

ENRICHING THE COMMUNITY

A monthly publication for friends of Family Enrichment Network

Walk With Me

Family Enrichment Network has been running the **Walk With Me** Program for the past three years, since July 2018, for those recently released from the Broome County Jail.

Many people who cannot afford their cash bail sit in the local jail far too long waiting for their court hearings. Unfortunately, this has been exacerbated by COVID-19 restrictions and the slowdown in the court schedules. This has far reaching economic effects on the person, their family members and the community at large. For the incarcerated person their rent and utility bills can go unpaid and they often lose their jobs. Once out of jail it is not easy to instantly pick up where they left off, often personal relationships can be strained, credit ratings have been damaged, and employment opportunities are challenging for those with a record. All of these things make it more difficult to find housing and, in Broome County, the recent COVID-19 eviction moratoriums have decreased the availability of affordable housing in Broome County.

To help individuals and their families find their way back into the community the **Walk With Me** program offers assistance navigating benefits, provides advocacy and community referrals, teaches employment search skills, offers peer mentoring and counseling and through a collaboration with JUST (Justice and Unity for the Southern Tier) offers support groups.

For friendly support and more information on the **Walk With Me** program please contact our **Re Entry Specialists at (607) 723-8313 ext.1675.**

To learn more about Walk With Me please visit us at www.familyenrichment.org or call (607) 723-8313,



The mission of Family Enrichment Network is to provide supportive services for the optimal development of children and families. We believe in coordinating children and family services using a comprehensive and collaborative approach to improve their quality of life while ensuring the greatest value for our investment in child, adult, and parent development.