



# Health

## BOL Meeting Minutes - Final

Committee Chair: Jewel Williams-Johnson

800 Michaelian Office Bldg.  
148 Martine Avenue, 8th Floor  
White Plains, NY 10601  
[www.westchesterlegislators.com](http://www.westchesterlegislators.com)

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**Tuesday, January 31, 2023**

**1:00 PM**

**Committee Room**

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### CALL TO ORDER

Please note: Meetings of the Board of Legislators and its committees are held at the Michaelian Office Building, 148 Martine Avenue, White Plains, New York, 10601, and remotely via the WebEx video conferencing system. Legislators may participate in person or via Webex. Members of the public may attend meetings in person at any of its locations, or view it online on the Westchester County Legislature's website: <https://westchestercountyny.legistar.com/> This website also provides links to materials for all matters to be discussed at a given meeting.

*With a quorum present, Chair Williams Johnson called the meeting to order at 1:12PM.*

*Others in Attendance: GUESTS: Allison Lake (remote), Limarie Cabrera, Robert Ponzo (remote), Joseph Orlando, Pat Brigham, Elena Falcone, Christina Ryan-Linder (remote), Janet Henegham (remote), Victoria Cafarelli (remote), Assemblywoman Dana Levenberg (remote) and Margaret Kaufer; BOL: Dayana Gómez-Holguín*

**Present:** Committee Chair Williams Johnson and Legislator Barr

**Absent:** Legislator Gashi and Legislator Smith

**Remote:** Committee Vice-Chair Pierce

### MINUTES APPROVAL

#### I. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

How digital access inequities lends to health disparities

**Guests:**

**Allison Lake, Executive Director, and  
Limarie Cabrera, Director of Data Operations and Finance,**  
Westchester Children's Association

**Judith Watson, RN, BSN, MPH, CEO,  
Marcia Thomas, Cheryl Thompson and Robert Ponzo**  
Mount Vernon Neighborhood Health Center

**Joseph Orlando, Hudson Valley Regional Director**  
Intergovernmental and Community Affairs  
Office of the New York State Comptroller Thomas P. DiNapoli

**Pat Brigham**  
**Elena Falcone, Director of Public Innovation and Engagement**  
Westchester Libraries Systems

**Christina Ryan-Linder, Director**  
**Janet Heneghan**  
Greenburgh Public Library

**Margaret Kaufer, Chief Visionary Officer and President**  
The STEM Alliance

*Chair Williams Johnson invited the guests to introduce themselves and asked Ms. Lake to begin the discussion for the day. Ms. Cabrera shared a presentation about the 2022 Digital Access Survey conducted by the Westchester Children's Association. The presentation included information on demographics with the most difficulties to digital access, the difference between digital access and digital literacy as well as lack of knowledge of government affordability programs, among other relevant details. Afterwards, Ms. Kaufer proceeded with a presentation titled Positioning Our Region for Federal Funding which detailed the importance of digital equity and inclusion planning. She also mentioned the STEM Alliance's wrap-around solutions on how to circumvent any digital discrepancies for the public in Westchester County, in addition to other details connecting funding to access. Ms. Brigham also provided a brief explanation of the digital coalition, and the local organizations involved, that they are working on in hopes of creating a county digital equity plan. The overall discussion included suggestions and potential action steps to help remedy these issues.*

*Chair Williams Johnson proceeded to conclude the meeting after the overall dialogue was completed on this topic.*

**II. OTHER BUSINESS****III. RECEIVE & FILE****ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Committee Vice-Chair Pierce, seconded by Legislator Barr, the Committee adjourned at 2:59pm.