

WCA eBulletin

WESTCHESTER
CHILDREN'S
ASSOCIATION

Children's Champions Since 1914

Monthly updates of how
WCA advocates for
Westchester's kids

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eBulletin # 26



September 2022

Back to school and back to WCA's eBulletin! We at Westchester Children's Association (WCA) have been working hard on behalf of our county's kids - from 0 to 25 years old. Below are some exciting upcoming events:

- Early Childhood Home Visiting: Hope Quilt Opening - Join us September 28
- Advocacy Breakfast: A Better Normal - Join us October 18
- Digital Access Survey Results Releasing October 4



Hope Quilt Opening

JOIN US
IN SUPPORT OF EARLY CHILDHOOD
HOME VISITING PROGRAMS

WESTCHESTER CHILDREN'S
MUSEUM

SEPTEMBER 28, 2022 • 9:30 AM
100 Playland Pkwy, Rye, NY 10580



EARLY CHILDHOOD HOME VISITING

Over the past year, WCA has collected hundreds of quilt squares from Westchester County and beyond. Our Hope Quilt Project created quilting opportunities for schools and other groups to participate in WCA's awareness campaign on the importance of early childhood supports.

Early childhood home visiting services provide individualized support and guidance to families with children ages 0-5 in the home setting and provide connections to needed services. The lack of program capacity and funding in Westchester and New York State has caused eligible families to go without this critical resource.

Several quilts were recently completed by the [Village Squares Quilters](#) and will be unveiled at a special event to be held Wednesday, September 28th at 9:30am at the [Westchester Children's Museum](#) at Playland Park in Rye. **JOIN US for this free event!** No registration required.

More Info

Register TODAY for WCA's
Advocacy Breakfast 2022
A Better Normal
Raising Equity in Support of Youth
Social and Emotional Growth
 with the Kathryn Wasserman Davis Child Advocacy Lecture by
Kira Hudson Banks, PhD



Tuesday, October 18 | 8:00-10:00 AM
 Sleepy Hollow Hotel & Conference Center | Tarrytown, NY

KINDLY REGISTER BY OCTOBER 14 at
wca4kids.org/AdvocacyBreakfast2022

Dr. Kira Hudson Banks co-founded the *Institute for Healing Justice and Equity* at Saint Louis University, where she is an Associate Professor in the Department of Psychology. Her research, teaching, and facilitation around equity, diversity, and inclusion have helped to frame racial equity in Ferguson, MO and throughout the US. Dr. Banks has studied how racism and discrimination affect mental health and she is known for making complex and controversial topics accessible to all. Please visit her website, kirabanks.com for more.

Local responders to speak!
Mental Health Fact Sheet to be released!

WESTCHESTER CHILDREN'S ASSOCIATION is the only independent, child advocacy nonprofit in Westchester county dedicated to ensuring that every child is healthy, safe, and prepared for life's challenges regardless of race or zip code.

WESTCHESTER CHILDREN'S ASSOCIATION
 Children's Champions Since 1914

470 Mamaroneck Ave., Suite 304 | White Plains, NY 10605 | 914.946.7676

ADVOCACY BREAKFAST

The Kathryn Wasserman Davis Child Advocacy Lecture at our annual Advocacy Breakfast allows us each year to bring outstanding speakers on current issues to a broad, cross-disciplinary audience concerned with children and youth in our County.

This year we're back in person, and our featured speaker is **Dr. Kira Hudson-Banks!** The COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated the social and emotional needs of children. Dr. Banks, an Associate Professor of Psychology who has studied how racism and discrimination affect mental health, will share possible solutions to repair the damage of the pandemic and long-standing inequities. **Click below to register today.**

More Info

Westchester County Remote Learning Fact Sheet 2020-21
 Sponsored by Westchester Women's Bar Association Foundation, Inc.

13.6% of Westchester County households have no internet access.

43% of parents in City Districts reported **WAITING 3+ WEEKS** for a computer when schools switched to remote learning in March. City Districts in Westchester County include Yonkers, New Rochelle, White Plains, Peekskill, and Mount Vernon.

Black students are 3.5 times more likely than White students NOT to have household internet access in Westchester County.

Almost 1 out of 5 Westchester households did not have a laptop or desktop computer before the pandemic.

17 Westchester County Learning Centers provide childcare & remote learning assistance.

Emotional Support Helpline:
nprojecthspc.org or
 (844) 863-9314 from 8am - 10pm.

949 Parents/Guardians Responded to WCA Remote Learning Survey in May 2020.

@wca4kids

DIGITAL EQUITY, ACCESS AND INCLUSION

October 3-7 is **Digital Inclusion Week**. Working in partnership with **Pace University**, WCA's second survey of parents explains the ongoing level of digital distress in the county. **On Tuesday, October 4 at Pace University we are releasing our findings of the 2022 Digital Access Survey!**

Evidence shows that the lack of digital access and inclusion is not merely a single issue, but a lens that magnifies already existing health, educational, and economic inequities as well. Stay up to date on our work on this timely topic.

More Info

WCA's Remote Learning Agenda

- Increase Technology and Internet Access
- Provide Training and Tech Support in multiple languages
- Expand Remote Learning Accommodations
- Expand Mental Health Services

Sign our petition & read more at wca4kids.org/remotelarning

March 2021



WCA's mission is to improve the lives of Westchester's young people by shaping policies and programs to meet their needs and by keeping their well-being at the top of the public agenda. Since 1914, we have

remained steadfast to this. Our vision is for every child to be **healthy, safe, and prepared** for life's challenges regardless of race or zip code.

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