



# Encore Community Services

*"Broadway's Longest Running Act of Loving Care"*

Dear Board Members, Staff, Volunteers, Donors, Partners, Friends and most specially, the thousands of wonderful seniors, Encore has been privileged to serve over these many years and will continue to serve for many years into the future,

After being one of Encore's co-founders 40 years ago and having the privilege of serving as Executive Director for 36 of these years, my decision to step down as Executive Director was not an easy one to come by personally. Encore has been an integral part of my life, and I feel incredibly honored and lucky to have had the opportunity to help start and grow this wonderful organization that has helped so many elderly in need over the years. This work, however, was never done in a vacuum, but with the assistance of many dedicated colleagues and mentors, devoted staff and volunteers, generous donors, community leaders, organizations and a very supportive Board of Directors.

Challenges were met over the years through the collaborative efforts of so many others too numerous to name. Their ideas, questions, suggestions, solutions, were always followed by deep caring, dedication and truly hard work. All of these attributes were the threads that came together to build this beautiful tapestry called Encore.

A simple Thank You in no way expresses my deep gratitude for the service you have given Encore which has inspired my life over these many years.

It is now time for new leadership to step into the many challenges that Encore will face in the coming years and well into the future. Encore, as part of the world of nonprofits, has come under ever-increasing pressure with changes in public policy, increase in the aging population with physical and mental health issues and income disparities steadily growing wider. This now needs new sets of skills for the work to continue and to grow as the needs grow. It will take a true and dedicated leader to work and inspire staff and all others involved with Encore, to understand the importance of these goals, and to work toward a common purpose.

Finally, I want to give my deep gratitude to all who have given so much support to me personally over these many years, numbered among these have been our staff, volunteers, board members, partners and funders, donors, local service and city organizations including the theatrical communities. I would also like to thank my family and friends with special mention to the Dominican Sisters of Sparkill New York, who I am a proud to be a member of. Their help and support carried Encore through some difficult times over the early years and they were always there for whatever was needed for both me and Encore.

Without all the above, Encore's foundation would not be as strong as it is today. This foundation can now hopefully serve as a backbone to support Encore's future work. Thank you again and God bless you all.