



2019 Annual Meeting

Wednesday - Friday • September 18 - 20 • The Sagamore Resort

Maureen O'Brien
President & CEO
New York State Industries for the Disabled, Inc.



Maureen E. O'Brien is a resident and native of Albany, New York. She is a graduate of the Academy of the Holy Names, University of Notre Dame (B.A.) and New York University (M.A.).

Maureen's career has focused on new business development and government relations. She spent a decade in the publishing industry in New York City. She formerly served as the Director of State Operations and Spokesperson to 20th Congressional District Representative and Homeland Security Appropriator John E. Sweeney. She has worked on a multitude of state and local political races and grass roots campaigns in New York.

In 2007 Maureen became the Director of Government Affairs for Motorola Solutions Inc. (MSI). In this capacity she handled the company's public safety government relations work on large strategic projects in the eastern half of the United States (Ohio, New York, Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, New Jersey, Boston, Philadelphia and New York City). In 2016 she was elevated to Executive Director managing all aspects of state and local government engagement for the East Region. In 2012, 2013, and 2016 Maureen was part of The CEO Circle – an award given to staff performing in the top 10% of the company.

Maureen's reputation in the state houses she has called on is that of an honest broker and trusted advisor with a keen understanding of the political process. Those who work closely with her are witness to her sense of humor, deep network of respectful colleagues and persistence in leaving no stone unturned.

Throughout her career Maureen has served on a host of non-profit boards associated with her passion of providing better opportunities to individuals with disabilities. Maureen is deeply involved in the NF Endurance Team (the fundraising arm of the Children's Tumor Foundation www.ctf.org). In addition, she serves as an executive board member at Double H Ranch – a residential camp in Lake Luzerne, New York founded by Paul Newman and Charles Wood with a mission to serve children living with life threatening illnesses (www.doublehranch.org). Maureen is a Trustee at Maria College in Albany, New York where she serves on the Executive Committee and is Chair of the Institutional Advancement Committee. In 2017, she chaired the development of the Frank E. O'Brien Student Support Center at Maria College. The Center serves disabled college students seeking a career in healthcare.

In 2018, following a national search, Maureen was appointed the President and Chief Executive Officer of New York State Industries for the Disabled (NYSID). NYSID is the designated facilitator of the Preferred Source Program for individuals with disabilities in New York State. Maureen manages the execution of over 1,000 state and municipal contracts on behalf of 135 rehabilitative services member agencies. In 2018 over 6,500 individuals with disabilities were gainfully employed through the program. She is thrilled to combine her private sector experience with her desire to provide opportunities to individuals with disabilities to bring transformational change to the organization.

Maureen was a recipient of the Andrew Heiskell Community Service Award for her commitment to St. Vincent's Hospital Supportive Care Program. The Heiskell award is the highest community service recognition at Time Inc. She has been a recipient on two occasions of the quarterly Motorola Solutions Foundation Volunteerism Award and in 2016 Maureen was a recipient of The American Institute for Public Service Foundation Jefferson Award for her volunteerism efforts at Double H Ranch and the Serious Fun Children's Network.

Maureen is a member of the Notre Dame Club of North Eastern N.Y. and The Notre Dame Monogram Club. She and her family are communicants of Mater Christi Parish in Albany, New York. Together Maureen and her husband Dr. Paul F. Vogt have four boys Patrick, Andrew, Christopher and Gabriel.