

## NEW YORK SOCIETY FOR THE DEAF MERGES INTO F·E·G·S HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES SYSTEM

**F**·E·G·S, one of the nation's largest not-for-profit organizations, is pleased to announce the merger of the New York Society for the Deaf (NYSD) into the F·E·G·S Health and Human Services System.

The New York Society for the Deaf, established in 1912 as the Society For the Welfare of the Jewish Deaf, has been providing services to the deaf and hard of hearing community since its inception. A beneficiary of UJA-Federation of New York, its services to the community have included: housing, employment, communication skills, behavioral health, interpreting, as well as a range of special initiatives to serve the Jewish deaf community.

F·E·G·S Health and Human Services System, whose annual budget is in excess of \$200 million, reaches 100,000 individuals a year, some 10,000 people each day, through its comprehensive network of programs operating in more than 300 locations throughout the New York metropolitan region. Its services in the areas of employment, behavioral health, developmental disabilities, residential, education and youth development, family services, and home care have for many years served individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing. The programs of the New York Society for the Deaf are a natural fit into the F·E·G·S Health and Human Services System.

"F·E·G·S is committed to providing quality services to those in need of assistance," said Al Miller, Chief Executive Officer, F·E·G·S. "We are a proud partner in the UJA-Federation network of services, as is the New York Society for the Deaf. The merger of NYSD into F·E·G·S will ensure a seamless continuity of the vital services that deaf and hard of hearing individuals in our community rely upon. We anticipate that the infrastructure and management resources of F·E·G·S will allow us to build on the existing services of NYSD, create new services, and ensure that these state-of-the-art programs are easily accessible to all those who need them."

"An essential part of F·E·G·S's mission is to assist each individual and family in achieving their greatest potential. With the addition of NYSD to F·E·G·S's array of programs, we look forward to serving the community even more effectively in the future," Miller said.

"Based on its superb professional reputation and management excellence, F·E·G·S is responding to its new responsibilities by enhancing services to the deaf community with sensitivity and respect," said John Ruskay, Executive Vice President & CEO, UJA-Federation of New York.

The merger will enable F·E·G·S to strengthen, enhance and expand the programs and services to the deaf and hard of hearing community which now include a range of Clinical Service Programs, a Sign-Language Interpreter Staffing Service, Communications and Vocational Programs, and a portfolio of over 250 low income and special needs housing units operated through four affiliated housing corporations.

F·E·G·S, a beneficiary of UJA Federation of New York, is very proud to welcome the staff of the New York Society for the Deaf into the F·E·G·S family. ■

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