

## OPEN WIDE, ON WHEELS



From left: WIHD Board Vice Chair Vera Halpenny, Sherry Williamson (representing Assemblyman Gary Pretlow), state Sen. Shelley Mayer, Assemblyman David Buchwald, WIHD Dental Director Dr. Pat Seagriff, Susan Fox, Assemblyman Tom Abinanti, County Board of Legislators Chairman Ben Boykin and County Department of Social Services Commissioner Kevin McGuire.

The Westchester Institute for Human Development (WIHD) has put its new Mobile Dental Clinic into service. The state-of-the-art dentist's office on wheels replaces an obsolete and aging van that had been used in WIHD's programs to provide dental services to children and adults with disabilities throughout the region.

The nearly 39-foot-long Winnebago

features two dental suites. In addition to dental chairs, there are hand-held X-ray equipment, a sterilizing lab, cabinets, stools and special wheelchair lift and door.

The new mobile clinic was funded by a \$376,826 grant WIHD received last year from the Statewide Health Care Facility Transformation Program. In addition, WIHD received a donation of the X-ray unit from

the New York State Dental Foundation.

**Susan Fox**, president and CEO of WIHD, said "Our new Mobile Dental Clinic will give us the ability to serve more individuals, provide more consistent and reliable scheduling of visits, and better meet the complex dental care needs of this population."

In addition to the clinic on wheels, WIHD operates a dental center in Valhalla.