Our Mission:

To improve the well-being of our neighbors in need, by providing food, clothing and access to other resources.
A Letter from the Co-Presidents

Dear Friends, Neighbors and Supporters:

The Community Center of Northern Westchester has recorded another year of growth: in clients served, in programs offered, in volunteer hours, and in donations received. In the 19 years since religious and civic groups came together to address local needs, the Community Center has become a beacon for caring and compassion in our community.

Our original Food Pantry and Clothing Boutique, bustling with volunteers and clients every day, continue as core services. But we’ve actively grown other programs that take our mission—Neighbors Helping Neighbors—to the next level as we help our clients help themselves. Language classes, job skills workshops, health screenings and other services give our clients the tools they need to stabilize and improve their personal situations. Our focus throughout 2010 was the continued growth and expansion of these programs, which are described in the pages of this report.

The past year also included an intensive effort to analyze and improve the Center’s governance structure. In March 2011, representatives of the Center’s Sponsoring Organizations elected 14 Directors to lead the Center as we meet the evolving needs of our clients and our community. Our Sponsoring Organizations, now re-named Community Partners, will continue as the backbone of the Center, leading donation drives, recruiting volunteers and keeping their religious, civic and school groups actively involved in the Center’s work.

It is those Community Partners, as well as the hundreds of volunteers who give of their time and talent in diverse ways, who form the true heart of the Center. We are grateful to the wide community of supporters, including our generous financial donors, who continue to make the Community Center a place of welcome and support, offering dignity and a path to a brighter future for all our clients.

We look forward to another year of service to our community.

With Warm Regards,

Sheryl Bernhard and Laura Kaplan
Co-Presidents

Co-Presidents Laura Kaplan and Sheryl Bernhard
2010 At a Glance

### Essentials of Living

- Supplemental food and clothing provided to more than 1,700 households
- 6,785 visits to the Center’s Food Pantry
- 14% more people received food compared to the previous year
- 21% more children received food compared to the previous year
- 7,642 visits to our Clothing Boutique

### Programs and Services

- Classes to enhance employment skills and opportunities
- A variety of English language classes offered each week
- Career counseling helps with job searches, resume writing and interview skills
- Computer training for all skill levels
- Health screenings provided by Northern Westchester Hospital
- Free eye exams and eyeglasses
- Matched donated furniture with families in need of those items
- Awarded school and summer camp scholarships
- Infant massage classes help new parents
- Dowling Educational Scholarship awarded to deserving students

### Generous Donors and Enthusiastic Volunteers

- Donated 166,049 pounds of clothing, shoes and household linens
- Donated 90,761 pounds of food, including holiday specialties
- Provided new school supplies and reading books for 474 students
- Provided new sleepwear and fleece garments for 563 children
- Volunteers worked 9,065 hours during Center hours of operation
- Worked countless volunteer hours in food drives, fundraising and other activities supporting the Center

“The Center is a comforting place where we have found not only food and clothing, but also support and friendly advice for my worries and concerns.”  L.A.
Our Food Pantry

The Center provides supplemental food to people in need in Northern Westchester. Throughout 2010, volunteer food drives helped stock the pantry shelves. The Center also received a grant from the MBIA Foundation, Inc., to purchase fresh produce during the winter months.

“I only come here when I really need the help...I take only what I need...the children need it more than me. The people are very nice here, and I feel very comfortable here, very much at home.”  Dorothy P.

Our Clothing Boutique

Seasonal, gently used clothing, shoes and linens are available to clients at no cost.

“In the Clothing Boutique we have been able to get clothing for all occasions, for work and daily life, and for our children, too.”  D.R.
Seasonal and Special Drives

Throughout the year, the Center runs special drives for food, clothing and other needs, including Holiday Share, Share the Warmth for new sleepwear, Prom Clothes Closet and School Supplies Drive.

“The Center allowed me to feel special the day of my prom by helping me find a fabulous dress I would not have been able to afford.” L.F.

Additional Services for Clients

The Center offers special services in partnership with providers from our community. In 2010, these included health screenings at the Center (blood pressure checks, flu shots, etc.) and free eye exams from LensCrafters and OneSight Foundation.

“For me, expenses exceed income….I needed bifocals and I am very grateful for the chance to get these glasses. I would have no other opportunity to get them except through the Community Center and LensCrafters. I also appreciate the chance to get food and bread…it is a big help. I am glad you are here.” Bob
Expanding Programs and Classes

The Center offers classes and services to help our clients achieve or return to self-sufficiency. In 2010, we expanded our instructional offerings, which now include:

- Basic Concepts of Construction and Cost Estimation
- Computer Training
- English Conversation and U.S. Civics for Immigrants
- Career and Job Counseling
- Introduction to Hospitality Skills
- Spanish for Volunteers
- Spanish Literacy
- *Hands of Love* Infant Massage

Volunteers make many of these services and classes possible by donating their time, skills and enthusiasm.

“This [U.S. Civics for Immigrants] course is important to me because I need to learn more English. People have told me that my English is better now. This course is beautiful and very special for me.” Ruth
Helping Clients Attain Self-Sufficiency

Providing tools and skills to rebuild or improve lives was a key focus for the Center in 2010. Grants from the Westchester Community Foundation and the McTavey Tyler Program Fund helped underwrite the cost of our expanding classes and programs, including the popular Basic Concepts of Construction and Cost Estimation courses.

“I learned about the scales and how to design inside rooms... and I have also learned about rafters, headers and outside design, as well. I am thankful because I didn’t know any of this before... In the future I hope that others have the opportunity... I thank the Community Center from the bottom of my heart.”
Construction course graduate

Food for Thought: Teaching Nutrition on a Budget

Partnering with Sesame Workshop, the nonprofit organization behind Sesame Street, the Center has been presenting Food for Thought: Eating Well on a Budget workshops at various locations throughout the area. This bilingual (English-Spanish) outreach helps families cope with uncertain or limited access to affordable and nutritious food.

“I am humbled and very happy that our (Rotary) Club can be part of such a fantastic program. The work you do is truly making a difference and watching your staff interacting with your clients is amazing and convinced me that our donations are really put to good use. I applaud all the staff and volunteers for their efforts and hard work to help others.” Christian Brutzer, President 2011/2012 NE Westchester Rotary Club
Board of Directors

Sheryl Bernhard (Co-President)
Laura Kaplan (Co-President)
Lauren Cohen (Vice President)
Barbara Murphy (Secretary)
Joni Martino (Treasurer)
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Chris Perkins
Lisa Raue
Alicia Sandberg

Community Partners

Nineteen years ago, individuals from local organizations came together to create the Community Center of Northern Westchester. Today, that original group has grown to include 29 churches, synagogues, schools, and civic groups, now known as Community Partners. In addition to the financial support these organizations provide, Community Partner representatives recruit volunteers, lead food and special drives, communicate Center needs to their organizations, and serve as advocates for the Center in the wider community.

Antioch Baptist Church, Bedford Hills
Bedford Presbyterian Church
Bet Torah, Mount Kisco
Congregation B'Hai Yisrael, Armonk
First Congregational Church of Chappaqua
First Presbyterian Church of Katonah
The Harvey School
Jewish Family Congregation, South Salem
Katonah United Methodist Church
Katonah Village Improvement Society
Lutheran Church of the Resurrection, Mt. Kisco
Mount Kisco Rotary Club
Northeast Westchester Rotary Club
Pound Ridge Community Church
Rippowam Cisqua School
Somers Rotary Club
St. James Episcopal Church, North Salem
St. John's Episcopal Parish, Lewisboro
St. Joseph's Church, Croton Falls
St. Luke's Episcopal Church, Katonah
St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Mount Kisco
St. Mary of the Assumption, Katonah
St. Matthew's Episcopal Church, Bedford
St. Patrick's Roman Catholic Church, Bedford
South Salem Presbyterian Church
Temple Beth El of No.Westchester, Chappaqua
Temple Shaaray Tefila, Bedford Corners
United Methodist Church of Mt. Kisco
United Methodist Church of Purdys
Therri McNair
Nancy Gernert
Pam Moskowitz
Lisa Mazure
Fran Meek
Ella Saunders
Susan Harris
Suzanne Sunday, Susan Westlake
Melva Pitts
Pam Velth
Peter West
Ron Granberg
Robert Herber
Judy Kennedy
Matthew Nespole
John Katzenstein
Deborah Sherwood-St. John
Alison Giglio
Dineen Devito
Sally Beckett
Shirley Russell
Toni Keech
Paul Sturz
Ellen Baudinet
Lee Allen
Nancy Grundman
Deborah Adelberg
Kathryn Dinin
Paul Dengler

Advisory Board

Tim Joyce
Judy Pagnucco
Alexia Jurschak
Bart Tyler
The Lifeblood of the Community Center

The spirit of volunteerism and caring that runs deeply through our community finds a willing home at the Center. Without the time, energy and commitment of our dedicated volunteers, the Center could not function. Our volunteers include teenagers eager to perform community service, parents with school-aged children and retirees who now have time to give back to their community.

“The reason I have volunteered at the Community Center for almost 14 years is very simple. I enjoy being part of the interaction between clients and staff. It is a privilege to see the impact we have on individual lives and experience their gratitude. Getting to know both clients and fellow volunteers is an extra dividend.” Pat Muldoon
Monetary donations, from individuals, foundations, and our Community Partners, provide the financial support to help our neighbors in need.

### INCOME
- Donated Goods & Services: $1,001,044
- Donations and Grants: $262,221
- Special Events, Other: $128,756
- Investments: $48,016
- **TOTAL INCOME**: $1,440,037

### EXPENSES
- Food & Clothing Services: $1,119,808
- Educational Classes: $56,052
- School Supplies: $10,403
- Management, General: $66,480
- Fund-raising: $44,748
- **TOTAL EXPENSES**: $1,297,491

### BALANCE SHEET
- Total Assets: $1,226,269
- Liabilities: $19,581
- Net Assets: $1,206,688
- **TOTAL LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS**: $1,226,269
2010 Income
- Donations and Grants: 18%
- Special Events, Other: 9%
- Investments: 3%
- Donated Goods & Services: 70%

2010 Expenses
- Food & Clothing Services: 86%
- Fund-raising: 4%
- Management General: 5%
- Educational Classes: 4%
- School Supplies: 1%
How You Can Help

- Donate food and seasonal clothing, shoes or linens
- Become a volunteer
- Make a monetary donation

A caring staff offers a warm welcome to clients and volunteers.

Noya Guerrero, Assistant Director for Client Services;
Sherry Wolf, Executive Director;
Clare Murray, Assistant Director for Operations.