



March 15, 2017

The Board of Directors, management team and staff of *LIAAC* want to extend our heartfelt best wishes and offer our deep gratitude to Dr. Gail Barouh on her impending retirement as President/CEO of this organization. Dr. Barouh will be retiring July 1, 2017.

Although Dr. Barouh informed the Board in August of 2016 that she was retiring at the end of that year, she was asked to and thankfully agreed to stay on an extra six months, until July 1, 2017, to assist the Agency in the transition process, and we are extremely grateful to her for agreeing to do so.

Dr. Barouh has guided *LIAAC* since its inception, for 31 years, and her decades of invaluable experience and unwavering commitment to the people *LIAAC* serves has resulted in the Agency becoming the nation's oldest and largest suburban HIV/AIDS service agency. As a result of Dr. Barouh's leadership, *LIAAC* is the premier community service provider in the region and recognized nationally for its foresight and services. As the needs of our clients changed over the years, Dr. Barouh made sure that *LIAAC* remained a leader in providing services and support for Long Islanders infected and affected by HIV/AIDS as well as those who are at high risk for other infectious diseases. As a result of Dr. Barouh's leadership, *LIAAC*'s clients have been able to navigate the complicated maze that all too often prevents people from being connected to the medical professionals, support services and social service providers they desperately need. This also includes, but isn't limited to Dr. Barouh's spearheading *LIAAC*'s Medicaid initiative, which partners with regional/lead health homes in Suffolk County, Nassau County and Queens.

From the early years of fighting to ensure that HIV/AIDS was recognized as the devastating health threat it is to all populations, to the current need to be vigilant in ensuring that the public is aware that there remains a need to educate, spread prevention awareness and care for those still affected, Dr. Barouh has been unwavering in her efforts to treat all people in need of *LIAAC*'s services with dignity, respect and care. Her tireless commitment and service to all in need cannot be overstated and both *LIAAC* and the clients we serve could not have had a better champion.

We all wish Dr. Barouh the best in her well-deserved retirement from *LIAAC*. We will miss her deeply, and because we know her so well, we are certain that whatever she turns her attention to next will be successful.

The Board of Directors of *LIAAC*