Transforming Lives

2019 Annual Report
WIHD is a University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities

As one of 67 University Centers for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities (UCEDDs), the Westchester Institute for Human Development (WIHD) is dedicated to improving the lives of people with disabilities and vulnerable children through professional education, direct service provision, and innovative research.

For over 45 years, WIHD has been a key regional resource providing a wide range of medical, dental, clinical, and social services to individuals, families and professionals throughout Westchester County and the Lower Hudson Valley.

At WIHD, everything we do is guided by our vision of a future in which all people, including people with disabilities and vulnerable children, live healthy and productive lives as full members of society.

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Dear Friends, Colleagues, and Supporters:

It seems a bit surreal to be writing this letter in May of 2020, reflecting on 2019 which seems a lifetime ago. 2019 was a very good year for WIHD. We were awarded almost $2.5 million in new grants and started several new programs. We ended the year in a strong financial position and had benefitted from a high-performing stock market. Our programs were all thriving and we were making a real impact on the lives of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, vulnerable children, and families. We began 2020 in a positive position; projecting strong growth over the coming year.

And then March hit and we were faced with some of the most daunting challenges in the organization’s history. The organization responded quickly and effectively to the coronavirus pandemic but it has taken a heavy toll on our staff, our clientele, and the organization. But, this report reflects on our good work in 2019 and I prefer to focus on the future and how WIHD will use its expertise, resilience, compassion, and innovation to emerge from the current crisis a better, more efficient, and more effective organization.

Reflecting on 2019 has been cathartic and reassuring. Life will return to normal and WIHD will emerge from this year having learned much and grown as an organization. We thank you all for your continued support of our organization, the work we do, and the people we serve.

Stay safe and healthy and we look forward to seeing you all again soon.

Best,

Susan Fox, PhD
President and CEO

For more information, visit our website at wihd.org
Over the last year and a half, under the direction of Naomi Brickel, the Community Support Network (CSN) has experienced its own transformation into a more robust and cohesive resource for individuals, families and professionals navigating and working within diverse disability systems. Successful efforts to expand capital and pull together separate and diversely funded programs into one unified department has increased outreach and simplified the client experience. Individuals who call the CSN’s new single phone number no longer need to know which program to request or even what questions to ask. Our knowledgeable and passionate program staff can begin to connect and guide from the first ‘hello’ and can assist in any language.

Just ask Maria DeLeon. As the mom of a son with autism who was struggling in his school program and making little progress, Maria was concerned. Then she met Lulu Bencosme, the CSN’s Assistant Director for Family & Community Training and Culturally Responsive Outreach. When Maria came across a flyer for the CSN’s Special Education Training and Development for Spanish Speaking Families series being held in Yonkers, she could not have imagined how the information gained would change her family's life.

She gained the skills to write that first letter, and several following, and become an advocate. Today, her son attends a program at Rye Lake BOCES and Maria is amazed by his progress. In addition, with the support of other members of the CSN team, the family has successfully completed the eligibility process for OPWDD and have even begun to receive services outside of his school program. They have also begun using the services of WIHD’s Behavioral Psychology Program to assist with his progress at home.

“Ahora yo se que puedo hablar y pedir por mi hijo. Tu me enseñaste que tengo que empezar con escribiendo una carta al departamento de educación especial de mi distrito y así empezó todo”

(“Now I know I can speak up for my son. You taught me that I have to start by writing a letter to the special education department of my district and that’s how it all began”)

“Ahí cambio mi vida!”

(“There my life changed”)

WIHD’s Community Support Network Helps Spanish-Speaking Parents Navigate Special Education
WIHD provides direct services for people with Intellectual and/or Developmental Disabilities and their families.

These services include: primary health care, specialty health care, dental services, speech and hearing, assistive technology, behavioral psychology, service brokerage, and early intervention services coordination.

42,581 clinical and medical visits to 4,860 individuals

6,654 primary care visits to 1,351 adults

Conducted 328 assistive technology evaluations

Loaned 704 assistive technology devices

Provided 2,931 behavioral psychology visits to 127 children and adults

8,604 dental visits to 3,051 children and adults

3,531 audiology visits to 2,159 children and adults
WIHD’s Unique Continuum of Care Supports Family Reunification

With support from a combination of WIHD’s unique and innovative child welfare programs, 5-year-old Mia and 10-year-old Savannah rang in the New Year at home with their mother after spending over two years in foster care. Initially removed because of allegations of neglect, their mother had a number of factors working against her. She is a single parent with her own history of early childhood trauma.

Ms. B’s strengths and needs as a parent were initially assessed through a **Parent/Child Assessment**. This innovative assessment—developed by WIHD—looked at the quality and nature of Ms. B’s attachment to her children. **Parenting Skills Training** was recommended to help Ms. B learn how best to respond to her children’s emotional, developmental and physical needs.

**The Enhanced Foster Care Program** provided guidance and support to the children’s foster parent, helping them manage the children’s separation from their family and understand how to support the children during their transition home. Once that transition began, Ms. B was referred to the **Every Family Counts Aftercare Program**. Ms. B was able to establish a high level of trust with her Case Manager, which in turn allowed her to work positively with the Department of Social Services caseworker and to learn how to navigate the various systems of care.

Ms. B has been diligent in attending to the needs of her two children and continues to rely on the Aftercare supports to overcome challenges related to understanding how to access services for her family. Ms. B has found stable employment and utilizes the support from both the **Educational Coordinator** and the **Aftercare Case Manager** to meet the daily and educational needs of her daughters. Ms. B has learned to be a strong advocate for herself and her children since the children returned to her care.
Increasing Knowledge through Research & Training

It is crucial for any organization to continuously evaluate its programs, to conduct research to uncover new knowledge, and to identify and test innovative strategies. WIHD engages in such activities to transform the lives of individuals with IDD and vulnerable children and to properly support their families and caregivers. To this end, our program areas, with the support of our Research Department, evaluate WIHD’s existing and new programs utilizing participant surveys and evaluation data.

WIHD teaches students and professionals from many fields, including:
- Audiology
- Social Work
- Psychology
- Special Education
- Speech-Language Pathology

WIHD offers rotations in developmental medicine and dentistry as well as individualized research training and practicum experiences to public health students from New York Medical College’s School of Health Sciences and Practice and other schools.

The LEND (Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental and related Disabilities) program at WIHD is an interdisciplinary leadership training program funded by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau of the federal government. LEND trainees include graduate students and post-doctoral fellows, self-advocates, and family members of children and adults with disabilities. Through a collaboration with the University of Puerto Rico and the University of the Virgin Islands, trainees from those sites participate in the WIHD LEND program remotely.
2019 Highlights

January
❖ WIHD President and CEO, Dr. Susan Fox, is featured in Suite Talk in the Westchester Business Journal
❖ TAFT Foundation awards WIHD’s Community Support Network with funding to expand its work related to supporting families and individuals with I/DD

February
❖ County Executive, George Latimer, visits WIHD’s Child Welfare Programs
❖ Longevity awards presented to 22 staff members

March
❖ The Child Welfare Program at WIHD receives retreat grant from Omega to participate in “Strengthening Communities Summit”
❖ Lulu Bencosme, Community Support Network, participates in first International Meet and Greet in the Mamaroneck School District; she also served as a panelist at the New York State Association for Bilingual Education (NYSABE) 42nd Annual Conference

April
❖ Community Support Network’s Brendan Klein interviewed on News 12 for Developmental Disabilities Month, highlighting Brendan's Facebook group (Tic Tac Go), which provides socially support to people with disabilities
❖ Lulu Bencosme recognized for work to spearhead the special education conference at Manhattanville College for Spanish-speaking families

May
❖ WIHD’s Director of Child Abuse Pediatrics, Dr. Jennifer Canter, honored by Children’s Dream Fund
❖ LEND Program’s Barbara Levitz retires after 30 years at WIHD

June
❖ Community Support Network’s Marilyn Vitale retires after 17 years at WIHD
July
- Adam Brickel Garden Dedication
- Three new board members—Helen Buhler, Jasmine Hernandez and Frances Rao—join WIHD, replacing David M.C. Stern and Kehli Woodruff

August
- REV UP Westchester, a coalition of people with disabilities, family members, friends, representatives of service providers, government agencies, nonprofits and companies that serve people with disabilities, hold voter registration at WIHD

September
- WIHD’s Assistive Technology Loan Closet featured on News 12
- Dr. Ted Kastner, Commissioner, NYS Office for People with Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD), shared his vision for the work and issues facing OPWDD

October
- Brendan Klein receives Self-Advocacy Association of New York State’s Media Innovator Award
- Karen and Jesse Millman featured on Fox 5 NY for their participation in a training for third-year dental students

November
- Third-year dental students from the Touro College of Dental Medicine at New York Medical College begin weekly rotations in WIHD’s Dental Program to gain awareness of treating individuals with disabilities
- President & CEO, Dr. Susan Fox, selected as 914INC. 2019 Women in Business honoree

December
- WIHD’s Brendan Klein and Naomi Brickel were interviewed on Fox 5 New York by Ernie Anastos about their social groups for people with disabilities
- Houlihan Lawrence book donation to WIHD’s Child Welfare program organized by Board Member Aaron Velez
WIHD in the News

Over the past year, WIHD has significantly increased our presence in print and broadcast media as well as on social media. By sharing stories, successes, research and mission, we are reaching a wider audience to highlight the wonderful work our staff does to promote inclusion and serve our community in the best way possible.

WIHD has also made appearances on major news networks in the past year, both at the local and state levels.

Interview with the Community Support Network’s Brendan Klein about his work with social media and inclusion

Interview with WIHD’s President and CEO, Dr. Susan Fox, at the City and State New York Award Ceremony

Assistive Technology Loan Closet

Westchester group offers equipment, toys to Bedford girl with rare condition

Fox 5 New York

WIHD’s Touro Dental Training Program was featured on Fox 5 New York to highlight its importance as part of the dental training curriculum.
Putting the “fun” in fundraising . . .

2019 Spring Gala

The 2019 WIHD Annual Spring Gala "An Evening of Inspiration" celebrated the extraordinary work of our honorees: Dr. Ansley Bacon, Dr. Patricia Seagriff-Curtin and Mr. David M.C. Stern. The honorees were selected based on their service and dedication to WIHD and the community.

2019 Fall Fun Fest

Our 3rd Annual Fall Fun Fest “Celebrating Abilities” was held in October and raised funds for our vital services and programs as well as celebrated the entirety of the WIHD community. The event honored Kathleen Kaiser with the 2019 Community Service Award for her generosity, time and commitment to ensure children served through WIHD's Child Welfare Program feel special during the holiday season. This year’s sponsors included Autism Directory Service, Inc., Maier, Markey and Justic LLP, CClean, Grace Ambulette, RJC Wealth Management, Houlihan Lawrence, Thompson & Bender and Baldor Specialty Foods, Inc.
### Statement of Financial Position*

#### ASSETS

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<th>Item</th>
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<td>Investments</td>
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<td>Medical Accounts Receivable</td>
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<td>Pledges Receivable</td>
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#### LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS

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<th>Current Liabilities</th>
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<td>Accounts Payable and Accrued Expenses</td>
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<td>Accrued Payroll and Compensated Absences</td>
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<td>Due to Third Party</td>
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<td>Deferred Revenue</td>
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<th>Net Assets</th>
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<td>Without Donor Restrictions</td>
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<td>Change in Net Assets</td>
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<td><strong>Total Net Assets</strong></td>
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**Total Liabilities & Net Assets**

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Liabilities &amp; Net Assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>$11,632,689</strong></td>
</tr>
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Statement of Revenues and Expenditures*

- **Total Revenue** $22,889,513
  - Contracted Services $9,796,637 (43%)
  - Clinical Services $7,711,086 (34%)
  - Grant and Program Support $3,965,602 (17%)
  - Contributions and Other $1,416,188 (6%)

- **Total Expenditures** $22,327,911
  - Health Services $8,912,838 (39%)
  - Child Welfare and Children's Advocacy $4,375,425 (20%)
  - Grant and Program Support $4,167,304 (19%)
  - Administration $3,037,771 (14%)
  - Training and Research $1,566,526 (7%)
  - Development $268,047 (1%)

*Figures reflect unaudited financial statements for 2019.*
Thank you to our donors

WIHD is greatly appreciative of the generosity of our donors. Without your support, we could not carry out the many programs at WIHD. We at WIHD want to thank each and every one of you for your dedication to our mission over the years.

The following list acknowledges gifts made to WIHD in 2019. Please let us know if your name or that of your company, foundation, or organization is missing or printed incorrectly.

**$25,000 and over**
Drs. Ansley Bacon and David O’Hara

**$10,000 to $24,999**
Mark and Victoria Drozdov Foundation
Catherine and Thomas Funk
Helene and Ken Orce
The Saul Family Charitable Fund
Monica and John Sganga
Mary Elizabeth and David M.C. Stern
Betsy and Wally Stern
The Saul Family Charitable Fund

**$2,500 - $9,999**
Autism Directory Service
Dr. Wendy Breitner and Ken Kirshenbaum
CClean
CureMD
Leah and Paul Epstein
Dr. Susan and David Fox
Dr. William and Esther Frishman
Sue and Ken Fuirst
Grace Ambulette
Vera Halpenny
HOPE for Youth Foundation
Houlihan Lawrence/Somers and Brewer offices
JDM Benefits
Dr. Fern Juster and Steven Swirsky
Anthony Justic
Drs. Luba and Richard Kessler
Jamie and Howard Klein
Maier, Markey & Justic, LLP
Malhar and Anish Nanavaty
New York Medical College
Presbyterian Church of Mt. Kisco
RJC Wealth
Drs. Baldev K. and Avtar Singh
Ann and Willy Stern
Sarah M. Stern and Mark Rosenblatt

**$1,000 - $2,499**
Baldor Specialty Foods, Inc.
Nancy and William Bave
Dr. Helen Buhler
James Burr
Dr. Jennifer Canter
Navy Djonovic
Denis Cronin
Michaeline Curtis
Linda and Allan Finn
Claire Flower and Bryan Masback
Jacqueline and Walter Fowler
The Giberson Family
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Julene and Simon Greenshields
Habermann Koehn Foundation
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Anthony Justic
Suzie and Gerald Kirshenbaum
Andrew Klemmer
Alice and Douglas Kraus
Barbara, Jack and Mitchell Levitz
Rondi and Frank Loganzo
Donna and Charles Lombardi
Frances Rao
The Retail Performance Company
Dr. Patricia Seagriff - Curtin
Joanna Segal
Megan Shapiro
Sonal and Manpreet Singh
Nancy Taddiken
Dr. Anne Marie Tarangelo
Tomkins Mahopac Bank
Jenna and Aaron Velez
Anna Walton
Danielle Weisberg and Daniel Splitgerber
The Westchester Bank

**$500 - $999**
Advanced Bionics
Maleeha Arshad
Jordan Bacon
Kaethe Bierbach
Cochlear Americas
Crabtree’s Kittle House
Bizzy Balaram
Carol Barber
Danzinger & Markhoff, LLP
Dr. Michael Elia
Dr. Traci Gardner
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Christine and Dewitt Sullivan
Marianne and Donald Ventrice
White Plains Hospital
Toni and Rush Wilson
Love and Perry Wootten

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Elise and Tom Adams
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George Barson
Michael Berkowitz
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Christine Bevilacqua
Rita Bigelow
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Phyllis and Dan Budne
Jillian Buhler
Marilyn Butler-Murphy
Anne Cappuzzello
Laura Cervoni
Ciccaglione Family
Marla Citron
Timothy Clark
Gerard Coffey
Martin Cohen
Communication Disorders Program at Mercy College
Margaret Corbett
Mary Ann Cox
Les Crystal
Toby Crystal
Miriam Curnin
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Mary Dantin
Marie A. DeMasi
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Joseph Englander
Stephanie and David Englander
Dr. Alan Ettinger
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Linda Fettmann
Linda and Michael Fiorentino
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Monia and Michael Fishbane
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Frances Gibbs
Kathleen and Stuart Gibbs
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David Glinert
Laura and Michael Goldstein
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Ellen and David Harpin
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Jasmine Hernandez
Stephanie and Christopher Hinkaty
Audrey Hochroth
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Nancy and Robert Hooley
The Hudson Valley Gateway Chamber of Commerce
Victoria Hughes
Janis & Alan Menken Charitable Fund
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Lisa J. Kahn
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Carolyn McShane
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Robb Napolitano
Michael O’Hara
Maureen O’Neill
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