

Foundling merges with disabilities nonprofit

The New York Foundling, a social services nonprofit that has served the city for almost a century and a half, is merging with fellow nonprofit the Thrive Network as it seeks to expand its programs for individuals with developmental disabilities.

Thrive will become part of Foundling but will continue to operate under its own name. The merger is aimed at achieving greater economies of scale and a full continuum of services as the human services field, developmental disabilities in particular, moves "pretty aggressively to managed care," said Bill Baccaglini, CEO and president of Foundling.

"Agencies are going to have to confront questions of survivability," he said, explaining that size and efficiency will be critical moving forward.

With the continued focus on value-based models in health care and human services, "partnerships are going to be what we are going to see more of in the next few years," said Charles Montorio-Archer, outgoing CEO of Thrive. He will serve as a close adviser and supporter of both organizations' work.

Thrive's annual operating budget as a standalone developmental disabilities entity is about \$36 million, while Foundling's budget for developmental disabilities is about \$40 million out of a total operating budget of \$145 million.

Foundling operates more than 30 programs serving more than 30,000 children, families and individuals a year, according to the organization, which has been serving people with developmental disabilities since 1974. —J.H.