



Women of DISTINCTION

HONORING WOMEN IN NEW YORK

Barbara Franco

Barbara Franco has been serving the residents of the Town of Smithtown as the Executive Director of the Smithtown Chamber of Commerce for the past 13 years. In this role, she has utilized her marketing skills and tireless energy to enrich the lives of all Smithtown residents.

A veteran of corporate marketing, Ms. Franco's experience in the business world has been an integral part of her efforts to highlight the Town of Smithtown. In her extensive background, she has worked with companies such as Jones New York, Intel Corporation, Arrow Electronics, Coldwell Banker Sammis, Huntington Terrace and Sunrise Senior Living.

Ms. Franco finds inspiration in the challenges and rewards that come with coordinating the many major events the Chamber undertakes. These include events like Smithtown Festival Day, the Annual Golf Outing, 5K Running of the Bull, Smithtown Restaurant Week, Arts & Music Night and the Annual Fashion Show. These fundraising events support local community groups such as the Smithtown Food Pantry, Angela's House and the 911 Responders Remembered Park.

She was also part of the team that launched the Young Professionals Group within the Chamber Membership to help foster the next generation. Additionally, she serves as a member of the Industry Advisory Board at Smithtown High Schools, where she dedicates her time to help prepare students for future business opportunities and careers.

In addition, Ms. Franco is also a member of the Community Advisory Council at St. Catherine of Siena Medical Center.

For all her efforts, Ms. Franco was named *Times of Smithtown's* Woman of the Year in 2017 and was presented with the prestigious Anna Blydenburgh Award by the Smithtown Historical Society in 2013.

Ms. Franco and her husband, Ken, have been married for 34 years and have been blessed with a beautiful, loving family. Their daughter, Laura, and her husband, Frank, are the proud parents of the couple's first grandson, Giovanni. Her youngest daughter, Emily, recently married her husband, Daniel.

***Barbara Franco was selected as a
2019 Woman of Distinction honoree by Senator John J. Flanagan.***

