

WCA Launches *By the Numbers* Web Site

The Westchester Children's Association has unveiled a newly redesigned website to make it even easier for people to find and access information regarding the well-being of Westchester County children. The new site features the online version of *Westchester Children By The Numbers*, which presents information about children and youth, including demographics, economic security, education, health, child welfare and juvenile justice.

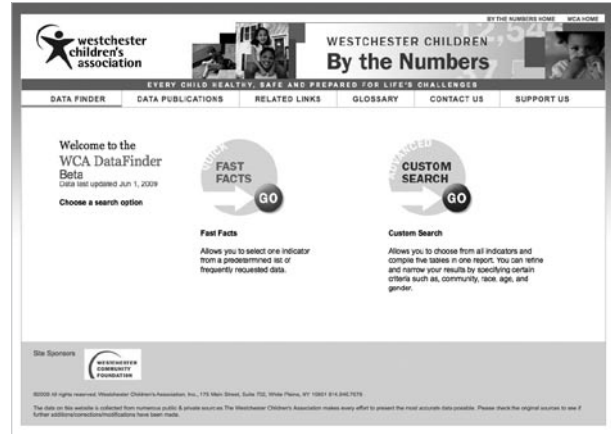
"Although the book version of *Children By The Numbers* was a great success, we believe that the online version will be a more powerful and meaningful resource for everyone who is concerned about children and youth in our County," said Cora Greenberg, Executive Director of Westchester Children's Association. She added "We want people to use the information in *By the Numbers* to spark intense conversations and inquiries about children's needs."

The *By the Numbers* data project, which includes the new data website, the previously published data book, and ongoing data education and analysis, has received major support from the Westchester Wallace Fund in the Westchester Community Foundation.

TEEN ADVOCATES HELP READY DATA SITE FOR LAUNCH

Three weeks prior to the data site launch date, on April 8th, WCA enlisted the help of the Westchester County Youth Council (WCYC) to conduct quality assurance testing on the online version of *Children By The Numbers*. The Westchester County Youth Council consists of teen representatives from demographically diverse areas who lead advocacy efforts on issues affecting teens and provide a youth perspective to government and community policy makers.

The "Bug Busting Party" was not only an opportunity for WCA to test *Children By the Numbers* before it went live, but it also provided a unique opportunity for teen advocates to become more informed about Westchester County by allowing them to search and analyze the data. ■



WCA's on line Datafinder makes it easy to find information



Participants at the Bug-busting party, left to right: Limarie Cabrera, Semarley Jarrett, Frank Marte, and Laura Achkar

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Advocacy Breakfast Focuses on Home Visiting Program

On March 27th, at our 2009 Advocacy Breakfast, over 80 people crowded into the Hilton Rye Town to hear about Nurse-Family Partnerships, an evidence-based nurse home visiting program that improves the health, well-being and self-sufficiency of low-income, first-time parents and their children. Three speakers from the national and local level delivered this year's Katherine Wasserman Davis Child Advocacy Lecture describing the challenges and rewards in implementing and sustaining the program. Tamar Bauer, the Chief Policy and Government Affairs Officer for the Nurse-Family Partnership National Service Office, gave an overview of the program.

Next, Deborah Kaplan, Assistant Commissioner of the Bureau of Maternal, Infant and Reproductive Health at the NYC Dept. of Health and Mental

Hygiene, shared evidence of the tremendous success this program has had in New York City. Finally, Clarissa Igle, an RN who is Nurse Manager for the Nurse-Family Partnership, shared some of the personal stories from her work with the young mothers in the program.

Many in the audience were inspired to envision a Nurse Family Partnership program in Westchester. With their encouragement,

WCA is now leading the effort to explore how we can bring this effective program to Westchester and improve overall access to home-visiting programs for vulnerable families. As a first step, WCA has convened a June 15th meeting of public agencies, service providers, philanthropists and advocates to review currently available home-visiting programs and assess the unmet needs for such services. ■



Members of the African American Men of Westchester, Inc.



*Standing: Eddie Beltran, MC Richard Kind, Michael Boatman, Jesse Krasnow, Melvin Burruss
Seated: Betsy Steward, Cora Greenberg, Myrna Forney, Maris Krasnow*



County Executive Andy Spano and County Legislator John Nonna

WCA Honors The African American Men of Westchester

The Westchester Children's Association hosted its Annual Advocacy Dinner at Tappan Hill Mansion in Tarrytown on April 28th. The highlight of this event, attended by over 175 supporters, was the presentation of the Edith C. Macy Award to the African American Men of Westchester. The Award is named in honor of one of the Westchester Children's Association's founders, and is given in recognition of extraordinary contributions to children's wellbeing.

Richard Kind, an actor well-known for his work in television, theater and film, served as emcee of the event.

The African American Men of Westchester, Inc. (AAMW) was founded in 1987 by 23 Westchester County residents of African American descent to capitalize on the vast talents of our community. One of the AAMW's primary goals is to focus attention on social issues which have a disproportionately negative impact on the African American community (e.g. underemployment, inadequate/unaffordable housing, crime, inadequate health care, poor quality education and substance abuse).



District Attorney Janet Di Fiore



WCA Executive Director Cora Greenberg with Lou Muller

Lou Muller Retires from the WCA Board

After nearly a quarter of a century of service, Lou Muller has retired from the WCA Board of Directors. Louise De Vel Muller began serving on WCA board in 1985, and served as WCA Board president from 1992 to 1996.

While president, Lou presided over WCA's creation of the Family Court Children's Centers, and effectively directed the organization during a six-month gap between Executive Directors. She led the search committee that hired WCA's current Executive Director, Cora Greenberg, and patiently introduced her to Westchester policy makers and service providers.

In addition to her contributions to WCA, Lou has been an active community volunteer and strong advocate for education, serving for many years as a leader on local and regional school Boards, and retiring as President of the Board of Southern Westchester BOCES. She has also been active in the League of Women Voters, the Westchester Women's Advisory Council, the Westchester Coalition of Family Violence Agencies, and as an alumna of Mount Holyoke College.

WCA will sorely miss her practical idealism, her boundless energy and her wise counsel. We wish Lou all the best as she looks forward to spending more time with her three grown sons and their families, her husband Frank, and her poodle Truffles! ■

WCA is pleased to welcome new Board members, staff, and interns:

Board Member Christopher Lee

Mr. Lee, a White Plains resident, is Market Development Manager at Ethicon-Endo-Surgery, Inc., a Johnson and Johnson company. A graduate of Muhlenberg College, holding an MBA from Pace University, he is active as a mentor in Big Brothers, Big Sisters.

Board Member Deborah Seidenberg

Ms. Seidenberg, an attorney, is a Financial Advisor at Merrill Lynch, and a Certified Retirement Planning Counselor. Prior to that she was Chief of the Citywide Family Court Division for the New York City Law Department and has also served as an Assistant District Attorney in the Bronx, where she headed the Child Abuse and Sex Crimes Bureau. She lives in Riverdale with her 10 year old daughter.

Board Member Theodore A. Wilson

Mr. Wilson is a Certified Public Accountant with his own firm in New Rochelle. He is active on the boards of directors of Abbott House, the Bronx Community Health Network, and Rochelle Heights Association. Mr. Wilson served two terms on WCA's Advisory Council before joining the Board. He and his wife Tumika are the parents of four children and grandparents of nine.

Administrator Karyn Lee

In May we welcomed Karyn Lee, a native of Mt. Vernon. Karyn has provided operations support in both the corporate and non-profit worlds over the past ten years, including work at a national child welfare resource center, non-profit development, and work in web site and database management.

Our Interns

A Yorktown native and rising senior at Cornell University, Scott Moskowitz is WCA's 2009 Blumenthal Intern. The Blumenthal Internship Program, founded by Karen and David Blumenthal, provides stipends for Cornell undergraduates to work for social-justice non-profit agencies over the summer. Scott's studies in Policy and Management with a concentration in Consumer Policy in Cornell's School of Human Ecology are a great match for WCA's mission. Scott's past internships include the Westchester Civil Liberties Union, Northwestern Mutual Financial Network, Sloan Kettering Hospital, and Citigroup.

Semarley Jarret is a rising senior at Mt. Vernon High School and a member of the Westchester Youth Council, the County's leading youth advocacy group. Through the Youth Council, Semarley has been active in organizing the annual Westchester Youth Convention, has delivered testimony before the Westchester Board of Legislators and other government bodies, and has helped to advocate on many issues of concern to young people.

Celia Bertuzzi, a Registered Nurse, is pursuing a Masters degree in Health Advocacy at Sarah Lawrence College. Since 1992, she has been on the staff of Montefiore Medical Center and had a wide range of experiences, especially in prenatal and maternity services. During the past year, Celia was a Fellow in the LEND (Leadership, Education in Neurodevelopment and Related Disabilities) Program at the Westchester Institute for Human Development.

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CHILDREN'S
ASSOCIATION
works to ensure
that all children are
*healthy, safe and
prepared for
life's challenges.*



IN MEMORIAM
Milly Kibrick, 1922-2009

Earlier this year, the WCA family mourned the passing of long-time WCA Board member Milly Kibrick, who died on February 27th at the age of 86. Mildred Ross Kibrick spent over six decades advocating for youth as a social worker, social entrepreneur, volunteer, and political advocate. She is survived by her three children, Valerie Ryan of Verona, NJ, Alison Kibrick of Los Altos Hills, CA, and Scott Kibrick of Hopewell Junction, NY, and nine beloved grandchildren.

Born in Mount Vernon in 1922, and a lifelong Westchester resident, Milly worked as a professional social worker and social work administrator in a variety of programs serving children and youth. In addition to her professional work, and long after her retirement, Milly was a tireless advocate for youth in Westchester County. Perhaps her proudest achievement was the formation in 1990 of the Campaign for Kids, a coalition which successfully advocated for the creation of Westchester's Invest in Kids Fund in 1994. This Fund represented the first time that

County tax dollars were appropriated for youth programs. Since its beginning, Invest in Kids has supported dozens of community youth programs and served thousands of youngsters.

Milly's favorite quotation was by Margaret Mead: "Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has." This quote encapsulates Milly's philosophy and her inspiration to make the world a better place. We will miss her energy, her passion and her friendship. ■

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