



## Available Services

### Bilingual Services for Victims of Domestic Violence

If you (or someone you know) are living in fear of violent outbursts from a husband or partner, are threatened at home, or feel alone and isolated, help is available.

The Northern Westchester Shelter, a non-profit organization dedicated to serving victims of domestic violence, offers services that include emergency shelter, legal representation, immigration services, counseling, support groups, teen dating abuse awareness and prevention, workplace violence prevention, and community education. These services are available in both English and Spanish.

Victims of domestic violence face enormous challenges when they seek safety. For battered immigrant women and their children, the problems are exacerbated by legal, immigration, language and cultural hurdles. The Northern Westchester Shelter's newest program, *Esperanza Para La Victima Latina de Abuso*, offers the services of skilled bilingual and bicultural counselors, advocates and attorneys to help victims recover from their abuse and hold their abusers accountable.

"Our primary goals are to lessen the effects of domestic violence on the family members while supporting the mother as she works to ensure her family's future safety and the social

development, emotional well-being and educational readiness of her children," explains Carla Horton, executive director of the Northern Westchester Shelter. To find out more about the services, call the bilingual hotline, (914)238-2800.

### Johns Hopkins Offers Programs for Local Youth

Students who get good grades and would want to spend part of their summer in a challenging academic program at a prestigious university should consider applying to the Johns Hopkins University Center for Talented Youth (CTY).

The program is tailored to students in grades 2 through 8 who score in the 95th percentile and show exceptional academic promise. Participants come from across the United States and 80 countries to learn and explore their talents and abilities through challenging and above-grade-level courses in a unique environment of learning. The courses are offered at 23 different colleges and universities throughout the country. CTY also offers long distance courses and family conferences.

Children with good grades can be nominated to participate (and must take a test). Financial aid and scholarships are available. For more information, call Dinorah Olmos at (410) 735-6016 or email [dolmos@jhu.edu](mailto:dolmos@jhu.edu).

### ACCIÓN New York: Loans for Small Businesses

Individuals and small businesses that do not have access to traditional sources of credit may want to consider ACCIÓN New York, a registered 501 (C)(3) organization that works to build up the business community.

ACCIÓN New York provides loans and other support services to businesses throughout New York City and parts of New Jersey. Loan officers go directly to clients' businesses, making the loan process quick and easy. Loans can range from \$500 to \$50,000. One-on-one business advisory services are also offered through OnTRAC-Our Training, Resource, and Advising Center.

For more information call (212) 387-0377 or the Loan Inquiry Line at (212) 387-0494. You can also visit [www.accionnewyork.org](http://www.accionnewyork.org)

### Mental Health Treatment Available

*Nuestro Futuro* a special program created to provide culturally competent and sensitive services to Latino families, is available through the Mental Health Association (MHA) of Westchester County. Anyone experiencing difficulties with interpersonal, family, social and/or educational/vocational issues, can be referred to the following:

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Northern Westchester  
Counseling Center  
344 Main Street, Suite 301  
Mount Kisco, NY 10549  
(914) 666-4646

Sterling Center  
2269 Saw Mill Road, Bldg. 1A  
Elmsford, NY 10523  
(914) 345-5900

For more information call  
Maribel Rivera at (914) 345-5900  
x249 or e-mail  
riveram@mhawestchester.org

### Boys and Girls Club Offers Drama Classes in New Rochelle

The Boys and Girls Club of New Rochelle, under the direction of new executive director Joe Miressi, has joined forces with Drama Kids International to offer affordable fine arts programs to children and young adults.

Drama Kids is an educational drama program dedicated to teaching acting, as well as verbal communication and presentation skills. Classes are ongoing and students can join anytime. Sessions will be held on:  
Monday - Mascaro Center for children ages 6-8 from 5:30-6:30 p.m. and ages 9-12 from 6:30-7:30 p.m.  
Thursday - Respect Extention - Ages 6-8 from 5:30-6:30 p.m. and ages 9-12 from 6:30-7:30 p.m.

For more information call  
(914) 712-7484.

### County Job Postings

Looking for a job with Westchester County? The personnel office posts new jobs in county government every week.

as well as application forms and information on what the process is to become a government employee. A number of the jobs require Spanish language skills. You can learn more about what's available by calling (914) 995-2114 or visiting [www.westchester.gov.com/hr](http://www.westchester.gov.com/hr).

### Support Groups Offered by Family Ties

Family Ties of Westchester is a grassroots organization that provides advocacy and support services to families of children with emotional and behavioral difficulties. At its five Family Resource Centers, Family Ties offers support groups, training in parenting skills, advocacy efforts, and respite opportunities. Family Ties also provides a wide variety of support groups for parents, grandparents, siblings, foster parents, and dads.

The locations are as follows:

Elmsford Parent Support Group  
(914) 995-4812 at Mental Health Association of Westchester

Ossining Family Ties Resource Center  
(914) 941-3461 at Ossining Open Door

Mt. Kisco Family Ties Resource Center  
(914) 242-3870 at 344 Main Street

Peekskill Family Ties Resource Center  
(914) 739-4725 at 929 South Street

Mt. Vernon Family Ties Resource Center  
(914) 663-4931 at 158 Gramatan Ave.

Yonkers Family Ties Resource Center  
(914) 964-2063 at Yonkers Community Action Program

For more information, call: (914) 995-5238 or (914) 761-6976/3012.

### Residents can sign up for emergency updates

Because you can never have too many ways to communicate, County Executive Andy Spano is announcing a new effort that would allow the county to contact the public directly during a large-scale emergency.

With the County Emergency Notification System (CENS), information can be sent by email and/or text messaging to mobile phones or devices before, during or after a major storm or other disaster. An automated phone system could be used as well. Residents can get updates on what's happening and find out what they should do or where they should go.

These "news bulletins" would supplement the reports the county feeds to television, radio and other sources.

People can sign up by going to [www.westchestergov.com](http://www.westchestergov.com) and clicking on the emergency banner at the top of the page. All information will be kept confidential.

### Need Help? Call Martha

Martha Lopez of the Westchester County Office of Hispanic Affairs is available to answer questions and help members of the Hispanic community. She can provide information on government programs and make referrals to local organizations.

To reach Martha, call  
(914) 995-2476.