

CLUSTER provides services in four major program areas:

- ◆ **Mental Health Residential Services**
- ◆ **Youth and Family Programs**
- ◆ **Housing Resource Center**
- ◆ **Westchester Mediation Center**

Patricia Anne Woods, *President, CLUSTER Board of Directors*

Toni Volchok, *Executive Director*

Diana M. Campos, *Newsletter Editor*

CLUSTER's Mission is "to provide services and programs that assist residents in Yonkers and Westchester County to build a better future for themselves and their communities."



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Letter from the Executive Director

Dear Friend,

At this year's annual fundraiser, The Harvest Wine Tasting held on October 18th, members of our Board of Directors and staff had a wonderful opportunity to meet many of our longtime supporters and contributors as well as new friends who joined us.

The highlight of the evening was the presentation of CLUSTER's Community Spirit Award to South Presbyterian Church in Dobbs Ferry. South Presbyterian Church has been committed to CLUSTER's Youth & Family Programs for over 20 years. Members

of the Church actively support CLUSTER's Summer Camp, as well as other activities throughout the year. For many years the CLUSTER Summer Camp has been the beneficiary of the Church's annual breakfast, which honors Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. These much needed dollars have allowed us to provide the support necessary so that children from homeless and low income families can enjoy six weeks of summer day camp. Church members have served on our Board of Directors, others volunteer in our programs and each year they provide amazing personalized Holiday gifts and Easter baskets for all of the children who attend our community after-school programs. In addition to CLUSTER, the congregation supports many other community groups and social justice projects. Their capacity to give to others seems to have no limit.

We were also so proud to have Traci Jones, Project Manager of High End Mechanical Design & Integration at IBM, a former participant in CLUSTER's Youth & Family Programs speak about the impact her experience in our programs had on her personal and professional life.

If you were able to join us on the 18th, thank you for your continued interest and support and I hope you enjoyed the evening. If you were not able to attend, I hope you will enjoy the photos and article about the event featured in this newsletter. If you have an interest in becoming more involved in CLUSTER's work, I urge you to call us or e-mail us — I would love to meet you, arrange for a visit, or have a conversation with you to explore ways you too can become more involved in supporting CLUSTER's work — helping people improve their lives. I know that your involvement will bring you greater gratification than you ever imagined!

Toni Volchok
Executive Director

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Rev. Joseph Gilmore, who accepted the Community Spirit Award for South Presbyterian Church, and surprise Honoree Kenneth Barton, former Chairperson CLUSTER Board of Directors.

Caryn Campbell Joins CLUSTER's Board of Directors

CLUSTER recently welcomed Caryn Campbell as its newest Board Member. Caryn presently serves on the Hastings Board of Education, as well as the board of the Hastings Education Foundation.

Caryn has joined the Development Committee and brings with her a wealth of knowledge and experience. Ms. Campbell worked in Development & Communications with The Children's Storefront, a non-profit, tuition-free school in Harlem, writing grants, working with corporate and foundation donors and coordinating events that have raised hundreds of thousands of dollars.

Ms. Campbell, has a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Film & Television from Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Texas. Before her career in fundraising she worked as a Film Production Coordinator on feature films such as Spike Lee's "Malcolm X" and Penny Marshall's "The Preacher's Wife."

Ms. Campbell resides in Hastings-on-Hudson with her husband Steven Silverstein and their two sons.



“Working on projects every summer such as the end of the summer show, challenged me to be innovative and taught me to think independently, while helping to build my leadership and team working skills. I have distinct memories of all the hands on work we campers put into building the show — from creating the characters to designing the set and making the props in arts and crafts. It was all such a big deal to me to be a part of something so large and collaborative, also my earliest insights into the field of project management.”

Traci Jones – guest speaker, CLUSTER’s Harvest Wine Tasting, October 18th, Estherwood Mansion



Toni Volchok, Executive Director, CLUSTER and guest speaker Traci Jones, Project Manager, IBM



L-R Lucy Redzeposki, Vice President NADAP, Yonkers Employment Center, Lutonya Russell-Humes, Director of Youth & Family Programs for CLUSTER, Whitley Humes, Asst. Director, Information Systems-Human Resources, Pace University, and Greg DuSablon, Jr., Yonkers YMCA



L-R Desmond & Kerry Lyons, Peter Mollo, President, Crown Products (Vintner Sponsor) & wife Stephanie, Arlene & Dan Koblinsky, and Debbie & David Cohen



Andy Besch
“The Wine Guy”

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CLUSTER Harvest Wine Tasting

On Thursday, October 18th over 100 supporters gathered to celebrate CLUSTER's Harvest Wine Tasting. The event was held at the beautiful Estherwood Mansion on the grounds of the Masters School in Dobbs Ferry.

The festivities were highlighted by a short program which acknowledged and honored the significant work of South Presbyterian Church in Dobbs Ferry for their many years of commitment and support. The program also featured Ms. Traci Jones; a former CLUSTER youth program participant and current Project Manager for High End Mechanical Design and Integration with IBM. Traci spoke about how CLUSTER impacted her life, teaching her valuable lessons for her life and career. Then it was on to lighter things, like hearing from our special guest Andy Besch, author of "The Wine Guy," who lead everyone through a brief description of the wines we tasted that evening.

The one surprise of the evening was the presentation of a plaque given to Kenneth Barton, thanking and honoring him for his long service as Chairman of CLUSTER's Board of Directors. It was a touching moment.

The evening was topped off by announcing the winners of the raffle. Items included an exclusive bottle of vintage wine graciously donated by Mr. Sidney Handler, a wonderful package featuring tours and membership courtesy of Historic Hudson Valley, a great basket of cheer from Rivertown Liquors, a gift certificate from Bloomers Florist, fitness classes at On Hudson Fitness and Dance in Hastings, and a delicious gift certificate to Rosa Mexicano restaurant in New York City courtesy of Pat Hoffman of MP Agency/JLS Group. The raffle also featured other items graciously donated anonymously, such as a gift certificate for Harvest on Hudson, gorgeous Lenox crystal wine glasses, books on wine, and gift certificates for spa and facial treatments.

CLUSTER would especially like to thank all of our sponsors for the evening, their substantial support helped to make this spectacular event a huge success. Also a big thanks to Andy Besch "The Wine Guy," and Andy Waild, Aramark Catering, who guided us through the planning.



Judy Bartlett, and Mayo Bartlett, Board Member, with Patricia Anne Woods, CLUSTER Chairperson



Enthusiast sponsors of the event – Ralph and Robert Amicucci of Amicucci Management, talking with Gary Bernstein, Director of Mental Health Residential Services for CLUSTER



L-R Freda Macon, Asst. Director, CLUSTER with Richard and Beth Lewis, members of South Presbyterian Church



CLUSTER Board Members enjoy the Harvest Wine Tasting: Beverly Brown Barbour, Secretary CLUSTER Board with husband Gerry Barbour, Caryn Campbell, Board Member and Jethro Miller, Vice President, CLUSTER Board with wife Renata Miller