

**Susan Herman**

**Senior Advisor to the Mayor and Director of the Mayor's Office of Community Mental Health**

Susan Herman serves as Senior Advisor to the Mayor and Director of the Mayor's Office of Community Mental Health (OCMH). OCMH oversees strategies to fill critical gaps in mental healthcare so every New Yorker, in every neighborhood, has the support they need. Building on the strong foundation of ThriveNYC, OCMH partners with 13 city agencies and nearly 200 non-profit organizations to implement innovative programs that reach people with the highest need – those with serious mental illness, those affected by trauma, and those living in historically under-served neighborhoods. OCMH is re-imagining the way the City approaches mental health by providing strategic policy guidance to activate every part of City government to promote mental health and creating strategic partnerships with entities outside of City government. All of OCMH's work prioritizes equity and inclusion and builds the evidence base for innovation.

Prior to joining the Mayor's office, from January 2014 to February 2019, Herman served as Deputy Commissioner, Collaborative Policing in the New York City Police Department. Her role was to foster shared responsibility for public safety through productive partnerships with individuals, government agencies, and community-based organizations. The Office of Collaborative Policing concentrated on developing more non-enforcement options for police officers, designing creative and focused enforcement strategies, and improving access to police services.

A member of the NYPD from 1985 to 1990, Herman served as the Special Counsel to the Police Commissioner to three consecutive Police Commissioners. Herman previously served as Director of Community Services at The Enterprise Foundation, one of the nation's largest developers of affordable housing, where she led community-based initiatives on safety, employment, and access to social services; Director of the Domestic Violence Division of Victim Services (now Safe Horizon) in New York City where she managed services for people experiencing domestic violence including emergency, transitional, and permanent housing, and the police precinct-based Domestic Violence Prevention Project; Director of Mediation Services at the Institute for Mediation and Conflict Resolution; as an attorney at the NOW Legal Defense and Education Fund (now Legal Momentum); and as an instructor at New York University's School of Law and NYU's Wagner School of Public Service.

Herman also served as the Executive Director of the National Center for Victims of Crime, the nation's leading resource and advocacy organization for crime victims. In that capacity, she created the Teen Victim Project, the Stalking Resource Center, a national model for housing intimidated victims and witnesses, and the Critical Choices Forums for victims of 9/11. Immediately prior to returning to the Police Department in 2014, Herman was an Associate Professor in the Department of Criminal Justice at Pace University, teaching a wide range of courses including Criminal Law, Integrity Issues in Criminal Justice, Crime and Public Policy, and Creative Crime Control.

A recipient of the United States Attorney General's National Crime Victim Service Award, Herman is known for her new vision of justice set forth in her book *Parallel Justice for Victims of Crime*.

Herman holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science from Bryn Mawr College and a Juris Doctorate from the Antioch School of Law.