recovery</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$111,409,778</strong>*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*For the fiscal year ending 2019. Based on the fiscal year 2019 audited financial statements by BDO USA, LLP

90¢
of every dollar spent by WellLife Network goes directly toward client services and programs.
We are enormously grateful to the generosity of the WellLife Network Board of Directors, government, business, foundations, the voluntary community and the many individuals, families, and friends whose support is so vital to WellLife Network in its delivery of health and human services.