

EPIC Family



Summer 2021 Newsletter

EPIC Long Island & Epilepsy Foundation Long Island

1500 Hempstead Tpke.
East Meadow, NY 11554
(516) 739 - 7733

South Shore Child Guidance Center

91 Guy Lombardo Ave.
Freeport, NY 11520
(516) 868 - 3030

www.epicli.org



A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT & CEO



"Everything good, everything magical happens between the months of June and August."

- Jenny Han

"Sometimes I wonder what I'm gonna do 'Cause there ain't no cure for the summertime blues."

- Alan Jackson

Ah, the joys of summer – vacations and holidays, sunshine, warmth, swimming, long days of easy living. Summer is the time we dreamed of all winter: it's when the kids are free of the drudgery of school and the adults are free to relax a bit from the work routine.

At EPIC, this summer has been a time when day programs reopened, families visited their loved ones in our group homes, and we all reconnected with each other. At South Shore, we have celebrated the purchase of our new home at 114 Church Street in Freeport, as well as the award of a four-million dollar grant from the Federal government that will allow us to dramatically enhance the variety of services that we can offer to people in need. This has been a good time.

This has also been the second summer of the COVID era. In vivid contrast to last year, we are now able to do something about eliminating this threat. Vaccines have allowed us to minimize the chance of serious illness and to make tentative steps toward enjoying a "normal" summer.

Unfortunately, because of vaccine resistance and the rise of viral variants, our initial optimism is being replaced by the sobering sense that we still have a long way to go.

So, enjoy the summer. Go to the beach. Put the top down on the car. Celebrate the weekends and holidays at cook-outs with those you love. But, as you do these things, be safe. Wear that mask, wash those hands and, above all, get vaccinated!

If you do all those things, I promise that my 2022 summer note will be all sunshine, lollipops, and rainbows! Stay well.

-Tom

South Shore Child Guidance Center's Spring Fling



Thank you to everyone who supported the
Virtual Spring Fling!



Each Spring, we gather together in Cow Meadow Park in Freeport to support the programs and services of the South Shore Child Guidance Center.

It is an event filled with fun, cheer and sense of community.

These past two years, we have not been able to gather in large groups but that doesn't stop the enthusiasm of our staff or supporters!

Throughout the month of May, students, clinicians, teachers, board members, family, and friends walked in their local communities - some keeping up the tradition by walking in Cow Meadow Park. From the support of our sponsors and our individual fundraisers, we raised over

\$13,600!

Thank you one and all!



THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

EPIC Family Sponsors

The Dr. Adele V. Deckinger Family Foundation, Inc.



Gold Sponsor



Bronze Sponsor



Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) awards \$4 million grant to South Shore Child Guidance Center

SSCGC submitted a proposal and is approved to receive a \$4 million grant over a two year period as part of the federal expansion of Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic models. The funding will enable SSCGC to implement systems that increase access to behavioral health and substance use clinical services, streamline and coordinate care, and improve both behavioral health and physical health outcomes. We proudly share of this accomplishment and look forward to providing updates on the expansion of our clinic services.

114 Church Street, Freeport

We have closed on our new building at 114 Church Street in Freeport! With a \$3.5 million grant from the New York State Department of Health and a percentage of matching funds from foundations and private donors, the new building will offer the opportunity to provide our expanded set of services in a new, larger but warm and welcoming space. The location will allow SSCGC to continue providing effective treatment and vital services for the children, adults, and families of Freeport and the surrounding communities.

We will provide updates on our progress as we plan to open by early Fall 2022!

EPIC Long Island Residential Nurses honored by the United Way as Workforce Heroes

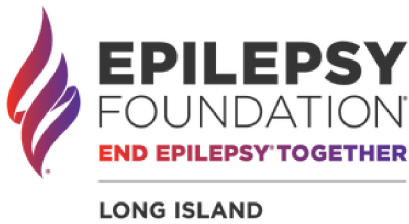
On June 16, the United Way of Long Island honored Workforce Heroes in an online event entitled, *A Virtual Salute; Honor a Hero*. Heroes were nominated from healthcare, retail, restaurant, non-profit, food grocery, public service, education, small businesses, and labor unions. The United Way showcased the honorees on a Wall of Heroes during a livestreamed event. All Heroes were awarded certificates and salute kits for their work.

EPIC Long Island nominated the Residential Nurses who have been instrumental in the care of the individuals during these challenging times. The following is a the writeup that was highlighted on the Wall of Heroes:

The residential nursing roles entail education, prevention, and support. Residential nurses are responsible for coordination of care provided by consultants and all members of the multidisciplinary team, as well as interpreting healthcare needs of the individuals in their care and educating members of the team. The EPIC Long Island Residential nurses serve as advocates and create an environment that supports good health practices. COVID-19 was not a battle they signed up for, but one for which they took up arms and fought. They chose selflessness over self-preservation in caring for all individuals and providing education and guidance to the staff. As needed, the residential nurses adjusted their hours, sometimes working long days to ensure the health and safety of the individuals and staff. In many circumstances, the nurses took personal time to communicate with physicians, hospital staff, and families to secure care and comfort for the hospitalized individuals.

Caring, empathy, flexibility, problem solving skills, & attention to detail are just a few qualities that a great nurse must possess, & every nurse on the EPIC Long Island Residential Nursing Team embodies these very qualities.





Education & Outreach

EFLI continues to offer monthly virtual trainings for the Seizure Recognition and First Aid Certification. These trainings are open to the public and for anyone who wants to know how to identify seizures and know what to do (and what NOT to do!) when someone has a seizure. Currently, over 300 people have been certified. To find out more information or to register for one of these trainings, please contact Janet Romeo: jromeo@epicli.org

Save the Dates!

Walk to END EPILEPSY

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 16

Eisenhower Park

Regional Epilepsy Conference

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 13

(Online Webinar)

For more information about the programs, services, and advocacy efforts of the Epilepsy Foundation Long Island, please visit our website:

www.epicli.org/epilepsy