

# COMMUNITY CENTER OF NORTHERN WESTCHESTER

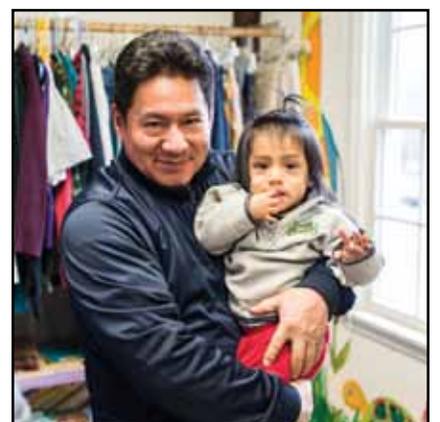
COMMUNITY CENTER OF NORTHERN WESTCHESTER | 84 BEDFORD RD. | KATONAH, NY 10536 | 914.232.6572 | COMMUNITYCENTERNW.ORG



**COMMUNITY CENTER  
OF NORTHERN WESTCHESTER**

The Community Center of Northern Westchester seeks to improve the well-being & self-sufficiency of neighbors in need by providing food, clothing, programs, & other resources. We encourage broad involvement and participation from organizations and individuals in the communities we serve.

**IN 2017:** Nearly **2,000** families from **38** Northern Westchester communities came to us for help. Our food-insecure neighbors made **7,903** visits to our Food Pantry. **37%** of those who received food from the Center's Food Pantry are children. **60%** of the **81,000** pounds of fresh fruits and vegetables that we offer our neighbors in need are grown locally. Over **100** tons of clothes, shoes and linens were donated to our Clothing Boutique. More than **900** children received new school supplies. **1,150** children received new sleepwear for the holidays. Volunteers gave over **50,000** hours of service.



# GREETINGS



**COMMUNITY CENTER  
OF NORTHERN WESTCHESTER**  
*25 Years of Neighbors Helping Neighbors*

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Dear Friends and Neighbors,

2017 was a memorable year for the Community Center of Northern Westchester as we celebrated our 25th year of helping our neighbors in need! Our wrap-around services (food, clothing, programs and access to other resources) in one location is unique and so very important for our clients who face multiple challenges on a day-to-day basis.

For some, particularly our elderly and disabled neighbors, our support of their basic needs must be and will be long term. However, where possible, we aim to meet the short term needs of our clients and at the same time provide the tools they need to create a better future for themselves and their families.

We are excited about our new initiatives focused on improving opportunities and helping many of our clients move forward to where they wish to be – on the road to self-sufficiency.

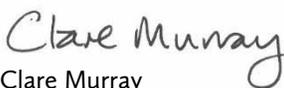
For families with infants and toddlers, our newly formed Moms for Moms committee helps increase community donations of the essential supplies of baby food and diapers while heightening awareness of this critical need.

For parents with school aged children, our Trusted Others program helps both the student and parent navigate the complicated academic system and overcome barriers to success.

For adults, our Community Sewing project helps teach new skills and opens opportunities to become more financially secure through fostering creativity and entrepreneurship.

We are able to continue to serve as a pillar of hope and stability for so many of our neighbors in need because of your faithful and committed support. We are immensely grateful and look forward to working with you in the future as we develop, create, and implement more ways in which our most vulnerable neighbors can weather their current life challenges and look forward to a better tomorrow.

We thank you and ask you to continue to generously support our important mission.



Clare Murray  
Executive Director



Christine Meyer  
Board President



**The Community Center, leanly staffed and with an annual operating budget of \$644,000 a year, is able to provide *so much to so many* due to the incredible and ongoing support of our donors, volunteers and Community Partners!**

## VOLUNTEERS: THE LIFEBLOOD OF THE CENTER

The spirit of volunteering and caring that runs deeply through our community finds a welcome home at the Center. Volunteers make everything we do possible: we could not function without the time, energy and commitment they generously provide. Volunteers of all ages, from teenagers eager to perform community service, to parents with school-aged children and retirees who now have extra time, come to the Center to give back to their community.



Many of our volunteers work to support the daily operations of the Center: receiving and sorting donations or directly assisting our families in need in our food pantry and clothing boutique.

Volunteers can also participate in the Center's work in many other ways including; teaching classes and workshops, maintaining the building and grounds, recovering food from local grocery stores, holding food drives, packing school supplies or assisting in our fundraising efforts. Without the energy, time, skills and commitment of hundreds of dedicated volunteers, the Center simply could not do what it does.



## COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Our Community Partners provide financial support each year and have a representative who acts as a liaison between our organization and their own. They increase awareness of the services of the Center for those in need and encourage support of our drives and volunteer program within their own communities.

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| (914) Cares  | Presbyterian Church of Mount Kisco     |
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| Bedford Community Church                                   | Somers Lions Club                      |
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| Northern Westchester Hospital                              | The Harvey School                      |
| Pound Ridge Community Church                               | United Methodist Church of Mount Kisco |
|  | United Methodist Church of Purdys      |



# BASIC NEEDS

## FOOD PANTRY

**2,000 FAMILIES**

One in 5 Westchester County residents is food insecure. By providing supplemental food, the Community Center's Food Pantry helped to fill the gap for nearly 2,000 Northern Westchester families from 36 local communities. In our choice style pantry clients choose the items they want, including meat, eggs and fresh produce.

We are grateful for the generous food drives from the community which help us stock our shelves, but we must still purchase nearly 2/3 of the food we distribute. It costs the Center \$175,000 each year to keep the Pantry open and the shelves filled. Last year nearly 400,000 lbs. of food was distributed during 8,217 pantry visits. Of the approximately 8,000 individuals who received food, 37% were children.



## MOMS FOR MOMS

**1,000 POUNDS**

The pantry also provides diapers and wipes, baby food and formula to support our youngest and most vulnerable clients. Thanks to the vision and hard work of a group of local mothers, our Moms for Moms committee, their drive during the week leading up to Mother's Day collected nearly 1,000 lbs. of these essential items from 12 local preschools for those mothers who turn to our pantry for support.



## HOLIDAY FOODS

**800 FAMILIES**

Additional holiday foods were given to over 800 families during November and December so families would more easily be able to prepare a special holiday meal at home. In addition to the regular pantry supplies, all were offered turkeys or hams, tea, coffee, sugar, flour, oil and holiday cookies.



## CLOTHING BOUTIQUE

**7,351 VISITS**

Our very generous local community donated nearly 2 tons of gently used seasonal clothes, shoes and linens to our clothing bank. Families were able to select, free of charge, from a wide variety of clothing, including warm winter wear, outfits appropriate for interviews and work, clothing for children in school and athletic attire so kids can participate in sports. 7,351 boutique visits were made.



## HOUBOUND ELDERLY

**300 DELIVERIES**

In partnership with St. Joseph's Church volunteers and Meals on Wheels we provided supplemental groceries to our homebound elderly twice monthly throughout the year.

## ACCESS TO OTHER RESOURCES HELPED ALL

When a family has needs that cannot be met by the Center, such as housing, legal, or health issues, we assist in finding the additional support by connecting them with community agencies with whom we collaborate.

# WELL BEING



**Our goal at the Community Center, with YOUR help, is to not only offer healthful food but also to support our neighbors with programs and services for better health and wellness.**

## HEALTH SCREENINGS

**300+ ADULTS**

- Nurses from NWH, Northwell Health, visited the Center monthly and last year provided over 300 adults with free health screenings for blood pressure, cholesterol, blood sugars, osteoporosis and breast health. They also gave flu shots, and nutrition/health education.
- Lenscrafters One Sight Foundation provided free eye exams and eye glasses for 20 individuals.



## NATURE HIKES

**35 TEENAGERS**

- The Lewisboro Land Trust Access Nature program provided an opportunity for 21 of our youngsters to visit the White Garden in South Salem for a remarkable day learning about invasive species and how to plant daffodil bulbs.
- 14 additional youngsters were taken to Hilltop Hanover Farm in Yorktown to learn about farming.

## NUTRITION EDUCATION

**195 FAMILIES**

- Food for Thought workshops were held throughout the summer teaching healthy eating on a limited budget. Demonstrations were given using a variety of ingredients from our pantry.
- Our Nourish Nurture program held in partnership with the Katonah Library and the Food Bank for Westchester blended demonstrations of easy recipes with a child's story time to teach families how to nourish their bodies through healthy eating.



## COMMUNITY SEWING

**100+ ADULTS**

- Volunteers and clients enjoyed our drop in sewing program on Friday mornings to learn new skills, make new friends and have fun together. Everyone made a beautiful reusable bag for themselves and also one for the Center and felt good "giving back." (Our Community Bags are available at the Center for a small donation and all proceeds support our programs.)



## SHARE THE WARMTH

**1,150 CHILDREN**

- For children from infants through teens, families were able to select new, warm sleepwear during the month of December. 1,150 children received pajamas or robes, slippers, hats and mittens to help them stay comfy and cozy all winter long.

# IMPROVED OPPORTUNITIES

**We strive to provide improved opportunities for families of limited means. We are grateful to all who support these special drives and programs and make them possible.**

## **SLEEP AWAY CAMP** *45 CHILDREN*

The Center was able to support 45 children ages 8-14 in attending sleep away camps in New England last summer. Thanks to the scholarships offered to our children by Brantwood Camp in New Hampshire and The Summer Camp in Maine, our children explored nature whilst making new friends, learning independence and having a summer to remember.



## **SCHOOL SUPPLIES** *900 CHILDREN*

Children from pre-school through high school received brand new grade appropriate school supplies in August in order to be able to start the school year with the tools needed to succeed.

## **PROM** *50 HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS*

Local students were assisted in choosing tuxedos and dresses to reduce the financial burden of attending their Prom. Many thanks to the Elephants Trunk in Mount Kisco and Ossining High School for hosting events in which we provided beautiful Prom attire for high school seniors.



## **TRUSTED OTHERS** *20 STUDENTS*

A dedicated and experienced group of volunteers gave individualized support to families with children struggling in school. They stood with the student and their family throughout the year, assisted them in navigating the school system, advocated for them when necessary and supported them in achieving success. 20 students were helped last year in overcoming obstacles and finding a path to reach their academic goals.



## **BICYCLE PROGRAM** *31 FAMILIES*

Thanks to Bicycle World, in Mount Kisco, 31 families in need were able to receive refurbished bicycles. Some of the recipients of the bicycles are using the bikes as their primary mode of transportation, and others were able to provide their children with bicycles for the first time.

## **FURNITURE EXCHANGE** *50 FAMILIES*

50 local families lives were improved through our Furniture Exchange program which helped connect them to community members looking to donate gently used furniture.

# SELF SUFFICIENCY



## CLASSES AND PROGRAMS

800+ ADULTS

The Center offered a range of classes and workshops to help clients improve their workplace skills, better manage limited resources and attain self-sufficiency. 50% of all adults who sought our help last year participated in programs to help them get back on their feet.

*Our classes included:*

- Financial literacy
- Computer skills
- English language
- Entrepreneurship
- Basics of construction
- OSHA safety training
- Sewing and design



## CAREER COUNSELING

109 ADULTS

Provided individuals with a greater sense of self awareness, a recognition of the value of their own skills and talents, and the confidence to pursue them.

- Job search and application assistance
- Resume writing assistance
- Interview preparation



## ONE-ON-ONE SUPPORT

125 ADULTS

- Citizenship exam preparation
- GED preparation
- Homework help
- Wellness coaching
- SNAP (food stamps) applications



## THE DOWLING EDUCATIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS

11 AWARDED

Adults and teens who turned to the Center for support were invited to apply for an educational scholarship from the Community Center to assist them in pursuing their academic goals. Last year 11 deserving students received awards which supported their higher education at institutions including WCC, Pace University, Georgia Tech, and NYU and studied aerospace engineering, nursing, computer science, pre-med and a range of other majors. We are so proud of their accomplishments and hard work to achieve their dreams.

# DONORS

WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK OUR DONORS & SUPPORTERS WHO MAKE OUR WORK POSSIBLE.

## THE COMMUNITY CIRCLE:

*These donors have pledged financial support at \$10,000 or above for 3 years or more.*

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*A note to our donors: We appreciate your generous donations and we want to recognize everyone accordingly with 100% accuracy. If we have inadvertently made an error, please contact us at 914.232.6572, x 104 with any corrections.*

# FINANCIALS

## INCOME

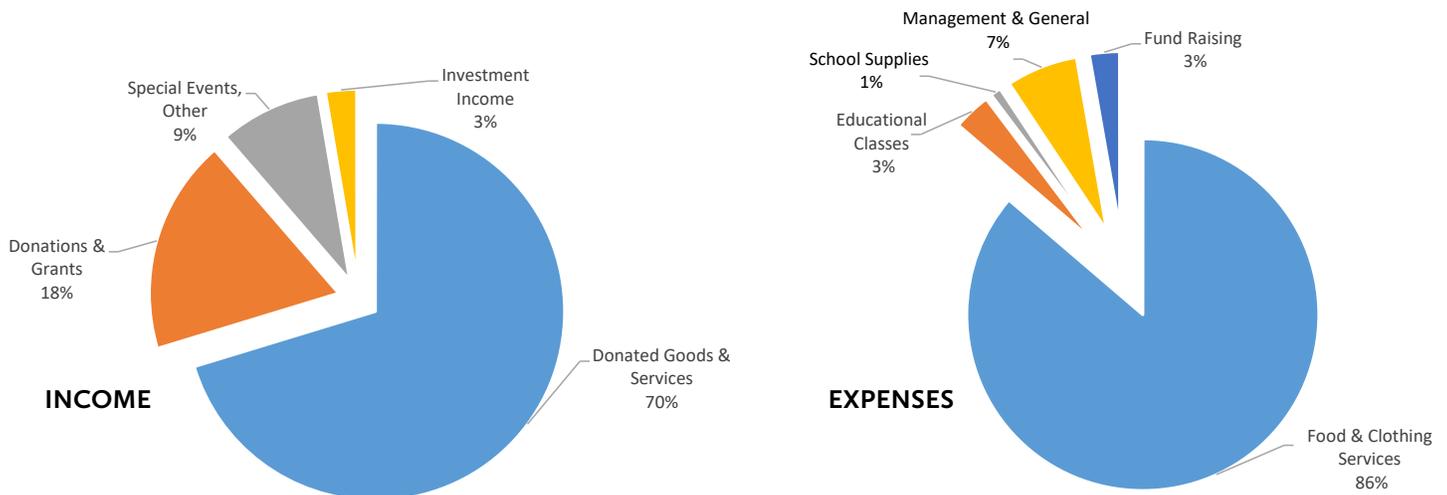
|                           | FISCAL YEAR<br>ENDING 6/30/2017 | FISCAL YEAR<br>ENDING 6/30/2016 |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| DONATED GOODS & SERVICES* | \$1,578,973.00                  | \$1,486,113.00                  |
| DONATIONS & GRANTS        | \$412,685.00                    | \$334,789.00                    |
| SPECIAL EVENTS, OTHER     | \$194,665.00                    | \$174,639.00                    |
| INVESTMENT INCOME         | \$60,017.00                     | \$39,433.00                     |
| <b>TOTAL INCOME</b>       | <b>\$2,246,340.00</b>           | <b>\$2,034,974.00</b>           |

## EXPENSES

|  |                       |                       |
|--|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| FOOD & CLOTHING SERVICES                                   | \$1,824,005.00        | \$1,694,964.00        |
| EDUCATIONAL CLASSES  | \$73,260.00           | \$89,563.00           |
| SCHOOL SUPPLIES  | \$20,388.00           | \$24,417.00           |
| MANAGEMENT & GENERAL                                       | \$138,381.00          | \$102,362.00          |
| FUND RAISING   | \$58,378.00           | \$53,826.00           |
| <b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>                                      | <b>\$2,114,412.00</b> | <b>\$1,965,132.00</b> |
| <b>NON-OPERATING ACTIVITIES<br/>(DEPRECIATION EXPENSE)</b> | <b>\$21,324.00</b>    | <b>\$20,692.00</b>    |
| <b>CHANGE IN ASSETS</b>                                    | <b>\$110,604.00</b>   | <b>\$49,150.00</b>    |

## BALANCE SHEET

|   |                       |                       |
|---|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>                       | <b>\$1,432,462.00</b> | <b>\$1,335,054.00</b> |
| LIABILITIES                               | \$44,490.00           | \$33,110.00           |
| NET ASSETS**                              | \$1,387,972.00        | \$1,301,944.00        |
| <b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; NET ASSETS</b> | <b>\$1,432,462.00</b> | <b>\$1,335,054.00</b> |



\* For accounting purposes, donated clothing is valued at \$11 per pound and donated food is valued at \$1 per pound.

\*\* Board designated and restricted reserve balance as of 06/30/2017: \$708,476. Unrestricted reserve balance as of 06/30/2017: \$671,609

IF YOU OR ANYONE YOU  
KNOW NEEDS HELP, PLEASE  
CONTACT THE COMMUNITY  
CENTER AT 914.232.6572 OR  
[COMMUNITYCENTERNW.ORG](http://COMMUNITYCENTERNW.ORG)

***Giving is not about making a donation, it's about making a difference!***

## **MAKE A DIFFERENCE - FILL OUR FOOD PANTRY AND FILL YOUR HEART WITH JOY !**

For over 25 years the COMMUNITY CENTER OF NORTHERN WESTCHESTER has been dedicated to improving the well-being and self-sufficiency of our neighbors in need in Northern Westchester.

Thanks to the incredible support of our dedicated volunteers and donors we have been able to make a meaningful difference in the lives of our neighbors every year. Please open your heart to your neighbors in need by continuing your support of the Community Center with a contribution to our Spring Appeal.

Your gift can go a long way in helping to keep our pantry shelves full, programs running and our doors OPEN TO ALL WHO COME TO US FOR HELP!

**PLEASE MAKE YOUR DONATION TODAY.** Feel free to send your donation in our remittance envelope provided or make your donation online on our website [www.communitycenternw.org](http://www.communitycenternw.org).

