



SECOND ANNUAL

GALA

Unmasking HEALTH DISPARITIES

A MASQUERADE FOR
EQUITY & IMPACT

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2026

MARINA DEL REY
BRONX, NEW YORK



*Removing the Masks.
Revealing the Need.
Advancing the Mission.*



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Monique Dennis-Farrington

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Gilbert Plaza

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Jacqueline Tripodi



Evening Program

COCKTAIL HOUR

6:00 PM

Light music, step & repeat photos,
silent auction opens

WELCOME & OPENING REMARKS

7:00 PM

Michele Quigley, Chief Executive Officer

DINNER SERVICE

7:15 PM

Guests encouraged to mingle and
visit silent auction

AWARDS PRESENTATION

7:45 PM

Metro Community Health Centers Video

*Monique Dennis-Farrington – Joyce Levin
Memorial Award*

*Jacqueline “Jacki” C. Leifer – Duane Schielke
Memorial Award*

SILENT AUCTION CLOSES

9:45 PM

Last chance to enter the silent auction

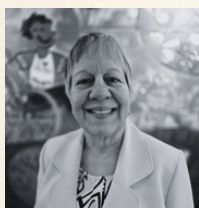
Meet The Team



Michele Quigley, MPA

Chief Executive Officer

Michele brings over 35 years of experience in healthcare and nonprofit leadership, with a deep commitment to individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. With expertise in strategic growth, operational excellence, and person-centered care, she continues to lead MCHC with vision and purpose.



Nellie Santiago-Rivera, MBA

Chief Operating Officer

Nellie oversees operations across all Metro Community Health Centers and has over two decades of experience in healthcare administration. With a strong background in improving systems for underserved communities, Nellie is dedicated to driving impactful change through operational leadership.



Sonya Maxwell, RN, MS

Chief Quality Officer

With over 40 years in healthcare, Sonya leads quality, compliance, and risk management at MCHC. A lifelong advocate for patients with special needs, her leadership ensures safe, high-quality care across all sites. She brings deep nursing experience and a passion for equity in healthcare.



Kerry-Ann Dacres, MS

Controller

Kerry-Ann supports Metro's financial operations and continued growth, bringing more than 15 years of experience in accounting, budgeting, financial reporting, and strategic planning. Her expertise and collaborative approach help strengthen Metro's financial foundation and support the organization's continued growth and impact.



Dr. Andrea Nichols, MD

Medical Director

Dr. Nichols brings years of clinical experience and a deep commitment to caring for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. As Medical Director, she leads Metro's clinical teams with a focus on quality, accessibility, compassion, and care that meets each patient where they are.

A Letter From Our CEO

Dear Friends,

Welcome, and thank you for joining us for this very special evening. This year's theme, Unmasking Health Disparities, speaks directly to the work we do every day at Metro Community Health Centers. Across our five boroughs, too many people still face barriers to receiving the healthcare they need—and those barriers can be especially profound for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, autism, and other neurological differences.

One area that weighs heavily on me is behavioral health. People with autism and developmental disabilities face significantly higher risks of mental health challenges and suicide, yet finding appropriate, accessible behavioral healthcare can be incredibly difficult. At Metro, we are committed to changing that. We are proud to provide specialized care that recognizes the whole person and meets patients and families where they are. And we know that we cannot do this work alone.

I am deeply grateful to our partners, including CP U, HeartShare, Harlem Congregation for Community Improvement, AHRC NYC, and so many others who share our commitment to building a healthier and more inclusive New York. Tonight, we are also honored to celebrate Jacki Leifer and Monique Dennis-Farrington. We thank them for their commitment to our community and are proud to recognize their contributions.

As we celebrate tonight, I hope you will also consider how you can help us continue this important work. Your partnership and generosity allow Metro to reach more people, expand access to all healthcare, and ensure that no one is left behind. Together, we can do more than unmask disparities. We can change what happens next. Thank you for believing in Metro, for believing in the people we serve, and for being part of our community.

With gratitude and hope,
Michele Quigley, MPA

Annual Report:

Expanding Access. Strengthening Communities.

In 2025, Metro continued to expand access to comprehensive, compassionate healthcare across New York City. Through more than 53,000 patient visits, our teams provided care across medical, dental, behavioral health, psychiatry and specialty services, while continuing to reach patients through telehealth and welcome new people into the Metro community.

2025 PATIENT VISITS — BY SERVICE —

53,473

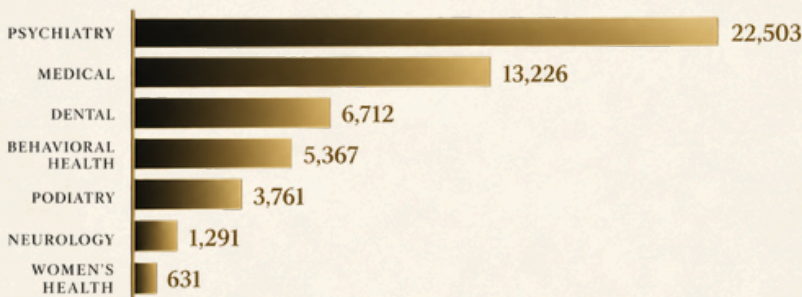
TOTAL
PATIENT VISITS

15,097

TELEHEALTH
VISITS

1,353

NEW PATIENTS
WELCOMED



Each visit tells a story of care, connection and trust. As Metro continues to grow, so does our commitment to breaking down barriers and making quality healthcare more accessible to the communities we serve.

More access. More connection. A healthier New York.



Care Beyond Our Walls

Expanding access through Metro's partnership with HCCI and MedPod

In 2026, Metro Community Health Centers continued exploring new ways to bring healthcare closer to the people we serve. Through our partnership with HCCI, Metro introduced MedPod technology designed to extend care beyond the traditional health center setting and support greater access to services in the community and at home.



MedPod brings portable clinical technology directly to the patient, giving care teams tools to support examinations and connect patients with providers from locations outside of a traditional exam room. For Metro, this model creates new possibilities for reaching people who may face barriers to accessing care at one of our health centers.



The pilot includes two MedPod units, one based at Metro and another intended for use off-site in the community. As our teams train with the technology and explore how it can best support patients, the initiative represents an important step toward a more flexible and accessible model of care.



Bringing the exam room closer to the patient.

Advocacy in Action

Standing together for the future of community health

In March, Metro Community Health Centers brought together health center leaders, patients, advocates, and community partners in the Bronx to call attention to the critical role Community Health Centers play across New York.



As part of a statewide advocacy effort, speakers shared what is at stake for the millions of New Yorkers who depend on community-based care and called for greater investment to protect access to essential health services.





“They helped my family through COVID, taught me how to care for my son, and made sure we had the support we needed without ever making me feel embarrassed asking for help.”

– MONIQUE DENNIS-FARRINGTON

Metro Board Member & Parent Advocate

“When Medicaid is threatened, the care we provide is threatened, and it is our most vulnerable neighbors who feel it first.”

– MICHELE QUIGLEY

CEO, Metro Community Health Centers

“When most people call a doctor’s office, the first question they’re asked is, ‘What insurance do you have?’ Community Health Centers are different. We serve everyone.”

– JUDITH WATSON

CEO, Westchester Community Health Center &
CHCANYS Board President

“Community Health Centers are the backbone of care for millions of New Yorkers, including older adults and people with disabilities who rely on community-based services to live healthy, independent lives.”

– DR. ANDERSON TORRES

President & CEO, RAIN Total Care

Advocacy Beyond Our Walls

Taking Metro's Voice to Albany

Metro joined Community Health Centers from across New York for CHCANYS Advocacy Day in Albany, bringing the needs of our patients and communities directly to state leaders. Together, we advocated for stronger investments in community-based healthcare and policies that help ensure New Yorkers can access the care and services they need.



Advocating for Community Health Centers

The 2026 advocacy agenda included a proposed \$300 million investment in Community Health Centers, along with priorities around protecting 340B savings, expanding telehealth access, and strengthening New York's healthcare safety net. Metro was proud to stand alongside health centers from across the state to advocate for the resources needed to continue serving patients and communities.



Advocacy Beyond Our Walls

Welcoming Bronx Borough President Vanessa L. Gibson

In June, Metro welcomed Bronx Borough President Vanessa L. Gibson to our Bronx health center. The visit was an opportunity to share Metro's mission, highlight the impact of community-based healthcare, and discuss the importance of expanding access to quality care throughout the Bronx.

Her visit reflected the importance of strong relationships between Community Health Centers and the leaders who serve the communities around them. The Borough President's FY2026 capital priorities also included investments in Bronx hospitals and clinics to support healthcare services and community outreach.



Investing in Access

Metro Awarded \$1.34 Million for Bronx Expansion



This year marked a major milestone for Metro Community Health Centers with a \$1,343,962 award from the New York State Office for People With Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD) to support the renovation and expansion of Dental and Behavioral Health services at our Bronx health center.



The investment will help Metro strengthen the spaces where patients receive care and expand our ability to provide accessible, high-quality services for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and the broader Bronx community.



In June, Metro welcomed OPWDD Commissioner Willow Baer to our Bronx center to recognize the award and see our work firsthand. The visit brought together Metro leadership, board members, partners, patients and community members to celebrate what this investment will make possible.

An Evening with Metro

Bringing friends, partners, and supporters together around our mission

In June, Metro brought together friends, partners, and supporters in Manhattan for An Evening with Metro, an opportunity to connect outside of the health center and celebrate the relationships that help move our mission forward.

The evening began with a reception hosted at Fox Rothschild LLP and continued at Five Iron Golf at Grand Central, bringing together members of the Metro community for conversation, connection, and a little friendly competition.

Events like this are about more than fundraising. They strengthen the partnerships behind our work and introduce more people to Metro's mission, helping us build a broader community committed to expanding access to compassionate, high-quality healthcare.

Thank you to Nuvem Pharmacy & Wellness and NFP for supporting An Evening with Metro, and to our friends, partners, and guests who joined us.



Community Beyond the Exam Room

Celebrating the people who make Metro a community



Healthcare is about more than what happens during an appointment. At Metro, building healthier communities also means creating opportunities for people to connect, celebrate, and simply enjoy time together.

This summer, Metro's Family Fun Day brought patients, families, and staff together for a day filled with food, activities, swimming, and plenty of fun. Even a little summer rain couldn't stop the celebration.

It was a chance to step outside of our everyday routines and spend time together as one Metro community, strengthening the relationships that are at the heart of everything we do.

Thank you to all of our amazing Metro staff!

O U R
VISION
Forward

BUILDING A HEALTHIER, MORE EQUITABLE
NEW YORK TOGETHER.

As we look ahead, we are building on the momentum of this year to expand access, strengthen our communities, and create more opportunities for the people we serve. Our vision is rooted in the same commitment that has always guided us: a New York where everyone has the opportunity to live a healthier, fuller life.

MORE
Access

Bringing care closer to our communities through expanded services, innovative care models like MedPod, and greater use of telehealth and outreach.

STRONGER
Communities

Deepening partnerships across New York City, growing our outreach, and creating more opportunities for patients, families, and community members to connect and thrive.

GREATER
Impact

Investing in our centers, including the \$1.34 million OPWDD-funded Dental and Behavioral Health renovation in the Bronx, and introducing new technology and infrastructure to better serve our patients.

A MORE
**Inclusive
Tomorrow**

Keeping people with intellectual and developmental disabilities at the center of our mission, addressing barriers to care, and ensuring our services, spaces, and policies reflect the needs and voices of all New Yorkers.

*Healthier people. Stronger communities.
A brighter, more inclusive tomorrow.*

THE NEXT CHAPTER
BELONGS TO ALL OF US.



In Memoriam



Duane Schielke spent his life lifting others up. From his early days as a direct care counselor to leading organizations like Aspire of Western New York and CP of NYS, Duane was a visionary who never lost sight of the people at the heart of his work.

He believed that services should empower, not limit—and he dedicated his career to building systems that made that possible. Duane's legacy lives on in the programs he helped shape, the teams he mentored, and the countless lives he impacted with his compassion, wisdom, and unwavering commitment. The Duane Schielke Award honors the values he carried throughout his life: care, equity, and a deep belief in what's possible when we lead with heart.

Joyce Levin devoted 36 years to HeartShare and to the people and families at the heart of its mission. She was a fierce advocate, a steady presence, and a deeply compassionate leader who believed in the dignity and potential of every person she served.



Her work was driven by love—for her community, her colleagues, and the individuals whose lives she helped change for the better. Joyce had a way of making people feel seen, heard, and supported. That spirit lives on in those who were lucky enough to work with her and learn from her. The Joyce Levin Award celebrates her legacy of warmth, strength, and tireless dedication to others.

Recipient of the Duane Schielke Memorial Award



Jacqueline “Jacki” C. Leifer

*Senior Partner, Powers Pyles Sutter &
Verville PC*

For Jacqueline “Jacki” C. Leifer, a commitment to healthcare has always been personal. Raised in a family of healthcare professionals, Jacki found her own path to the field through law and discovered what would become a lifelong calling: strengthening community health centers and expanding access to care.

Her commitment took on even greater meaning through her experience as the mother of a son with autism. Navigating the challenges of finding appropriate services gave Jacki a firsthand understanding of the barriers families can face, particularly those caring for loved ones with developmental disabilities.

Throughout her distinguished career, Jacki has dedicated her expertise to supporting community health centers and advancing a model of care that puts people and communities first. She has been a steadfast advocate for removing barriers to healthcare and ensuring that families, regardless of circumstance, have access to the care and support they need.

Jacki’s belief in the power of community health closely reflects Metro’s own mission. As she reminds us, community health centers should never be a “best-kept secret.” They should be known, supported, and accessible to everyone who needs them.

Metro Community Health Centers is proud to honor Jacki with the 2026 Duane Schielke Award in recognition of her extraordinary commitment to community health, advocacy, and access to care.

Recipient of the Joyce Levin Memorial Award

Monique Dennis-Farrington

Metro Board Member, Parent Advocate



Monique Dennis-Farrington has been one of Metro's most dedicated advocates, bringing an extraordinary level of commitment, compassion, and heart to our organization and the people we serve.

As a longtime member of Metro's Board of Directors and the parent of a Metro patient, Monique brings an invaluable perspective to our work. She consistently uses her voice to advocate for patients and families, ensuring their experiences and needs are represented in the decisions we make.

But Monique's commitment extends far beyond the boardroom. She has supported Metro's food pantry, participated in advocacy efforts, spoken on Metro's behalf, and shown up month after month to help us find new ways to strengthen the patient experience. Whether it is a community event, an important initiative, or simply a moment when Metro needs her, Monique is there.

Her dedication reflects what true advocacy looks like: listening, speaking up, getting involved, and showing up again and again for the people and community you believe in.

Metro Community Health Centers is proud to honor Monique Dennis-Farrington with the 2026 Joyce Levin Award in recognition of her exceptional advocacy, service, and unwavering commitment to Metro's patients and families.

CONGRATULATIONS TO

Jacki Leifer

HONORED WITH THE
**2026 Duane
Schielke
Award**

PRESENTED BY
Metro Community
Health Centers



For more than four decades, Jacki has been a dedicated advocate and trusted advisor to community health centers in New York and across the country. Her leadership has helped health centers navigate complex legal and regulatory issues while advancing access to high-quality care and strengthening the communities they serve.

Celebrating
leadership, advocacy,
& impact.

*Congratulations, Jacki,
from your colleagues at Powers.*

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Joseph P. Addabbo
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PEOPLE | HEALTH | STRONGER COMMUNITIES

CONGRATULATIONS



Metro Community Health Centers

ON YOUR SECOND ANNUAL GALA

Joseph P. Addabbo Family Health Center
proudly congratulates Metro Community Health Centers
and celebrates your continued commitment to
**compassionate care, health equity,
and stronger communities.**

Wishing you continued growth, impact, and success.

With warmest congratulations from

Renee Hastick-Motes, MPA, CEO
Board of Directors, Leadership & Staff

Joseph P. Addabbo Family Health Center

ROOTED IN COMMUNITY.
COMPASSIONATE CARE. CLOSE TO HOME.



Heartshare celebrates those who serve others. Congratulations to our friends at Metro Community Health Centers on their continued community impact.

www.heartshare.org



The background of the event title section features a dark, textured surface. On the left, a black masquerade mask with intricate gold filigree and a black feather is partially visible. On the right, three lit candles in gold holders cast a warm glow. A gold ribbon with a subtle pattern winds through the scene.

Unmasking
**HEALTH
DISPARITIES**

A MASQUERADE GALA
FOR EQUITY & IMPACT

 Honoring Health Equity Champions

The Way You Do Business Has Changed.
Has Your Technology?

Drive your organization forward with Atlantic's holistic approach to office technology solutions.

Our Solutions

- | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| ✓ Managed IT & Security | ✓ Business Applications |
| ✓ Data & AI | ✓ Managed Print Services |
| ✓ Office Copiers & MFP's | ✓ Unified Communication |
| ✓ Workflow Automation | ✓ Production Print |

THANK YOU TO
OUR GENEROUS HOST



Marina Del Rey
Elegance at the Waters Edge

FOR HOSTING OUR GALA
AND HELPING MAKE TONIGHT
SO SPECIAL.

SALUTING
**METRO COMMUNITY
HEALTH CENTERS**

Excedunt Solutions proudly supports Metro's 2026 Gala and their vital mission to enable access, eliminate disparities, and deliver compassionate care to our communities.

We applaud tonight's Health Equity Champions and stand with Metro in building a healthier, more accessible future for all.



*Exceed
Expectations
with Strategic
Solutions.*



www.exceduntsolutions.com



kmitchell@excedunt.com



Congratulations to MCHC & Jacki C.
Leifer from your friends at CP Unlimited



Lundbeck

is deeply committed to enhancing the lives of patients, families, and caregivers through focused innovation in neuroscience.



Martha, living with depression

Advancing brain health. Transforming lives.

Lundbeck is a global biopharmaceutical company focusing exclusively on brain health. With more than 70 years of experience in neuroscience, we are committed to improving the lives of people with neurological and psychiatric diseases.

As a focused innovator, we strive for our research and development programs to tackle some of the most complex neurological challenges. We develop transformative medicines targeting people for whom there are few or no treatments available.

To learn more, visit Lundbeck.com/US

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MHHC FOUNDATION
www.mhhcfoundation.org



CONGRATULATIONS!

MHHC Foundation congratulates Metro Community Health Centers for their outstanding support of accessible, high-quality healthcare for various communities.

With services spanning adult and geriatric medicine, pediatric care, maternal health mental health and many more, MHHC is proud to stand alongside partners who share our commitment to stronger, healthier communities.



**WHERE THE PATIENT IS AT THE
CENTER OF EVERYTHING WE DO.**

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COMMUNITY HEALTH
IMAGING LLC

Stronger communities.
Healthier futures.

PROUDLY SUPPORTING

Metro Community Health Centers

We celebrate your dedication to compassionate, accessible care and your commitment to building healthier communities.

To Metro's leadership, care teams, and this year's honorees: thank you for advancing health equity and making a meaningful difference in the lives of the patients and families you serve.

We are proud to stand with Metro and support your continued work—today and in the years ahead.

With gratitude and appreciation,
The Community Health Imaging LLC Team



Proudly Supports

*Metro Community Health Centers'
Second Annual Gala*

Congratulations

To

Jacqueline Leifer

Recipient of the 2026 Duane Schielke Award

*We celebrate her decades of leadership,
advocacy and dedication to community
health centers and expanding access to
high-quality health care*

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John Lombardi
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*wish success to
Metro Community Health Centers
in caring for those in need!*

About Metro Community Health Centers

For over 10 years, Metro Community Health Centers has provided compassionate, high-quality care to communities across New York City. We offer primary and specialty medical, dental, and behavioral health services—always with a focus on patients who are underserved, including those with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Our team of physicians, therapists, nurses, and support staff is dedicated to creating a welcoming, respectful environment where every patient feels seen and supported. No one is ever turned away based on their ability to pay.

This evening is a celebration of the people and partnerships that have helped us grow—and a reminder of the work still ahead. Thank you for being part of our mission.

Learn more at mchcnyc.org.

