



## **Monica's Manor: Providing a pathway to success**

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So often in these complex times, people get off track. If they're lucky they come through the tough times with the ability to deal with their problems in a constructive manner and the intent to do better for themselves and their families. Unfortunately, the transition from rehabilitation, incarceration or therapeutic program community back to "normal" productive lives is not always easy, particularly if the individual does not have a strong family or other support system.

Monica's Manor, Inc. is a not for profit organization which helps supply that important support system and transition for individuals to build their own pathway to success. Founded in 2005 by several dedicated community activists, Monica's Manor provides transitional residence living in a traditional, family-style setting for men to jumpstart their lives. With comprehensive counseling and support programs provided on-site, the program is designed to re-integrate these men as useful members of society. Monica's Manor provides a safe place for these individuals to learn the basics of life that most of us have been taught since childhood. Clients can live at the Manor for up to two years to complete their reintegration into society. They receive supportive services and assistance in such things as finding jobs, finishing their education, reconnecting with families and managing every day life issues in a safe, secure environment.

Joseph Wood, founder and board president was a director of Parish Stewardship for the Roman Catholic Diocese of Brooklyn. He is assisted in these efforts by a dedicated, diverse board of directors that include a Catholic pastor, a Franciscan brother and others.

Recently, Monica's Manor looked to add a second location to assist a long waiting list of clients. Given the nature of the operation and the young life of the organization, traditional financing sources were not available. The New Market Loan Fund stepped up to the plate and funded the acquisition of the second residence with a long-term loan. Provided by the Greater New York Development Co., the New Market Loan has enabled Monica's Manor to double its client base.

To learn more about the New Market Loan Fund and other loan programs of GNYDC, go to [www.gnydc.org](http://www.gnydc.org). For more information about Monica's Manor, please visit [www.monicasmanor.org](http://www.monicasmanor.org).

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