We Value..





"THE MINUTE A PERSON WHOSE WORD MEANS A GREAT DEAL TO OTHERS DARES TO TAKE THE OPEN-HEARTED AND COURAGEOUS WAY, MANY OTHERS FOLLOW."

— Marian Anderson

Mercy Haven's mission is to acknowledge the dignity and potential of people who are homeless, living with mental illness or living in poverty by providing housing, advocacy, education and life skills development.

A MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR and BOARD CHAIR



Dear Friends,

There are so many things that create a meaningful work place. In many ways those of us who work at Mercy Haven are blessed daily by the mission itself. We are also blessed by those who make our mission alive — our participants, Board of Directors, volunteers, supporters and one another. The work staff accomplishes is noteworthy. The day to day care given so generously, the ongoing advocacy and services are life giving to so many.

Throughout this report you will see how we engage each of the core values of Mercy Haven in all that we do. Our commitment to compassion, collaboration, justice, respect, integrity and creativity focus us. We are proud to share our story of the outcomes of ongoing recovery, satisfaction and services for our participants and our continued growth in affordable housing and advocacy. Of course, there are so many intangible ways that our culture of care, reverence and ongoing hope cannot be measured. It has to be experienced.

At a recent meeting of our Breakthrough program, one of our residents, having just begun class with a song, made reference to how our singing was much stronger when we all joined the 'choir' and sang together. We know this is true for much more than singing. We wouldn't be able to accomplish all that we have if you hadn't stepped up and joined the Mercy Haven 'choir' at some point, with your particular gift and availability! Thank you for making a difference!



We hope you enjoy this report and know how cherished you are.

Sincerely,

S. Patricia Griffith, D. Min., LMSW

Executive Director

Dorothy Overton
Board Chair

OUR HOUSING

Community Residences

The dignity and potential we recognize in all who come into our care begins with a home. From our humble beginnings in 1985, when we sought to provide housing for people who had been deinstitutionalized from state psychiatric hospitals, we have grown to provide homes for the elderly and low-income families.

"ALONE WE CAN DO SO LITTLE; TOGETHER WE CAN DO SO MUCH." - Helen Keller

Our 3 Community Residences were the first type of housing offered by Mercy Haven and are the first step on the road to independence for many people living with mental illness. Staff are on-site 24/7 to care for the 34 residents who typically spend an average of 2 years in this setting. During this time, each individual works with staff to create a customized recovery plan that includes setting goals and building skills enabling them to move on to more independent living. These skills include cooking, cleaning, medication management, socialization, job readiness assessment and more.

Collaboration is a key element to success for those who live and work in a Community Residence. When Sharon, a per-diem counselor at our West Babylon Community Residence began working at Mercy Haven she quickly recognized the unique culture of openness and collaboration at the agency. Recently, Sharon shared how she's experienced our core-value of collaboration at the agency.





2013 Highlights

- 89% were Satisfied or Very Satisfied with the CR program's methods to help residents live more independently
- 92% were Satisfied or Very Satisfied with the amount of help they receive from staff
- 14 moved into the Community Residence program
- 10 were discharged to the living situation of their choice

We Value... Collaboration. For me collaboration is the act of joining together to make things possible that we cannot accomplish alone. My experience thus far has been one of Mercy Haven demonstrating collaboration in the work place. Mercy Haven involves all staff in their goals and makes sure everyone involved understands and believes the goal is worthwhile. When discussing ways to improve the organization as a whole, Mercy Haven has given each staff member an opportunity to define his or her role on the team. Mercy Haven creates a results-driven structure with the team of staff members to ensure that the goal that is sought is achieved. In order for the team to work, collaborators must be able to suggest ideas. The team needs to be independent, enabling them to explore new possibilities. I truly believe that Mercy Haven has demonstrated what collaboration is in the workplace. I am proud to be a part of the team.

Sharon Taylor

Per Diem Counselor, West Babylon CR

OUR HOUSING

Supported Housing

Our Supported Housing program, called HEARTH (Healed, Encouraged and Renewed Through Housing) provides the next step in our continuum of care: long-term housing for people who have been homeless or who are living with mental illness. These individuals and families are able to manage their day-to-day living activities with less support than those in a Community Residence but still have access to the range of services that Mercy Haven offers when needed. There are services and programs designed to help residents maintain stable housing and gain even more independence.



2013 Highlights

- 223 people live in our Supported Housing program including 22 families that have a total of 51 children
- 5 new families admitted to Mercy Haven housing from Suffolk County homeless shelters
- 95% were Satisfied or Very Satisfied with HEARTH's approach to help residents live more independently
- 96% were Satisfied or Very Satisfied by the amount of help they receive from our staff
- 86% of HEARTH residents maintained their housing for the past year or more







"LIFE'S MOST PERSISTENT AND URGENT QUESTION IS, 'WHAT ARE YOU DOING FOR OTHERS'."

— Martin Luther King, Jr.

We Value... Integrity. Robert clearly remembers the day he moved into Mercy Haven's Supported Housing program. "I cannot tell you how elated I was when I moved into my apartment with Mercy Haven. The gratitude I felt was overwhelming." Robert had the opportunity to see the apartment while it was still being readied for his arrival. At that point it was empty and in need of a paint-job. "When I arrived on the afternoon of September 29, 2009, I walked into a freshly painted, newly furnished apartment. I even had a recliner!" It was the beginning of a new chapter in life for Robert and with the stable housing at Mercy Haven, he's been adding exciting new chapters ever since. "Mercy Haven opened up opportunities for me tangibly by providing my apartment but also spiritually through the support I've gotten from the staff. I've been encouraged to try new things and they assured me it's OK to be imperfect." Robert feels that the agency's core value of integrity is one he can relate to most. "Mercy Haven has helped me develop my integrity. I feel I can be my authentic-self. I realized that before, my actions in life did not match the good intentions I had in my heart. That is changing every day because of the support I now have." For Robert it's been a long journey from homelessness and other struggles to where he is today. "But," he says filled with gratitude, "I know I'm exactly where I'm supposed to be."

Robert G.

Mercy Haven Resident



OUR HOUSING

Pleasant Gardens Adult Home

Since 1998, when we acquired Pleasant Gardens Adult Home in Bayport, we have focused on creating a warm, nurturing atmosphere for older adults and those who are unable to live more independently. Personal care provided for residents here includes cooking, cleaning, laundry service and medication management. In addition, a full calendar of recreational activities and outings are planned each week including shopping trips, movies and in-house entertainment. Other services provided at Pleasant Gardens include regular visits from a medical doctor, a podiatrist, and even a hair stylist!







2013 Highlights

- 26 residents
- 91% were Satisfied or Very Satisfied with the kinds of services they
- 100% were Satisfied or Very Satisfied with the courtesy of the

We Value... Respect and Compassion. For Pam, a Personal Care Aid (PCA) for the past four years, respect and compassion are two of Mercy Haven's core values that really stand out in her work at Pleasant Gardens Adult Home. "I didn't have experience working with people with mental illness before I started at Pleasant Gardens so I wasn't entirely sure what to expect at first," Pam explains. "But I very quickly realized our residents want what everyone wants—to be treated with respect and dignity. I took time to get to know them as individuals and remembered the Golden Rule, 'treat others as you'd like to be treated."" It might seem simple, but Pam points out that there is still a great deal of stigma about people with mental illness. "There's a big lack of knowledge and understanding about this illness. Some people talk down to those with mental illness, as if they are children." But once you have taken time to get to know the residents, Pam says, you can see past their illness. "I know that the men and women here are adults who have worked and had careers, were married and many have children and grandchildren. Just because they are living with mental illness, there is no reason to treat them any differently." It also helps to remember that we all have good days and bad days and a little compassion goes a long way. "A kind word at the right time or soft voice when someone is upset can turn a negative situation around very quickly. A hug when someone is down goes a long way."

Personal Care Aid for Pleasant Gardens Adult Home

MERCY ADVOCACY PROGRAM - MAP

Gandhi said, "A nation's greatness is measured by how it treats its weakest member." For those who are homeless, living in poverty or living with mental illness, the systems that our government created for their care are threatened regularly. Fortunately, the Mercy Advocacy Program (MAP) stands ready to represent our residents when their access to housing, basic nutrition or health care are threatened and challenges the government when injustice in these systems comes to light.

Examples of Advocacy for our Residents in 2013:

We successfully recovered a total of \$2,273 in Medicare Part B premium payments for one resident who was denied these payments by Suffolk County, despite a New York State administrative ruling stating that individuals on Social Security Disability (SSD), like our resident, are eligible. This process took more than 12 months and 3 fair-hearings with Suffolk County Department of Social Services (DSS) from our resident's first application to its final resolution.

MAP successfully recovered a total of \$2,776 for another resident who was owed retroactive Medicare Part B premium payments. This same resident called to MAP's attention a problem with her food stamps: her monthly benefit had been reduced from \$189 per month to only \$15 per month! Simply requesting a fair hearing on this matter prompted Suffolk County DSS to reinstate her benefits to \$177 per month. She also recovered \$716 in retroactive food stamps.

Systemic Change for the Poor of New York State:

MAP is currently serving as co-counsel in 5 class action suits that could potentially impact as many as 344,000 people across New York State. One case challenges the state's lack of communication regarding budgeting methodology for people who are, we contend, erroneously denied food stamps. Another challenges the state's continued use of Food Stamp notices that were deemed invalid by our 2008 class action due to lack of budgetary information and legal citations. Another suit seeks to secure timely and meaningful fair hearing decisions from New York on behalf of Medicaid applicants and recipients across the state.

2013 Highlights

- 134 cases opened, the most in one year since 2003
- 2,400 cases opened since 1997
- 25 trainings/seminars for staff, volunteers and residents on advocacy issues





We Value... Justice. Justice is served each day as MAP helps residents navigate the complex web of government benefits created for their care. When a resident's access to housing, food or health care is threatened, they can turn to MAP's attorney-in-charge, John Castellano. No one knows this better than Mercy Haven residents, Madeline and Lester. In Lester's case, his application for Medicaid was denied by the county in error, despite the fact that MAP had prepared a cover letter citing the statutes that permit his eligibility. One year, 7 notices and 3 hearings later, MAP had not only secured Lester's health care, but had obtained retroactive coverage as well. When Lester shares his story, his gratitude is evident. "John treats all of his clients with dignity, respect and compassion. He is better than Perry Mason because he is real! He displays the justice of MAP from head to toe and I can say this because all the cases I had with John, I have won. Mercy Haven has provided us with a good safety net—MAP." Madeline echoed Lester's enthusiasm as she explained her challenge with health care coverage. "Recently, MAP helped get monies owed to me from the Medicare premium that Medicaid now pays monthly. The Mercy Advocacy Program helped me in ways that I would never have been able to accomplish on my own." MAP's services not only pursued justice for Madeline, but helped her realize her own value in the process. "John and his law-intern helped me believe that I had a right to receive every dollar, no matter how small I thought it was." For those we serve, the self-worth gained through advocacy is the greatest justice!

Lester R. and Madeline R.

Mercy Haven Residents



Resident Empowerment & Achievement Program - R.E.A.P.

The objective of the Resident Empowerment and Achievement Program (R.E.A.P.) is to provide opportunities for residents to build on skills they already possess, acquire new skills, become self-reliant, more social and, of course, to have fun! Staff and volunteers offered classes and activities at our Main Office, our Community Residences, our Adult Home, and Mercy Enrichment. Resident input resulted in several new programs in 2013 including the Scrabble Club and the Movie Club. Programs from previous years such as the book club, craft corner and holiday parties continue to be resident favorites.

R.E.A.P. continues to offer residents the opportunity for paid employment in a number of different positions, such as building assistant, bulk mailer, housekeeper, peer mentor, DJ and mover.

In 2013, our participants attended many community events which included: Long Island Coalition for the Homeless Candlelight Vigil, Bayport/Blue Point St. Patrick's Day Parade, Breakthrough Ceremonies, National Alliance on Mental Illness Walk and Mental Illness Awareness Week.





In 2013 ...

- REAP offered 22 different vocational, educational and social activities for a total of 196 sessions
- 76% of residents participated in at least 1 REAP activity
- 51 participants were engaged in the Supported Employment Program which provided 7 different employment



2013 Highlights

- 88% were Satisfied/Very Satisfied with the events and activities provided
- 93% were Satisfied/Very Satisfied that programs had increased their independent living skills
- 91% were Satisfied/Very Satisfied that programs had increased their job readiness

We Value... Creativity. The R.E.A.P. Program has greatly improved the quality of my life. I had pulled in from society so far that I had no contact with people. R.E.A.P., with all the programs it offers, has given me the gift of socialization. I do projects, socialize with all kinds of people, and push out of my comfort zone.

Whether I'm creating a wreath for my front door, scrapbooking or baking, I feel that not only does my stress level drop, but I feel so creative. When your life becomes so small and when you're sick, you don't do anything creative. With R.E.A.P. that part of my life is reactivated - and it feels so good.





Teaching for the R.E.A.P. Program has given me an even greater gift. I am nurturing a seed of self esteem with each class I teach. It's been a very long time since I felt good about myself, but R.E.A.P. is providing me with valuable insights.

> Marguerite T. Resident, R.E.A.P. Instructor



Breakthrough

Our Breakthrough Program is a 12-week, 24 session community outreach and education program offered to homeless and formerly homeless individuals. The goal of Breakthrough is to help participants understand the factors that contributed to their homelessness, and to give them the tools needed to set and achieve desired goals.

In 2013, Breakthrough offered sessions to Mercy Haven residents, which was met with tremendous success.

Volunteer mentors pair up with participants, and through a series of story-telling sessions participants learn trust, self discovery, skill building techniques, and the confidence needed to reach their goals. Additional volunteers prepare delicious, home-cooked meals for the participants, allowing for both body and mind to be nourished at each session.

Each Breakthrough Program culminates in a very moving Evening of Insight and Sharing, and a graduation ceremony where friends, family and the community come together to celebrate.







2013 Highlights

- 3 Sessions
- 29 Graduates
- 53 Volunteers donated 634 hours
- 170 graduates since the program's inception

We Value... Respect. As a mentor in Breakthrough, I was given the opportunity to spend time listening to participants share their challenges and concerns. It is not easy to open up and trust a stranger with your real thoughts and concerns. We mentors were just asked to listen. It sounded like a small thing but I was reminded that small things can mean a lot. From listening and caring flowed understanding and appreciation of the goodness of our participants and respect for their strength, perseverance and spirit.

Dennis GreeleyBreakthrough Mentor

Breakthrough has led me to realize that my opinion matters and that I am worth something. It has also led to some unexpected friendships. Now I'm able to see a light at the end of the tunnel.

~ Breakthrough Participant ~



Mercy Enrichment

By definition, to enrich means "to improve or enhance the quality or value of." For the participants within Mercy Haven and the surrounding communities, the goal of Mercy Enrichment is to be the resource that nurtures this vision. Mercy Enrichment offered opportunities for education, respite and rejuvenation through a variety of programs in 2013.

2013 Programs

- Yoga & Exercise Classes
- Gardening Classes
- Computer/Technology **Training**
- Financial Literacy Classes
- Cooking & Nutrition Classes



In addition, our community outreach efforts focused on educating people about Mental Illness. In October of 2013, Mercy Enrichment was actively involved in Mental Illness Awareness

Week by hosting a screening of a documentary film titled, "No Kidding! Me Too!!" This film, directed by actor Joe Pantoliano, is an effort to fight

the shame and stigma of mental illness. This event was attended by students, Mercy Haven residents, staff and community residents.



John's Place

Named for John Bendick, a long-time Mercy Haven Board Member who worked tirelessly at publicizing the needs of the homeless and mentally ill, John's Place shelters the East End's homeless in the communities of Greenport and Mattituck during the winter months.

"THE PURPOSE OF HUMAN LIFE IS TO SERVE, AND TO SHOW COMPASSION AND THE WILL TO HELP OTHERS."

Albert Schweitzer

Mercy Haven continues to support the efforts of the many volunteers that work during the months of November through March who clean, shop, cook and prepare meals. Their work is invaluable.

2013 Highlights

- Twice monthly site visits
- 200 volunteers
- RN's visited once a month for basic care
- 125 guests were served between the 2 locations

We Value... Compassion. One of the ways we show compassion for those around us is by making the Mercy Enrichment space available for use by groups who share our values. The following message was written by a group who recently spent a weekend at Mercy Enrichment:

To the Beautiful, Caring People of Mercy Haven,

We thank you so very much for sharing the awesome gift of Mercy Enrichment. You all truly lavished us with your warmth and hospitality. You took care

of every need, from the fully-equipped kitchen and the spacious room downstairs to the bedrooms so cozy and warm. You truly thought of every detail. We were in awe at the beautiful way everything is decorated. Thank you, again, for sharing your home with us. It was a very special time we will never forget. We look forward to the next opportunity.

God Bless you all for all your love and effort,

The Bridge for Peace Team



"Growing Together" Community Garden

Our Community Garden, "Growing Together", is a source of nourishment to the community it serves in more ways than sustenance. It nourishes friendships and strengthens partnerships and it provides a sense of well-being and inner strength for all who gather there.

THE LOVE OF GARDENING IS A SEED ONCE SOWN THAT NEVER DIES."

- Gertrude Jekyll, British horticulturist and garden designer

Our Community Garden was tended to by several new groups as well as some seasoned members from our start-up in 2012. Garden members enjoyed the camaraderie of working side-by-side, as well as sharing tips, techniques and garden secrets with each other.

Ours partnership with Cornell Cooperative Extension of Suffolk County continued for our second season, with Elizabeth Takakjian, Master Gardner, providing weekly garden sessions to our garden members, volunteers and community members. Topics discussed included: seed starting, transitioning seeds into the garden, identifying weeds and insects, staking plants and garlic planting and harvesting. Cornell also offered tomato and applesauce canning classes to our community and residents, demonstrating a useful way of preserving the harvest when the growing season comes to an end.

2013 Garden Members

- Pronto of Long Island and Pronto Seniors
- St. Anne's Church and Outreach
- Brentwood High School
- Boy Scouts Troop 25 and Girl Scouts Troop 960
- Finoli
- Mercy Haven Staff and Residents
- Members of the Brentwood Community





We Value... Collaboration. Our value of collaboration has been instrumental for our garden's success and Cornell's "Creating Healthy Spaces in Suffolk County" grant from New York State's Department of Health has fostered this value. Here's what Elizabeth wrote to us last Thanksgiving pointing out the importance of our community partnership: "Thanksgiving is the perfect opportunity to remind you of the wonderful contribution you have made to your community and your garden members as you guided your garden through another successful season. Not only have you provided them the opportunity to grow, share, and enjoy fresh nutritious produce, you have enhanced their knowledge of good nutrition and



best gardening practices, sustained a beautiful environment in which they can enjoy a quiet moment to appreciate the wonder of insects and plants, the pleasure of fresh air, and the warmth of sunshine while getting their hands dirty with smiling faces. Above all - you have grown a community of people who have a greater connection with the food that sustains them and each other. Thank you for all you have done; it is greatly appreciated."

Elizabeth Takakjian

Master Gardener, Cornell Cooperative Extension









2013 Highlights

• Over 900 pounds of produce

• 167 pounds of produce were

donated to local food pantries

• 99 Garden Members/Volunteers

donated 472 hours of time

were harvested

OUR VOLUNTEERS

The gracious efforts of the many volunteers Mercy Haven welcomed in 2013 were very much appreciated. We thank our Board of Directors and Advisory Council for their dedication, as well as the many corporations, schools and individuals who chose to lend a hand. From preparing meals and mentoring in our Breakthrough program to collecting raffle gifts for our fundraising events; from maintaining our Community Garden to painting at our Community Residence; no task was too small to appreciate.

"IF THE ONLY PRAYER YOU SAID WAS THANK YOU, THAT WOULD BE ENOUGH."

— Meister Eckhart



- Bank of America
- Central Islip High School S.T.A.R. Club
- Holiday Magic
- Great South Bay Y.M.C.A. Youth Leaders
- CITI Corp.
- Holy Cross Alumni Society L.I. Chapter
- A Lifetime of Dance, Inc. "Step Sistas"

In 2013 219 Volunteers **Donated 1,883 Hours** Thank You!











and SUPPORTERS

The generous support of our friends, old and new, keeps the mission and vision of Mercy Haven at the forefront. Their contribution of time, effort and finances allows Mercy Haven to continue to offer the best possible services and programming for our residents and our surrounding communities.



WE ARE PROUD THAT 88 CENTS OF EVERY DOLLAR CONTRIBUTED SUPPORTS OUR PROGRAMS AND SERVICES.

In 2013, our supporters contributed in a number of different ways including:

- Sponsoring and attending our Golf Outing,
 Gifts of Stocks/Securities November Cocktail Party and other events • Estate/Planned Giving
- Monthly Giving
- Responding to our direct mail campaigns

- Employer Matching Gift Programs
- Gifts In-Kind/Merchandise

We Value... Collaboration. When I was first asked to submit an application to become a Board Member I could not have been more eager. I knew I wanted to contribute beyond my work day, to collaborate with a group that had palpable values.

The day I received my acceptance letter I recognized what a gift I had been given. As a member of a warm and selfless group of people you soon feel that you have had a spiritual awakening - a vision, of sorts - of what can be done in a world so tempered with disillusionment and heartache.

But the real benefit is being with fellow Board Members and Residents who see the world just a little bit differently. I have been truly blessed and very grateful.

> **Gail Donheiser Board of Directors**

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If we've misspelled or omitted your name, please accept our apologies and let us know so we can make it right!

Miriam Serano

Dr. and Mrs. Rajagopal Seshadri

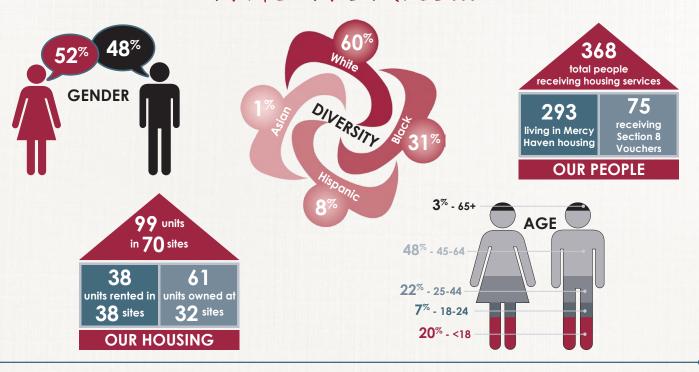
MERCY HAVEN'S 2013 FINANCIAL REPORT

The following Information is derived from the Mercy Haven Consolidated Audited Financial Statement for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2013, as audited by Cullen & Danowski, LLP, CPA.

Income Sources	
Government Contracts and Grants	\$ 3,178,469
Resident Services	2,528,198
Contribution and Fundraising Income	286,323
Grant Income	563,462
Investment Income	126,924
Other Income Net	61,830
Total Income Sources	\$ 6,745,206
Program Expenses	
Program Services	\$ 6,294,260
Supporting services	683,206
Fundraising and Development	137,101
Total Program Expenses	\$ 7,114,567
Change in Net Assets	(369,361)
Beginning Net Assets	2,082,290
Ending Net Assets	1,712,929
Total Liabilities	8,253,636
Total Assets	\$ 9,966,565

Mercy Haven, Inc. is committed to responsible and transparent stewardship of the funds we receive from our supporters, both public and private.

WHO WE ARE ...





859 Connetquot Avenue Suite 10 Islip Terrace, NY 11752 631-277-8300 www.mercyhaven.org Non-Profit Org. U.S. Postage PAID Permit No. 125 Sayville, N.Y. 11782

SAVE THE DATES!

Mercy Haven's 15th Annual Golf Outing Thursday, June 5, 2014 Island Hills Golf Club Sayville, NY

Mercy Haven's 29th Annual Cocktail Party Sunday, November 2, 2014 Southward Ho Country Club Bay Shore, NY

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Executive Director

S. Patricia Griffith, D. Min., LMSW

"SOMEONE'S SITTING IN THE SHADE TODAY BECAUSE SOMEONE PLANTED A TREE A LONG TIME AGO."

— Warren Buffett



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