



Westchester Institute for Human Development Unveils Mobile Medical Unit

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



Image 1 (left to right): Bruce Doniger (J.E. & Z.B. Butler Foundation); Patricia Goldman (J.E. & Z.B. Butler Foundation); Catherine Calvo (Mother Cabrini Health Foundation); Nicole Strom J.E. & Z.B. Butler Foundation); Chad Hansen (Mother Cabrini Health Foundation); Susan Fox, President and CEO of WIHD; Izel Obermeyer, Chief Clinical Officer at WIHD; Tricia Patrick, Chief Academic Officer at WIHD

Image 2 (left to right): Marlyn Pena, (for Legislator Terry Clements); Alyssa Jacobs (for Assemblymember MaryJane Shimsky); Legislator Margaret Cunzio; Legislator Jewell Williams Johnson; Legislator Vedat Gashi; Assemblymember Chris Burdick; Susan Fox, President and CEO of WIHD; Izel Obermeyer, Chief Clinical Officer at WIHD; Tricia Patrick, Chief Academic Officer at WIHD

VALHALLA, NY (October 18, 2023) ---Westchester Institute for Human Development (WIHD) received a customized Mobile Medical Unit to allow them to deliver care where the majority of their clients reside. This Mobile Medical Unit, which was made possible by grant funding from the Mother Cabrini Health Foundation and the J.E. & Z.B. Butler Foundation, will provide primary care, podiatry, occupational therapy, laboratory testing, and vaccinations to people with disabilities living in Westchester and the Hudson Valley group residential programs. Working with an architect, WIHD custom-designed the interior and exterior features of the van to be wheelchair accessible and allow for movement by medical clinic staff and patients.

People with disabilities living in group residential programs often miss appointments at healthcare centers because of inadequate transportation and limited driver staffing. WIHD identified nearly 40 group residential programs that believe a solution like the mobile medical unit will help their patients get the care and health education they need more easily. WIHD expects to provide 1,000 healthcare visits with the mobile unit within the first year.

On October 18th, WIHD hosted a ribbon-cutting ceremony and tour of the mobile unit at WIHD in Valhalla, NY. The event was attended by donors, local government officials, and agencies to celebrate this significant milestone in expanding healthcare access and availability to people with disabilities. To inquire about making an appointment for the unit to visit a facility, please contact Izel Obermeyer, Chief Clinical Officer at WIHD, (914) 493-3031.



Westchester Institute
for Human Development

MEDIA CONTACT

Katie Myhren

914-493-1235

kmyhren@wihd.org

“WIHD is so appreciative of our generous funders who made this mobile medical unit possible,” said Dr. Susan Fox, President and CEO of WIHD. “This van will give us the ability to serve more individuals, provide more consistent and reliable scheduling of visits, and better meet the complex care needs of individuals with disabilities throughout the Hudson Valley Region.”

Mother Cabrini Health Foundation is a private, nonprofit organization whose mission is to improve the health and wellbeing of New Yorkers, bolster the health outcomes of vulnerable communities, eliminate barriers to care and bridge gaps in health services. Named after a tireless advocate for immigrants, children, and the poor, the Mother Cabrini Health Foundation funds programs and initiatives across New York State that either provide direct healthcare services or address the social determinants of health. For more information, visit <https://www.cabrinihealth.org/>. **Further information:** communications@cabrinihealth.org.

The **J.E. & Z.B. Butler Foundation** aspires to create a more accepting world in which people of all abilities are understood, valued, and respected. For more information, please visit <https://www.butlerfoundation.org/>.

About Westchester Institute for Human Development

As one of 68 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. First established in 1950, WIHD moved to Westchester County, NY in 1972 and 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. 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. Learn more at www.wihd.org and @wihdny on social.