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WIHD Appoints Jenean Castillo as Director of LEND Interdisciplinary Training Program

VALHALLA, NY (June 2018) – The Westchester Institute for Human Development (WIHD) has announced the appointment of Jenean Castillo, PhD, as Director of the federally funded LEND (Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental and related Disabilities) interdisciplinary training program at WIHD.



Dr. Castillo is Assistant Professor of Practice in the Center on Disability and Health in the School of Health Sciences and Practice at New York Medical College (NYMC) and is the Diversity and Inclusion Coordinator at WIHD. Until recently, she was Assistant Director of WIHD's Child Welfare Program. Dr. Castillo has been a LEND faculty member and child psychologist at WIHD since completing her post-doctoral fellowship and LEND traineeship in psychology at WIHD in 2003.

Throughout her career, Dr. Castillo has collaborated at the national level on activities and projects related to leadership development, diversity, inclusion and cultural competence. As a post-doctoral LEND fellow she served as a national trainee representative on the Diversity Workgroup of the Association of University Centers on Disabilities. In 2016, she was selected as a member of the national cohort for the Cultural and Linguistic Competency Leadership Academy of the *National Center for Cultural Competency* of Georgetown University. She was named WIHD's first Diversity and Inclusion Coordinator in 2016. This year NYMC chose her as the first recipient of its Diversity and Inclusion Award.

Dr. Castillo replaces Karen Edwards, MD, MPH, the former LEND Director at WIHD, who will remain at WIHD as Co-Director of WIHD's University Center for Developmental Disabilities (UCEDD).

The WIHD LEND Program is one of 52 university-affiliated interdisciplinary leadership training programs nationally, funded by the Health Resources and Services Administration to train graduate students and post-doctoral fellows in a variety of health and education disciplines, and family members of children and adults with disabilities, who wish to assume a leadership role in working with and on behalf of children with disabilities and their families.

Westchester Institute for Human Development

As one of 67 University Centers of Excellence in Developmental Disabilities, the Westchester Institute for Human Development (WIHD) is dedicated to improving the lives of people with disabilities and vulnerable children through professional education, direct service provision, and innovative research. For over 45 years, WIHD has been a key regional resource providing a wide range of medical, dental, clinical and social services to individuals with disabilities, vulnerable children, families and professionals throughout Westchester County and the Lower Hudson Valley. At WIHD, everything we do is guided by our vision of a future in which all people, including people with disabilities and vulnerable children, live healthy and productive lives as full members of society. For more information, go to www.wihd.org.