Manhattan Eye, Ear & Throat Hospital Northwell Health

**Presents:** 

visions @

## WE KNOW WHAT IS POSSIBLE

Honoring Nancy D. Miller, Executive Director/CEO, for her Leadership During the Pandemic

Wednesday, June 15, 2022 — 6:00-8:00 pm

Manhattan Eye, Ear, and Throat Hospital (MEETH) 210 E 64th St, New York, NY 10065

#### Congratulations

Nancy D. Miller

Executive Director/CEO

for a

#### Dynamic and Remarkable 50 years of service to VISIONS/Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired

Thank you for all you do

#### **Executive Staff**

CARLOS CABRERA, CFO
RUBEN COELLAR, CPO
MICHAEL CUSH, CPO
RUSSELL MARTELLO, CDO
NATALIA S. YOUNG, COO



#### **HONOREE:**

#### Nancy D. Miller

### VISIONS/Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired

Nancy D. Miller works with people of all ages that are blind and multi-disabled. She is Executive Director/CEO of VISIONS/Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired since 1987 and started with VISIONS as a summer counselor in 1971. VISIONS serves over 7000 people each year with free in-home, community and center-based programs.

Ms. Miller serves on the Senior Advisory Commission to the NYC Department for the Aging (DFTA). She offers training and presentations on Vision Loss sponsored by NY State Office for the Aging, NYC Department for the Aging, NYS Office of Children and Family Services, nonprofit agencies, library systems and local and national conferences.

Nancy has a Bachelor of Science Degree in Human Development from Cornell University and a Master of Science Degree in Social Work from Columbia University in group work and aging. Ms. Miller serves on the Board of Directors of LiveOn New York; is a co-founder and Volunteer President of the New York Vision Rehabilitation Association; serves on the Editorial Board of the Journal of Gerontological Social Work and a reviewer for the Journal of Vision Impairment and Blindness. She is President and Secretary of the Brooklyn Bridge Lions Club and Vice President of the 500 Greenwich Street Condominium Association.

She is a Fellow of the Gerontological Society of America and the Hunter Brookdale Center on Healthy Aging. The National Association of Social Workers Foundation honored her with the designation Social Work Pioneer and with a lifetime achievement award. She is the Editor of Vision and Aging: Issues in Social Work Practice, Haworth Press. Her awards include the Community Trailblazers Award from Beyond Focus Media of Brooklyn, Practitioner of Distinction Award from National Rehabilitation Association, Maggie Kuhn Advocacy Award from Presbyterian Senior Services, Senator John E. Flynn Award from American Council of the Blind NY and VisionServe Alliance Excellence in Leadership Award.

She is married to Jerry Miller, a former nonprofit administrator and current Certified Orientation and Mobility Specialist. They are vey proud of their four children, seven grandchildren and two great grandchildren. They enjoy "straight ahead" jazz music and concerts, reading and spending time with family.



### SEE WHAT IS POSSIBLE







#### **About VISIONS**

VISIONS/Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired is a nonprofit vision rehabilitation and social service organization. VISIONS purpose is to develop and implement individualized programs to assist people who are blind and visually impaired of all ages to lead independent and active lives, and to educate the public to understand their capabilities and needs.

Whether working directly in the home or community; at VISIONS at Selis Manor in Manhattan; or at VISIONS Center on Blindness **(VCB)**, our fully-accessible residential rehabilitation facility in Rockland County, legally blind participants of all ages living in the five boroughs of NYC, Long Island, Westchester, and the Lower Hudson Valley will receive the highest quality services from our licensed and certified staff.

#### **VISIONS Free Services:**



#### **Vision Rehabilitation**

Daily living skills and mobility instruction inhome and community



**Adjustment to Blindness Counseling** 



**Job Training and Job Placement** 



Virtual Youth and Work Readiness



**Assistive Technology Training** 



**Year-Round VCB Family Sessions** For blind and multi-disabled kids up to age 21



**VISIONS Center on Aging** Our Older Adult Center located in Manhattan



**Unpaid Caregiver Support** 



BlindLine® Information and **Referral Center** 

If you would like to learn more, e-mail info@visionsvcb.org, call toll free 888-245-8333, or visit www.visionsvcb.org







(f) (o) W @VISIONSVCB

#### **VISIONS Facts**



All of the services we offer are **free of charge** thanks to government & foundation grants, and private donations



We offer services in 16 languages, including English, Spanish, Chinese dialects, Russian, and American Sign Language (ASL)



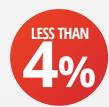
Our programs are tailored to the specific needs of our participants, no matter how complex those needs are



1 in 3 VISIONS staff members are blind or have a visual impairment



87¢ of every dollar is spent on programs, with only 13¢ spent on administration and fundraising



In 2021, VISIONS had a 3.76% staff turnover rate, much lower than the NYC average for nonprofits!



VISIONS Workforce Program was ranked #1 in Job Placements for the 6th consecutive year. The New York State Commission for the Blind (NYSCB) quality assurance review gave VISIONS Workforce Program a 10 out of 10 for providing excellent job placement services.

## 7,075 Participants Served in 2021









## Thank You to Our Outstanding Sponsors!

## **Presenting Sponsor Manhattan Eye, Ear, and Throat Hospital**

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Robert Schonbrunn
The Fund for the Blind

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# Special Thank You to Our Event Donors! Adrienne Germain

#### Israel Owodunni

Mel Barasch Steven Kent Peter Roffman

Judy Goldman Henry Saveth

Joseph Corace Ken Gralak Denise Kaiser

> Gloria Fu Elizabeth Lee



KATHY HOCHUL Governor SHEILA J. POOLE Commissioner

April 26, 2022

Nancy D. Miller Executive Director/CEO VISIONS 500 Greenwich St., 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor New York, NY 10013-1354

Dear Ms. Miller,

Congratulations on your exemplary leadership at VISIONS! Your 35 years of tireless service and advocacy have contributed to the success and growth of VISIONS, and more importantly, has led to the independence of countless blind New Yorkers who have been supported through your agency's work. Your ongoing support of visually impaired children and adults has helped people reach milestones that would likely not have been possible without the support received from VISIONS.

VISIONS has grown in scope of services and has become a leader in vision rehabilitation. Your state of the art residential center and technology services have become an important part of the state's service delivery system. Your commitment to New York's older blind people provides new ways to offer rehabilitation services to the aging population.

We recognize your leadership during the pandemic and appreciate your ongoing commitment to provide services during such a difficult time.

Congratulations to you and VISIONS for all your achievements and contributions to our communities. You are a valued partner, and we look forward to many years of your continued success.

Sincerely,

Sheila J. Poole Commissioner



Lorraine Cortés-Vázquez

June 15, 2022

Commissioner

2 Lafayette St.

New York, NY 10007

212.AGING NYC 212.244.6469

VISIONS

Executive Director/CEO Nancy D. Miller

500 Greenwich Street, Suite 302

New York, NY 10013

Dear Nancy,

For over three decades you have grown VISIONS into one of the premier organizations for New Yorkers with vision impairment, creating a model that can be replicated across the country. Because of your unflinching advocacy and being a consummate teacher, you and your organization have had a profound impact for those who have difficulty seeing. And you did it your way.

By creating wraparound services for those with trouble seeing, including exercise and art classes that are combined with opportunities for socialization, these individuals can age with dignity because you laid a foundation that helps create a city that is inclusive for everyone.

The lasting impact you have had is because you continued to be innovative. This is highlighted with the VISIONS Center on Aging, the country's first older adult center for blind and low vision residents. This center has given countless older adults with the opportunity they need to live full and productive lives, on top of the social services support they need to help with their vision impairment.

All the recognition you receive tonight is more than well deserved, and I am thrilled they chose to honor you this evening.

Sincerely,

Lorraine Cortés-Vázquez

Lornaine Cortes Vagguez

Commissioner



#### THE ASSEMBLY STATE OF NEW YORK ALBANY

CHAIR
Higher Education Committee
Intern Committee

COMMITTEES
Environmental Conservation
Rules
Ways & Means

DEBORAH J. GLICK Assemblymember 66<sup>TH</sup> District New York County

June 15, 2022

VISIONS/Services for the Blind & Visually Impaired 500 Greenwich Street, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor New York, NY 10013

Dear VISIONS Board & Executive Director Miller:

Congratulations on the celebration of your 95<sup>th</sup> year in service to the blind and visually impaired communities in New York City. The work your organization does is an incredible benefit for a group in need. I also send congratulations to Executive Director Nancy D. Miller who is celebrating her 35<sup>th</sup> year with the organization. Executive Director Miller's leadership in her time at VISIONS has been pivotal to the organization's overall success.

I am thankful to have such an essential organization located in the 66<sup>th</sup> Assembly District. You should all be proud of the work you do and the amazing impact you have on New Yorkers. Social work, job training, youth services, and wrap-around care so that aging New Yorkers can stay in their homes are important for everyone but are especially important for those who are visually impaired.

Congratulations and enjoy the celebration at the 95th Anniversary Gala – VISIONS@95: We Know What is Possible!

Sincerely,

Deborah J. Glick Assemblymember



DISTRICT OFFICE

224 WEST 30<sup>TH</sup> STREET, SUITE 1206
NEW YORK, NY 10001
(212) 564-7757

FAX (212) 564-7347

THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK

ERIK BOTTCHER
COUNCIL MEMBER
3RD DISTRICT, MANHATTAN

CITY HALL NEW YORK, NY 10007 (212) 788-6970

DISTRICT3@COUNCIL.NYC.GOV

June 1, 2022

Dear Friends,

I am pleased to have an opportunity to send greetings to everyone gathered for this very special 95<sup>th</sup> Anniversary tribute honoring Nancy D. Miller, an extraordinary leader who has served the blind and visually impaired community across New York City for the past 35 years as the Executive Director and CEO of VISIONS.

I have been honored to partner with VISIONS in their mission to provide free vision rehabilitation and social services to residents at Selis Manor in Chelsea. The services offered by VISIONS in my district have enabled many of my blind and visually impaired constituents to lead independent and active lives and has also helped the public to better understand the needs of these residents of the area.

I am especially thrilled to join VISIONS in celebrating its  $95^{th}$  Anniversary while it remaining focused on the traditions of diversity, equality, inclusion in all of its programs!

Congratulations to Nancy and VISIONS, whose work greatly improves the quality of life for so many New Yorkers. Here's wishing VISIONS continued success in the years ahead and everyone a wonderful time tonight!

Sincerely,

Erik Bottcher Council Member

3<sup>rd</sup> Council District, Manhattan

# Nancy, Thank you for all you do for VISIONS

Bob Schonbrunn

Congratulations to an extraordinary organization and our sincerest appreciation to Executive Director/CEO, Nancy D. Miller for her 50 years of service.

Denise Germain Rabinowitz and Jonathan Rabinowitz

# Congratulations to VISIONS for providing excellent services to the blind and visually impaired community over the past 95 years.

Congratulations to Nancy D. Miller for providing expert guidance and innovation for 50 years at VISIONS, and to the dedicated staff that makes these services possible.

The Trustees of The Fund For The Blind



# Our most sincere congratulations to VISIONS on its 95th year of providing services to blind and visually impaired New Yorkers.

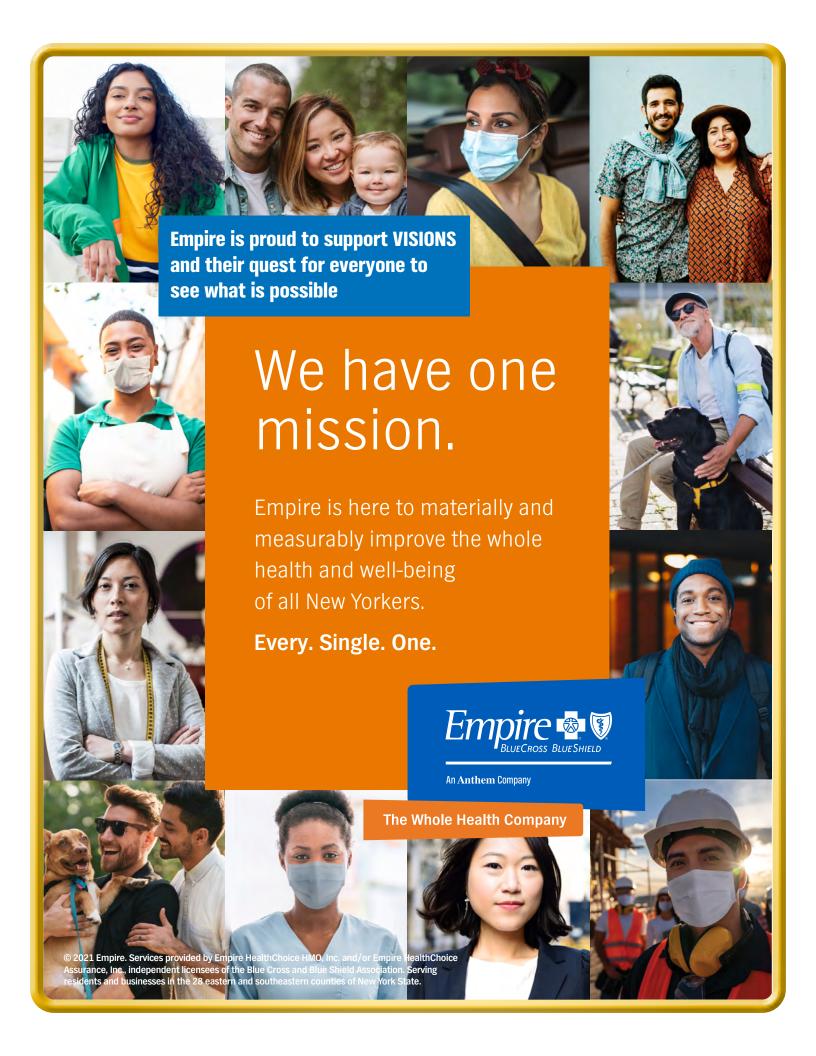
Yes... You do know what is possible!

And to our friend and colleague, **Nancy D. Miller** 

who makes the impossible look easy. Congratulations on this well-deserved honor.

Thank you for letting us be a small part of the great work that you do.

Your friends at the Lavelle Fund for the Blind





Jane and Jim McGroarty



#### Adrienne Germain

VISIONS would like to acknowledge Adrienne Germain's generous donation to the organization.

Through her work, research, writings and leadership, she was a lifelong advocate for the educational, economic and sexual and reproductive rights of women worldwide.

Adrienne was the sister of VISIONS Board Member, Denise Germain Rabinowitz, and tragically took her own life on May 19, 2022.



# Heartfelt congratulations to VISIONS and Nancy D. Miller

Your excellence inspires us

Lois & Andy Fisher

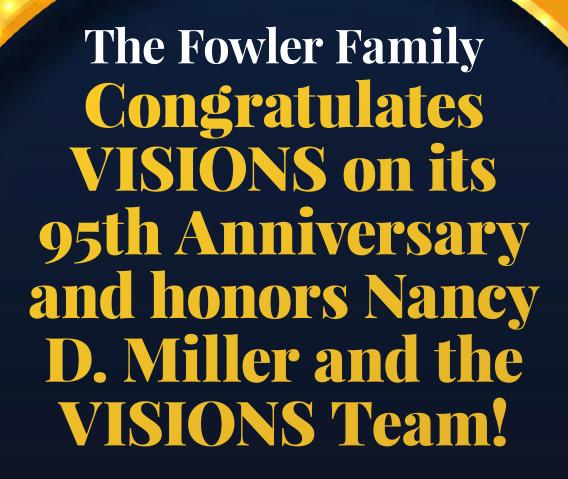


It has been a joy and pleasure working with you in guiding the growth of VISIONS.

Your expertise in the blindness field has provided so many innovative and useful services to our clients.

Your imprint on VISIONS will always be admired and remembered.

Nancy T. Jones



With thanks to you all, your

hard work and dedication

make VISIONS a light

that shines bright!

Congratulations to VISIONS for celebrating 95 years of valuable service to the blind and visually impaired community.

We congratulate Nancy D. Miller for her dedicated service and leadership for over 50 years to VISIONS, and the committed staff that makes these services possible.

Theodore P. and Linda A. Klingos



New York Eye and Ear Infirmary of Mount Sinai (NYEE) and its dedicated physicians and staff are proud to support the work of **VISIONS** and its 95 year mission of improving the quality of life for New York residents by delivering free vision rehabilitation services.

And we salute **Nancy D. Miller, Executive Director/CEO,** whose leadership and commitment to providing safe, high-quality care to the community, in the epicenter of the pandemic, has been inspirational.



#### Ranked No. 12 in the nation (highest ranked in NYC) in

Ophthalmology by U.S. News & World Report's 2021-22 "Best Hospitals" rankings, NYEE continues to set the highest standards of excellence in quality eye care and academic training, as well as pursuing pioneering research to advance our mission of improving vision and quality of life.

www. nyee.edu

GTLAW.COM

#### Alone we can do so little, together we can do so much.

- Helen Keller

Greenberg Traurig is proud to support VISIONS at its 95th Anniversary Celebration and congratulates the 2022 honoree, Nancy D. Miller.

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### VISIONS on its 95th anniversary.

#### **Congratulations Nancy!**

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In Honor and Tribute to

## Nancy D. Miler

An extraordinary and gifted leader who tirelessly led VISIONS through the pandemic very successfully.

With deep admiration and appreciation, Cynthia Stuen & Bill Weisenbach

#### **BRONZE SPONSOR**



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MANCINI WOULD LIKE TO CONGRATULATE VISIONS ON ITS 95TH ANNIVERSARY!

MANCINI:

"VISIONS represents to me the epitome of how a nonprofit organization should perform and serve its constituents."

My sincerest appreciation to Nancy and the entire staff.

Bill Resnick Member, Board of Directors



# Douglass Winthrop Advisors proudly supports VISIONS/Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired

And heartfully congratulates

Nancy D. Miller on her 50th, and

VISIONS Center on Blindness on its 95th!

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Douglass Winthrop Advisors, LLC 521 Fifth Avenue, 19th Floor New York, NY 10175 (212) 557-7680



#### S.I. Williams CFIO Services is pleased to celebrate VISIONS 95 years of delivering exceptional services for the Blind and Visually Impaired.

And a special thank you to Ms. Nancy D. Miller, CEO of VISIONS for her Leadership during the pandemic.



Honoring
Nancy D. Miller
for her service to the blind and visually impaired community.



Lorinda J. Laub | www.1919ic.com

## Congratulations Grandma/Mana Mancy



Sydni, Jared Elena, Jonathan Brian, Harrison, Lara



**Naomi and Friend** 



Annabella and Angelica

You are an awesome role model!

Salute to VISIONS at 95, and congratulations to Nancy D. Miller, its greatest asset, for 50 years of superb service.

With our sincerest appreciation,

Peggy and Jag Rao

# Congratulations to Nancy D. Miller

for her outstanding leadership and dedication to VISIONS for 50 years!

Ellen and Robbie Davis

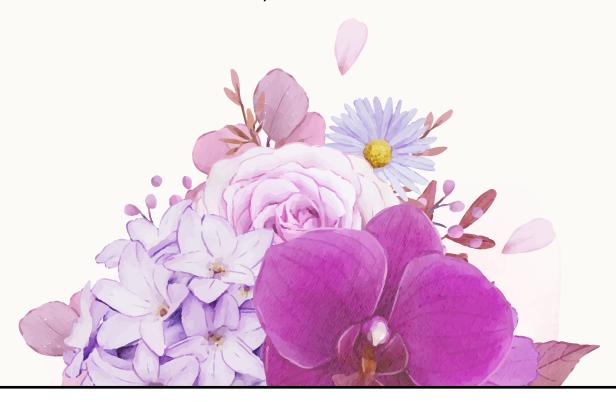
# Happy 95th Birthday, VISIONS

Applause and appreciation for nearly ten decades of unparalleled free services for people of all ages who are blind and visually impaired.

A standing ovation to Nancy D. Miller, our Executive Director and CEO, for her outstanding visionary leadership and dedication to ensuring that people with disabilities lead independent lives.

Thank you Nancy, for knowing what's possible for everyone in the VISIONS community and making it happen all these years!

Fran Freedman, MSW Member, Board of Directors





# To Honor Nancy for Her Exceptional Leadership During the Ongoing Pandemic:

She has led VISIONS through this unprecedented time with great care and skill, maintaining the delicate balance of protecting the health of our staff and participants foremost, continuing to deliver services old and new, and ensuring VISIONS' ability to continue to fulfill its mission. She has needed to draw upon her decades of experience in serving our participants in an environment where relevant government directives and medical knowledge have been changing on a daily basis. The trust and confidence Nancy built with her staff over the years allowed them to continue to go forth into the community and serve through even the darkest days of the pandemic. She helped us find new and creative ways to serve our participants that enabled them to continue moving forward and navigate the pandemic themselves.

The great achievement of leading VISIONS during the pandemic is a continuation of Nancy's extraordinary dedication to improving the lives of our wide range of constituents.

Thank you, Nancy, for everything you have done for VISIONS staff and, more importantly, the blind and visually impaired individuals we serve!

With great appreciation,
Workforce, Youth, and Rehab Departments

# Congratulations to VISIONS and Nancy D. Miller, its outstanding leader.

As volunteers, we are committed to your mission and work diligently to spread the word about VISIONS free services.

#### **VISIONS Manhattan Advisory Board**

Bruce Balsam
John Brandon
Norma Eversley
Robert Friedland
Marc Goldstein
Charles Hollander
Joseph Manopella

Ananth Sampathkumar
Lauren Schneider
Virginia Skar
Janet Squitieri
Francis Tabone
Michael Wolf
Rebecca Zarett

## To an incredible organization and with our sincerest appreciation to Nancy D. Miller.

As representatives of the Bronx-Westchester Advisory Board, we commend you and the entire VISIONS staff for your outstanding programs for the blind and visually impaired.

#### **VISIONS Bronx-Westchester Advisory Board**

Daniel Bernstein Rosemary De Luca Gene DiNapoli Diane Dudzinski Barry Fitzgerald Laura Guerriero Lisa LoCascio Delores O'Garo Jeremiah Taylor

On behalf of the Brooklyn Advisory Board, we salute Nancy and VISIONS for your decades of providing vision rehabilitation and orientation & mobility services to those in need.

#### **VISIONS Brooklyn Advisory Board**

Nandanie Appana Cynthia Bioh Joseph Corace Yvonne Cotto Ene Crooks Verna DuBerry Ademu-John Sowonee Duworko Seema Goldstein Kalle Levon To a Very Special personality and CEO, Nancy Miller, Your endurance and admirable efforts continue to blossom in ways that help the Nonprofit Community, the disabled community and more-so the consumers of VISIONS in so many ways.

Continue the good work and know we're with you!

Ethan Kahn, CPA Bonadio, Partner

THE BONADIO GROUP

CPAs. Consultants & More

#### Congratulations Nancy! Well deserved!

Best wishes, Doreen DiLeonardo

We Apologize, in Advance, for Any Errors in This Journal

# To Ryan Melendez, VISIONS Director of Marketing and Communications,

The Anniversary Journal is Beautiful.

Thank you for your hard work and creativity.

– Amy Gordon
VISIONS Senior Director of Fundraising Initiatives

















#### **How to Support VISIONS**



#### Make a Donation

Whether you give us an individual donation, or a lead to a Foundation Grant, or Corporate Sponsor that is aligned with our mission, every effort helps!

#### **Ways to Donate:**

- Online, at: visionsvcb.org/donate
- 2. Donor Advised Fund
- **3.** Gifts of Appreciated Stock
- 4. Qualified Charitable Distributions
- 5. Include VISIONS in your will\*

\*If you would like to consider naming VISIONS in your will, or making a testamentary gift, simply share the following information with your lawyer:

- Legal Name: VISIONS/Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired
- **2. Tax ID:** 13-1624210
- **3. Address:** 500 Greenwich Street, Suite 302 New York, NY 10013

If you have any questions about ways to donate or know of individuals, foundations, or corporations interested in supporting VISIONS, please contact Russell C. Martello, Chief Development Officer at **rmartello@visionsvcb.org**. Donations are tax deductible to the full extent allowed by law.

#### **Contact Us**

#### **VISIONS Headquarters:**

500 Greenwich Street, Suite 302 New York, NY 10013-1354 Phone: (212) 625-1616

#### **VISIONS at Selis Manor**

135 West 23rd Street New York, NY 10011 Phone: (646) 486-4444

#### **VISIONS Center on Blindness**

111 Summit Park Road Spring Valley, NY 10977 Phone: (845) 354-3003

info@visionsvcb.org | www.visionsvcb.org











The Board of Directors would like to thank our Executive Director/CEO Nancy D. Miller for her extraordinary and longtime leadership.

We are so proud to be associated with such an outstanding organization that has provided free vision rehabilitation services to New Yorkers for over 95 years.

#### PRESENTING SPONSOR



Manhattan Eye, Ear & Throat Hospital salutes the dedication and commitment of

# VISIONS On its 95th Anniversary

Providing services for the blind and visually impaired, and Its Honoree, Nancy D. Miller

With great admiration, Joseph Manopella, Executive Director

