



**COMMUNITY CENTER  
OF NORTHERN WESTCHESTER**  
Sharing the Essentials of Living

## **ANNUAL REPORT**

### **FISCAL YEAR 2015 - 2016**



#### **OUR MISSION**

*The Community Center of Northern Westchester seeks to improve the well-being and self-sufficiency of neighbors in need in Northern Westchester by providing food, clothing, programs, and other resources.*

# TO OUR FRIENDS, NEIGHBORS, AND SUPPORTERS

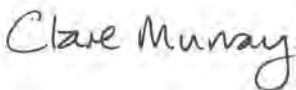
Thanks to your generosity and unwavering support, the Community Center continues to be a hub of essential resources for Northern Westchester families who are enduring economic hardship.

Functioning as a safety net for so many, the Center provides supplemental food and clothing to help struggling families make ends meet, and reduce hunger in our neighborhoods. Individuals are assisted on their path to self-sufficiency through education, workplace skill development and job counseling. In addition, we aim to improve the quality of life of all who walk through our doors with our seasonal drives, monthly health screening, nutrition education and more.

Most importantly, we are committed to treating everyone with dignity and respect, to be a welcoming and caring resource during hard times. We are very grateful for the over 500 dedicated and compassionate volunteers who give of their time and their talents, helping to make this possible.

As one neighbor in need has written, “I really love this community center and all the staff and volunteers and how warm and loving they are. They always greet us with a smile when we walk in. We feel they are our other big family. On behalf of me and my family I want to thank all of the Community Center staff and volunteers and all contributors for your help, support and donations and keeping this center running as it is affecting and helping us and many other families and children that are in need.”

Thank you for your ongoing support in helping us to serve our most needy and vulnerable neighbors.



Clare Murray  
Executive Director



Christine Meyer  
Board President

## 10 FACTS ABOUT THE COMMUNITY CENTER OF NORTHERN WESTCHESTER IN 2016

- 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 for families to choose at no cost.
- More than 900 children received new school supplies.
- 1150 children received new sleepwear for the holidays.
- Volunteers gave over 50,000 hours of service.
- Over the Center's years, families have made nearly 120,000 visits to our Food Pantry.

*We are deeply grateful for the Center's outstanding and self-less work with its full pantry, its educational initiatives and its dedicated volunteers there day in and day out, year after year ensuring that those in need do not go without. The Center represents all that is good in our community, the generous hearts, the selfless giving and the rock for so many. On behalf of the Town Board, I express our tremendous gratitude.*

*~ Chris Burdick, Bedford Town Supervisor*

# FOOD PANTRY

The Community Center's Food Pantry helps fill the gap for nearly 2,000 Northern Westchester families who are food insecure. These families, from 38 local communities, do not have access at all times to enough food for active and healthy living. We provide monthly supplemental food from our choice-style pantry.



*"The food helps so much. In order to give our daughter what she needs, my wife and I often had to go without meals."  
~ Juan Carlos, Ossining*

Clients choose the items they want, including meat, eggs, and fresh produce throughout the year.



*"The Center has helped tremendously. Never in my life would I have imagined needing to turn to a food pantry to feed my family."*

*~Jenny, Yorktown*



Although food drives help stock the pantry shelves year-round, we must purchase nearly 2/3 of the amount needed to help our neighbors.

# CLOTHING BANK

Our very generous local community donates gently used seasonal clothes, shoes, and linens to our clothing bank. Families in need are 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 join sports clubs.



*"I always feel so happy and blessed when I see my kids excited for the clothes I got for them. I was worried that my kids would feel less or unworthy among their peers because of our situation, but with the help of the community, they're not."*

*~ Rawda, Ossining*



## SPECIAL AND

We spearhead seasonal drives to collect special items for families of limited means. We are most grateful to all the donors who support these efforts.

Thanks to donations from generous individuals and retailers, the Center holds events each spring for local high school students to choose the perfect dress or tuxedo to make their prom a very special occasion.



Over 900 children, from pre-school through high school, received brand new, grade appropriate school supplies so they can start the year with the tools needed to succeed.



# SEASONAL DRIVES



Each year the Center collects and distributes special holiday foods to ease the financial burden on families of limited means so that they can more easily prepare celebratory meals at home. In November and December over 800 families each month received turkeys or hams, tea, coffee, sugar, flour, and oil, and holiday cookies.

For children from infants through teens, families can select new, warm sleepwear during the month of December. Over 1,000 children received pajamas or robes, and slippers, hats, mittens to help them stay comfy and cozy all winter long.



We thank everyone who support our special drives.



# HELPING OUT

The Center offers a range of classes and workshops to help clients improve their workplace skills, better manage limited resources, and attain self-sufficiency. Our classes include English language, computer skills, financial literacy, resume and interview preparation, and entrepreneurial workshops. Courses in advanced English, construction basics and OSHA compliance are offered regularly.



Career and job counseling

*“At the Center I got help applying for jobs online and writing my resume. I could not have done this by myself.” ~ MG*



Basic Construction Skills class



OSHA Training

*“I come to the Community Center to learn English because I will get a better job. This place is so helpful and the classes are good. I like the teachers. They make it interesting for the students.” ~ MJ*



English Language class



# AND HELPING UP

Many clients benefit from individualized assistance, counseling and tutoring by dedicated volunteers and professionals. This support ranges from academic help, citizenship exam preparation, tax assistance, resume writing and interview preparedness.



Tax preparation assistance



GED preparation



Students pursuing their academic dreams through higher education can obtain financial assistance from the Center's Dowling Educational Scholarship. For some this is the determining factor in their ability to continue their studies.

# SUPPORTING HEALTH AND WELLNESS



Through Northwell Health - NWH, a Community Partner, we offer free health screenings, flu shots, and mammograms.



Additionally, through LensCrafters OneSight Foundation, we offer free eye exams and glasses.

Nutrition classes throughout the year emphasize healthy eating on a limited budget. Demonstrations are given using a variety of ingredients available from our pantry.



The Lewisboro Land Trust offers our families hiking days to promote exercise for the whole family while having fun and learning about nature. In addition, the Center offers children ages 8 - 14 the opportunity to apply for sleep-away summer camp scholarships.

# TO OUR DONORS

The Community Center exists only through the generosity and compassion of this community. We are supported by local businesses and civic organizations, corporations, foundations and individuals, truly neighbors helping neighbors. **THANK YOU!**



*"We have lived in Northern Westchester for over 10 years and love the community spirit in this area! Your organization embodies this spirit by providing a wonderful resource and lifeline for so many people in need." ~ SW and DW*

# BOARD OF DIRECTORS

## PRESIDENT

Christine Meyer

## VICE PRESIDENT

Maureen Thompson

## SECRETARY

Steve Peebles

## TREASURER

Tracie Cronin

## DIRECTORS

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Patrick Vetere

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Tim Joyce

Alexia Jurschak

Laura Kaplan

Terri McNair

Judy Pagnucco

Bart Tyler

## THANK YOU TO OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS

ANTIOCH BAPTIST CHURCH, BEDFORD HILLS

BEDFORD COMMUNITY CHURCH

BEDFORD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

BEDFORD HILLS LIONS CLUB

BEDFORD HILLS NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

BET TORAH, MOUNT KISCO

CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD,

GRANITE SPRINGS

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CONGREGATION SHIR SHALOM

OF WESTCHESTER/FAIRFIELD

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF CHAPPAQUA

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THE HARVEY SCHOOL

KATONAH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

KATONAH VILLAGE IMPROVEMENT SOCIETY

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE RESURRECTION  
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MOUNT KISCO ROTARY CLUB

NORTHEAST WESTCHESTER ROTARY CLUB

NORTHERN WESTCHESTER HOSPITAL

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PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF MOUNT KISCO

RIPPOWAM CISQUA SCHOOL

SOMERS LIONS CLUB

SOMERS WOMENS CLUB

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ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH, SOMERS

ST. LUKE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH, KATONAH

ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH, MOUNT KISCO

ST. MARY OF THE ASSUMPTION CHURCH, KATONAH

ST. MATTHEW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH, BEDFORD

ST. PATRICK'S RC CHURCH, BEDFORD

SOUTH SALEM PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

TEMPLE BETH EL OF NORTHERN WESTCHESTER,  
CHAPPAQUA

TEMPLE SHAARAY TEFILA, BEDFORD CORNERS

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF MOUNT KISCO

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF PUDYS

# VOLUNTEERS: THE LIFEblood OF THE COMMUNITY CENTER

The spirit of volunteering and caring that runs deeply through our community finds a welcome home at the Center. Without the energy, time, skills, and commitment of hundreds of dedicated volunteers, the Center simply could not do what it does.



*"Whoever said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive' could have been referring to the Community Center. I feel fortunate that the Center has given me an opportunity to make a difference by helping others."  
~ PM*

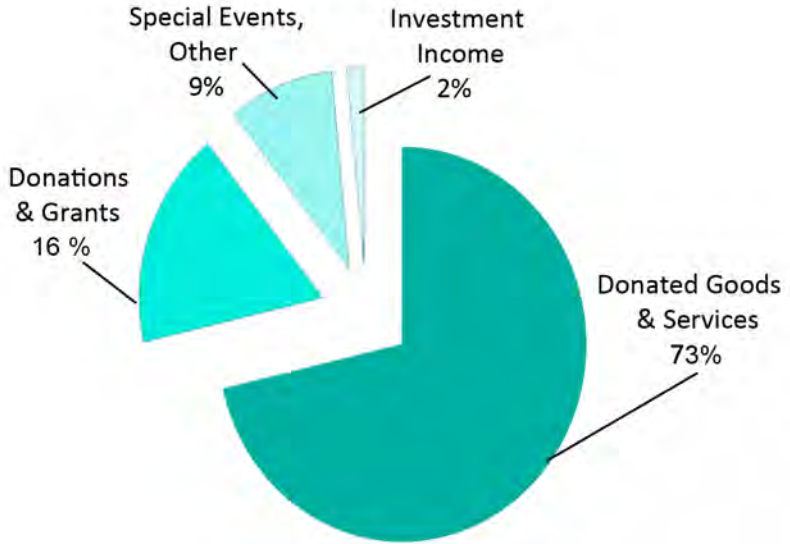
# FINANCIALS

	FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2016	FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2015
<b>INCOME</b>		
Donated Goods & Services	\$ 1,486,113	\$ 1,356,875
Donations and Grants	\$ 334,789	\$ 339,368
Special Events, Other	\$ 174,639	\$ 176,262
Investment Income	\$ 39,433	\$ 28,575
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>		<b>\$ 1,901,080</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Food & Clothing Services	\$ 1,694,964	\$ 1,564,577
Educational Classes	\$ 89,563	\$ 85,932
School Supplies	\$ 24,417	\$ 28,682
Management and General	\$ 102,362	\$ 69,539
Fund-raising	\$ 53,826	\$ 72,704
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$ 1,965,132</b>	<b>\$ 1,821,434</b>
<b>NON-OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b> (depreciation)	\$ 20,692	\$ 22,152
<b>CHANGE IN NET ASSETS</b>	\$ 49,150	\$ 57,494
<b>BALANCE SHEET</b>		
Total Assets	\$ 1,335,054	\$ 1,289,611
Liabilities	\$ 33,110	\$ 38,231
Net Assets	\$ 1,301,944	\$ 1,251,380
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b> <b>&amp; NET ASSETS</b>	<b>\$ 1,335,054</b>	<b>\$ 1,222,365</b>

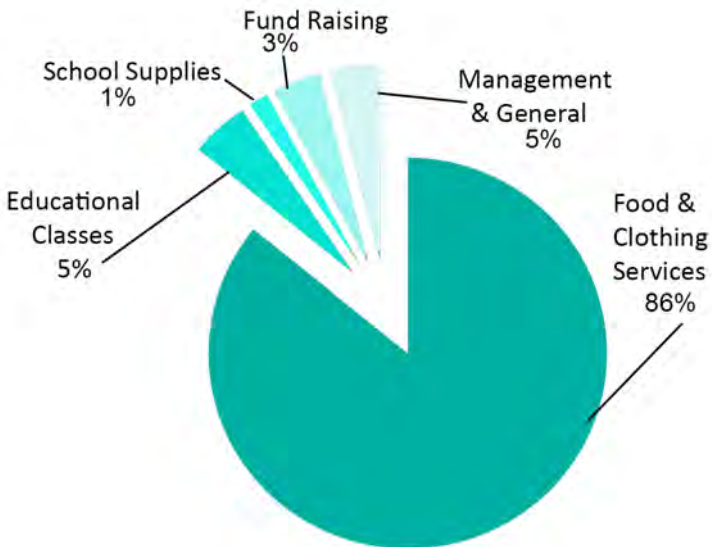
Board designated and restricted reserve balances as of 6/30/16: \$ 688,242  
Unrestricted fund balance: \$ 581,240

Monetary donations, from sources including individuals, foundations, and our Community Partners provide the financial support to help our neighbors in need.

## INCOME 2015 - 2016



## EXPENSES 2015 - 2016



92 % of our expenses go directly to programs and services for our neighbors in need

# COMMUNITY CENTER OF NORTHERN WESTCHESTER

84 BEDFORD ROAD • KATONAH, NY 10536  
914-232-6572 • COMMUNITYCENTERNW.ORG



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## STAFF

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:**

**Clare Murray**

**ASSISTANT DIRECTOR - OPERATIONS:**

**Doreen Gadigian**

**ASSISTANT DIRECTOR - CLIENT SERVICES:**

**Noya Guerrero**

**PROGRAM MANAGER:**

**Eileen Juico**

**ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT:**

**Jody Mack**