



American Ethical Union

Inspiring Ethical Communities

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ANNUAL SOCIETY REPORT

Society Report for: Ethical Culture Society of Westchester

Leader(s): Bart Worden

President(s): Lillian Schulz

Administrative Director/Office Contact: 914-948-1120

Please provide brief updates on the following areas of your Society that occurred or developed in 2018:

Ethical Action:

- Climate: Several members attended Global Climate rallies and we held several platforms dedicated to the discussion of climate change.
- Racial Justice: Hosted an “Undoing Racism” workshop and “White Privilege” workshops
- Economic Justice: Poor People’s Campaign
- Development and Peace: Active sponsor of Afghani family as part of the Westchester Refugee Initiative, participated in “Build Bridges Not Walls” letter-writing campaign to local and national politicians, members and Ethical Education students created and “planted” a Peace Pole on Society grounds, participated in Amnesty International Write-a-Thon

Other: Our Ethical Education classes focused on Peace and Justice as a theme. We continue to collaborate with other organizations such as: the Westchester Coalition Against Islamophobia (Hosted meetings on combating Islamophobia), the NAACP local chapter (co-chair of WP-GB Chapter's Criminal Justice Committee. Planned town-hall style meeting with the Westchester County DA in January), Westchester Coalition for Police Reform (began meetings with Westchester County Executive regarding criminal justice reform for police, jail, and probation), Moms Demand Action (co-sponsored public meeting), Aging in Place, Humanitas, Community Voices Heard, Coming Home (hosted dinners for women released after incarceration), Indivisible Westchester and Food and Water Watch (hosted meetings).

Ethical Education (children ages 2-13): There are 14 enrollees in the Ethical Ed program. Our Ethical Education classes focused on Peace and Justice as a theme for the year. Hosted “Let’s Play events and invited refugee families that have relocated to Westchester.

Youth of Ethical Societies (teens ages 14-18): There was not a fall conference in 2018 but one ECSW representative attended in March 2019 and reported the weekend's events back to the Society.

Future of Ethical Societies (young adults ages 18-35): To my knowledge, we do not have any participants in FES.

Communications: We hired a social media coordinator to help us strategize and develop a social media campaign and redesign and relaunch a new website for 2019.

Finances: Investment accounts continue to grow at a conservative rate. Revenue is able to cover expenditures, with approximately one-third coming from contributions and program income and roughly two-thirds generated by rental income.

Membership: Membership stands at 61 members and we continue to struggle with attracting new members. A Member Retreat was held in November, 2018, to discuss short- and long-range goals for the Society, as well as discussions surrounding team-building.

New Developments: The Ethical Society of Westchester now has an Instagram page!

Goals for 2019:

- 1) We are always seeking to increase our membership numbers by thinking of new ways to attract other like-minded ethical humanists. We plan on achieving this with new programming geared toward young families and the expansion of our Café Nights.
- 2) We wish to vastly enhance our methods of communication by expanding our current outreach through social media channels and revamping our existing Website to make it more current, appealing and enticing to younger audiences.
- 3) We wish to continue our Ethical Action outreach by inserting ourselves deeper into our community by our collaboration with various local organizations whose missions and purposes align with the Ethical Culture Society's in the hopes that we will raise awareness of our Society and increase the positive impact we can have on our local community, as well as the world at large.
- 4) Expansion of our Leader's time beginning in March 2019
- 5) Community engagement through the 400 Commemoration Committee