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**April 24, 2026 - FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **CN Guidance Hosts Its Largest Charity Event of the Year to Support Behavioral Health Care During a Time of Growing Need**



L to R: Jeffrey Friedman, CNG CEO; Alice Marie Rorke, Kenny McDonough, Hira Ruskin, Nancy Manigat, CNG COO; Jeffrey Friedman, Stephanie Bontempi, Suffolk County Legislature; Dr. Sylvia Diaz, Deputy Suffolk County Executive; Mary Silberstein, CNG Snr. Director; John Kennedy, Suffolk County Controller; Nancy Manigat, James O'Brien, CNG Board President; Lisa La Macchia, CNG Board Member and family; and Kayla Miata, CNG Snr Director

**(Smithtown, NY)** The 3<sup>rd</sup> annual CN Guidance *Basket of Hope* gala, held April 22nd at Stonebridge Country Club, honored lives lost to mental health and substance use issues while supporting those facing similar challenges. It comes at time of increased funding risk at the federal and state levels impacting area nonprofits.

Nearly 300 leaders from Long Island area businesses, civic organizations, and behavioral health providers; and public officials gathered, and honored achievements in mental health and substance use treatment and prevention; heard inspirational words; and donated one of the largest amounts raised in the agency's history.

Hira Ruskin, Northwell Health VP of Operations at Health Management and mental health advocate; Alice Marie Rorke, Executive Director of the Townwide Fund of Huntington; and Kenny McDonough, Technical Director & Head Property Master at Radio City Music Hall, IATSE Local One, were recognized for their work in the community supporting CNG's behavioral health mission.

"We are deeply grateful to our generous supporters and honorees for their extraordinary commitment to our community and for making this such a meaningful and successful evening, especially at a time when the need across Long Island continues to grow," said CN Guidance CEO Jeffrey Friedman.

***About CN Guidance:** Serving children and adults with mental and emotional disorders since 1972, CN Guidance and Counseling Services delivers NY-State licensed mental health and substance use treatment services – especially to economically disadvantaged individuals and families, including many communities of color – working in partnership with county government and other community services. With deep, localized knowledge of Nassau County and Suffolk County communities, 24-hr crisis center, mobile fleet, and telehealth capabilities, CN Guidance maintains an exemplary track record of delivering outreach and high-quality behavioral healthcare to more than 25,000 individuals per year. For more information, visit <https://cnguidance.org/>*