

L I C H

Long Island Coalition for the Homeless, Inc.

600 Albany Avenue, Suite 2 • Amityville, New York 11701 • 631.464.4314 Fax 631.464.4319

The Long Island Coalition for the Homeless is excited to announce that it has been awarded \$900,000 in capital funding for the Veterans Community Resource Center in Amityville! This funding was made possible by Majority Leader Charles Schumer, through an allocation as part of the Congressionally Directed Spending budget.

“One homeless vet is one too many, and I am proud I fought hard and secured \$900,000 for the Long Island Coalition for the Homeless (LICH) to improve their Veterans Community Resource Center. The funding will make much-needed infrastructure improvements to the Amityville facility so that LICH their many partner organizations can continue helping our veterans, seniors, and so many others each day in a safe, secure environment,” said **Senator Chuck Schumer**.

The Community Resource Center provides critical housing and services for veterans, seniors, children and adults with disabilities and homeless and at-risk Long Islanders. It serves as a one-stop for Long Islanders in need to access a multitude of services, all in one place. Staff of the nine non-profits in the building work together to serve mutual clients in a centralized location, working collaboratively and reducing the amount of time clients have to travel to multiple appointments. The Community Resource Center also offers space to residents of Amityville, where they can hold community meetings and trainings. The Center has a distribution center of essential items that is open to the community, and hosts four mobile pantry days for the community, so they can access fresh, healthy food.

“We are so grateful to Senator Schumer for his ongoing support of the Coalition and the Community Resource Center. Thanks to the Senator’s help, we will be able to complete the work needed to continue operating our essential services for Long Islanders in need,” said **Charles Russo, LICH Board Chair**.

Ralph Fasano, Executive Director of Concern Housing and Board member of LICH, said *“Senator Schumer came through to expedite Concern’s application for Liberty Village, clearing the way for the development of 60 units of permanent affordable housing for Veterans. We are thankful that today, he is again helping those veterans and others, by supporting the restoration of the Amityville Veterans Community Resource Center. “*

The Veterans Community Garden, located at the Center, is also available to members of the community. Lastly, the Center has been a hub for health-related resources in the community, including hosting COVID-19 Vaccination events for the community. The Center, with a bus stop directly in front of its property and adjacent to two housing developments (including Liberty Village Veterans residence), is easily accessible to low-income individuals and those who use public transportation.

(See next page)

Address the Homeless.

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Other services in the building include the Family Service League. They operate the Adult Care Management/Health Home services program from the Veterans Community Resource Center. Our team works to coordinate the care and meet a wide array of critical needs for individuals with Medicaid who have mental illness and/or chronic physical illness. *“Deepest appreciation to Senator Schumer for again recognizing the importance of helping veterans by supporting the restoration of the Amityville Veterans Community Resource Center,”* stated **Karen Boorshtein, FSL President & CEO.**

The 40,000 sq. ft. building, which was built in 1985, is in serious need of repairs and upgrades. The much-needed funds will allow for refacing and sealing of the exterior brick façade and parapets; replacement of an old and inefficient HVAC system to one that can support MERV 13 filters to protect against COVID; installation of new, energy-efficient windows; installation of automatic doors, toilets, faucets, water fountains and other fixtures for both handicap accessibility and to limit touching and contamination of surfaces.

Greta Guarton, Executive Director of Long Island Coalition for the Homeless, said *“Many thanks to Senator Schumer for his help in making the Amityville Community Resource Center a reality. With this help, we look forward to serving over 1,200 visitors to our center each month.”*

Partners in the Amityville Community Resource Center (CRC):

- Long Island Coalition for the Homeless
- Concern for Independent Living
- United Veterans Beacon House
- Services for the Underserved
- Options for Community Living
- Family Service League
- EOC of Suffolk County
- Urban League of Westchester County – Long Island Division
- Kids Need More

For more information about the Long Island Coalition for the Homeless, Community Resource Center or the Congressionally Designated Spending award, please feel free to contact Greta Guarton at gguarton@addresssthehomeless.org

(Distributed on 4/14/22 by FSL on behalf of LICH)

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