

Since 1914, the Westchester Children's Association has been the County's leading voice for children, speaking out for their needs and improving public policies and programs aimed at meeting those needs.

As a result, we have helped every child have the opportunities and supports they need to be healthy, safe and prepared for life's challenges.

## WCA 2007 ANNUAL REPORT

*2007 was a year which WCA strengthened and expanded previous efforts to improve children's lives. It was a year in which we were proud to see the results of our earlier victories.*

### County Budget Advocacy

WCA once again led a successful effort to strengthen services for children through the County budget. Throughout 2007, WCA worked with our partners to develop an advocacy agenda with input from members of the Campaign for Kids, the Child Health Advocacy Network (previously the Child Health Task Force) and others concerned with children's issues. With the unified voice of many advocates, and although FY2008 was a difficult budget year, we were able to maintain gains and prevent cuts to important County-funded programs. These included the pilot program bringing early-childhood mental health in child care centers, and Independent Living Accounts for Foster Youth.

### Early Childhood Mental Health

Throughout the year, WCA worked to improve early childhood mental health, an issue of vital importance and a major area of WCA's focus in recent years.

- WCA secured additional funding in the 2007 County budget for a **200% expansion of Early Step Forward**, a pilot program originally created in 2006, that brings mental health professionals directly to children and families in day care centers. There, mental health specialists support positive emotional/social development of children, parents and staff members. Hundreds of children throughout the county have been helped by this program. We successfully advocated to maintain full funding for this innovative program in FY2008.
- *Pay Attention/Preste Atención*, WCA's well-regarded **bilingual parent education booklet** on early childhood emotional development, was reprinted due to overwhelming demand. Additional copies were distributed to early childhood programs and family service agencies.
- To help answer the question of what resources are actually available to address young children's mental health, **WCA created an inventory of services** called *Supporting Our Youngest Citizens*. Through an online and telephone survey and individual interviews, we amassed information on more than 100 programs and agencies. Our study confirmed that services are concentrated in the southern and central parts of the County while population is growing rapidly in northern Westchester. Moreover, many services are available primarily during parents' working hours, and there are not enough bilingual and bicultural providers to meet growing demand.



*Advisory Council members Mildred Kibrick, and Zoila Tazi with WCA Executive Director Cora Greenberg (center).*

# A Message from the President of WCA



Maris H. Krasnow Ed.D., WCA President

As the leading voice for the children of Westchester, WCA continues to ensure that children's needs are kept in the forefront of the public agenda. As always we remain committed to our mission – ensuring that every child is healthy, safe and prepared for life's challenges. Your generous support enables us all to be children's champions. Through your donations we work to continue to improve children's lives in the following ways:

- **To guarantee children's needs are known, and that resources are funneled toward their most urgent needs, WCA collects, analyzes and publishes current data** about the County's children. In April, 2008, we unveiled our latest publication, *Westchester Children By the Numbers*, a comprehensive children's data book. Over two years in the making, the data book assembles and analyzes facts about Westchester's 230,797 children. Although the initial release was a hard copy, an online version – which will be kept up-to-date, monitored and managed by the WCA – will appear later in the year. This data stream will inform policy decisions across the county and direct resources more effectively.
- **To ensure that children are benefiting from the best possible strategies and approaches that meet their needs, we analyze and advocate for public policies** that show the greatest promise. We study selected issues in depth, review how other communities address similar issues, and evaluate proposed public policies and legislation. Our publication advocating for children's mental health issues, *No Time to Lose: Rethinking Mental Health Services for Westchester's Children*, has led to county funding to meet these needs. Our pamphlet, *Pay Attention/Preste Atención*) has led to our latest study-in -progress of parenting programs in Westchester.
- **To continue building a strong and united voice to keep children's needs at the top of the public agenda, we educate and mobilize the public.** We teach youth and adults to be better advocates and form coalitions to speak out for children's needs. Our educational events and publications bring the latest information and ideas to Westchester.

By advocating for policies and programs to benefit children, we are providing them a brighter future filled with greater opportunities. Our talented board, staff, interns, and advisory council work tirelessly to educate the public and our elected officials to this end. We are extremely grateful to all our supporters and know that you are our partners in this vital and important work. Together we will continue to take the steps we need to keep children's lives moving forward.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Maris H. Krasnow". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Maris H. Krasnow Ed.D., WCA President

- Studying emotional health resources for young children led us to think about supports for parents. WCA's Research and Advocacy Committee decided to investigate **programs designed to help parents** of young children, especially those children who are involved in the child welfare system. Building on the survey undertaken to produce *Supporting Our Youngest Citizens*, the committee reviewed existing programs, met with professionals in the Department of Social Services, the Family Court and community agencies, and studied programs that have proven to be effective throughout the country. A final report is expected in early summer of 2008.
- Finally, we continued our tradition of presenting outstanding speakers on children's issues. At our 2007 Advocacy Breakfast in April, Dr. Jeanne Brooks-Gunn of Teachers College, Columbia University, spoke about how early childhood programs affect children's emotional development.

## Foster Youth

Following our success in creating the **Independent Living Fund** for foster youth leaving care, WCA worked hard for much of the year to help develop protocols and procedures for putting the money to work. Although the funding was approved as of January 2007, it wasn't until September of 2007 that the first youngster received a grant. The funds are used for expenses that are not covered by other public sources. Some examples might be books for post-secondary education, a working wardrobe, or driving lessons. By the end of the year more than a dozen young people used the fund to start their independent lives on a more secure footing.

Another way we support youngsters in foster care is by sponsoring their attendance at **performing arts events**. With the help of generous donors, we sent a group of about 60 young people to Purchase Performing Arts Center in November to see the Shaolin Warrior Monks, a dazzling display of martial arts and spiritual discipline. These performances have become a wonderful annual tradition.

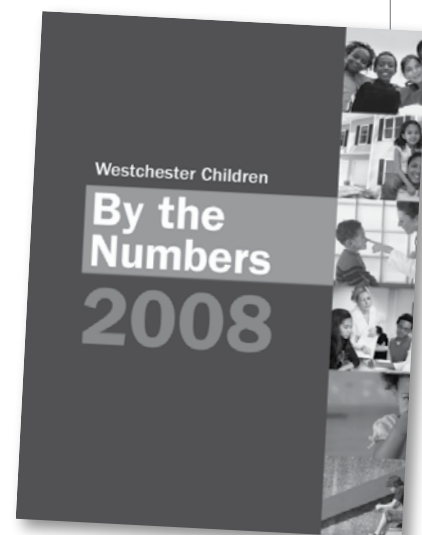
## Westchester Children By the Numbers Data Book

Our long-awaited children's data book, *Westchester Children By the Numbers*, moved closer to publication throughout the year. (Actual publication date is April 24, 2008). With ongoing support from the Westchester Community Foundation, we have been able to sustain the difficult work of gathering and organizing data from a myriad of government and non-profit sources. We know it will be worth the wait! Later in 2008, we plan to unveil an online searchable version of this vital data resource.

## Children's Health

WCA's efforts on children's health focused this year on several goals. First, we worked to make sure that Federal regulations and legislation did not undermine the gains that have been made in covering more children with comprehensive health insurance. To this end, we educated and mobilized local child advocates and joined with others across the country to reach out to elected officials. Unfortunately, the federal State Child Health Insurance Program (SCHIP) was never fully reauthorized and is still, as we write, being continued on a temporary basis. Similarly, proposed federal regulations that would severely limit income eligibility for this program are still under consideration and are still being opposed by child advocates.

Locally, with funding from the United Way of Westchester and Putnam, WCA has addressed barriers to health insurance coverage, specifically barriers to keeping eligible children continuously enrolled. Working closely with the Westchester County Departments of Health and Social Services, and with partner community agencies, WCA monitors problems and seeks solutions that make the required annual recertification process as simple as possible, thus giving more children access to uninterrupted health care.



## REVENUE

Bequest	166,363
Trust Income	39,109
Contributions	61,113
Fundraising events/products	53,732
<b>Total Amount from Individuals</b>	<b>320,347</b>
Grants	158,220
Interest/Dividends	108,305
Other	800
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$ 587,672</b>

## EXPENSES

Program Expense	\$ 314,375
Admin, Support, and Fundraising	\$ 132,988
<b>Total Expenses:</b>	<b>\$ 447,363</b>

### Note

A copy of the complete audited financial statement is available from WCA on request, or from the New York State Attorney General, Office of Charities Registration, 120 Broadway, New York, NY 10271.

## Building for Our Second Century



Kathryn Wasserman Davis

### Supporting WCA's Work

In 2007, WCA was thrilled to present the inaugural Edith C. Macy Award for Distinguished Service to Kathryn Wasserman Davis, past president and long-time supporter of WCA. The award was presented at our Annual Advocacy Dinner in recognition of Mrs. Davis' outstanding contributions to WCA and to the future of our county's children. Later in the year, Mrs. Davis was further honored as Outstanding Philanthropist of the year by the Westchester Association of Development Officers based on WCA's nomination.

WCA was honored to receive a bequest from long-time supporter Marilyn Conway of Somers, New York, who passed away in 2007. Marilyn had been active with WCA in the 1980s, and we gratefully acknowledge her thoughtful generosity.

### WCA Family

WCA's first annual Advisory Council Breakfast was held in January. Dr. Joshua Lipsman, Commissioner of the Westchester County Department of Health and Jennifer Shaffer, Commissioner of the Department of Community Mental Health, spoke to our new Advisory Council and WCA Board members about how their departments serve children and youth. Toward the end of the year, WCA added several new members to the Advisory Council to help us work toward the common goal of improving children's lives: Amy Ansehl, Deborah Campbell, MD, Rachel Grob, Regina Kelly, Ursula Lamott, Mary Loeffler, Kate Weingarten, and Theodore Wilson.

WCA experienced a number of staff changes throughout the year. Betsy Steward joined us in the newly-created position of Development Officer. Pat Mackin, who had served as the administrative backbone of the organization for 11 years, handling everything from event planning to office management, retired in September. Limarie Cabrera joined WCA as Director of Data Analysis in October. She worked closely with Dan Lipka as he finished his tenure as Director of Special Projects, and has since taken on leadership of all aspects of our data project, *Westchester Children By the Numbers*.

Finally, WCA was ably assisted by the following student interns in 2007: Jean Anne Cipolla (Sarah Lawrence graduate program in Health Advocacy), Jodi Epstein (Binghamton University), Karen Mandel (Columbia University School of Social Work), Marissa Nardi (Barnard College), Sarah Thompson (Cornell University Blumenthal Intern), and Jackie Zaneri (Amherst College).



WCA Staff, left to right: Cora Greenberg, Pat Mackin, Betsy Steward, and Allison Lake.

# The Westchester Children's Association gratefully acknowledges all our supporters.

## We especially wish to recognize the following:

For her generous gift to our endowment: Kathryn Wasserman Davis

For major program support: The Frog Rock Foundation

The Wallace Westchester Fund in the Westchester Community Foundation

For her thoughtful bequest: Marilyn Conway

### President's Circle

(\$5,000+)

Lisina Hoch  
Glenn and Lori Greifer  
Kaufman  
Maris and Jesse Krasnow  
Mariner Investment Group,  
Inc.  
Louise and Frank Muller  
Office of Sen. Suzi  
Oppenheimer  
United Way of Westchester/  
Putnam

### Champions of Children

(\$1,000+)

Joseph and Sophia Abeles  
Foundation  
Karen and David Blumenthal  
Anne Boyer  
Children's Village  
Cornell University/Blumenthal  
Internship  
Shelby Cullom Davis  
Foundation  
Stephanie and Douglas Gould  
Carey E. Gross  
Janet and Gerald Gutterman  
Florence Wiener and Richard  
Hobish  
Katherine Lobach and Richard  
Kaufman  
Deborah and Herbert Krasnow  
Thomas Kyle  
Patricia Lanza  
Andrea and Jay Lerner  
George Lusk  
March of Dimes  
Phelps Memorial Hospital  
Lynn Pilzer and Eric Sobel  
Jackie Hilly and Dean Stiffle  
West. County Dept. of Health  
Lisa and Richard Witten  
Ann Umemoto and Richard  
Younge

### Guardians of Children

(\$500+)

Joanne Amorosi  
Julia and Robert Anello  
Diane Ashton  
E.Nelson Asiel  
Janet Benton

Anne and Eugene Bondy, Jr.  
Susie Brown  
Ted Buerger  
Hudson Health Plan  
Susan Coupey  
Myrna Forney  
Elliott and Susan Hershman  
Ronald and Lisa Katz  
Mildred Kibrick  
Helen and Robert Krasnow  
Mary Loeffler and William  
Marcotte  
Elizabeth Mark  
Carrie and Barney Newman  
Lucille Oppenheim  
Jacqueline and Jean Plumez  
Fran and Eric Rosenfeld  
Marcia and Kenneth Schiffer  
Connie and Arthur Zuckerman

### Advocates for Children

(\$250+)

Abbott Laboratories  
Emily Aber and Robert  
Wechsler  
Deborah and Joseph Ades  
Shari Aronson  
Nan Banks  
Ellie and Robert Berlin  
Lyndall Boal  
Joan and Arthur Boyd  
Deborah Campbell  
Georganne Chapin  
Community Choice Health  
Plan  
Sara and Frederic Cook  
Mary D'Amico  
Lisa and Mark Edmiston  
Margot Elkin  
Linda Ellis  
Family Services of Westchester  
Pat and Ronald Fatato  
Abbe Franklin  
Angela Freeman  
Helen and Stephen Freidus  
Elizabeth Goldsmith  
Jody Greenbaum  
Lottie and Conrad Harris  
Michael Hirsch  
Cassandra and Maurice  
Hyacinthe  
Marion Israel  
Janet Jordan

James Kaufman  
Fredda Kramer  
Wendy and Milton Lewin  
Charles Lipson  
Nita and Stephen Lowey  
Laura Lustbader  
Harriet and Judd Marmon  
Mass Mutual Financial Group  
Joyce and Christopher Orlando  
Michael O'Shea  
Lea Barth and Guy Petrillo  
Jane Pollock  
Maria-Alana Recine-DeBellis  
Edward Reda  
Joann and Michael Rooney  
Marcelle and Marc Rothenberg  
Sarah Lawrence College  
Jessica Schmidt  
Nadine and Mark Schonberger  
Mary and Robert Shriber  
Betty and Malcolm Smith  
Elisabeth and John Steward  
Evelyn Stock  
Anne Sweazey  
Marilyn and David Tawfik  
May Tooker  
Nancy and Jonathan Warner  
Andrew and Adrienne Weiss-  
Harrison  
Amy and John Wickersham  
Robyn Wild  
Lester Zimmerman

### Supporters of Children

(\$100+)

Rita and Alan Aber  
Sally Mallin and Daniel Adler  
Elizabeth and Eric Alderman  
Andrus Children's Center  
Danielle Laraqe and Luigi  
Arena  
Joy and Avi Avidan  
Stuart Baker  
Jane Bedichek  
Beth Belkin  
Barry and Susan Berger  
Maura Bluestone  
Barbara and Daniel Bock  
Jose Boyer  
Corinne Brady  
Lori and John Bregstein  
Paul Briggs  
Lois and Charles Bronz

Joan and Larry Budish  
Alyce and Norman Cannon  
Carol Cauley  
Audrey and Jerry Chatzky  
Catherine Draper and Michael  
Clain  
Lynne Clark  
Betty Cotton  
Lila d'Adolf  
Kathie Davidson  
Lisa Davis  
John Dean  
Tom DeMaio  
Marilyn and Robert DeRight  
Sarina DiStefano  
Colleen Duffy  
Holly K. Edelstein  
Michael Elia  
Beth Finnerty  
Karen Fischer  
Tara Framer  
Israel Franco  
Evelyn Frankford  
Doris Friedman  
Michael Friedman  
The Guidance Center  
Judy and Michael Gewitz  
Geraldine and Irwin Goldberg  
Jennifer Gruenberg  
Gutterman & Oppeheim  
Kathy Halas  
Walter Handelman  
David Harris  
C. Lowell Harriss  
Joanne Hersh  
Debbie Kenyon and Peter Hess  
Daniel Hirsch  
Kay Hirsch  
Joseph Hofheimer  
Barbara Holland  
William Holloran, Jr.  
Henry Issenberg  
Gloria Jacobs  
Anne Janiak  
Patricia Jurey  
Dorothy King and David  
Kaufman  
David Klein  
Margaret Klein  
Jan Kliger  
Kattya Koenigsberg  
Mark Kramer  
Shirley Kyle  
Allison and Terence Lake  
Patricia and Lawrence Larson  
Daniel Lipka  
Mark Litt  
Andrea Kretchmer and Paul  
Lutvak  
Dolly Maass  
Patricia Mackin  
Catherine Marsh

Barbara Meier  
Mental Health Assoc.  
Julie and Mark Minter  
Dorothy Moore  
Candace Morris  
Kathleen and Bill Moss  
Mary Mulligan  
Judith Myers  
Daniel Naccarella  
Denise and Steven Napoli  
Saundra Neubardt  
Beverly and David Neufeld  
New Kalman Sunshine Fund  
Paul Noto  
Jane Nusbaum  
Oce Imagistics  
Louisa and Andy Pelosi  
Eleanor Pennell  
Elizabeth Pforzheimer  
Shirley Phillips  
Libbie and David Poppick  
Andrea and Andrew Potash  
Frances Poulos  
Margaret Pride  
Charlotte Raynor  
Nancy Reddington  
Lynn and Michael Reichgott  
Valerie Salwen and Stephen Rogowsky  
Lenore Rosenbaum  
Albert Rosenfeld  
Valerie and Kevin Ryan  
Daniel Sabbeth  
Jennifer Sabella  
Janet Saint Germain  
Valerie Saltz  
Elizabeth and Robert Sauer  
Harriet and Arthur Savage  
Gae and John Savino  
S. Kenneth Schonberg  
Dorothy Schott  
Amy Paulin and Ira Schuman  
Warren Serenbetz  
Donato Settanni  
Edith Shapiro  
Felice Shapiro  
Judy Siegel  
Alice Silton  
Terri Simon and Eric Levine  
Donna Soldwedel  
Hope Solinger  
Anne Vaughan Spilsbury  
Ruth and David Stein  
Barbara and Peter Strauss  
Zoila Tazi  
Carol Vinelli  
Barbara Waesche  
Janet Walker  
Yolanda Weisenberger  
Westchester Jewish Comm. Services  
Theodore and Tumika Williams-Wilson  
Ellen and Bruce Wolfson  
Betti and Jim Zucker

**OFFICERS**

Katherine S. Lobach, MD  
*Chair*  
Maris H. Krasnow, Ed.D.  
*President*  
Carey E. Gross, MD, Ann Umemoto  
*Vice Presidents*  
Lisa Katz, LMSW  
*Secretary*  
Jay Lerner, C.P.A.  
*Treasurer*

**BOARD MEMBERS**

Joanne Amorosi, CFP  
Myrna Forney  
Douglas Gould  
Jody Greenbaum  
Janet Gutterman, Esq.  
Marion K. Israel, DSW  
Thomas Kyle  
Elizabeth Mark  
Louise De Vel Muller  
Lenore Rosenbaum  
Kenneth A. Schiffer, MD  
Adrienne Weiss-Harrison, MD

**ADVISORY COUNCIL**

Elizabeth Alderman, MD	Michael Friedman, LMSW	Mary Loeffler
Amy Ansehl	Rachel Grob	Leah Murphy
Margery Arsham	Lottie Harris	Andy Pelosi
Karen Blumenthal	Jackie Hilly	Roc Polera
Anne Boyer	Richard Hobish, Esq.	Charlotte Raynor
Lyndall Boal	Barbara Holland	Eileen Santiago, EdD
Delores Brathwaite, JD	Stephen J. Jones	Kenneth Schonberg, MD
Ted Buerger	Regina Kelly	Evelyn Stock
Deborah Campbell, MD	Mildred Kibrick	Zoila Tazi
Doris Capello, DSW	Danielle Laraque, MD	Kate Weingarten
Georganne Chapin, JD	Ursula LaMotte	Theodore Wilson
Sheryl Dicker	Richard Lerer, EdD	Lester Zimmerman, MD

**STAFF**

Cora Greenberg  
*Executive Director*  
Allison Lake  
*Deputy Director*  
Limarie Cabrera  
*Director of Data Analysis*  
Betsy Steward  
*Development Officer*  
Caitlin Romeo  
*Administrative Assistant*



**Westchester Children's Association**  
175 Main Street, Suite 702  
White Plains, NY 10601  
914.946.7676 | [www.wca4kids.org](http://www.wca4kids.org)

*We have made every effort to ensure the accuracy of our donor listing. If your name has been omitted or misprinted, please accept our sincere apologies and notify us by email at [bsteward@wca4kids.org](mailto:bsteward@wca4kids.org) or call Betsy Steward at 914.946.7676.*