

THE WE CARE FUND OF THE NASSAU COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION  
**WELCOMES YOU TO**

THE  
WE CARE  
**GOLF & TENNIS**  
CLASSIC

**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2023**

**BROOKVILLE COUNTRY CLUB & THE MILL RIVER CLUB**

**HONORING**

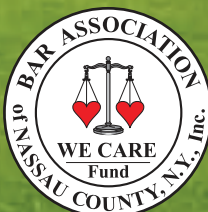
**MICHAEL H. MASRI, ESQ.**

Partner | Meltzer, Lippe, Goldstein & Breitstone, LLP

AND

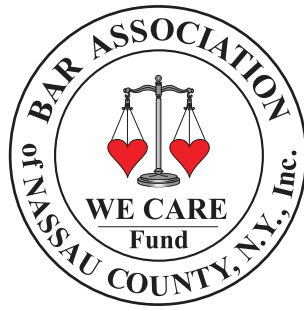
**JEFFREY MERCADO, CFP®, MBA**

Senior Managing Director | Commercial Bank,  
Law Firm Banking, Webster Bank



**WWW.THEWECAREFUND.COM**

\*The WE CARE Golf and Tennis Classic was Founded by Stephen W. Schlissel in 1996.



# WE CARE

## Calendar of Events

### **September 2023**

Tunnel to Towers — Sept. 24

### **October 2023**

Fall Festival — Oct. 9

Light the Night — Oct. 21

### **November 2023**

Las Vegas Night — Nov. 18

Thanksgiving Luncheon for Seniors — Nov. 23

### **February 2024**

Children's Festival — TBD

### **March 2024**

Dressed to a Tea — Mar. 21

### **June 2024**

Yankees/Mets Game — TBD

### **September 2024**

Golf & Tennis Classic — Sept. 16

[www.thewecarefund.com](http://www.thewecarefund.com)



## *Tonight's Program*

### **WELCOME**

Jeffrey L. Catterson, Esq.

### **NASSAU COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT**

Sanford Strenger, Esq.

### **MOMENT OF SILENCE**

### **WE CARE TODAY**

Christopher T. McGrath, Esq.

### **INTRODUCTION OF GRANT RECIPIENT**

Hon. Andrea Phoenix

### **PRESENTATION TO MICHAEL H. MASRI, ESQ.**

Stephen W. Schlissel

### **PRESENTATION TO JEFFREY MERCADO**

Kathleen Stanley

### **STEPHEN GASSMAN AWARD PRESENTATION TO HON. ANDREW M. ENGEL**

### **THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS**

Joshua B. Gruner, Esq.

### **SUPER RAFFLE/GOLF & TENNIS PRIZES**

### **CLOSING REMARKS**

Joseph A. Lo Piccolo, Esq.

**Thank you for all your support.** We look forward to seeing you in 2024!

Note: All prizes and awards, including silent auction, golf, and tennis awards can be claimed after the closing remarks in the raffle area.



We would like to welcome and thank all attendees of the **27th Anniversary of the WE CARE Golf and Tennis Classic** ("The Classic") which was founded by our Honorary Chair, Stephen W. Schlissel, Esq., in 1996. **WE CARE** has been helping those in need throughout Nassau County for over 35 years through the generous support of events such as The Classic.

It is our pleasure to recognize and honor **Michael H. Masri, Esq.** and **Jeffrey Mercado, CFP, MBA**, along with our 2023 Stephen Gassman Award Recipient the **Hon. Andrew M. Engel**. Michael is an experienced and accomplished litigator, a partner at Meltzer Lippe, a former Chair of the Classic and a former Co-Chair of WE CARE. Michael's support of WE CARE has only increased with each passing year and for that we thank and honor him today. Jeffrey leads the Commercial Law Firm Banking Group at Webster Bank. Jeffrey has been a staunch supporter of WE CARE and the Nassau County community generously providing both his time and financial support for countless endeavors. The energy Jeffrey has brought to the Advisory Board, along with the support of Webster Bank, helps project a bright future for WE CARE. Judge Engel is a former Co-Chair of WE CARE, an integral part of The Classic committee and one of the backbones of the Advisory Board. Thank you and congratulations, Michael, Jeffrey, and Judge Engel.

The WE CARE Fund is the nationally recognized charitable arm of the Nassau County Bar Association (NCBA), started by Past President Stephen Gassman. This Fund has proudly raised more than \$5,000,000 that has then been granted to well over 100 charitable organizations/causes in Nassau County that directly help improve the quality of life for children, the elderly, and those in need, regardless of their ages, races, or religions. The organizations supported by WE CARE range with respect to their mission and purpose. They include after school and summer camp programs, shelters, soup kitchens, therapy centers, and so much more. In addition to the various grants given out by WE CARE, scholarships are also provided to deserving high school and law school students, to aid them in their higher education. WE CARE also hosts a number of events throughout the year for the benefit of less fortunate members of our community. These events include Dressed to a Tea, Las Vegas Night, Light the Night, Tunnel to Towers, The Children's Festival, Rebuilding Together and working with Nassau County's own Professional Sports Team, the New York Islanders. Each event attempts to raise funds and show support for our community of Nassau County.

We encourage each of you to take the time to learn about our wonderful organization through this journal, and later on our website, [www.thewecarefund.com](http://www.thewecarefund.com). Our goal is to assist more local people in need each year. Through your generous contributions and support tonight, and hopefully in the years moving forward, we can continue to help those who need assistance with food, school, clothing, and shelter through our charitable grants. Throughout this journal is a list of our upcoming events, as well as the charities WE CARE supports each year. We are fortunate that every dollar raised by a WE CARE event goes back to the community in the form of grants and donations with the generous underwriting of costs by the NCBA.

As this event has finally arrived, we would like to extend a special thanks to Bridget Ryan for her tireless efforts, the entire WE CARE Golf and Tennis Classic Committee and Volunteers who made this night possible, the WE CARE Advisory Board for its support and guidance, the NCBA Executive Board for its unwavering commitment to We Care, and all of our supporters. It is because of these amazing individuals, our sponsors, and you, (the attendees of this evening's event) that we are able to host The Classic, which, in turn, allows us to give back to so many less fortunate people in need of our support.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey L. Catterson, Esq. and Joshua Gruner, Esq.  
**Co-Chairs**

Stephen W. Schlissel, Esq.  
**Honorary Chair**



# Welcome!

The WE CARE Golf and Tennis Classic is here for its 27th year. We want to thank all of you who have joined us for this year's event. Your support over these past twenty-seven years of the Classic, and thirty-five years of WE CARE, has helped us raise in excess of five million dollars to give back to people in Nassau County. This money has a real effect on people's lives; allowing children to attend camps, after-school programs, and provides scholarship grants for college. It also helps provide food, clothing, and shelter to those in need during some of their most difficult times.

The WE CARE Fund is the nationally recognized charitable arm of the Nassau County Bar Association, started by Past President Stephen Gassman in 1988. The Fund's sole initiative is to give back to the community and help improve the lives of children, their families, and the elderly, regardless of their age, race, or religion. The WE CARE Fund hosts a number of events throughout the year for the benefit of less fortunate members of our community. These events include Children's Festival, a day of fun at the Bar Association where local children get to interact with first responders. We also celebrate our local Nassau County Court community with Dressed to a Tea, our annual fashion fundraiser where we showcase the latest fashions while also collecting gently used professional clothes to donate to local people getting back into the workforce.

Tonight, we take a moment to celebrate all in attendance for your support of WE CARE, along with our distinguished honorees, who do so much for our community. Our 2023 Honorees are Michael H. Masri, Esq. and Jeffrey Mercado, CFP, MBA. Our 2023 Stephen Gassman Award Recipient is the Hon. Andrew M. Engel. Michael is an experienced and accomplished litigator, a partner at Meltzer Lippe, a former Chair of the Classic and a former Co-Chair of WE CARE. Michael's support of WE CARE has only increased with each passing year and for that we thank and honor him today. Jeffrey leads the Commercial Law Firm Banking Group at Webster Bank. Jeffrey has been a staunch supporter of WE CARE and the Nassau County community generously providing both his time and financial support for countless endeavors. The energy Jeffrey has brought to his position on the Advisory Board, along with the support of Webster Bank, helps project a bright future for WE CARE. Judge Engel is a senior Judge of the Nassau County District Court, overseeing litigation and litigants for many years. He is also a former Co-Chair of WE CARE, an integral part of The Classic committee and one of the backbones of the Advisory Board. Thank you and congratulations, Michael, Jeffrey, and Judge Engel.

Our goal for the Classic and all our WE CARE events is to continue to expand our reach and help improve our greater Nassau County community. Our most recent efforts have been to partner with the New York Islanders in their community outreach as Nassau County's own hometown team. We have also established an Endowment that we hope will strengthen our foundation and commitment to the people of Nassau County, long past as time as Co-Chairs. We invite you all to our other annual events: Vegas Night November 18, 2023, Dressed to a Tea fashion show March 2024 and next year's Mets v. Yankees game and Golf & Tennis Classic. Please visit our website, [www.thewecarefund.com](http://www.thewecarefund.com), to learn more.

A special thanks to Bridget Ryan, Ann Burkowsky, Hector Herrera, the entire We Care Advisory Board, our incredible Golf and Tennis Classic Committee and volunteers and PHP, our partner in so many WE CARE events. The amount of time and effort you each dedicate to this event is tremendous and appreciated. All of us giving our time, energy and experience help so many in our community and help change lives for the better.

See you at next year's Classic on September 16, 2024!

With Sincere Gratitude,

Jeffrey L. Catterson, **Co-Chair**

Joseph A. Lo Piccolo, **Co-Chair**



## Special thanks to...

### THE NASSAU COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

**SANFORD STRENGER** | PRESIDENT

**ELIZABETH POST** | EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

for providing full administrative support to the WE CARE Fund.

Since all administrative costs are graciously absorbed by the Nassau County Bar Association,  
100% of all donations to the WE CARE Fund benefit recipients.

The WE CARE Fund is a 501 (c)(3) charitable organization. All contributions are tax deductible.

### WE CARE ADVISORY BOARD

**CO-CHAIRS** | JEFFREY L. CATTERSON & JOSEPH A. LO PICCOLO  
**ADMINISTRATOR** | BRIDGET M. RYAN

|                          |                            |                           |                       |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| DANIEL J. BAKER          | MICHAEL E. DUFFY           | HON. SARIKA KAPOOR*       | FAITH GETZ ROUSSO     |
| BRUCE BARKET             | HON. ANDREW M. ENGEL*      | JARED KASSCHAU            | JEROME A. SCHAROFF    |
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| HON. MAXINE S. BRODERICK | DANA J. FINKELSTEIN        | HON. JOHN G. MARKS        | HON. LISA SIANO*      |
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| STEVEN COHN              | HON. JEFFREY A. GOODSTEIN* | HON. DANIELLE M. PETERSON | HON. JOY M. WATSON    |
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| JOSEPH DEMARCO           | ALIREZA HEDAYATI           | JAMIE A. ROSEN            |                       |

### \*PAST CHAIR

### COMMUNITY LIAISONS

|                           |                 |                 |
|---------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| ELLEN BIRCH               | TIMOTHY MCCUE   | LISA RIBACOFF   |
| HARRIET BRENNER-GETTLEMAN | JOHN MCGORTY    | WAYNE STEINBERG |
| HAROLD L. DEITERS III     | JEFFREY MERCADO | REGINA VETERE   |
| KAREN C. GREEN            | DANIEL RIBACOFF |                 |



## About Us

The WE CARE Fund is a part of the Nassau Bar Foundation, Inc., the charitable arm of the Nassau County Bar Association. It was founded in 1988 by then Bar Association President Stephen Gassman. WE CARE is supported through donations and fundraising efforts of the legal profession and the community at large. Over \$5 million has been raised by WE CARE to fund various programs. The money is disbursed through charitable grants to improve the quality of life for children, the elderly, and those in need throughout Nassau County.

### EXAMPLES OF WE CARE PROJECTS AND GRANTS

- ◆ Donations to food pantries and soup kitchens
- ◆ Donation of holiday gifts for youth and families in emergency homeless shelters
- ◆ Annual holiday party for disadvantaged and physically challenged children
- ◆ The Safe Center LI, formerly Nassau County Coalition Against Domestic Violence
- ◆ Nassau County Family Court Emergency Fund
- ◆ Sponsorship of children to Summer Day Camps throughout Nassau County
- ◆ Safe homes for abused families
- ◆ Sunrise Day Camp for Cancer Kids
- ◆ Breast cancer prevention education in under-served communities
- ◆ Kamp Kiwanis for underprivileged and physically challenged children
- ◆ Sponsorship of Girl Scout troops in minority areas and a Boy Scout troop for the physically challenged
- ◆ Thanksgiving dinner for the elderly
- ◆ Programs for non-English speaking children entering Kindergarten
- ◆ Built a model courtroom at Hempstead Middle School
- ◆ Scholarship grants to high school graduates and law school students
- ◆ Supervised Visitation Center
- ◆ After School Programs throughout Nassau County
- ◆ Support for the Nassau/Suffolk Law Services Committee, Inc., providing legal resources to low-income individuals
- ◆ Support for Crisis Center Education in Nassau County Schools

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The **WE CARE FUND** gratefully accepts general contributions as well as donations in memory of a loved one, or in honor of a special occasion. Upon receipt of a contribution, acknowledgement cards are sent.

**NOTE:** 100% of donations benefit recipients, as the Nassau County Bar Association pays all administrative costs. Your support and generosity are greatly appreciated.

TO GET INVOLVED OR MAKE A DONATION TO WE CARE, PLEASE CONTACT BRIDGET RYAN AT (516) 747-1361 OR [BRYAN@NASSAUBAR.ORG](mailto:BRYAN@NASSAUBAR.ORG).

# Honorees



**MICHAEL H. MASRI, ESQ.**

## Honoree

MICHAEL H. MASRI is a Partner in Meltzer Lippe's Litigation, Labor & Employment, and Social Media, Software & Privacy Practice Groups. Michael is an active member of the Nassau County Bar Association, where he is a member of the Board of Directors, the Chair of its Labor & Employment Committee, and a member of the Judiciary Committee. The Nassau County Bar Association recognized his many accomplishments by awarding him the Directors Award in 2022.

Relying on nearly thirty years of experience, Michael litigates trade secret, unfair competition, dissolution, slander, breach of contract, discrimination, wage/hour, employment, labor, and other commercial/corporate matters. In addition, Michael is a "C-Suite" advisor providing day-to-day employment, transactional, administrative, and risk avoidance advice.

Michael regularly counsels clients from a broad spectrum of industries, including technology, big data, online gaming, cyber-security, e-commerce, manufacturing, hospitality and food service, real estate, healthcare, entertainment, public relations, securities, construction, not-for-profit, and education. Michael has appeared in Federal, State, and Administrative Courts as well as Arbitration Panels throughout the country.

In recognition of Michael's extensive experience as a trial advocate, he is frequently asked to work with out-of-state lawyers in connection with representing their clients in New York actions. In this regard, Michael has also served as a court-appointed electronic discovery referee.

Michael has drafted handbooks, employment agreements, trade secret agreements, and separation agreements affecting over a hundred thousand employees. Michael is often requested to provide management training and conduct investigations for both large and small companies.

Michael is routinely invited to teach continuing legal and accounting education courses, to join symposia faculty, and present to the business community concerning an ever-widening range of topics including arbitration and mediation, computer forensics, electronic discovery, social media, employee relations, employment handbooks and policies, trade secret protection, ethical rules governing attorneys, New York civil procedure, the rules of the Commercial Part of the New York State courts, and other matters.

Since 2010, Michael has completed almost twenty long distance obstacle races including Tough Mudders and Spartan Races. Michael looks forward to spending summers on the beach with his blended family including his four children and friends.

## Honorees



### JEFFREY MERCADO, CFP®, MBA

**JEFFREY MERCADO** leads the Commercial Banking Law Firm Banking Group at Webster Bank. This specialized group provides law firms escrow banking services and custom lending products to help grow their businesses such as Partner Capital Loan programs, IOLA/IOLTA sub-accounts management using Webster's proprietary next general Virtual Account Manager escrow processing platform, and Bank Check Express, a service that enables law firms to securely print official bank checks from their law firm office.

Prior to joining Webster Bank, Mr. Mercado spent nearly 20 years at Wells Fargo in a variety of roles, most recently as a Senior Private Banker in The Private Bank Legal Specialty Group, where he served as the primary source of contact and key strategic resource for Am Law 200 law firms, leading a team of specialists to provide law firm banking solutions and services. These included escrow banking services, partner capital loans, partner lines of credit, working capital credit facilities, treasury management and corporate card services, private banking, and retirement advisory services.

Jeff received his MBA degree from Columbia Business School. Jeff received his Bachelor of Arts degree in Economics from the University of Maryland, and earned the CFP® designation by the Certified Financial Planner Board of Standards Inc.

Jeff actively participates in New York and New Jersey legal charitable organizations, and serves on the WE CARE Fund Advisory Board of the Nassau County Bar Association.



## Stephen Gassman Award Recipient



### HON. ANDREW M. ENGEL

JUDGE ENGEL was first introduced to WE CARE nearly twenty years ago by his good friend and mentor, the late Hon. Elaine Jackson Stack. A former Co-Chair of the WE CARE Advisory Board, over the years the Judge has also served on the WE CARE Golf & Tennis Classic Committee, overseeing the operations at the “alternative course” site on the day of the golf outing, the Grant Committee, the High School and Law School Scholarship Committees, and the New Member Committee. Judge Engel has had the privilege of serving with the hard working and dedicated members of the WE CARE Advisory Board, raising money for those truly in need in Nassau County and is honored to be this year’s recipient of the Gassman Award, named for Stephen Gassman, Esq. who conceived of and formed this amazing charitable organization.

Judge Engel has been presiding in the Nassau County District Court since his election in 2007. For the past 11 years Judge Engel has been presiding exclusively over cases involving driving while intoxicated and driving while impaired by drugs. (Everyone get home safely tonight.) The Judge has extensively lectured on this topic for the New York State Judicial Institute, Nassau County Bar Association and Nassau County Criminal Courts Bar Association.

Also an active member of the Nassau County Bar Association, Judge Engel has served as the Dean of the Nassau Academy of Law, has been a member of the Community Relations and Public Education Committee and is a member of the Criminal Court Law and Procedure Committee and the District Court Committee. Judge Engel was the 2010-2011 recipient of the Bar Association’s President’s Award for the contributions he made to the Bar Association implementing, for the first time, a single flat fee program for members of the Nassau County Bar Association to obtain unlimited continuing legal education (“CLE”) credits.

# Special Thanks to the

## GOLF & TENNIS CLASSIC COMMITTEE

### CO-CHAIRS

JEFFREY L. CATTERSON

JOSHUA B. GRUNER

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### GOLF EVENT PLANNING CONSULTANTS

LARRY BATTAGLIA

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JULIE SALZMAN

# Grant Recipients

## LIST OF RECIPIENTS OF WE CARE GRANTS/DONATIONS OVER THE YEARS:

|  |   |
|--|---|
| Adelphi Breast Cancer Hotline                                    | Girl Scouts of Nassau County                          |
| Adults and Children with Learning and Developmental Disabilities | The Hagedorn Little Village School                    |
| The AHRC   | Harbor Child Care                                     |
| ASCENT (School for Individuals with Autism)                      | Harmony Heights                                       |
| Bethany House  | Hearts in the Community                               |
| Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Long Island                          | Hicksville Boys & Girls Club                          |
| The Book Fairies   | Hispanic Counseling Center                            |
| Boy Scouts with Disabilities Division                            | Hugs Across America                                   |
| Brooke Jackman Foundation  | The INN (Interfaith Nutrition Network)                |
| Camp HorseAbility  | Island Harvest  |
| Child Abuse Prevention Program                                   | Kamp Kiwanis  |
| Christmas Dream  | Knights of Columbus                                   |
| Coalition Against Child Abuse & Neglect                          | Landmark on Main Street                               |
| Cooley's Anemia Foundation                                       | Law Club of Schultz Middle School                     |
| Court Officer's Benevolent Association of Nassau County          | Life's WORC   |
| Dance Party for Parkinson's                                      | Lions Club Diabetes Education Center                  |
| The EAC Network  | Literacy Nassau                                       |
| EOC of Nassau County   | Long Beach Reach                                      |
| ERASE Racism, Inc.   | Long Island Advocacy Center                           |
| Family & Children's Association                                  | Long Island Alzheimer's and Dementia Center           |
| Five Towns Community Center                                      | Long Island Children's Museum                         |
| Friedberg JCC  | Long Island Coalition for the Homeless                |
| Friends of Karen.  | Long Island Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence |
| Gateway Youth Outreach   | Long Island Crisis Center                             |
|  | Long Island Sled Hockey                               |



# Grant Recipients

## LIST OF RECIPIENTS OF WE CARE GRANTS/DONATIONS OVER THE YEARS:

Long Island Speech-Language-Hearing Association

Long Island Volunteer Center

Mercy Advocacy Program

Mineola High School Student Service Center

Momma's House

Nassau County Police Athletic League

Nassau Suffolk Autism Society of America

Nassau/Suffolk Law Services

National Foundation for Facial Reconstruction

National Multiple Sclerosis Society

North Shore Child & Family Guidance Center

Pal-O-Mine Equestrian

PEACE Project

Plaza Theatrical Productions Performing Arts Academy

Port Washington Parent Resource Center

Rebuilding Together

Rosa Lee Young Childhood Center

RotaCare

The Safe Center Long Island

Salvation Army

The Sarah Grace Foundation for Children with Cancer, Inc.

Scott J. Beigel Memorial Fund

SIBSPlace

Social Services Volunteers of Nassau, Inc.

Swim Across America

The Theresa Foundation

WE CARE Scholarship Winners — High School/Law School

WE CARE World Trade Center Emergency Relief Fund

YES Community Counseling Center

Youth Service Opportunities Project





## Touching Lives

THE WE CARE FUND PROUDLY SUPPORTED THE FOLLOWING ORGANIZATIONS IN 2022-2023:

### ADULTS AND CHILDREN WITH LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

The ACLD Bethpage Zen Room is a specially designed sensory room, which contains a range of stimuli to help individuals with autism, learning, and other developmental disabilities, to develop and engage their senses. The Zen Room will be in Bethpage at the ACLD Adult Day Program, which provides support to more than 130 people. Individuals learn to interact with the world around them by using the Zen Room in a safe environment that builds their confidence and ability.

### BIG BROTHERS/BIG SISTERS OF LONG ISLAND

The Big Brothers/Big Sisters Long Island Match Enrichment Activities Program is an ongoing, essential component of the Big Brothers Big Sisters community, and is used to facilitate important bonding experiences for Matches, which lead to more enduring and rewarding Big/Little relationships.

### THE BOOK FAIRIES

Nassau County Literacy Programs New York has one of the highest illiteracy rates in the nation, and there is a tremendous inequity in access to books. The Book Fairies' work shifts resources that already exist from those who no longer need them to those who do, through programs that engage directly with Nassau County schools and organizations to meet the needs of constituents.

### CAMP HORSEABILITY

The Camp HorseAbility Equine Assisted School Groups provides mental health support, life skills development, wellness, and socialization skills to local students with special needs.

### CHRISTMAS DREAM

Christmas Dream provides underprivileged children and their families with items that stabilize their environments, such as home heating, food, clothing, and language skills. Recently, the program provided backpacks and school supplies for 275 children, underwear for 2000 students, snacks for 600 to be delivered to schools, toothbrushes for 250 children that didn't have or were using a "family toothbrush", rented a bus to transport children to receive free clothing for school, and hired teaching aides for their language center.

### DANCE PARTY FOR PARKINSON'S, INC.

Dance Party for Parkinson's allows people with Parkinson's disease and their caregivers to attend virtual movement classes free of charge. In 2023, Dance Party for Parkinson's held their first in-person fundraiser since the pandemic, "Rock Your Body for Parkinson's", a cabaret-style show that allowed them to continue to raise money for research.





## Touching Lives

THE WE CARE FUND PROUDLY SUPPORTED THE FOLLOWING ORGANIZATIONS IN 2022-2023:

### GIRL SCOUTS OF NASSAU COUNTY

Girl Scouts Where You Live brings Girl Scouting to girls who live in public housing, homeless shelters, communities with large numbers of non-English speaking residents, families with insecure living arrangements, and with financial difficulties. Programming is designed to strengthen a girl's sense of herself and boost her capacity to seek and meet challenges in her world.

### HICKSVILLE BOYS & GIRLS CLUB

The Hicksville Boys & Girls Club runs an after-school program called the Drop In Lounge Program, which is designed to put normalcy back into the lives of the children and support those in need through recreational, educational, and referral services programs.

### THE INN (INTERFAITH NUTRITION NETWORK)

The INN's Long Term Housing Program is a comprehensive model which offers formerly homeless families and veterans a fully furnished apartment with utilities included at a significantly reduced fair market rate.

### ISLAND HARVEST

The Island Harvest Food Collection & Distribution Program purchases and collects donated food and products to distribute to over 400 registered food pantries, soup kitchens, shelters, day cares, senior centers, and other nonprofit organizations with feeding programs throughout both Nassau and Suffolk Counties.

### LONG BEACH REACH

The Harriet Eisman Community School will offer intense out-patient treatment services three trimesters a year typically offering 24 courses to approximately 75 students. Long Beach Reach's goal is to help sustain and enhance their school program which has suffered a severe reduction of funding due to the Nassau County fiscal crisis.

### LONG ISLAND ALZHEIMER'S AND DEMENTIA CENTER

LIAD Center's Legal Services and Information for Those Caring for Adults with Down Syndrome & Alzheimer's Disease Programs benefit adults and the people who love and support them by expanding their referral network of attorneys and legal service providers to include specialists in disability law to help patients and families.

### LONG ISLAND COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

The Long Island Council of Churches Emergency Food and Family Support Services supports hunger alleviation and family support programs for low to moderate income populations in Nassau County.



## *Touching Lives*

### THE WE CARE FUND PROUDLY SUPPORTED THE FOLLOWING ORGANIZATIONS IN 2022-2023:

#### LONG ISLAND CRISIS CENTER

The Long Island Crisis Center provides workshops on-site in schools formatted for both students and professional staff, responding to emerging health problems and emotional dilemmas that are threatening young people and representing challenging behaviors for classroom teachers to resolve in an academic setting. The Long Island Crisis Center is currently focused on issues including suicide prevention, anger management, cyber bullying, understanding self-injury, homophobia, transphobia, and facilitating gay/straight alliances.

#### LONG ISLAND SLED HOCKEY, INC.

Long Island Sled Hockey, Inc. is unique in its concept of enjoining both the physical and mentally challenged athletes together in the same venue. In addition to never turning a “differently-abled” person away from the program, Long Island Sled Hockey athletes pay nothing—ever—to participate, nor do they pay for tournament travel, air travel, bus travel, hotels, meals, or sled hockey equipment.

#### MAURER FOUNDATION FOR BREAST HEALTH EDUCATION

The Maurer Foundation promotes breast health awareness to high school students in Nassau County through their live webinar-based health programs. Each program is the length of one school period.

#### MINEOLA HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT SERVICE CENTER

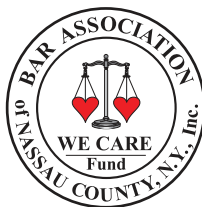
The Mineola High School Student Service Center has a “Lunch Bunch” program where senior citizens from the community meet with high school students to have lunch with one another. After lunch, the group participates in programming and activities.

#### MOMMA’S HOUSE

The MOMMAS House Transitional Housing Program works with young mothers and their children by providing shelter, support, advocacy, instruction, and love for up to two years the young mothers and children may live there. The program addresses homelessness, offers a stable environment to encourage mothers to obtain training and schooling, and creates strong families by assisting the women with independent living skills.

#### NASSAU BAR FOUNDATION (LAP)

The Nassau Bar Association Lawyer Assistance Program (NCBA LAP) provides confidential assistance to attorneys, judges, and law school students—and their immediate families—who are struggling with alcohol, drug and/or mental health problems, gambling, eating disorders, or are affected by the problem of substance abuse, stress, or depression. The program also assists attorneys and their families in situations where a practice will close due to illness, death, disability or disbarment, and attempt to arrange for the legal work of client cases where necessary.



## *Touching Lives*

### THE WE CARE FUND PROUDLY SUPPORTED THE FOLLOWING ORGANIZATIONS IN 2022-2023:

#### **NASSAU CEREBRAL PALSY GUARDIANSHIP CORPORATION**

The Nassau Cerebral Palsy Guardianship Corporation provides vital services to those who do not have the financial resources to pay for these services otherwise.

#### **NASSAU SUFFOLK AUTISM SOCIETY OF AMERICA**

Nassau Suffolk Autism Society of America ("NSASA") is a parent-run organization serving over 5,000 families on Long Island. NSASA has a Swimming Safety program which grant people with autism and their families the opportunity to participate in an open swim program. This program includes water safety education, swimming lessons, and aquatic activities.

#### **NORTH SHORE CHILD AND FAMILY GUIDANCE**

The Children's Center at Nassau County Family Court offers short-term childcare to families who must appear in Family Court at no cost. The program provides the children with a safe and supervised environment to play and learn while their parents or guardians attend court.

#### **PORT WASHINGTON PARENT RESOURCE CENTER**

The Port Washington Parent Resource Center's primary purpose is to provide support for parents and children of all income levels. The Resource Center also runs the Outreach Program for families who are new to the country and/or who are low income, which includes Thursday morning Stepping Stone class, scholarships for the general programming of the Resource Center and summer camp, ESL classes for adults, and Summer field trips.

#### **PORT WASHINGTON SENIOR CITIZENS, INC.**

The Port Washington Senior Citizens Lunch Program provides hot meals for the members of the organization. These lunches are the seniors' main meal of the day, and usually the only hot meal they eat in a day.

#### **ROTACARE**

RotaCare provides free primary care and medications to their patients; most of their patients have Diabetes. A patient diagnosed with Diabetes automatically requires at least four different medications, of which Insulin is the most critical. Funds raised for this program go towards purchasing and providing Insulin for patients who need and cannot afford it.

#### **SAFE CENTER OF LONG ISLAND**

The Safe Center of Long Island's Language Line Project helps provide timely and appropriate language translation services to domestic violence, child abuse, sexual assault and human trafficking victims in Nassau County who do not speak English or are of limited English proficiency.



## *Touching Lives*

### THE WE CARE FUND PROUDLY SUPPORTED THE FOLLOWING ORGANIZATIONS IN 2022-2023:

#### THE SARAH GRACE FOUNDATION FOR CHILDREN WITH CANCER, INC.

The Sarah Grace Foundation's Gabe's Chemo Duck Project provides chemo duck to children going through cancer treatment. A chemo duck is a stuffed toy duck that is available with different kinds of 'ports' that are used to dispense chemo and other medications. Each child newly diagnosed with cancer receives their own personal duck and the hospital staff uses the duck to educate the child about the treatment they are about to receive and how to care for their port. This teaching tool helps ease the anxiety of the children during this stressful time.

#### SCOTT J. BEIGEL MEMORIAL FUND

The Scott J. Beigel Memorial Fund supports organizations to send at-risk youth, economically disadvantaged and underserved children, ethnic, and racial groups to sleep-away camps.

#### SIBSPLACE

SIBSPlace Tween/Teen Programming develops and provides prevention-based services specifically designed to meet the needs of children ages 12-17 years old. They will meet once a month on Friday evenings to provide a safe social outlet, where they can build peer relationships and address more advanced teen-centered topics.

#### THEODORE ROOSEVELT COUNCIL, INC. BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

The Theodore Roosevelt Council, Inc. of Boy Scouts of America provides a free-of-charge after school Scouting model, named Scoutreach. Scoutreach is the Boy Scouts of America's commitment to making sure that all young people have an opportunity to join Scouting, regardless of their circumstances, neighborhood, or ethnic background.

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**THE STAFF OF THE NASSAU COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION**

AND

**MARIA DECARO-ALI, PHP**

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**2023 WE CARE GOLF COMMITTEE**



## WE CARE Events

### CHILDREN'S FESTIVAL

The Annual Children's Festival epitomizes what WE CARE is truly about and is a favorite WE CARE event. Every February during President's Week, the Nassau County Bar Association is transformed as WE CARE welcomes over 200 of Nassau County's underserved children for a spectacular day of fun, carnival-themed eats, and entertainment and games.

### DRESSED TO A TEA

Each year, the local legal community comes together to "strut their stuff" to help raise funds for local charities at WE CARE'S annual Dressed to a Tea Fashion Show. Local merchants showcase models—court officers and other court personnel—in their highly anticipated first looks of the upcoming year's Spring fashions. Dressed to a Tea is a collaboration between WE CARE and the Nassau County Women's Bar Association ("NCWBA"), and 25% of net proceeds benefit the NCWBA. In addition to raising funds for charity, Dressed to a Tea also collects used clothing donations that are distributed to various organizations across Long Island. Each Dressed to a Tea boasts its own theme, as well as an extraordinary array of raffle prizes.

### LAS VEGAS NIGHT

The WE CARE Las Vegas Style Entertainment Night is one of the most anticipated WE CARE events. The event boasts casino style gambling tables for craps, blackjack, and roulette, and at the end of the evening, all winnings are "cashed in" for raffle tickets and redeemed at a raffle table that includes prizes ranging from restaurant dinners to gym memberships to custom suits and vacation packages. It is truly a riotously entertaining night made for socializing with members of the Bench, Bar, and family and friends.

### LIGHT THE NIGHT

Team WE CARE has been one of the largest presences as a team at the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society's (LLS) Light the Night event going on for over a decade. WE CARE has walked as one of their largest groups, been interviewed by local press, and has contributed with money and time to help LLS raise funds in the support of their mission to cure Leukemia, Lymphoma, Hodgkin's Disease, and Myeloma, as well as improve the quality of life of patients and their families.

### REBUILDING TOGETHER LONG ISLAND

Rebuilding Together Long Island (RTLTI) is a non-profit organization helping needy homeowners maintain, renovate, and repair their homes. RTLTI assists in both interior and exterior work all over Long Island. The volunteer crews construct ramps, weatherize doors and windows, install alarms, floors, and any other repairs that are needed. WE CARE has partnered with RTLTI for many years providing much needed financial assistance, as well as manual labor. Each year, a team of WE CARE volunteers assist in a specific construction project in Nassau County providing much needed time, effort, and sweat to Nassau County residents in need.



## WE CARE Events

### THANKSGIVING LUNCHEON

The WE CARE Fund hosts two events during the Thanksgiving season. On Thanksgiving Eve, 200 Thanksgiving baskets are delivered all over Nassau County to needy and deserving families. The baskets are filled with full Thanksgiving meals, complete with all the trimmings. On Thanksgiving Day, the committee hosts a luncheon for seniors in Nassau County who would otherwise have no one to spend Thanksgiving with. Lunch is served at the Bar Association, and there are several courses served to complete a traditional Thanksgiving lunch. The room is always filled with lively music, dancing, and a DJ!

### TUNNEL TO TOWERS

The Tunnel to Towers Foundation honors the sacrifice of Stephen Siller, a NYC Firefighter who lost his life saving others on September 11, 2001, along with our military and first responders who continue to make the supreme sacrifice of life and limb for our country. Each September, the Tunnel to Towers 5K Walk/Run traces Stephen Siller's steps through the Battery Tunnel to the site of Ground Zero. WE CARE members have participated annually, through the Warriors for a Cause group.

### WALK FOR A WEEK WITH WE CARE

Out of the deadliest pandemic that we have ever known, came the Nassau County Bar Association with creative ideas to keep safety at the forefront but simultaneously raising money for our most in need and underserved. During the pandemic the WE CARE Walk-A-Thon was born. Our members raised money simply by walking and seeking pledges and donations for their efforts to raise awareness for those most in need. We raised over \$33,000 during this time, with ZERO expense. It is an event that must grow, because it's a win-win for all who participate contributing to our good health, simultaneously helping those who are in need of basic necessities as a result of the pandemic. It is with this win-win mentality that this group will continue to grow with innovative ideas to motivate others to join and raise money for those who are being forced to do without.

### HOCKEY WITH A HEART

The WE CARE Fund partnered with the New York Islanders to raise money for WE CARE as well as the Islanders' Foundation. In December 2022, WE CARE was invited to UBS Arena to sell 50/50 raffle tickets to all attendees at a sold-out game to raise money for both charities.

### GOODS & SERVICES AUCTION

In June 2022, WE CARE put on a Goods & Services Auction at the UBS Arena, in connection with the New York Islanders to raise funds to help those most in need throughout Nassau County. Items included designer handbags, custom suits, fine jewelry, baseball and football tickets, advertising opportunities, and more!





## 2022 WE CARE GOLF AND TENNIS CLASSIC







## CHILDREN'S FESTIVAL



## DRESSED TO A TEA



## GINGERBREAD UNIVERSITY





## METS VS. YANKEES



## LIGHT THE NIGHT WALK



## SENIOR THANKSGIVING LUNCHEON







## REBUILDING TOGETHER



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And congratulations to our other Honorees.

— Steve Schlissel —



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Each year, the WE CARE Fund provides 200 boxed Thanksgiving Dinners with all the trimmings to be delivered to local families in need on Thanksgiving.

Please consider donating \$125 to help WE CARE provide these dinners to families in need this year.

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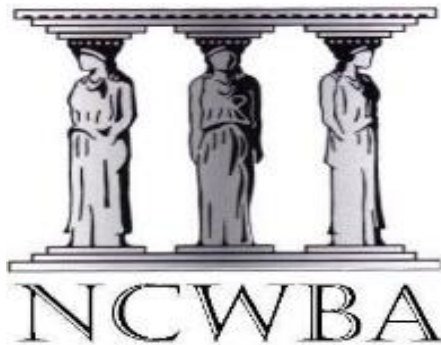
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