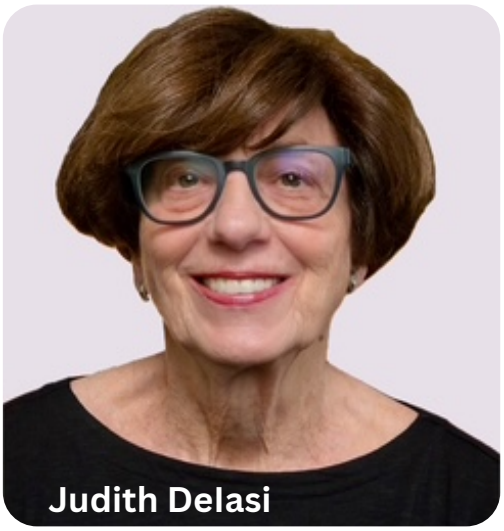
Journey of Hope Gala

Bryant Park Grill
November 12, 2026

Victory Award


Judith Delasi

Some people spend their careers making a difference. **Judy Delasi** has spent hers making it possible for other people to live fuller, more independent lives.

Judy began her career as a special education teacher and service coordinator before moving into leadership with the New York State Office of Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities, where she ultimately served as Chief of Community Services in Queens. She was among those who helped people living at Willowbrook leave the institution and build lives in their communities, and she played an important role in the growth of community-based services throughout New York.

She later served as Associate Executive Director for Programs at AHRC New York City and for many years as Chair and Vice Chair of the Manhattan Developmental Disabilities Council. Her leadership has always been grounded in a simple belief: people deserve to have a voice in their own lives and the opportunity to be part of their communities.

Judy has also been an important part of the Brain Injury Association of New York State family, serving as Vice President and, since 2018, representing BIANYS on the Rusk Consumer Advisory Board. Through her advocacy, she has helped strengthen the lives of people and families impacted by brain injury and has shared her wisdom generously with colleagues, families, self-advocates, and providers.

Judy has a remarkable ability to make people better advocates simply by knowing her. Her wisdom, compassion, perseverance, and commitment to doing what is right have touched generations of people across New York.

The Brain Injury Association of New York State is proud to honor **Judith Delasi with the 2026 Victory Award** in recognition of her extraordinary lifetime of advocacy, leadership, and service, and the countless lives she has helped move forward.