BOROWIDE

After 34 years of leading BronxWorks, Executive Director Carolyn McLaughlin announced she will retire in July.

When McLaughlin first took the helm at BronxWorks, known until 2009 as the Citizens Advice Bureau, it was a program of a larger umbrella organization. She and one other staffer ran the program from a small storefront with a budget of just $50,000.

Under her leadership, BronxWorks has grown to serve 35,000 Bronxites annually, with more than 600 staff, 20 locations and a budget of $36 million.

BronxWorks pioneered solutions to a slew of borough problems: They sponsored newly contracted-out senior centers; provided housing and conducted outreach to the homeless; served the first wave of people diagnosed with HIV/AIDS; provided free immigration services and provided large-scale eviction support.

"Through her tireless devotion to advancing BronxWorks' mission, Carolyn has kept BronxWorks at the forefront of providing services to the disadvantaged," Board Chair David McLean said. "She has been a constant source of inspiration to all of us who care about BronxWorks and its mission, and we will miss her greatly."