



Long Island Imagine Awards

Recognizing Innovation & Leadership in the Nonprofit Sector

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

**MERCY HAVEN, INC. NAMED AS FINALIST IN
10th ANNUAL LONG ISLAND IMAGINE AWARDS**

*Long Island Imagine Awards Winners to Be Announced on Tuesday,
April 26, 2022 at the Crest Hollow Country Club*

ISLIP TERRACE, NY – FEBRUARY 4, 2022 – Mercy Haven, Inc. was named a Finalist in the Leadership Excellence category in the 10th Annual Long Island Imagine Awards.

The Long Island Imagine Awards was created to offer formal acknowledgement to some of Long Island's most effective and innovative nonprofit organizations. Having successfully transitioned to virtual platforms for the past two years due to the pandemic, the Long Island Imagine Awards is thrilled to celebrate their 10th Annual event in-person as well as offering a hybrid feature.

Winners will be announced LIVE at the awards gala at the Crest Hollow Country Club on Tuesday, April 26 2022. Nominated organizations, their constituents and the Long Island business community are expected to attend.

Approximately 150 entries were submitted for consideration in 5 categories, including Innovation, Leadership Excellence, Rising Star, Social Impact and Arts & Culture. Mercy Haven, Inc. is one of four finalists in the Leadership Excellence category, nominating **John Castellano, Director & Attorney in Charge of their Mercy Advocacy Program; a free legal services and advocacy program provided for Mercy Haven's participants as a means to address the legal barriers to housing and economic stability faced by those who are homeless while living with mental illness.**

John Castellano and Sister Patricia Griffith, Executive Director, innovatively created this program 24 years ago, recognizing how vital legal services were to stabilizing individuals in-crisis, and knowing there was no right to counsel for these individuals on civil legal cases. Having a lawyer on staff full-time is a very unique component for a supportive housing agency, and one that lends to Mercy Haven's fine reputation and successful outcomes in ending chronic homelessness on Long Island.

Finalists were chosen by Long Island business professionals during preliminary judging. Members of the Awards' Distinguished Judging Panel selected the Imagine Awards winners from among the Finalists during final judging.

“Being named a Finalist in The Long Island Imagine Awards is an important achievement,” said Ken Cerini, Founder of the Long Island Imagine Awards. “It means that the Organization has been identified as a leader on Long Island, exhibiting impactful and innovative operations. Congratulations to all of the Finalists on their achievement.”

Details about Long Island Imagine Awards and the list of Finalists in all categories are available at <https://imagineawardsli.com/the-awards/>

About Mercy Haven, Inc.

Since its start in 1985 as a mental health housing and support provider for single adults, the agency has expanded to serve individuals, including families, facing homelessness in addition to mental illness. Mercy Haven's person-centered purpose is to provide supportive services in tandem with affordable housing to improve mental and physical health, develop independent living and life skills, while also addressing legal barriers to housing and economic stability. Mercy Haven owns and rents 65 sites across Long Island, representing 119 units of housing with stabilizing services for 304 individuals in-crisis.

About The Imagine Awards

The Imagine Awards was created in 2012 on Long Island by Managing Partner, Ken Cerini of Cerini & Associates, LLP. Honoring nonprofit organizations of all types and sizes and the people behind them, the Imagine Awards recognize outstanding performances in the sector. 2022 will represent the 10th Annual Long Island Imagine Awards imagineawardsli.com and the 2nd Annual event in NYC, NYCimagineawards.com.

