



Celebrating 31 Years!

Chris Panellino, President
Linda M. Leest, Ph.D., Exec. Director

Services Now for Adult Persons, Inc.

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SNAP BEGINS SEARCH FOR NEW AGENCY EXECUTIVE

Services Now for Adult Persons, Inc. (SNAP) faces a challenge it has not encountered in almost three decades. SNAP Board Chair Chris Panellino announced with regret, that Queens senior center and agency will need a new agency executive next summer. SNAP President/ CEO Linda Leest, Phd. advised the board earlier this month (September 2012) of her plans to retire at that time. The Board voted unanimously to commence a search, appointed a search committee and will decide how to proceed at its next meeting.

Dr. Leest joined SNAP as executive director in 1985. Under her exemplary and dedicated leadership, SNAP experienced both growth in size and scope of services from case management, home-delivered meals and transportation to include the Bell Park, Floral Park, Queens Village and Rosedale Senior Centers. (The Floral Park and Queens Village Centers consolidated in 1999.) The agency provides a broad array of services to thousands of seniors in Queens beyond its location in eastern Queens.

Dr. Leest serves on the New York State Aging Services Advisory Committee and past president of the Queens Interagency Council on Aging and the New York State Coalition for the Aging. She serves as vice president of the board of directors of the Council of Senior Centers and Services of New York City (CSCS). As chair of the CSCS Action Committee for 10 years, Dr. Leest worked with the city Department For the Aging to resolve issues with provider agencies. Her advocacy has resulted in funding for various services for seniors. SNAP and many other agencies have recognized Dr. Leest for her leadership and dedicated service.

Services Now for Adult Persons, Inc. (SNAP), an agency dedicated to the needs of older adults, provide direct services to enhance their quality of life. SNAP also provides coordination of case plans and advocacy on behalf of its clients. SNAP was developed in 1979 through the Senior Services Coordinating Committee's identification of gaps in services for older adults in the northern neighborhoods of Queens Community Board 13. Its Case Management program currently services Queens Community Boards 8, 11 and 13. Its Caregiver program currently serves Queens Community Boards 10, 12, 13 and 14. In coordination with India Home, SNAP began a program to introduce the community's growing South Asian population to the many services offered at its senior centers.