

KAREN DIXON

Karen Dixon is the Executive Director of Harlem Dowling-West Side Center for Children and Family Services. Harlem Dowling-West Side Center for Children and Family Services founded in 1836 as the Colored Orphan's Asylum, provides Family Preservation, Family Support Services for children with development disabilities, After School programming, and Emergency Food Pantry services.

Karen Dixon holds a Bachelors of Arts from State University of New York at Stony Brook and a Masters of Social Work from Hunter College School of Social Work. Ms. Dixon also completed Columbia Business School Executive Education, Institute for Not-for-Profit Management in 1999. Ms. Dixon is a Licensed Masters of Social Work participating in various advocacy initiatives throughout the City and State.

Since her appointment as Executive Director in 2012, Ms. Dixon's management and leadership has expanded programming and increased networking throughout the Harlem community. Advocating for children and families for adequate child care services, after school programming, and health and mental health services, are among her daily activities. In 2016, Harlem Dowling-West Side Center and The Children's Village, Inc. completed the Home for Harlem Dowling building project with 60 units of affordable housing including 12 studio units earmarked for children leaving the foster care system.

Ms. Dixon co-chairs the NYC Chapter of the Network for Social Work Management, mentors new Executive Directors and Women of Color for FPWA, and serves on the board of several organizations. She works closely with the National Association of Social Workers-NYC Chapter, Columbia University Teachers College, the Human Services Council, the Council of Family and Child Caring Agencies, and Black Agency Executives. Ms. Dixon is a member of Manhattan Community Board 10, serving on the Health and Human Services and Parks and Recreation committees. She is also Vice Chair of the Land Use committee and is a member of the NYC Health & Hospital Harlem Hospital Community Advisory Board.

Remaining steadfast in her commitment to children, she continues her efforts to ensure that they can be safe in their communities with their families.

