

A MESSAGE FROM **MARSHA**

I am proud to announce our four newest board members. While they are new to the BCW Board of Directors, they have shown leadership in our organization and in our community for quite some time. Robert Amler, Donovan Beckford, Christie Houlihan and Stacey Tompkins will take seats on the Board of Directors effective in January 2021.



Their diversity and depth of experience in Westchester County's business environment will profoundly help the Business Council of Westchester advance an agenda of economic development and advocacy. These accomplished professionals' insights will also guide our efforts to create economic opportunity for all, especially during this challenging time.

Dr. Robert Amler is Vice President for Government Affairs at New York Medical College. He is also Dean of the School of Health Sciences and Practice and Institute of Public Health, and Professor of Public Health, Pediatrics, and Environmental Health Science. He has expanded the school in many directions and co-founded the newly expanded biotech incubator, BioInc., funded in part by New York State, to attract and support researchers and start-ups in early-stage development of new drugs, vaccine strains, medical devices and medical apps. His latest project is the new Touro dental school and clinic on this campus, which received New York State funding in the most recent cycle.

Donnovan Beckford is the CEO and Executive Director of the Westchester Community Opportunity Program (WestCOP), where he is responsible for the strategic vision, direction and day-to-day activities of the agency. He oversees a staff of 600+ employees and manages nine major community based programs operating within Westchester, Rockland and Putnam counties. The agency's programs include Early Childhood Education, Victims Assistance Services, Community Action, Weatherization, Foster Grandparents and assistance for Homeless Veterans. He is the former Executive Director of the Westchester County Office of Workforce Investment and Westchester-Putnam Workforce Investment Board.

Christie L. Houlihan is Senior Director and Counsel at Houlihan-Parnes Realtors, LLC. Her work focuses on development, financing and legal representation for the company's portfolio of over 8.5 million square feet of office, retail, industrial and mixed-use space and over 25,000 multifamily units across the United States. The firm is engaged in acquisition, disposition, mortgage brokerage, leasing, property and construction management and consulting services for all commercial real estate asset classes, both for the company's portfolio and for third parties. Houlihan also worked on Capitol Hill to reauthorize and expand health care coverage for over nine million children under the Children's Health Insurance Program.

Stacey Tompkins, president of Tompkins Excavating in Putnam Valley, New York, started her career in the food service industry as a food service director for Aramark Services, managing the corporate dining facilities of several Wall Street clients. She is now the majority owner of Tompkins Excavating, which specializes in commercial site development. Since taking the helm in 2013, Stacey oversees every aspect of the business and revenues have more than quadrupled. She has been involved with many charitable endeavors including Feeding Westchester, Girls Inc, Support Connection of Westchester, Habitat for Humanity, Community Cares of Mahopac and the Community Center of Northern Westchester.

Please join me in congratulating them and welcoming them to the board.

Marsha Gordon

President & CEO

The Business Council of Westchester

