

20 South Broadway, Suite 501, Yonkers, NY 10701 ♦ 914-963-6440 ♦ [www.clusterinc.org](http://www.clusterinc.org)

CLUSTER provides services in four major program areas:

- ♦ Mental Health Residential Services
- ♦ Westchester & Rockland Mediation Centers
- ♦ Youth and Family Programs
- ♦ Housing Resource Center

**Tom Roth**  
President,  
CLUSTER Board of Directors

**Kristina Yamin**  
Executive Director

**Diana M. Campos**  
Newsletter Editor

## Innovation Grant - Supportive Services to Library Patrons



Late last year, CLUSTER was pleased to learn that we would be a partner recipient of an Innovation Grant. CLUSTER, Inc. is partnering with Yonkers Public Library to connect professional case managers with patrons in one-on-one consultations at the library. The case managers will work onsite two days a week at the Riverfront and Will libraries. They will provide information and referral services that help address a variety of needs for individuals, including entitlement benefits, housing insecurity, substance abuse, and physical and mental health.

Librarians at both sites face many questions and information requests from patrons on topics outside their area of expertise. Having case managers proficient in a wide range of areas such as mental health care, housing, benefits advocacy, and other social services areas – will be a huge benefit, both to the patron and the librarians. The library offers a safe and discreet place for people from all backgrounds, all ages, genders and social level to seek guidance on very sensitive subjects, without any risk of embarrassment or judgement.

## CLUSTER Welcomes Rev. Winfield Peacock



Rev. Winfield Peacock has recently become CLUSTER's newest member of the Board of Directors. Rev. Peacock is the Pastor at Bryn Mawr Park Presbyterian Church. Prior to becoming the Pastor, at Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church, he was the Executive Director at John Heuss House in New York City, where he worked to rehouse thousands of chronically homeless, mentally ill and medically frail individuals. Rev. Peacock received his Bachelor of Arts in Religion from Drew University and his Master of Divinity from Union Theological Seminary in New York City. Rev. Peacock will serve on CLUSTER's Finance Committee.

## CLUSTER Receives Eviction Prevention Grant

CLUSTER has been awarded an Eviction Prevention contract through Westchester Department of Social Services to serve over 900 Westchester residents in Yonkers and Mount Vernon (including Mt. Vernon, Bronxville, Pelham, Pelham Manor, New Rochelle). This five year contract will focus on providing support to individuals and families by preserving their homes when they are at risk of becoming homeless. CLUSTER will accept and review referrals and applications for rental assistance, security deposits, utility assistance and/or moving allowances from residents from those catchment areas. Residents must provide a written denial or intention to pay letter from DSS and acceptable proof that homelessness is imminent, and that the household has the resources needed to sustain their housing situation after the emergency assistance is provided.

Tajae Gaynor, Director for the Westchester and Rockland Mediation Center stated, "We anticipate that this Eviction Prevention contract will allow us to fulfill our mission as we continue to support families and individuals in Westchester County resolve their immediate housing issue(s) and achieve self-sufficiency".

## CLUSTER goes to Albany



(L-R) Toni Lasicki, Executive Director, Association for Community Living with CLUSTER staff, Bridgette Price, Nora Burke, Eric Scott, Yesenia Vasquez and Brigitte Evans

On Monday February 12th staff from CLUSTER's Mental Health Program went to Albany to participate in a statewide Lobby Day. Members from across New York State, descended on the Capitol to make their voices heard with regards to the pending budget and proposed budget cuts.

Dear Friends,



Spring is upon us and hopefully brings with it a nice change in the weather. This winter we have witnessed some challenging times for those directly impacted by the weather. Whenever, I hear about a family or individual in need, I am reminded of the great programming and services that CLUSTER provides. The support services provided by CLUSTER, to those in need, are vital and should be sustained and expanded when possible. To this end, it is important to share with CLUSTER's friends and supporters that the Board is constantly working in ensuring that the organization's mission is being upheld and that the community is being served in the best possible way.

Speaking of change, 2018 also marks the start of CLUSTER's new Executive Director, Kristina Yamin. It is a pleasure to know that the transition in leadership has been smooth one. At a recent Board meeting, it was exciting to discuss with Kristina all the great opportunities CLUSTER is exploring and the new initiatives she has begun to work on. I recently joined Kristina on a tour of some of CLUSTER's programs. At the After-School Program, it was wonderful to see the great resources and activities the children were taking part in. So many of these resources and programs are directly impacted by your continuous support.

If you haven't had the opportunity to recently visit CLUSTER's website, I invite you to visit [www.clusterinc.org](http://www.clusterinc.org) and learn about ways to volunteer, donate, or make sustained contributions. Thank you for your support!

**Tony Carrizales**  
Vice-President, Board of Directors

# Thank you!

## Founder Circle

*\$10,000 and above*

St. Faith's House Foundation  
The Thomas and Agnes Carvel Foundation  
The Tow Foundation  
Marathon Development Co.

## Chairman's Club

*\$5,000+*

Anbinder Foundation  
John & Marilyn Dimling  
Lisina Hoch  
Nilsen Management  
Wells Fargo Social Responsibility Group  
Greg & Kathiryn Werlinich

## President's Panel

*\$1,000 +*

Gerry & Beverly Brown Barbour  
Mayo & Judy Bartlett, Esqs.  
Ken & Virginia Barton  
Church of St. Barnabas  
Eugene Donovan  
Ginsburg Development Corp., LLC  
Stephen & Betsy Hunter  
In2Green  
Brian Jaccoma  
Peter X. Kelly  
Arthur & Mary K. Kentros, MD  
Andrea Kocsis  
Dr. Andrew P. Levin  
Assemblywoman Shelley Mayer  
Robert & Jessica Mayes, Esq.  
Jethro & Renata Miller  
John & Kyla Murphy  
Mutual of America  
Moonlight Marine  
O'Connor Davies, LLP  
Rev. Winfield Peacock  
People's United Bank Community Foundation  
William Pyontek  
Monica Rickenberg, LMSW, JD

Tom & Margaret Roth  
RXR Realty  
Jerome Silverman & Dr. Lynne Hoffman  
Sen. Andrea Stewart-Cousins  
Siwanoy Country Club  
Steven & Nancy Kliot Straus  
So. Presbyterian Church  
Dobbs Ferry  
Temple Israel Center  
Patricia Anne Woods, Esq.  
Women's Presbytery of the Irvington Presbyterian Church

## Partners

*\$500+*

Gregory Arcaro  
Assured SKCG Inc.  
Rinku Bhattacharya  
Dr. Devra Braun  
Geoffrey Broadhurst  
Tony Carrizales & Michelle Silverio  
Kathy Dean  
Emmet & Patricia Ellis  
Jody Heyward  
Rabbi Lawrence Hoffman  
Benjamin Hough  
Ernest Howell  
Foley Graphics  
Human Development Services Of Westchester  
Robert M. Kreek  
M&T Charitable Foundation  
Mary Melvin  
Joanne Robinson-Boettcher  
Rotary Club of Yonkers - East Yonkers  
Scotty Electric  
Frank Siragusa  
St. Joseph's Medical Center  
Lori Slater  
Sterling National Bank  
Dan & Susan Thaler  
Stephen Tilly  
Empire State Basketball Club and The Volchok Family

CLUSTER is extremely appreciative of all our donors and supporters. We could not do the work we do without your support and the individuals and families we serve are so much better because of your commitment and generosity.

## Friends

*\$100+*

Alvin Ailey American Dance Theatre  
Ardsley Country Club  
Benjamin Steak House  
Elizabeth Bassin  
JoAnn Boyd  
Barbara Brill  
Carol J. Campbell  
Child Care Council of Westchester  
Crabtree's Kittle House  
Sharon Danosky  
Marc & Joan Danziger  
Eric & Terri Rosen Deutsch  
John & Jill Deitz  
Dolphin Restaurant  
Jonathan Donald  
Angela Donovan  
Paul Dulberger  
Empire City Casino  
Edward Falcone  
Denise Wagner Furman, Esq.  
Mr & Mrs. Gilmartin  
Pamela & Elliott Glass  
Mary Greenly  
John Gunther-Mohr  
Zoovia Hamiduddin & Muhammad Saleem  
Cathy Hansen  
Dr. Richard Harvey  
Matthew & Nina Hogan  
Chereese Jervis-Hill  
Damyn Kelly  
Heather Kenny  
Koob & Magoolaghan  
Landsberg Jewelers  
Le Moulin Eatery Wine Bar  
Legal Aid Society of Westchester  
Richard & Beth Lewis  
Maisonette  
Holly Malekian  
Judith A. Mayes  
John & Diane Mazzanti  
Christopher Mazzei  
Matthew McCrosson  
Edward & Laura Midgley

Grace Minter  
Moderne Barn  
Nat'l Artist Management Co.  
Nepperhan Community Center  
Douglas Newman  
Nobile, Magarian & DiSalvo, LLP  
Heather Ostman  
Ann Patton  
People's United Bank  
Neal Pilzer  
Bruce Platt  
Dr. Edwin Quezada  
RiverMarket Bar & Kitchen  
RM Friedland  
Gary & Denise Rosenberg  
Sarah Lawrence College  
David Schwartz  
Suzanne Smith  
William Stallings  
Sun Service Center  
Drusilla Van Hengel  
Vera Bradley  
Estelle Williams  
Yonkers Community Action Program  
Yonkers Riverfront Library  
Myrna Zaino

## Helpers

*<\$100*

Alamo Drafthouse Cinema  
James Allyn  
Symra Brandon  
Joseph Castellano  
Charmassage Waters of Life

City Winery  
Debbie Clark  
Carol Craft  
James Donegan  
Ezra Ebanks  
Arnold Eshoo  
Glass Onion  
Grand Prix New York Racing & Spins Bowl  
Allen Greenbaum  
Wendy Handler  
Lois Herzberg  
Elizabeth Hipius  
Helen Hutchinson  
Niles Jaeger  
Jasmin McCormack  
Ruth Keppler  
Lucy Driving School, Inc.  
Horace McLarty  
Elizabeth Morgan  
George M. Morrow  
Marie Paul  
Edward Russell III  
Jon Shenk  
Kathleen Sundaram  
Kristina Yamin

*The names listed above are those of our many contributors. CLUSTER has made every effort to ensure that this list is complete and correct. If we have inadvertently omitted your name, please let us know immediately. We are extremely grateful for every gift and every donor, large and small. Thank you.*

## Jasmin McCormack Named Director of Mental Health Residential Services

Jasmin McCormack was newly named the Director of the CLUSTER Mental Health Residential Services Programs in January. Jasmin, previously held the position of Assistant Director, since she joined the Mental Health staff in 2009. Jasmin brings a wealth of experience to the position. She received her Bachelors degree in Psychology from SUNY-Binghamton and her Masters Degree in Counseling from Manhattan College. Please join us as we congratulate Jasmin on her new position.



Dear Friends,

My first three months as Executive Director have been a very exciting experience. I believe it is a privilege to lead an organization committed to improving the lives of children, individuals and families in our community.

CLUSTER has several new projects and initiatives we are working on and it has been a pleasure to work with the dedicated staff and our Board of Directors. I am grateful for all the support I have received. As the year develops, I look forward to sharing our progress with you, our many friends, donors and supporters. Thank you for your continued commitment to CLUSTER.

**Kristina**





20 South Broadway, Suite 501  
Yonkers, NY 10701

NON-PROFIT ORG.  
US POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
WHITE PLAINS, NY  
PERMIT NO. 812

CURRENT OCCUPANT

## Summer Camp Gear Up



Summer Camp is a great respite and learning experience for children, who otherwise, may not have an opportunity to participate in sports, arts and cultural activities, swimming and the many other activities that CLUSTER offers over the course of its 6-week summer day camp. Registration is being accepted now and scholarships are available. For more information call 914-963-6440 ext. 257



(L-R) Jose Rivera Alers, Vice President, New York Community Relations  
Diana M. Campos, Director of Development, CLUSTER  
Robert J. DiDiano, Regional Managing Director – Wells Fargo Private Bank-New York City  
Deborah A. Smith, Senior Vice President- Wells Fargo Foundation

## CLUSTER *Receives Grant from Wells Fargo.*

CLUSTER received a \$7500 grant from Wells Fargo Foundation in support of its Housing Crisis Intervention and Assistance Program. This program provides homelessness prevention services, financial counseling and supportive services to low income individual facing displacement or homelessness due to foreclosures, building fires, unresolved landlord tenant disputes or when the City must close a property due to code violations or enforcement actions.

CLUSTER is proud to partner with Wells Fargo Foundation in this effort. The lack of a stable living environment has been attributed to so many social, emotional, and physical illnesses and ailments. Helping to stabilize one family, one building, helps to stabilize a block, a neighborhood and a community.

In the photo above taken at the 2018 New York Community Relation & Nonprofit Networking Summit, which was held on February 22nd at the Wells Fargo East 42nd Street office location in New York City.