

## **Rebecca Sember**

I first became interested in the helping field when I was in my early adulthood. I obtained an Associate degree in Human Services from Suffolk County Community College, Selden NY. Then a Social Work Bachelor's, BSW, & an accelerated Master's degree, MSW, from Adelphi University, Hauppauge NY. During my schooling I had the opportunity to work with an array of persons, organizations, & needs. An afterschool program, an independent living community, a HEAP & energy program management, a boys & girls youth support group, a HIV/HCV services, the children protective services, home care, palliative care, & hospice care. These experiences have shaped me, not only have they provided me with knowledge & growth, but the skill to now go into private practice.

Working in the medical field since 2016 I've found my passion in geriatrics as well as with persons with severe, chronic, & terminal illness. Why these populations? Well, consider me an old soul. But I believe & acknowledge it's not only about age & illness... but the person. Their strengths, background, limitations, and needs. Working in home care, palliative care, hospice care, & bereavement care I have a greater sense of a person's psyche when going through the aging or illness process. I also understand with this population most times it takes a village. I work in conjunction with the persons medical team and support system. This is a standard best practice of mine to ensure the interdisciplinary team & patient are all aligned. If you are the person taking care of your ill loved one, or maybe just watching the progression of their disease process know there is support for you as well, you don't have to go this alone.