



HISPANIC COUNSELING CENTER

47th Annual  
**GALA**

Celebrating 47 Years of Opening Doors to the Future  
for Long Island Children and Families

September 27, 2024  
Crest Hollow Country Club  
Woodbury, New York



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WELCOME TO  
HISPANIC COUNSELING CENTER'S

47th Annual  
**GALA**

Celebrating 47 Years of Opening Doors to the Future  
for Long Island Children and Families

HONORING

**JOHN Q. YOUNG, MD, MPP, PhD**

*Chair and SVP, Behavioral Health  
Northwell Health*

*Professor and Chair, Department of Psychiatry  
Zucker School of Medicine*



## A MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD PRESIDENT



Welcome and thank you for joining us today to celebrate the extraordinary accomplishments of the Hispanic Counseling Center, as well as recognizing our distinguished Honoree: John Q. Young, MD, MPP, PhD, Chair and SVP, Behavioral Health, Northwell Health. John is also Professor and Chair for the Department of Psychiatry at Zucker School of Medicine.

It has been an honor and a privilege to serve as the Fundraising Chair for the past ten years. My involvement with HCC as a volunteer for more than 20 years, and as Board President is an incredibly rewarding experience. The opportunity to volunteer and collaborate with the outstanding staff who provide such needed and crucial services to the Long Island community is truly gratifying.

The Hispanic Counseling Center is most blessed to have Claudia Boyle LMHC as CEO. Claudia's leadership and experience are vital as she works closely with the HCC staff to unconditionally serve the community. Claudia has been dedicated to the Hispanic Counseling Center community since her tenure began with HCC; her unwavering commitment to the community and staff of HCC translates to new levels of achievement each year.

You may not be aware, but events such as our gala are the agency's principal fundraising events. Your attendance and support are greatly appreciated and needed in order for HCC to continue to provide programs such as the After School Program and the Teen Drop In Center that the community so desperately needs. Today, we want to recognize and celebrate all the people who make HCC special, its generous supporters, its volunteers, and its special staff members, with special recognition to all the staff of the Hispanic Counseling Center.

I would like to thank the Board of Directors and the Fundraising Committee for their endless support and commitment to this event. Their willingness and responsiveness to support the gala is remarkable, and most appreciated, and has made my job as Chairperson an easy one. Many, many thanks are extended to everyone for giving of their time and energy in planning for this event.

Please enjoy this fabulous evening!

**Nanette Malebranche**

Board President and Gala Chair



## A MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



Esteemed guests, supporters and friends,

As we celebrate the 47th anniversary of the Hispanic Counseling Center, I am filled with a profound sense of pride and gratitude. This milestone is not only a testament to our resilience and dedication but also a reflection of the unwavering support we have received from the Long Island community and our many partners over nearly five decades.

When our journey began 47 years ago, the mission was clear: to provide compassionate, culturally sensitive services and support to the Hispanic community. From those early days of modest beginnings, we have grown into a cornerstone of our community, dedicated to empowering individuals and families through every phase of their lives.

Reflecting on HCC's growth, it is inspiring to see how far we have come. We have expanded our services to address a broader range of needs, from mental health and substance abuse counseling to educational workshops and family support programs. This growth has been driven by our commitment to adaptability and innovation, ensuring that we remain responsive to the evolving needs of those we serve.

Our success is deeply intertwined with the strength of our partnerships. Over the years, we have had the privilege of working alongside numerous organizations, institutions, and community leaders. These collaborations have allowed us to enhance our services, reach more individuals, and make a greater impact. As we look forward, we remain dedicated to nurturing and expanding these partnerships. Together, we can continue to build a stronger, more resilient community.

Today, we thank the countless individuals who have been a part of HCC's journey—the dedicated staff, who bring expertise and passion to every aspect of their work; the HCC Board of Directors, whose commitment strengthens the agency; and our clients, whose stories of growth and triumph inspire us daily. Each of you play a vital role in shaping HCC's legacy, and for that, we are profoundly grateful.

As we celebrate this 47th anniversary, let us also look ahead with optimism and determination. The future holds exciting opportunities for continued growth and impact. We are committed to advancing our mission with the same dedication and integrity that have guided us from the beginning. Together, we will continue to foster hope, promote well-being, and strengthen our community for many years to come.

Thank you for being an important part of this journey. Here's to the next chapter of HCC's story, and to the continued success of the Hispanic Counseling Center.

Warmest regards,

**Claudia M. Boyle, LMHC**  
Chief Executive Officer



## MISSION STATEMENT AND ORGANIZATION PROFILE

*The mission of the Hispanic Counseling Center is to enhance the strengths of Long Island's families and children through bilingual, bicultural counseling, prevention, vocational, and educational services to enrich their lives, foster economic independence, and nurture dreams for the generations to come.*

The Hispanic Counseling Center (HCC) is a multi-service agency with culturally competent, fully bilingual/bicultural treatment and prevention services for chemical dependency, mental illness, and youth and family services. The agency was established in 1977 by the Nassau County Department of Drug and Alcohol Addiction to provide substance abuse services to a growing Latino population in Nassau County. Services are available to anyone, regardless of race, religion, ethnicity, or economic status; no one in need is turned away due to an inability to pay or for lack of insurance. Programs include Mental Health; Chemical Dependency; Youth and Family Services; Child and Family Respite Support Services; Supported Housing for the Mentally Ill; Domestic Violence Prevention; Teen Drop In Center; and Mental Health Programs for People with HIV/AIDS.

Since its inception, HCC has grown from one program and four staff in a 600 square foot rental office, to ownership of a 38,000 square foot modern facility with 17 programs and a staff of 90 serving over 1,850 clients monthly in 2024.

HCC has the proud distinction of being the only agency in the region which is licensed by both the NY State Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services (OASAS) and the NY State Office of Mental Health (OMH) to provide bilingual, bicultural behavioral health services. In 1986 HCC was licensed by OASAS to provide substance abuse treatment, prevention, and education services, and alcohol abuse treatment. In 1990, HCC was licensed by OMH to operate the first bilingual/bicultural mental health outpatient treatment clinic in Nassau County.

HCC's current budget is just over \$9.3 million, with nearly half of the budget designated for mandated and contracted services as part of New York State funding to the agency, for the provision of mental health and chemical dependency services. Referrals are made to HCC in a variety of ways: the agency works closely with local hospitals and mental health outpatient clinics which refer patients under their care; with Nassau County agencies including the Department of Social Services, Child Protection Services, Family Court, the District Court, and the Probation Department; other social service agencies; local school districts including Freeport, Hempstead, Mineola, Uniondale, and Westbury; with churches and religious institutions, and with attorneys and medical providers.

HCC is well recognized in the Long Island community and throughout New York State. Agency programs demonstrate a high utilization and completion rate; the agency consistently meets funders' expectations; and the agency has historically been re-licensed for the maximum length of time. In addition to being recognized by regulating agencies and other social service providers, HCC is held in high regard by its target audience, the Hispanic and minority community population. As it has been over the past 47 years of service to Long Island, the Hispanic Counseling Center continues to be a beacon of hope for those in need.



## BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND GALA COMMITTEE

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Claudia Boyle, LMHC

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Nanette Malebranche\*

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Hossam Maksoud* <i>Community Care Rx</i>		* Board Member



## BOARD CONGRATULATIONS

# The HCC Board of Directors proudly congratulates the 2024 Gala Honoree

**JOHN Q. YOUNG, MD, MPP, PhD**

Chair and SVP, Behavioral Health

Northwell Health

Professor and Chair, Department of Psychiatry

Zucker School of Medicine

*The Board of Directors  
Hispanic Counseling Center Inc.*







## GALA HONOREE



### **JOHN Q. YOUNG, MD, MPP, PHD**

*Chair and SVP, Behavioral Health  
Northwell Health*

*Professor and Chair, Department of Psychiatry  
Zucker School of Medicine*

Dr. Young is professor and chair of the department of psychiatry at the Zucker School of Medicine and chair and senior vice president for behavioral health at Northwell. He is also chair of the department of psychiatry at the Zucker Hillside Hospital. Previously, he served as vice chair for education in the Department of Psychiatry at the Zucker School of Medicine and the Zucker Hillside Hospital. He also directed the Psychiatry Residency Training Program at ZHH and chaired the Curriculum Committee, which oversees the four-year curriculum at the ZSOM.

Prior to joining Northwell, Dr. Young served as associate professor of psychiatry at UCSF School of Medicine. He held several roles including Associate Director of Residency Training (2005-2012), Director of the Medication Management Clinics (2005-2012), and Chair for the Advanced Studies Committee at the School of Medicine. While at Kaiser Permanente Oakland Medical Center (2012-2013), he was Associate Director for their Longitudinal Integrated Clerkship and an investigator with Kaiser's Behavioral Health Research Initiative.

Dr. Young's research has focused on improving quality and patient safety in the clinical learning workplace. He has made important contributions including regarding: cognitive load, handoffs and patient safety; the 'July Effect'; professional identity formation; and workplace-based assessment in psychiatry.

Dr. Young has held leadership roles in numerous medical education organizations. He is the current President and former Program Chair of the American Association of Directors of Psychiatry Residency Training (AADPRT). He was a member of the National Board of Medical Examiner's (USMLE's) inaugural Patient Safety Test Materials Development Committee and now serves on the Evidence-Based Medicine Interdisciplinary Review Committee.

He received a B.A. (magna cum laude) from Harvard University with a double concentration in Social Studies and the Comparative Study of Religion. He earned a master's degree in Public Policy from the UC Berkeley Goldman School of Public Policy and a PhD in Health Professional Education from Utrecht University in The Netherlands. He obtained his MD from the University of California at San Francisco School of Medicine where he also completed residency training in general adult psychiatry.



## HISPANIC COUNSELING CENTER, INC.

- 1977** The Hispanic Counseling Center is established by the Nassau County Department of Drug and Alcohol Addiction to provide substance abuse treatment services to growing Hispanic population in Nassau County
- 1979** Nassau County Youth Board awards funding for prevention, education, and counseling services to limited English speaking youth and families
- 1986** HCC licensed by New York State to become first bilingual, bicultural alcohol and drug rehabilitation clinic in Nassau County
- 1987** Summer Program begins for children ages 7-12
- 1989** After school homework help and tutoring sessions are available to all school age children.
- 1992** HCC awarded license from New York State for mental health outpatient clinic
- 1993** Supported Housing Program inaugurated for mentally ill clients in need of housing
- 1994** English as a Second Language Program available to all HCC clients
- 1995** Respite Program begins, providing counseling and respite services for families with children having serious emotional problems
- 1996** Domestic Violence Program created to fill a gap in services for victims and perpetrators
- 1998** HCBS Waiver Program established to provide in-home services to developmentally disabled adults and children
- Literacy Program instituted to teach adults how to read and write in Spanish
- Early intervention Program created for children ages 0-3 and families to provide social work services at HCC and in the home
- 1999** Medicaid Service Coordination Program begins to provide case management for developmentally disabled adults and children
- 2001** Ryan White Mental Health Program begins for People with HIV/AIDS
- 2003** HCC moves to 344 Fulton Avenue Hempstead, the new building owned by the agency
- Teen Drop In Center begins
- 2008** HCC purchases 336 Fulton Ave Hempstead to expand the Mental Health program
- 2011** Kinship program begins to provide support to grandparents/ caregivers of children whose parents are incarcerated, deported or hospitalized



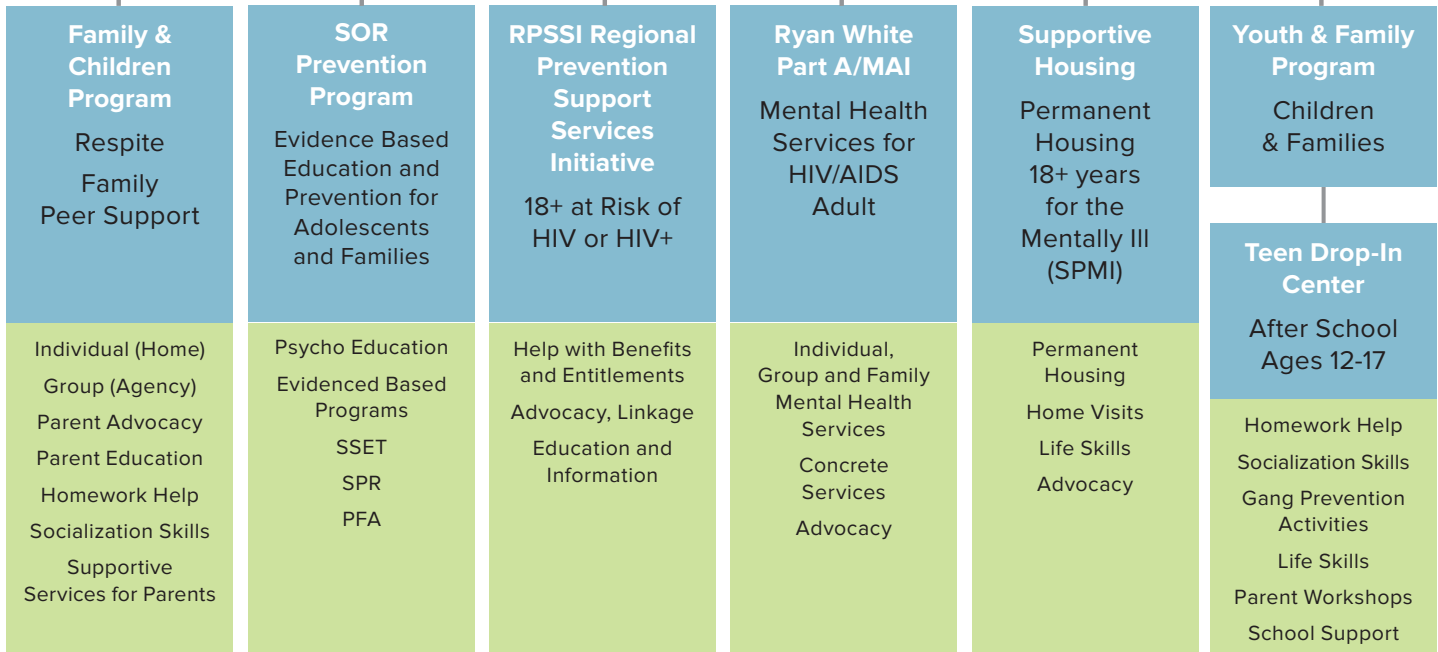
## TIMELINE AND HISTORY

- 2012** Project Hope starts after Super Storm Sandy to provide crisis counseling
- 2014** Super Storm Sandy Program provides multi-service support to storm victims
- 2017** Care Coordination to provide case management  
Mental Health Clinic Crisis Stabilization Services begins, to provide intensive services  
Empire State After-School Program begins, to provide after school and Saturday academic and counseling support to youth and their parents  
Partners in Prevention begins, to provide evidence based drug prevention services
- 2018** Community Health Connections Program begins, for residents of the Village of Hempstead
- 2019** Partnerships established with LI Cares Kids Cafe and Hofstra University STEM Program
- 2020** HCC Suffolk County Mental Health Clinic re-opens in Bay Shore  
Regional Prevention and Support Services in partnership with Northwell Health begins, to decrease the risk of HIV infection  
Project Hope begins, to provide COVID-19 related crisis counseling and referrals  
Nassau Mental Health Clinic expands services for children affected by domestic violence
- 2021** State Opioid Response (SOR) II Program begins, a multi-year prevention program in partnership with AHN and other agencies and organizations
- 2022** COMHPS Program evolves from FEMA NY to NYS OMH funding to provide short term counseling, social support, and behavioral health resources
- 2023** In partnership with Northwell Health and funded by the Chan Zuckerberg Foundation, HCC conducts a Community-Driven Research Project to increase clinical trial participation through focus groups, and community education and outreach  
Through funding from the Cabrini Health Foundation, HCC begins an afterschool program of academic support and informal counseling for newly arrived students in the Hempstead Middle School
- 2024** HCC begins parent education workshops in partnership with the Port Washington School District, with funding from the Greentree Foundation Good Neighbor Fund

# HISPANIC COUNSELING CENTER, INC.



# HISPANIC COUNSELING CENTER, INC.



Kingsborough Addictions Center (Inpatient Rehabilitation Center)  
LGBT Network  
LIISA – Long Island  
Long Island FQHC, Inc  
Local Government Units  
Local Primary Care Physicians and Pediatricians  
Local State and Private Colleges and Universities  
Long Island Association for AIDS Care (LIAAC)  
Long Island Coalition on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence (LICADD)  
Long Island Jewish Women Coalition – Peninsula Chapter  
Mental Health Association of Nassau County  
Mineola Felony Court  
MTA and Able Ride  
Nassau and Suffolk CPS/APS  
Nassau and Suffolk County Churches and Places of Worship  
Nassau and Suffolk County Department of Social Services  
Nassau and Suffolk County Health Home Case Management

Nassau and Suffolk County Hospitals and Shelters  
Nassau and Suffolk County Social Security Administration  
Nassau and Suffolk Foster Care  
Nassau and Suffolk Private Attorneys  
Nassau County Adolescent Diversion Program  
Nassau County and Suffolk County School Districts  
Nassau County Office of Mental Health, Substance Use and Developmental Disabilities  
Nassau County District Attorney's Office  
Nassau County Family Court  
Nassau County Office of Hispanic Affairs  
Nassau County Office of Youth Services  
Nassau County Youth and Safety Coalition  
Nassau County P.I.N.S. (Person in Need of Supervision) Diversion Program  
Nassau County Parole Department  
Nassau County Police Department  
Nassau County Probation Department

Nassau Suffolk Law Services  
Nassau University Medical Center Detox Program  
Nassau University Medical Center  
Neurologists and Private Psychiatrists  
Northwell Health  
NYS Department of Health  
NYS Office of Mental Health (OMH)  
NYS Office of Addiction Services and Supports (OASAS)  
NYS Office of People with Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD)  
NYS Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS)  
NYS Office of Parks and Recreation  
Options for Community Living  
Personalized Recovery Oriented Services Program (PROS)  
Planned Parenthood  
SEPA Mujer  
SALVA-Domestic Violence Program  
Suffolk Project for AIDS Resource Coordination (SPARC)  
The Safe Center of LI

**Mother Cabrini Students with Interrupted Formal Education Program**

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## IMPACT

### *The Impact of the Hispanic Counseling Center Expressed in the Words of HCC Program Clients*

#### **In the words of COMHPS Program clients:**

“Thank you to the COMHPS program for its support to our community, and especially to me. It has been of great help in dealing with my self-esteem and depression. Thanks to the individuals who are part of this wonderful program. Thanks to the team members of the support group “This and That.””

“I am a client of HCC since 2013. The discussions in the COMHPS program have helped me a lot in overcoming the personal problems I have faced in my life. This has been possible thanks to these wonderful people who are part of the COMHPS program: Carolina, Diana, and Carlos, who are professionals. I also try to pass on the message to other people thanks to their abilities and support. I am grateful for the time they share with us; you always learn and they educate us on how to act if needed. Thanks to God and the program for caring about our well-being.”

#### **In the words of a Care Coordination client:**

“I love the fact that I can rely on care coordination support services. Care coordination at the Hispanic Counseling Center has helped me by getting educational information on health and wellness resources and access to community programs. I feel relief to know that I can secure food, Medicaid, and transportation and not miss my medical appointments. I can also call any time and find assistance with public assistance applications. A person with language barriers can find comfort in care coordination. Thank you HCC Care Coordination Program.”

#### **In the words of Mental Health Outpatient Clinic clients:**

“Being a client at HCC has transcended the conventional therapist-client dynamic; it has become a symbiotic relationship where I not only receive valuable support but also actively incorporate the lessons learned into my own life. The wealth of knowledge and coping mechanisms acquired from therapy sessions has not only enhanced my emotional well-being but has become a resource I draw upon whenever I’m in distress.”

“Once I started taking my sessions seriously, taking every word she said and ingraining it into my mind, I saw genuine progress. My anxiety started to slowly decline, and my anxious tics became minimal. I would wake up and I’d feel okay, which was better than anything else in the years before. It only got better. My communication skills increased drastically, I was able to repair my relationship with my mom and I was able to focus in school. The most important piece of progress for me though, was my confidence. I worked on myself and started practicing deep amounts of self-care and looked out for my own health. I’ve dropped nearly 40 pounds, cleared up my skin and developed (as cocky as it sounds) an incredible style. I look in the mirror and feel good about myself, and my camera roll has more pictures of me than ever before. This journey has been long but deeply rewarding, and I will only continue to grow.”



## EMCEE



### **MONICA MORALES**

*PIX 11 Reporter*

Host, "Monica Makes It Happen" Program

Monica Morales is a six-time Emmy Award-winning PIX11 News investigative reporter for the weekday evening newscasts and hosts her own TV show called "Monica Makes It Happen." Morales is renowned and beloved throughout New York City for making connections that positively change lives. On her show, Morales honors everyday heroes and celebrities who help their communities thrive, including celebrities and leaders of organizations that provide resources to help her viewers who are in need.

Morales is very active in the Hispanic Community. In 2024, she was elected to New York's National Academy of Arts and Sciences Board of Governors. She was awarded the 100 Hispanic Women Community Service Award. In 2022, Morales received the prestigious Ellis Island Medal of Freedom for her advocacy in immigrant communities and was named an *El Diario Nueva York* Latina of Distinction for her work in the Hispanic community. She also serves on the board of Casa de las Américas at LaGuardia Community College and the Advisory Council of Ellis Island Honors Society.

Morales was profiled by the *Columbia Journalism Review* in 2019 for her special brand of advocacy journalism and is considered one of the only reporters in the nation to focus on public housing in the United States. Morales' Ted Talk on how "Moms Make It Happen" in 2020 focused on the power of women in their communities. Morales says her late mother, Maria Teresa Morales, a Bolivian immigrant to this country who worked three jobs to support her family, is her inspiration every day.

Morales has received a National Emmy for Breaking News, six local Emmys, and an Edward R. Murrow Award for Investigative Series and Reporting. In 2020, Morales won a Continuing Coverage Emmy for her "Monica Makes It Happen" series, and in 2021 and 2022, she was nominated for a Community Service Emmy for her daily coverage of New York City's housing crisis.

In 2018, Morales was invited to the White House. In 2024, she was inducted into Bottomless Closet's Hall of Fame for her support of the nonprofits' work supporting women. In 2023, the Zonta Club of New York, a group active in the United Nations advocating for gender equality, presented Morales with the "Distinguished Woman of the Year Award" for her advocacy.



THANK YOU







YOUR SUPPORT HELPS HCC PROGRAMS THRIVE



# BUILDING BRIGHT FUTURES

Northwell Health applauds **Hispanic Counseling Center** for empowering Long Island families through bilingual counseling and career, educational, and preventive services. These efforts are a beacon of hope, helping them build a brighter future for generations to come.

**Congratulations to this year's award recipient, our very own:**



## **JOHN Q. YOUNG, MD, MPP, PHD**

Chair and SVP, Behavioral Health  
Northwell Health  
Professor and Chair, Department of  
Psychiatry  
Donald and Barbara Zucker School of  
Medicine at Hofstra/Northwell

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HCC 47th ANNUAL GALA HONOREE





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on their  
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M&T Bank is proud to sponsor HCC's 47th Annual Gala.

# M&T Bank



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CONGRATULATE

## John Q. Young

ON THIS WELL-DESERVED  
HONOR

Molloy University, an independent Catholic university based in Rockville Centre, Long Island, New York, was founded in 1955. The University serves a student population of approximately 5,000 undergraduate and graduate students. Molloy students can earn degrees in a variety of outstanding academic programs, including nursing, business, education, social work, music therapy and many more.

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**CONGRATULATES THE 2024 HONOREE**

Northwell Health's

**DR. JOHN Q. YOUNG**

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**The Entire Team at Cino Security Solutions**, warmly congratulates the **Hispanic Counseling Center** on **47 years** of unwavering dedication and service to the families and children of Long Island. Your commitment and compassion have profoundly impacted countless lives, and we joyfully celebrate this incredible milestone with you!



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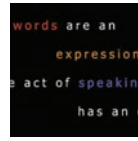


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**It is fitting this evening celebrates opening doors to the future for  
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## Thank You

to the Hispanic Counseling Center for 47 years  
of opening doors to brighter futures for  
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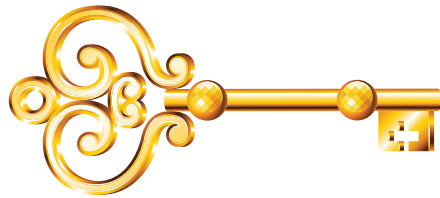




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