



West Side Campaign Against Hunger FY2009 Progress Report

WSCAH Meets the Challenge: Responding to the Crisis

In the unprecedented financial crisis of 2009, WSCAH committed to an Open Door. We turned no one away. As a result, as the statistics on the next page show, we helped 27% more households than in the previous year.

The momentum of hunger continues to increase in our city. For our customers, it's still Ground Zero in the worst recession since the 1930s. In a time of high unemployment, people turned to a nimble and entrepreneurial social service organization like ours because public assistance programs can be so slow to respond.

Unlike other nonprofits that cut their services in a time of decreasing revenues—WSCAH expanded its programs and increased the number of people we help. We also made an ambitious commitment to find new funds to support our work with victims of the financial downturn.

Thanks to our many partners, in FY2009 we met the challenge.

Through partnerships, our hard-working and committed social service counselors connected our customers with more long-term help than ever before, such as food stamps and low-cost health insurance. You can see on the next page how our service delivery grew in 2009.

Other partners helped us fund the support we offer to the hungry, including religious institutions, government agencies, foundations, corporations and individuals. We are grateful to all those who reached more deeply into their pockets to assist us in these dark days.

WSCAH invented the customer-cooperative emergency food pantry. In the crisis of FY2009, our customers came through with higher number of volunteer hours than ever before. In a time of huge demand, our volunteers tirelessly staffed the front lines.

WSCAH is proud of its effective and efficient response to hunger in our city. We face the challenges of the coming year with confidence based on how our friends and partners sustained us in FY2009.

West Side Campaign Against Hunger FY2009 Progress Report

WSCAH Meets the Challenge: How We Help

Personal stories

Honor Students Going to Bed Hungry

Diana came to the United States from Mexico to seek a better life for her children. She lives with her husband and two children, age ten and eight, in two rooms in the Bronx. They share a kitchen and bathroom with other families. Diana's husband works in the food service industry and she is an orange vendor. Their children are on the honor roll at school but have gone to bed hungry many times. WSCAH allows Diana to provide solid meals for her family.

A Family in Crisis

Originally from the Dominican Republic, Marisol is a legal U.S. resident with two children born in USA. In July 2008, when she came to WSCAH for the first time, Marisol was unemployed and not receiving any public assistance for herself and her children. The family was forced to live in a friend's apartment because Marisol had no money to pay rent. She had trouble controlling a son with ADHD because she could not afford his medication. Marisol told her counselor that she felt overwhelmed and depressed. Over the past year, WSCAH has helped turn around this family's situation. Our counselor met with Marisol five times, helping her secure Medicaid and food stamps for herself and her family, and advising her on how to have her son evaluated to receive medication for his condition. On her own initiative, Marisol trained as a home health aide. WSCAH's partners provided mental health services for the entire family and professional clothing for Marisol's job interviews. As a result, she now has a job and an apartment. Thanks to WSCAH, her family is back on track.

Elderly Life Partners In Need of Help

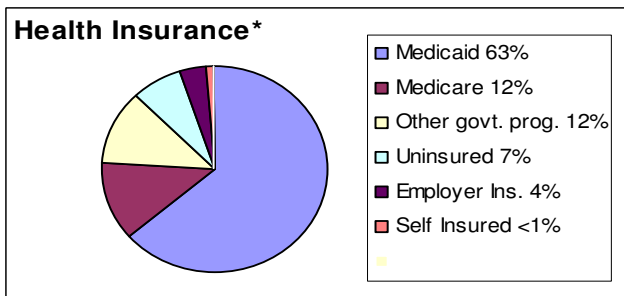
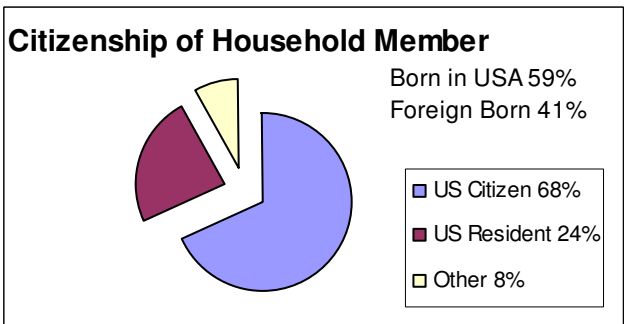
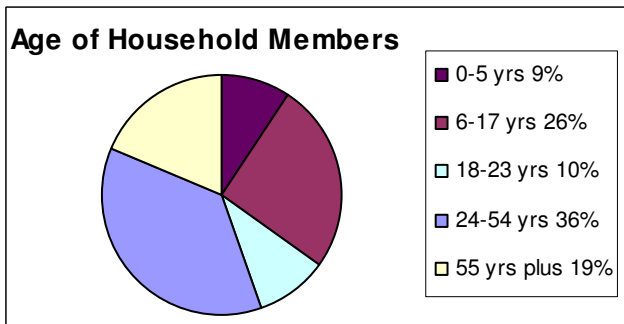
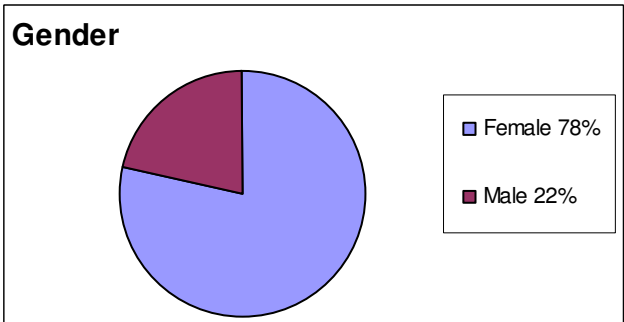
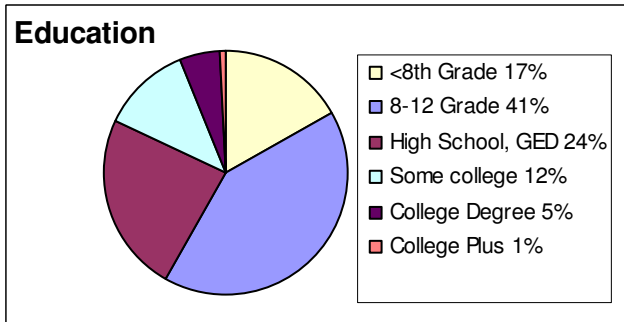
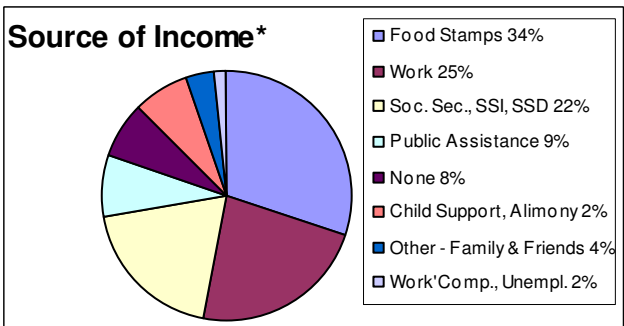
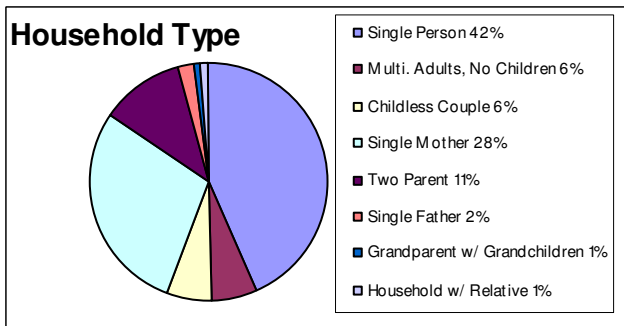
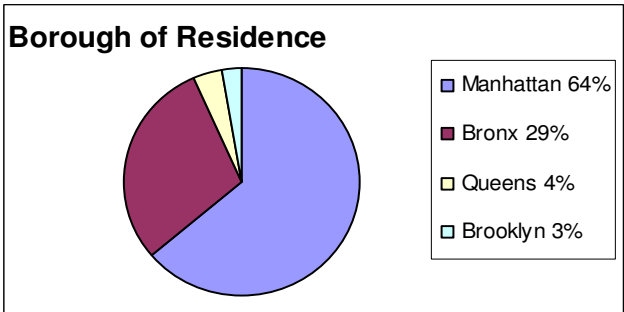
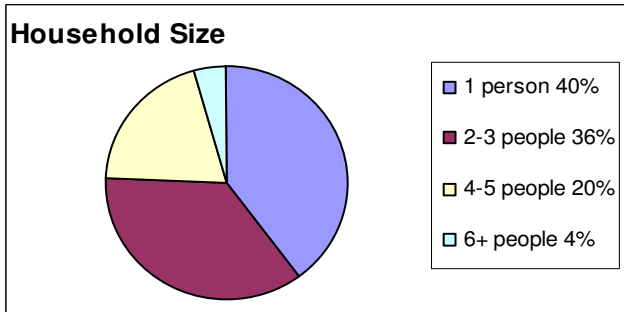
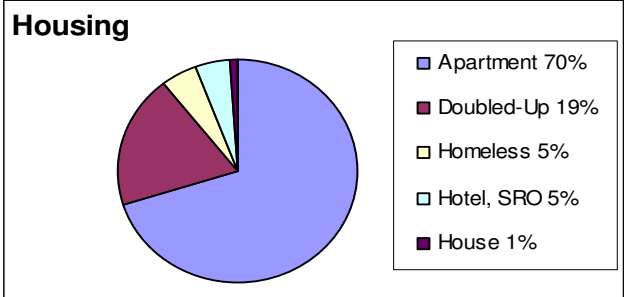
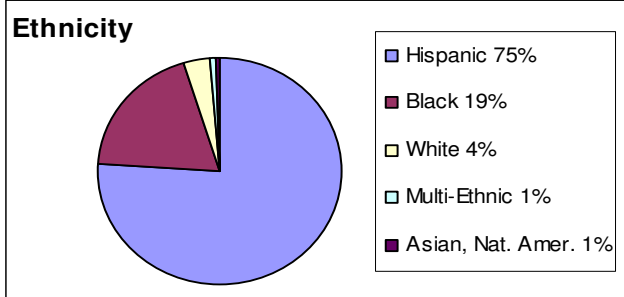
Mary and Alice are native New Yorkers who worked for more than 40 years. Mary was an educator and commercial artist. Alice worked in a laboratory for most of her professional life. Both are college graduates. They thought their retirement benefits would be enough to support themselves. Instead, in their late 70s, rising rent and utility costs drove them to West Side Campaign Against Hunger. WSCAH didn't just provide emergency food; our counselors helped Mary and Alice get food stamps and heating assistance. They still need the safety net of WSCAH to have enough food. Mary says, "We never thought we would end up like this. We don't know how we would survive without WSCAH."

**West Side Campaign
Against Hunger
FY2009 Progress Report**

WSCAH Meets the Challenge: Responding to the Crisis

	FY2009	% Increase over FY2008
GROWING NEED		
Households served	34,228	27%
People served	87,863	18%
New customers	4,334	49%
Parents	17,730	22%
Children	30,092	18%
Seniors	13,597	23%
Single adults	26,444	12%
WSCAH RESPONDS		
<i>More Food Distributed</i>		
Pounds of food supplied	1,110, 197	
Meals provided	790,767	18%
Purchased food cost	386,508	11%
<i>More Counseling Help</i>		
Households counseled	9,047	26%
Food Stamp enrollment	538	715%
Family health insurance enrollment	206	227%
Financial counseling	175	64%
Legal assistance	203	351%
Tax preparation	418	138%
<i>More Programs to Help Customers</i>		
Chef Training Graduates	35	206%
ESL Students	105	42%
Exercise Program Participants	274	5%
MORE COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS		
Volunteer hours	18,548	13%
Donated food cash-value	511,499	33%

West Side Campaign Against Hunger Customer Profile FY 2009



* Some individuals have more than one source of income