

Natalie Duffy's Legacy: A New Scholarship Fund



How do you honor a woman whose greatest passion in life was to nurture children and help them attain access to quality education? By creating a way for even more families to benefit from her legacy of love and learning. The **Natalie Duffy Scholarship Fund for Education of Young Children** has been established by her son, Richard "Rich" Duffy.

Natalie Duffy enjoyed an incredible career in education, working at The Home School and

Mohawk Day Camp in White Plains for more than 50 years. For the first 37, Natalie was an Assistant Teacher, then a Head Teacher, and later Principal of the school, all along the way inspiring and enabling its growth. After retiring, Natalie and her husband Joe returned to White Plains to work with children at Mohawk's camp for 13 summers. During this time, Natalie traveled to Asia with her lifelong friend Barbara Schainman, a former Director of Mohawk, to build a strong international group of campers.

"When my husband and I took over as Directors of the school, we were given one specific piece of advice: don't ever, ever lose Natalie Duffy," said Barbara. "But we didn't need to be told; it was so evident. Natalie was a prize we were given and were able to hold onto all those years. She was like a big sister, a mentor, and a friend. And she was always the consummate professional."

Barbara, who pointed Rich to the Child Care Council when he approached her with the idea of establishing a fund, also shared that Natalie was passionate about offering the benefits and wonders of quality education to children in need.

"If I could create a fund that would perpetuate my mother's passion for the welfare of children in an educational environment, that would be the greatest way to honor her," said Rich.

Many parents work more than full time, but still do not earn enough to afford quality care. The Natalie Duffy Scholarship Fund will help families who are just above the income limits for a child care subsidy by providing funds to pay for child care at the location of their choice. In her memory, more little ones will spend their earliest years in a caring environment that builds the foundation of brain growth and early development they'll rely on their whole lives. And fewer moms and dads will be forced to choose between child care and other necessities.

Your contribution will honor Natalie's life and work and give children and families a path out of poverty through early education. To donate, visit bit.ly/natalieduffyfund or mail a check payable to Child Care Council of Westchester, Inc. (att: Dana Lawless), 313 Central Park Avenue, Suite 4, Scarsdale NY, 10583. In the memo, please write "Natalie Duffy Fund."

The Natalie Duffy Scholarship Fund for Education of Young Children was established by Rich Duffy in 2020. Thank you to our founding contributors:

Richard Duffy & Laura Powers
Angie Ganser
Allyson Gold
Christine Hjorth
Jonathan Kreiness
Shiho, Makiko & Fumio Miyana
Rosamond O'Connor
Barbara Schainman
Andrew Schwarz
Jill Singer
Danilo Vicioso
Adam Wallach

"... Then one day (about thirty years ago, give or take a few) we decided that The Home School deserved to have a principal. And a few days later, we decided that Mrs. Duffy was the person for the job. Too bad that picking a President is not that easy. It was DUFFY - DUFFY - DUFFY by acclamation — and with no term limits. Lucky Home School! We are happy to claim all credit for the wisdom and perspicacity of our nomination. I wish everything we have done in our lives had been so smart!"

▲
Excerpt from a letter Natalie Duffy received on the occasion of her retirement, from a former Director of The Home School

Emerging Leaders in our Midst

Jason Thomas,
Senior Legally
Exempt
Enroller in
our Provider
Services
Department,

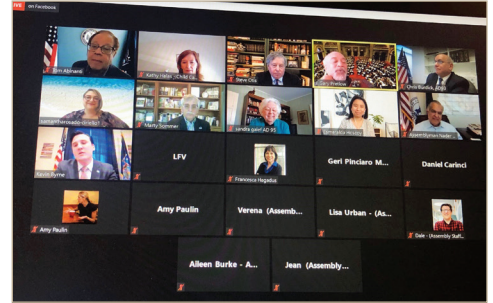


has been accepted into Nonprofit Westchester's (NPW) Emerging Leaders Program. He follows in the footsteps of Council staffers Juanita Pope and Lindsay Iacovello, who are both graduates.

Emerging Leaders was created to broaden leadership opportunities for those in the nonprofit sector and to ensure that the sector itself has a ready supply of talent to move up and onward. Jason has invested a great deal of time and thought in our own emerging work on diversity, inclusion, equity and social justice, doing some new things along the way, like presenting to our Board of Directors.

#FundChildCare

Advocacy works! We successfully secured a 2% County budget increase in the subsidy reimbursement rate for contracted child care providers and a 2% reduction in the parent share this past fall. In the new year, our attention is on the State budget. Executive Director Kathy Halas has testified before members of the Senate and Assembly, and the Council has hosted several virtual meetings with State officials. There is one message: Fund child care!



We recently released the final episode in our **Voices of Child Care** series, shot by CCCW Board member Danielly Ortiz. To watch and hear directly from child care providers about what's at stake, visit



www.youtube.com/watch?v=TjsxFfL1ZxM or search "Child Care Council of Westchester" on YouTube.



We were very grateful to be **Westchester Magazine/914Inc's "Editor's Pick"** for 2020's Best of Business Awards and even more excited to see consistent recognition for the importance of child care and the hardworking professionals who teach and love our children while parents work.

New Board Members

Our Board members all have a tremendous passion for helping children and building a strong child care system to support our local economy – and we are so grateful for their time and talents!



Samantha Vecchiolla
William Raveis



Alyce Gorch
Design Within Reach,
a division of Herman
Miller Brands



Joe Marchese
Silverson Pareres &
Lombardi LLP

How You Can Help in 2021

We must get more young children access to quality early care starting at birth because every child deserves a chance to develop into the best possible version of him or herself, and every hardworking parent deserves the comfort of knowing their child is safe, and the opportunity to build a career. **Better access to better child care is critical to our battle for equity.**

HERE ARE A FEW 2021 GOALS AND PRIORITIES WHERE WE COULD USE YOUR HELP:

Introduce us to a business owner, HR director or diversity officer.

If more of Westchester's largest employers included information about our free services in their recruiting, onboarding and employee benefit materials, fewer working parents would be excluded from the workforce or stressed about child care, and more children would be safe, loved and learning while their moms and dads are at work.

Contact Nicole Masucci at NicoleM@cccwny.org or (914) 761-3456 x139.

Child Care Referrals & Resources

Available to You at No Cost

The Child Care Council of Westchester is a nonprofit organization that helps working parents obtain safe, reliable child care. Call the Council to speak with a trained specialist who can provide:


- Lists of regulated child care providers and summer camps, and a complete "Nanny Guide"
- Tips and checklists that will help you recognize safe, quality care and check a child care provider's compliance/violation history
- Information about financial resources, including scholarships, subsidies, tax credits and dependent care assistance plans (DCAPs) that may be available to you
- Names of child care providers who meet certain criteria, like those who can administer medication, provide a space for breastfeeding, or who may have experience with special needs children

All of the Child Care Council's services are free for parents. Get help today by calling:

914-761-3456 x140

We maintain a list of child care providers open during the pandemic, updated weekly.

Search the Council's child care database or submit an online referral request:
www.childcarewestchester.org/child-care-request



Child Care Council of Westchester, Inc.
MEMBER OF THE CHILD CARE FUNDATION
313 Central Park Ave.
Scarsdale, NY 10583
(914) 761-3456
childcarewestchester.org

Referencias de Cuidado Infantil & Recursos

Disponibles para Usted Sin Costo

El Child Care Council of Westchester es una organización sin fines de lucro que ayuda a los padres que trabajan a obtener cuidado infantil seguro y confiable. Llame al Council para hablar con un especialista capacitado que pueda proporcionar:

- Listas de proveedores de cuidado infantil regulados y campamentos de verano, y una completa "Guía de niñera"
- Consejos y listas de verificación que le ayudarán a reconocer una atención segura y de calidad y verificar el historial de cumplimiento/violación de un proveedor de cuidado infantil
- Información sobre recursos financieros, incluyendo becas, subsidios, créditos fiscales y planes de asistencia para el cuidado de dependientes (DCAP) que pueden estar disponibles para usted
- Los nombres de los proveedores de cuidado infantil que cumplen ciertos criterios, como aquellos que pueden administrar medicamentos, proporcionan un espacio para amamantar, o que pueden tener experiencia con niños con necesidades especiales

Todos los servicios del Child Care Council son gratis para padres. Obtenga ayuda hoy llamando a:

914-761-3456 x140

Mantenemos una lista de proveedores de cuidado infantil abiertos durante la pandemia, actualizada semanalmente.

Busque en la base de datos de cuidado infantil del Council o envíe una solicitud de remisión en línea:
www.childcarewestchester.org/child-care-request



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Increase financial support for parents and child care providers.

Our voices are not enough. We need more parents, grandparents and community members to help us execute effective advocacy campaigns and, ultimately, speak up and tell public officials that child care is a priority. Bring only your passion for children, families and educational equity: we will teach you everything you need to know and find a way for you to contribute that's comfortable.

Contact Kathy Halas at KathyH@cccwny.org or (914) 761-3456 x102.

Join Dream Builders.

Your monthly recurring gift to the Child Care Council is the best way to ensure hardworking parents do not lose sleep over impossible choices and painful sacrifices, and that Westchester's children don't miss out on what 'could have been' because of their family's financial circumstances. Visit www.childcarewestchester.org/donate/join-dream-builders or contact Dana Lawless at DanaL@cccwny.org or (914) 761-3456 x127.

Resources for Providers

Our Infant Toddler Teacher Network, a group launched to support and provide resources for professional infant and toddler caregivers in the county, held its first meeting in January. This group gathers monthly to share ideas and discuss successes and challenges. Another way we are helping to bring better care to Westchester's youngest learners.



Coming Up

The National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) celebrates the Week of the Young Child (WOYC) each April. In 2021, we'll acknowledge the 50th anniversary of WOYC and the incredible importance of child care and early education by celebrating **for an entire month!** Stay tuned for invites to a variety of fun and informative events during our *Month of the Young Child* in April.

We're excited to honor child care providers at our virtual *Early Education Hall of Heroes* event on June 4, 2021 from 7-8pm. Please mark your calendar and join us to celebrate their contributions to our community and the lives of young children.

Thank you, Business Supporters!

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Westchester Human
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York International
Anonymous (1)



313 Central Park Avenue, Suite 4
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Exciting News Inside!

- A new scholarship fund
- Funding increases through advocacy
- Welcoming Board members
- Upcoming events
- Plans for 2021 and how you can help

The Child Care Council of Westchester is a private, nonprofit resource organization that champions the healthy development of children, families and communities by promoting quality early care and education.

(914) 761-3456

www.childcarewestchester.org

