



**WESTCHESTER COUNTY CHAPTER, THE ARC NEW YORK  
ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

September 15, 2020  
Virtual Broadcast

**Attendance:** Members of the Westchester County Chapter, The Arc New York and guests.

**Call to Order:** President Joe Cassarini called the meeting to order at 5:17PM. A quorum was present.

**Approval of Minutes:** Joe Cassarini asked for approval of the minutes from the June 11, 2019 Annual Membership Meeting after the June 11, 2019 Special Meeting of the members. Abby Reuben moved to approve the minutes; Cynthia Ferguson seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

**Treasurer's Report:** Joe Cassarini reviewed the year ending December 31, 2019 for The Arc Westchester. The organization finished the year with \$56,245,360 in revenue and \$54,854,794 in expenses. Total liabilities and net assets were \$49,569,979. Sixty-Seven percent of the revenue received came from Medicaid and Medicare. Over 90% of the organization's resources were spent on direct services and only 6% was spent on administrative costs throughout the last year. The organization is performing reasonably well financially, but faces challenges and uncertainty in the future because of state budget deficits.

Elaine Masket moved to accept the Annual Treasurer's Report; Tom Hughes seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

**The Arc Westchester Foundation Report**

Foundation Executive Director Nancy Patota prefaced her report by reviewing the two basic tenets of the Foundation's mission: to bring awareness to the wonderful and essential work of the Chapter, and to secure funds in order to ensure that these critical programs and services are always available to the individuals and families supported by the Chapter.

Ms. Patota reported that the 2019 financials reflect a very successful year, ending with total net assets of over \$5 million dollars, and total revenue over \$2.8 million. Nearly \$1 million dollars were contributed to the Chapter to support otherwise underfunded/unfunded, programs and services. In 2019, the cost to cost to raise a dollar was reduced from 14% to 10%, which means 90% of donations are available for the Chapter's vital programs and services. The Arc of a Life Campaign closed with \$6.9 million dollars in gifts and commitments, a testament to the growing culture of individual philanthropy at The Arc Westchester.

Foundation Board President, Ruedi Laager reported that the focus of the Foundation right now is dealing with the current crisis. A Foundation Corona Task Force has been formed and is meeting on a weekly basis to assess the Foundation's financial ability to support the Chapter. Over the last couple of years, the Foundation have been focusing more on a matrix-based approach, working with data driven analytics, and this comes in very handy during crisis time. It allows for a better understanding of donors, and the ability to provide critical impact data to organizations when applying for grants.

**Elections and Oath of Office:** Kyle O'Loughlin-Cahill, President Elect read the following list of nominations as presented by the Nominating Committee to be acted upon by the Chapter membership at its Annual Meeting on September 15, 2020:

1. Daphne Daddino is nominated for a three-year term on the Board.
2. Robert Diana is nominated for a three-year term on the Board.
3. Robert Picone is nominated for a three-year term on the Board.
4. Abby Reuben is nominated for a three-year term on the Board.
5. Rosa Rodriguez is nominated for a three-year term on the Board.
6. Jeffrey Wood is nominated for a three-year term on the Board.
7. Joseph Cassarini is nominated for a two-year position on the Nominating Committee.
8. Sarah Phelan is nominated for a one-year position on the Nominating Committee.
9. Abby Reuben is nominated for a two-year position on the Nominating Committee.
10. Jeffrey Wood is nominated for the position of President Elect of the Board.
11. Danusia Pawska is nominated for the position of Secretary of the Board.
12. Mark Glucksman is nominated for the position of Treasurer of the Board.

Ms. O'Loughlin-Cahill asked for a vote in favor of the slate of nominees. David Walker moved to approve the nominations; Robert Nuccio seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

It was noted that in light of remote nature of this Annual Meeting, the elected directors, officers and members of the Nominating Committee will submit written attestations of acceptance and commitment to their elected positions.

**President's Remarks:** Joseph Cassarini reflected on his term as Board President. The last six months held much uncertainty and turmoil. Mr. Cassarini praised the great leadership of the organization for their clear understanding of the crisis and the keenness of their logic; their judgement and decision making was sound, and their priorities were clear. The Annual Meeting is a testament to their perseverance, it is a statement that we need to and will go forward and do whatever we have to take care of our people.

**Incoming President's Remarks:** Kyle O'Loughlin-Cahill conveyed her plans to be a visible and engaged leader who will uphold the mission and values of The Arc Westchester. Ms. O'Loughlin-Cahill has over two decades of leadership experience in the healthcare field including acute and long-term care services and knows how important the role every person plays is in helping the organization thrive. Ms. O'Loughlin-Cahill stated that this type of dedication is what gives her the confidence in our ability to work and succeed together.

**Executive Director's Remarks:** Tibi Guzman expressed sincere gratitude to Joe Cassarini for his support and true partnership during his term as Board President, especially during these last tumultuous months. Never have our core values been more important than they are now, during one of the most difficult periods in our 71-year history. In the beginning of this crisis we were presented with many challenges that tested our ability to sustain our values of safety, relationships, happiness, and good health. Our values have been preserved by incorporating them into all of our planning processes and actions. We have activated a strategic plan designed to move us forward with the opening of our day programs, residential community outings and preschool classes, to provide a safe environment responsive to all the latest department of health and department of education guidelines.

NY State is imposing drastic funding cuts to Medicaid and other State funding streams. The Arc NY has released an advocacy campaign that will be shared to enlist participation. This campaign is critical to the future to all people with disabilities and their families.

**The Richard P. Swierat Advocate of the Year Award:** Tibi Guzman announced the 2020 Advocate of the Year Award winner, Robert Rigano. Mr. Rigano began attending advocacy meetings at The Arc Westchester, and in 2019 he was invited to join the Human Rights Committee where he plays an important part in making sure every person's rights are promoted and respected.

**Remembrance Tribute:** After a moment of silence, a remembrance tribute video was shown to honor The Arc Westchester family members that were lost during the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Adjournment:** Kyle O' Loughlin-Cahill asked for a motion to adjourn the Annual Membership Meeting. Daphne Daddino moved to adjourn the meeting; Louise Weston seconded, and the motion passed by unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 5:58PM.

Minutes respectively submitted by Danusia Pawaska.