



— 2026 LONG ISLAND BUSINESS —
INFLUENCERS
— LONG ISLAND BUSINESS NEWS —
HEALTHCARE

Jeffrey Friedman

LIBN Staff//July 24, 2026//

Chief Executive Officer

CN Guidance & Counseling Services

Jeffrey Friedman is chief executive officer of CN Guidance & Counseling Services, a nonprofit behavioral health organization serving individuals and families across Long Island affected by mental health and substance use disorders. He has led CN Guidance since 2013, bringing more than 30 years of nonprofit executive experience serving vulnerable and at-risk communities in the New York metropolitan area.

Under Friedman's leadership, CN Guidance has grown from 150 staff members serving 3,000 people to more than 400 employees annually impacting more than 26,000 individuals. The agency now delivers more than 60 clinical, residential and community-based programs for children, young adults, families, homeless individuals, people with disabilities, veterans and seniors.

Friedman has guided major expansions in behavioral healthcare access on Long Island. CN Guidance launched the region's first Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic, integrating mental health, substance use and primary care. In partnership with New York State, the agency also established Nassau County's first Mobile Recovery Unit, bringing substance use services directly into the community.

In December 2025, CN Guidance opened The Community Crisis Center in partnership with New York State and Nassau County. The 24/7/365 crisis stabilization center provides an alternative to emergency rooms for people experiencing mental health or substance use crises.

During Friedman's tenure, the number of people housed in CN Guidance residential programs has nearly doubled to more than 300. The agency is also planning to expand services into Queens in 2026.

Friedman recently introduced Arnie, a specially trained wellness dog, to bring comfort and emotional support to clients and staff during stressful times.