

**WOMEN ORGANIZED AROUND WELLNESS RECEIVES
\$20,000 GRANT FROM WESTCHESTER COMMUNITY FOUNDATION**

WOW Partners with Rehoboth Christian Church to Present Workshops on Healthy Living

Open Door Family Medical Centers (<http://opendoormedical.org>) and Women Organized Around Wellness (WOW: <http://wowwellness.org/>), an Ossining-based community health coalition reaching women of color throughout Westchester, has received a \$20,000 grant from the Westchester Community Foundation. The grant money will make it possible for WOW to partner with the Rehoboth Christian Church's Abundant Life Health Ministry to present a series of workshops promoting wellness and the prevention of health issues affecting the African-American and Latino communities.

Over the next year, WOW will collaborate with Rehoboth Christian Church providing workshops on a variety of topics ranging from heart disease and diabetes to hypertension and other chronic medical issues facing people of color.

For over thirty years, the Westchester Community Foundation (<http://wcf-ny.org/>) has worked to improve the quality of life in Westchester by evaluating and addressing community issues, promoting responsible philanthropy, and connecting donors to critical, local needs. The foundation enables people with philanthropic interest to easily and effectively support the causes they care about – immediately or through their estate plans.

The Rehoboth Christian Church is a congregation of African-American and Latino families encouraging Christian evangelism and fellowship within the Rivertowns. Founded in 2004 by Pastor Frieda Smith, the Church has hosted free community screenings for the National Kidney Early Evaluation Program and participated in local health fairs. Rehoboth currently holds services in Ossining, Tarrytown and Dobbs Ferry.

About Women Organized Around Wellness

The health disparities involving the African American female population throughout Westchester County manifest in many ways; greater death rates, higher incidences of chronic illnesses, shorter life expectancies, poorer quality of care, less likelihood of seeking medical care, lack of role model support and less income to pay for care. The goal of WOW is to improve some of these disparities by providing health education and outreach, increased access to treatment and screenings, culturally sensitive and competent health care interventions and an overall increase in the dialogue about health care for women of color.

About Open Door Family Medical Centers

Open Door has received the highest Recognition as a Patient-Centered Medical Home™ (PPC-PCMH™) from the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA). This ranking distinguishes them from medical practices across the nation as less than 12% are presently eligible to achieve this advanced standing. For 39 years, the federally qualified community health center has served a multi-cultural community and has provided top quality medical, dental care and social services to the Westchester community, particularly the economically disadvantaged. Open Door has four centers in Westchester located in Ossining, Port Chester, Mt. Kisco and Sleepy Hollow. In addition, Open Door operates five school-based health centers in Port Chester

at The Edison Elementary School, Park Avenue School, Kennedy Magnet School, Port Chester Middle School and Port Chester High School. In 2009, approximately 40,000 patients were treated at Open Door, making nearly 170,000 patient visits. Over 13,483 children were treated during that same year. Funding for Open Door Family Medical Centers comes from local, state and federal grants as well as private foundations and individuals.

