

LiveOn NY's Boots on the Ground Roundtable

Panel Discussion: Growing Within the Field of Aging
Friday, September 30th, 2022

Panelist: Katherine Martinez, LMSW, President/CEO, Neighborhood SHOPP

Born in NYC Spanish Harlem, Katherine Martinez attended New York University Undergraduate School of Social Work, where she earned her BSW in 1992. Upon graduation she worked as Service Coordinator at Gouverneur Hospital's Center for Older Adults providing psychosocial services to older adults with mental illness and family centered social work practice.

In 1994, she went on to pursue her MSW at New York University Graduate School of Social Work, graduating Advance Standing in 1995. Upon completion she became the Assistant Director for one of New York Foundation For Senior Citizens (NYFSC) Enriched Housing Programs. She remained at NYFSC for over 8 years moving up within the growing organization leaving as Resident Manager/Social Worker for NYFSC Concourse Gardens, a 118 unit senior apartment building located in the Bronx. Katherine went on to work at Morningside House Nursing Home as a social worker/discharge planner helping older adults meet their goals to return to their communities to live independently and safely.

Wanting to continue her passion in helping older adults and meeting the needs of Caregivers in the community, in 2003, Katherine joined Presbyterian Senior Services (PSS) to lead their new Caregiver initiative. At PSS her career growth continued. New roles were created allowing Katherine to become the Director of Senior Services and then named Deputy Director overseeing all services, programs and contracts within the growing agency. Katherine dedicated 16 years of service at PSS.

In 2018, Katherine Martinez was named President/CEO of Neighborhood SHOPP – a nonprofit serving older adults, caregivers, and those with disabilities. SHOPP operates four Older Adult Centers, Caregivers Program, Elder Justice, Case Management & Friendly Visiting Services, NORC, Community Care Network, and is the designated NY Connects Bronx call center provider.

Katherine continues to impact the communities she serves by sharing her skills and passion to her team, the aging network, and within the field for student learning.

Katherine Martinez, LMSW, is a member of the NYC Department for the Aging Senior Advisory Council, Treasurer for the Bronx Regional Inter-Agency Council (BRICA), a board member for the NY State Society on Aging and the Hunts Point/Longwood Coalition and has served as a Delegate-at-Large on the National Council on Aging National Institute of Senior Centers.