The lack of decent housing that is affordable for all members of our community is an urgent social justice crisis.

EVERYONE deserves a place to call home.

WESTHAB

2019–2020 Impact Report

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Ken Belfer Senior Vice President Strategy and Planning

Patricia Vitelli Senior Vice President Finance and Administration

Andrew Germansky Senior Vice President Real Estate

Jinja Cuevas Vice President Human Resources

Maureen Natkin Vice President Development

Elissa Ramos Assistant Vice President Westchester Housing Programs

Tracv Rhett Assistant Vice President Youth and Employment Services

Valerie C. Smith Assistant Vice President NYC Singles Housing Programs

Nicole Mylan Assistant Vice President NYC Family Housing Programs

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WESTHAB HAS ALWAYS STOOD FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE.

We do the hard work each day to help our neighbors in need live their dreams. We **empower** the people we serve to secure quality housing, employment, and services. We invest in communities to create systemic change. We believe in the dignity and value of everyone that walks through our doors.

But there is so much more to be done. We have a status quo that was created by the systemic exclusion of communities of color. Housing discrimination has created deeply **segregated communities.** Racism persists and continues to determine how people are treated and the distribution of opportunities. The overwhelming majority of the people Westhab serves are people of color. We simply cannot achieve our mission without fighting racism.

Westhab is up for the challenge ahead. We accept the responsibility to become an anti-racist organization seeking out and correcting injustices. We accept the responsibility to bring equity into all that we do.

Thank you for believing in the people we serve.

Thank you for believing in Westhab's ability to create the change that our world desperately needs. Together,

we are: Building Communities. Changing Lives.

Sincerely.

Rich Nightingale President and CFO Jesse Krasnow Chair of the Board Westhab has been a presence in the Nodine Hill Community of Yonkers for 20 years—working with the community to address needs, celebrate strengths, and provide services that improve lives. In the spring of 2021, we will proudly reopen the state-of-the-art Dayspring Community Center as an institution built on the promise of expanding opportunity and inclusion so that all members of our community can pursue their goals and prosper.

Families like Evelyn and Jorge's are the backbone of the Nodine Hill community and the hope for the future. The family of five (including three daughters) operates a small deli next door to the Dayspring Community Center, where the girls have attended the after-school program and summer camp for the last five years. When the pandemic hit, and the after-school program went virtual, Evelyn and Jorge stepped in without hesitation to help—establishing the deli as a central hub where local parents and Westhab staff could share information and coordinate the exchange of assignment packets and supplies. They are proud to be able to give back to the Dayspring community that has been such a great source of support for their family.

"Without Dayspring, I don't think I would have enrolled them in anything, because moneywise, everything is crazy out there. So for me to be able to have them go somewhere that is safe and free—and have a class on robotics. We are grateful for that." —Evelyn

Small business owners have been hit hard by the pandemic though, and minority-owned small businesses like Evelyn and Jorge's deli have struggled to obtain the loans that were intended for them under government programs. One of the problems is that relationships with banks matter—and minority-owned small businesses in distressed communities often lack access—running their businesses out of personal checking accounts instead. Evelyn and Jorge are worried, but stoic and determined in the face of the uncertainty unleashed by the pandemic. Westhab is committed to supporting economic development in the communities we serve, especially small business owners.

"There are many things that are out of our control, but we know we need to keep moving forward. We need to continue." -Evelyn

Evelyn and Jorge



Andrea (11), Jorge, Evelyn, Ariana (12), Alissa (17) not pictured

All people deserve a place to call home and to be part of a community. But far too many of our neighbors are homeless—or are a job loss or a health crisis away from becoming so. Poverty, discrimination, and inequality lie at the root of homelessness—a problem that cries out for social justice.

Before arriving at Westhab's Bruckner Rapid Re-Housing Center, Alice, a friendly and energetic 61-year-old, had been living in a three-bedroom apartment in the Soundview section of the Bronx for the last 16 years. When her landlord decided that he was no longer willing to rent to Section 8 tenants, he told Alice it wasn't personal: it was just business—he wanted to raise the rent. Alice was given six months to find a new home, but even with her voucher, she could not find a decent place she could afford.

"I just finally had to come into the shelter. My son and I were afraid, because we had never been in a shelter, and you hear lots of things. None of them too good." -Alice

Since Bruckner is designated for families with adult children, Alice and her son (who had just returned from a semester upstate at college) were able to stay together. Westhab staff were welcoming and helpful, and with her basic needs met, Alice was able to turn her attention to finding a place to live. It was slow going (with COVID-19 complicating the matter even further), but she persisted and found a place in Staten Island for the fall of 2020.

Alice, a trained home health aid, plans to volunteer with the elderly in her new community. Her son is looking forward to finding a job and heading back to school.

"I never look down on people, because you never know what can happen to you. You can be up here today and down there tomorrow. With all of the beautiful things I had in my apartment that I worked hard for, I still wound up homeless." —Alice

Alice



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Housing is a Foundation for Social Justice

Housing segregation has been a tragic reality in our country from the beginning. As a social justice organization, Westhab seeks to make sure that high-quality affordable housing, a critical tool for wealth-building and the well-being of our communities, is within reach for everybody.

Redlining is the systematic denial of resources to communities of color, including home mortgages. It was enshrined in federal housing policies beginning in the 1930s—and three out of four neighborhoods redlined on government maps 80 years ago continue to struggle economically today. Government-sanctioned segregation of housing projects and the subsidization of white families to leave the city further ensured that Black people and other people of color were left out of new, affordable suburban communities and the wealth-building opportunities that came with homeownership.



Today. African American average incomes are about 60 percent of white incomes, but African American average wealth is about 5 percent of white wealth.

Housing is the key to reducing intergenerational poverty and increasing economic mobility. People who grow up in historically excluded and neglected communities do not have equal access to healthcare or to opportunities to receive a quality education or find a job that pays a living wage. Instead, they do have a much greater chance of experiencing unnecessary contact with the criminal justice system.



There is no state or county in America where a renter working full-time at minimum wage can afford a two-bedroom apartment.

Westhab has worked to expand the supply of quality affordable housing and provide opportunities for low- and moderate-income members of our community to pursue their dreams. We are currently in construction on the \$40M Dayspring Campus (westhab.org/dayspring)—a transformational investment in an under-served neighborhood that is the centerpiece of our commitment to systemic change.

Our nation needs to address the inequities in our criminal justice system, including disparities that have deeply and disproportionately affected communities of color. Furthermore, people who have completed their sentences often return home to challenging environments, and their criminal records can complicate their efforts to make the most of their second chances—including acting as a barrier to finding decent and stable housing.

Robert, a positive, physically active, and thoughtful 61-year-old is proud of his Black, Japanese, and Cherokee heritage. Like his grandfather, father, and brother before him, he planned to join the army after high school. Although he scored well on his military aptitude test, he was ultimately disqualified by clubfoot, a birth defect that required two surgeries by the time he was eight years old.

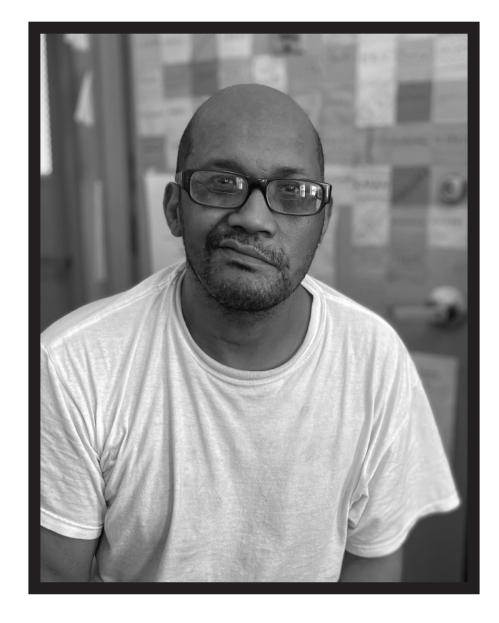
Robert never found it easy to fit in and turned to drugs and alcohol in his youth to cope. He first got involved with the criminal justice system with some "kid stuff," but felony convictions followed. Clean and sober since 1990, Robert struggled to re-enter society, often working two jobs, but still having difficulty finding a suitable place to live.

"Because it is so hard to find jobs and housing, it's easy to fall back on the old way of living because you are basically not given an opportunity to redirect yourself. Once people find out that you have been incarcerated, you already have that strike against you." -Robert

Robert became a resident of Westhab's supportive housing building in downtown Yonkers, the Windham, in 2011. He is grateful for the single room that he has called home for the last nine years and for the support he has received from Westhab staff. Without the Windham, he says matter of factly, he "probably would be one of the homeless people on the street."

Robert's goal is to secure a decent and safe apartment with his own kitchen and bathroom. He recently applied to New York State for a Certificate of Good Conduct, which he hopes will help convince those who might fear the man he once was that he has earned back the right to be their neighbor.

Robert



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Westhab is achieving sustained financial health, despite challenges created by the COVID-19 pandemic.

We continue to grow in unprecedented ways, and we've taken measured steps to ensure our organizational strength while we drive our mission forward.

WESTHAB'S 2019 FINANCIALS

Revenue

Transitional Housing	\$ 37,965,149	64%
Supportive Housing	7,850,072	13%
Affordable Rental Income	4,263,880	7%
Employment Services	1,763,403	3%
Youth Services	1,682,256	3%
Other	5,506,664	10%
Total	\$ 59,031,424	

Assets

Total	\$ 124,548,962	
Other Assets	1,185,071	1%
Reserves and other restricted assets	10,796,064	9%
Current Assets, including cash	17,920,001	15%
Properties Under Development	5,411,222	4%
Supportive Housing	13,077,421	10%
Affordable Rental Housing	\$ 76,159,183	61%





Provided 2,049 affordable and supportive homes



Broke ground on Dayspring Commons, a 63-unit, brand new, high-quality affordable and supportive rental building



Placed 482 homeless households into permanent housing, including 277 families and 205 individuals



Placed 528 job seekers into employment



Served 1,158 elementary, middle and high school students in

after-school and summer programs

\$15.87 average hourly wage

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OUR SUPPORTERS

We rely on friends like you to advance our mission and deliver for the people we serve. Thank you.

GOVERNMENT PARTNERS

City of Mount Vernon City of New Rochelle City of White Plains

City of Yonkers Dormitory Authority of the State of New York

Municipal Housing Authority of the City of Yonkers

New York City Department of Education

New York City Department of Homeless Services

New York City Department of Youth and Community Development

New York State Department of Corrections and Community Supervision

New York State Department of Labor

New York State Division of Housing and Community Renewal

New York State Office of Mental Health

New York State Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance

United States Department of Housing and Urban Development

United States Department of Veterans

Westchester County Department of Community Mental Health

Westchester County Department of Social Services

Westchester County Workforce Investment Board Westchester County Youth Bureau

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\$40,000 +

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We would like to recognize everyone who has made a commitment to our Dayspring Campaign to ensure that we can complete the renovation of the state-of-the-art Dayspring **Community Center and fill** the space with life-altering. state-of-the-art programs upon its completion in 2021.

Weis Security & Communications, Inc.

Jane and Evans Anderson Rebecca Bruno and Cesar Pereira Betsy and Steven Bush Monica Casev and Paul Turovsky Ann and William Frey Ranson and Ken Hanau The Hearst Foundations Judy and David Katz Jonalie and Michael Korengold Maris and Jesse Krasnow Arletha Miles-Boyce and Jefferson Bovce Alexis and Richard Nightingale Petrocelli Financial Services Joan and Seth Rosen The Stephens Family Charitable Foundation Tina and Steven Swartz Margaret and John Torell Vivian and David Weinberg Rosanne and Mark Welshimer

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* We polled our staff on the most urgent social justice issues of our time to create the graphic above.

Westhab's mission is: **Building Communities. Changing Lives.**

We **build communities** by developing high-quality affordable housing, and we **change lives** by delivering a broad range of services designed to help people and communities thrive.

The sum of our efforts is a **comprehensive community development** approach that transforms neighborhoods and delivers hope and opportunity to our neighbors who are most in need.

