



comunilife

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**Founder/President/CEO
Comunilife, Inc.**

Dr. Rosa M. Gil is the Founder, President and CEO of Comunilife, Inc., a non-profit organization founded in 1989 to improve the quality of life and create a healthier tomorrow for New Yorkers with special needs in the Hispanic and broader community-by providing culturally competent health and human services and a continuum of affordable and supportive housing for homeless persons. Comunilife has been recognized for developing Community-Defined Best Practices for Latinos.

She has had a distinguished career in the fields of health, mental health, social services and higher education. Dr. Gil served as Health Policy Advisor to Mayor Giuliani and Health Administrator of New York City. She is the former Chairperson of the New York City Health and Hospital Corporation. In addition she has held positions as Executive Director of Woodhull Medical Center and Metropolitan Hospital; Senior Vice President of Generation and Northern Manhattan Health Network; Senior Vice President Mental Hygiene Services at the NYC Health and Hospitals Corporation; Executive Deputy Commissioner for Families and Children Services at the NYC Human Resources Administration. Dr. Gil is the former University Dean for Health Sciences at the City University of New York.

Some of her accomplishments include prevention and wellness initiatives; expansion of primary care; implementation of Medicaid managed care in New York City; increased access to health insurance; created a continuum of supportive housing for seniors, persons living with HIV/AIDS and mental illness; developed the first ever Medical Respite Housing Program in New York City; implemented a nationally recognized program for suicide prevention among Latina adolescents, Life is Precious™ and developed the Multicultural Relational Approach for Diverse Populations™

Dr. Gil is a Member of the Board of Health, NYC Department of Health & Mental Hygiene. She serves on NYS Governor's Interagency Council on Homelessness. She is a member of President Carter Center Mental Health Task Force and the Board of Trustees of EmblemHealth, Inc. Dr. Gil has served on the New York State Commission of Health Care Facilities in the 21st Century (The Berger Commission); New York State Governor's Adult Home and the Mentally Ill Persons Task Force; Planning Board of the Surgeon General Report on Mental Health; National Advisory Council to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Agency of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and Minority Women Panel of Health Experts of the U.S. Public Health Services. She is one of the founders of the Urban Institute for Behavioral Health of New York City, Latino Commission on AIDS, the Association of Hispanic Mental Health Professionals and 100 Hispanic Women.

Dr. Gil has published numerous articles on mental health, ethnicity, and child welfare and gender issues. She is the co-author of the "Maria Paradox," the first authoritative book on self-esteem and Hispanic women.