



# LEE SILBERMAN

*Chief Executive Officer & Executive Director*  
HABITAT FOR HUMANITY OF LONG ISLAND

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Lee Silberman has served as Chief Executive Officer and Executive Director for Habitat for Humanity of Long Island since October 2019. A 40-year resident of Long Island, Lee has spent his professional career building businesses in the private sector, while staying heavily involved in numerous nonprofits and steadfastly committed to the betterment of the community. He first volunteered with Habitat Long Island in the mid-1990s on a worksite in Bay Shore and then joined the Board of Directors in the late 1990s. He later served as chairman of the board from April 2013 through June 2018.

During his tenure, Lee spearheaded the merge with Habitat for Humanity of Nassau, becoming Habitat for Humanity of Long Island, with the goal of increasing house production by 30%, impacting more lives and communities on Long Island. As part of Habitat's mission, the affiliate has partnered with the Town of Southampton Housing Authority to build eight new houses in Riverside. The Suffolk County Department of Real Property transferred the parcels to the Town of Southampton's inventory to re-purpose for affordable housing. Lee also entered a partnership with the towns of Southampton and Brookhaven to offer a Reuse Program for residents to donate and keep functional and usable items out of the landfills. The organization seeks to expand the program and establish an islandwide Reuse Program in the future. In addition, Lee restructured the organizational chart for more efficient operations at Habitat Long Island, and forged new relationships with the towns of East Hampton, Southampton, Smithtown and Huntington.

In 2020, the organization was recognized as a Long Island Business News (LIBN) Top Places to Work, and in 2021 was selected by the Long Island Community and LIBN as the Best Philanthropic Organization, Readers Ranking Award. Also, in 2021, Lee was recognized as a Top Executive Circle Award Honoree by LIBN, and a Business Achievement Award Finalist by Hauppauge Industrial Association-LI.

Prior to taking on the role of CEO at Habitat Long Island, Lee served as chief executive officer of the Robert Allen Duralee Group in Hauppauge, where he helped transform the small family-owned company into one of the world's largest decorative fabric wholesaler. He also directed all aspects of organizational functions throughout a period of more than 13-fold growth and established the company's export division, opening new markets within Asia, the Middle East, Africa, Europe and Oceania.

Lee has surpassed fundraising goals for multiple organizations, including Habitat Long Island. He has raised funds to support local programs and services, such as at the Temple Isaiah Synagogue in Stony Brook and the Huntington Jewish Center. He currently is a Co-Chair of the HIA-LI Social Responsibility Committee.

Lee graduated from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) in three years with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Organic Chemistry and earned a Master of Science Degree in Synthetic Organic Chemistry from the University of California, Los Angeles. From 2001 to 2016, he served as alumni president of his class at MIT.

Lee resides in Hauppauge with his wife, Cheryl and their dog, Ginger Rogers. In his spare time, he enjoys playing bridge.