

## CLOSING 2019

As **THE HOLIDAY SEASON** approaches, Pronto staff and volunteers, busy all year long, switch into high gear!

Our fund-raising Thanksgiving Breakfast kicked off the season on November 8th at Bella Verde in Brentwood. Thanks to all those who attended the Standing Room Only event, and those who could not attend but sent a donation, and to Capital One Bank and other faithful donors who sponsored turkeys and baskets, we were able to provide 561 families with Thanksgiving dinners with all the trimmings. Special kudos to volunteers from the community, joined by employees of Bank of America, United Health Care, Santander Bank, W.B. Mason, CIPLA Pharmaceuticals, FREE, and everyone else who helped distribute the baskets, and to NEWS 12 who filmed the event. In the midst of all this extra activity, Staff managed to keep up with our regular clients, serving more than 3,700 people with food, clothing and other necessities throughout the month of November.

The **December Holiday Appeal** letter brought a generous response from so many of Pronto's Friends, and with the participation of local businesses, schools, government offices, and non-governmental organizations, we helped spread joy to over **1,000 families with Christmas toys and gifts** during the Christmas/Holiday season. Again this year, Robert Eslick with Kids Helping Kids Foundation, delivered many brand new warm winter coats, in all sizes, boxed and labeled by the Kids. Neighbors dropped off toys and gifts to our office, and a 'sock drive' provided lots of pairs of cozy, new socks. ROTHCO closed the year by tripling the generous donations of their employees. Such generosity and creativity in service to our brothers and sisters is humbling and gratifying.



# PRONTO *People Helping People* of Long Island Inc. **TODAY...**

128 Pine Aire Drive,  
Bay Shore, NY 11706  
631 231-8290

[www.prontolongisland.org](http://www.prontolongisland.org)

The mission continues...  
feed the hungry, clothe the needy,  
welcome the stranger and provide  
healing and hope to everyone  
who walks through our doors.



### Two special events focused on the kids:

The Plumitallo Family held their annual **Sunshines Toy Drive** at the Deer Park Fire Department with toys donated to 100 families from Pronto in addition to families from other organizations. Suffolk Transportation provided buses to carry parents from Pronto to Deer Park where they were able to select toys for their kids.

Also, the Law Firm of **Ferro, Kuba, Mangano** threw a party under a tent at their offices in Hauppauge. 100 children from Pronto, and more from other organizations, enjoyed music, refreshments and a visit from Santa Claus. A wonderful wind-up to 2019, a year filled with the blessings of so many good People Helping People.





**GRANTS** - Pronto is aided in continuing its mission with Grants from various governmental and non-governmental agencies. These grants must be applied to specific expenses as determined by the 8 . Recent Grants received: -\$25,000 from United Way of Long Island funded through the National Emergency Food & Shelter (EFS) Program, for our food pantry; -\$8,100 from Suffolk County Department of Minority Affairs, for client services; -\$4,500 from Suffolk County Department of Social Services, to purchase food; -\$20,000 through the office of Assemblyman Phil Ramos to be used towards the purchase of a desperately needed new van and also support for our summer program for kids. *We are thankful for these and other funding sources that help us serve the community.*

#### Food for thought:

"At the end its not about what you have or even what you've accomplished. It's about who you've lifted up, who you've made better. It's about what you've given back."

*Denzel Washington*

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Sending 8 ‡ to Frank Sinisi, Pronto's champion, as he recovers from surgery. All cards sent to Pronto for Frank will be forwarded to his home.

#### MOVING ON TO 2020 The Census



Every 10 years the U.S. Government counts its citizens. The purpose of the count is to allocate to each State seats in the U.S. House of Representatives in proportion to its population. In addition to assuring accurate representation in Congress, the count is used to allocate billions of dollars of federal funds to help communities all over the country with building and maintaining schools, hospitals, roads and bridges, as well as local police and fire departments.

This year, Pronto will be a training site for census workers. Census applications will be available online in our office. Sign up to be counted. Our community needs fair representation.

**TENNIS, ANYONE?** Pronto is partnering with Brentwood School District and the U.S. Tennis Association to offer USTA's Net Generation Program to Brentwood's school children. The goal is to introduce the benefits of tennis to our students by providing them with an after-school activity that is fun and, at the same time, will help build character and a sense of community. Part of the Program's philosophy is to capture "the thrill and fun of the game" and to develop "skills on and off the court", that "will build the next generation of greats". Brentwood SD will provide the space and the NSTA will provide the equipment and instructors. Pronto will coordinate the recruitment and training of community volunteers, and help generate community support for this exciting new venture.

#### SAVE THE DATES

Sunday, March 22 - Second Annual Breakfast at Applebee's

Saturday, April 18 - Feed Long Island food packaging event

Sunday, May 3 - Anthony's Pizza in Commack

Wednesday, June 3 - Annual Gala, Watermill in Smithton



**Meet Michelle Montalvo**, one of Pronto's newest volunteers. Michelle and her husband Jason have attended many Pronto events, and she says, "I was always impressed by how much they do for the community". As their children grew, 'stay-at-home' Mom, Michelle had some free time so she volunteered at her Church's food pantry, where she felt she had a purpose beyond just her need "for something to do". Last September, Michelle became a Pronto volunteer. She finds her work with clients so rewarding that she encourages others to join the Pronto family and see how good it feels to help your neighbors in need. Thank you, Michelle, for showing the way and being "a source of inspiration".

We are all beset every day with problems. Call us at 631-231-8290 to become part of the solution.

You're invited to a Flapjack Fundraiser breakfast to support  
**PRONTO OF LONG ISLAND**



**APPLEBEE'S® LOCATION:**  
300 Motor Parkway  
Brentwood, New York 11717

**TICKETS:** \$11.00

**DATE & TIME:**  
Sunday, March 22nd, 2020  
8am-10am

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