Andrus

We Are Andrus

Spring 2026

OUR MISSION Andrus is dedicated to transforming lives through innovative, coordinated social and emotional support for all.

OUR VISION Our vision for the community we serve is for children and families to discover a place of safety and healing.

A Message from Our CEO & President Dr. Corine E. Lurry-Mabin

As we move through the year, we are reminded that meaningful change happens through consistency, compassion, and community.

Each day at Andrus, our staff and partners work together to create environments where children, families, and staff can feel supported, connected, and empowered to grow. From the leadership highlighted in this issue to the hands-on, everyday moments of care, this work comes to life through people.

We see this in the continued growth of our One Health approach, where healing is supported through connection to environment, nutrition, and community. It is reflected in innovative programs like R.I.D.E., where young people are building confidence and resilience through experience-based learning. And it is strengthened through our investment in staff, from our Leadership Institute to new partnerships like The College of Westchester, creating meaningful pathways for growth and development.

Each of these efforts, along with the many others across our campus and community programs, reflects a shared commitment to doing this work with intention and care.

We are deeply grateful to all who stand alongside us in this work, helping to strengthen the systems of care that make lasting impact possible. Together, we are building something that will continue to support children and families for years to come.

We are pleased to share that Corine E. Lurry-Mabin, our CEO and President, has completed her doctorate and is now Dr. Corine E. Lurry-Mabin.

Please join us in congratulating her on this achievement.

A Season of Momentum at Andrus

We are proud to launch the new Andrus Sanctuary Institute website offering a fresh, dynamic look at our work, our impact, and the communities we serve. We invite you to explore the new site at **www.thesanctuaryinstitute.org** and follow along as we share highlights from the conference across our social channels.

From Care to Cultivation: A Different Way of Reaching Kids

At Andrus, every role—no matter the title—is centered on one goal: creating growth and opportunity for the children we serve. For Assistant Director of Facilities, Karina Pacheco, that mission has shaped an unexpected and deeply impactful path.

Karina joined Andrus in 2017, bringing nearly a decade of experience from the Bronx, where she worked in both Preventive Services and Foster Care. There, her work was hands-on and deeply personal, supporting children through services, medical appointments, and therapy, often sitting beside them so they felt safe enough to open up.

"You build real relationships in that kind of work. It's meaningful, but it's also intense."

Looking for a way to continue supporting children while sustaining herself in the work long-term, Karina transitioned into a facilities role at Andrus, expecting to contribute from behind the scenes.

L-R: Lynette Garcia-Johnson, Richard Thompson, Karina Pacheco, Dr. Corine Lurry-Mabin

But at Andrus, roles rarely stay confined to job descriptions. In 2020, Karina stepped into the office manager position. At the same time, the Hope Space Farm, located on Andrus' campus and used for therapeutic and recreational programming, fell under facilities oversight. When staffing shifted during the pandemic, Karina was asked to step in and lead.

What began as maintaining a space quickly became something much more. Karina led a transformation of the Hope Space Farm, turning it into a welcoming animal village. Each shed was thoughtfully designed for the animals' comfort, creating a sense of home, while new fencing and details brought a cohesive, country feel to the shared environment.

Karina's role even expanded to include caring for animals, supporting therapeutic sessions, maintaining safety, and shaping an environment where children could engage, learn, and grow.

With no formal background in farming, she learned by doing, fully immersing herself in every aspect of the work. In 2021, she bottle-fed two Alpine goats, Leo and Bolt—"my babies," she says. Years later, in 2023, she helped welcome Oreo to the sheep, continuing to build the farm with care and intention.

But the work was never just about tending to the animals. It was about the children.

What started as a facilities responsibility became a powerful, hands-on extension of Andrus' therapeutic approach, where everyday experiences become opportunities for connection, responsibility, and growth.

"I originally thought I'd be stepping back from working directly with kids," Karina says. "But everything I do now is still all about them."

At the farm, children engage in ways that meet them where they are. Some begin by preparing food for the animals. Others build confidence working alongside staff or caring for animals directly. Through the farm work program, youth apply, show up, and take on real responsibility learning skills that translate beyond campus.

That same approach carries into nutrition and wellness across campus. Karina has played a key role in helping shift our food practices toward healthier, whole options, focusing on less processed foods by choosing whole food ingredients, fresh vegetables, fruits, and foods with fewer than three ingredients. She works with children to understand not just what they eat, but why it matters and how it impacts their health and mood.

"You meet them where they are. You show them the way. You give them the chance to try."

"It's gradual. We talk it out. We meet in the middle and slowly expand their palette."

These small, consistent moments build something bigger: confidence, healthier habits, and a stronger sense of self.

At Andrus, this work reflects a broader philosophy known as One Health—the understanding that human

From Care to Cultivation cont'd

wellbeing is deeply connected to the environment and the care of other living things.

"We help them make that connection," Karina explains. "What they're eating, what they're feeding the animals, how they care for something or someone else—it all ties together."

From soil, to seed, to growth—of plants, animals, and children—the farm brings that connection to life every day.

A Vision for What Every Child Leaves With

Karina's vision for the future is clear: every child who walks onto campus leaves knowing they are capable.

"I believe our kids should help sustain this campus—working on the farm, in the kitchen, in the greenhouse. That's how they learn. That's how they connect."

Through hands-on experiences, children build skills, responsibility, and confidence—learning not just how to complete a task, but how to believe in their ability to do it.

"You meet them where they are. You show them the way. You give them the chance to try."

Because at Andrus, growth is not about perfection. It's about possibility.

"The kids are incredibly capable. They just need the opportunity to see it in themselves."

At Andrus, every role, every space, and every moment is designed with one purpose: helping children grow. For Karina Pacheco, it all comes from a natural calling and her lead from the heart.

Healthy Families: New Partnership

The Healthy Families team is pleased to introduce a new partnership with Bedtime in a Box, an initiative designed to support children's health and early learning through consistent bedtime routines. Each box includes age-appropriate materials—from books and pajamas to hygiene items and learning tools—tailored across key developmental stages.

Bedtime in a Box supports children's health and early learning through consistent bedtime routines.

This partnership helps families build healthy habits, strengthen routines, and support school readiness, further advancing our commitment to early childhood development.

Events at Andrus

April 28	Third session of Screenagers Virtual Screening and Panel
May 7	Orchard School Spring Concert
May 20	Staff Party
May 27	Mental Health Awareness Breakfast At the President's House
June 4	Field Day
June 18	Graduation
October 1	One Health Gala

Keeping Up with the Family

At Andrus, our work is deeply rooted in legacy, family, and shared commitment to community. For Michael Spensley, a fourth-generation member of the Andrus family, that connection is both personal and enduring. He has served as a Board member for 8 years.

Michael's involvement with Andrus is shaped by the influence of his mother, Margaret Bourne Spensley (née Williams), whose deep love for the organization left a lasting impression on him. Growing up, Andrus was not just a place, but a part of family life, a space filled with memories, relationships, and a strong sense of purpose. His mother encouraged all her children to stay connected to the broader Andrus family and its philanthropic mission, a value that continues to guide Michael today.

As Andrus approaches its Centennial in 2028, Michael sees this moment as both a responsibility and an opportunity. He speaks thoughtfully about legacy, not simply as something to honor, but as something to actively carry forward. For him, fulfilling the mission envisioned by his great-great-grandparents, John Emory Andrus and Julia Dyckman Andrus, means being intentional about where Andrus is headed next.

Michael brings a clear and grounded strategic lens to this work. This perspective is especially important as Andrus continues to expand its impact in children's mental health, including its trauma-responsive approach and innovative programs like the Andrus Farm Hope Space, which reflect a broader vision of healing and community.

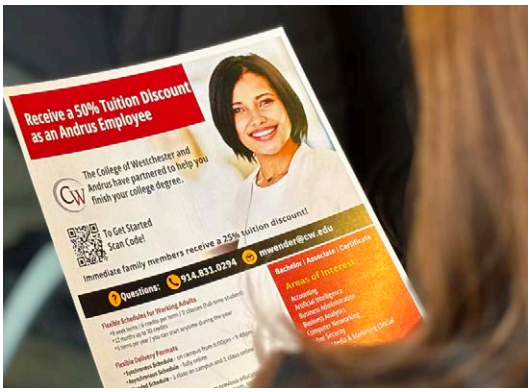
What stands out most about Michael is his deep sense of care for the organization, for its history, and for the children and families it serves.

What stands out most about Michael is his deep sense of care, for the organization, for its history, and for the children and families it serves. His leadership is grounded in both heart and clarity, reminding us that the strength of Andrus lies not only in its legacy, but in the people who continue to carry it forward.

Supporting Our Staff

We're excited to introduce a new initiative that makes it easier for our staff to further their education through our partnership with The College of Westchester.

We welcomed Mary Romary Wender, Matt Curtis, and Ann Rodier to campus to share opportunities for earning degrees in Human Services and Public Health, including flexible hybrid learning options supported by Andrus.



Staff explored career pathways, transfer credit options, the ability to earn credit for their current work experience, and the admissions and financial aid process.

At Andrus, investing in our staff strengthens the care we provide to children and families every day. Thank you to Lynette Garcia-Johnson and the Human Resources team, along with our executive leadership, for making this initiative possible.

Awards and Achievements

President Lurry-Mabin was named a 2026 Hall of Fame Honoree in the Minority Business Success category by the Business Council of Westchester.

In Case You Missed It

Andrus was recently featured on MSN, highlighting the impactful work of our school-based mental health clinicians. Across 27 school-based clinics in Westchester County, Andrus continues to deliver trauma-responsive care to more than 800 children and families—bringing critical support directly into the communities we serve.

Admissions in the Field

Andrus was proud to represent at the Innovative Schools Summit New York, sharing our trauma-responsive system of care. By integrating education, clinical, and community-based services, Andrus provides coordinated, continuous support for children and families across settings—ensuring care adapts as needs evolve.

Our Admissions team: Kattia Grant-Reinoso and Mosaka Harris, Director of Campus Admissions

News from the Campus

Another successful holiday season was made possible through the generous support of Muse Gallery, Yonkers Motorcycle Club, Bronxville High School, Riverview Condominiums, the Hastings Volunteer Fire Department, Union Free School District staff, and the Edgemont PTSA. In the spirit of generosity, our students gave back in meaningful ways, reflecting the care they received.

Building on that momentum, students at Andrus Orchard School marked the 100th Day of School with a continued focus on giving back. While the milestone reflects academic progress, it also highlights the growth we value most—leadership, compassion, and community responsibility.

Students across campus led initiatives including a staff appreciation bake shop, delivering Valentine grams to seniors at Andrus on Hudson, collecting over 100 toys for Second Chance Toys, gathering donations for Paws Crossed, and creating kindness cards for peers, families, and the broader community.

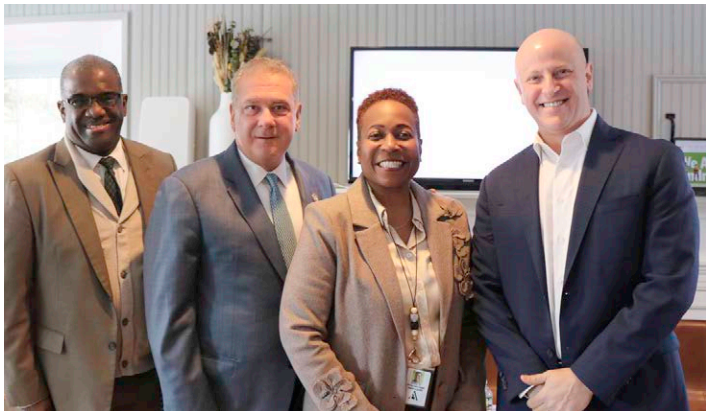
These efforts reflect the impact of empowering students to lead with purpose. We are grateful to our staff for supporting this work and to Ms. Cheney for continuing to champion student leadership year after year.

In addition, our Bulldogs wrapped up another strong basketball season, supported by the energy and spirit of our new Lady Bulldogs cheer squad.

President's Breakfast: A Roadmap for the Next Decade

In January, Andrus hosted our inaugural President's Breakfast, an intimate gathering of partners and community leaders committed to building trauma-responsive communities.

Centered on Building Trauma-Responsive Communities: A Roadmap for the Next Decade, the breakfast convened local leaders and changemakers, including Congressman George Latimer (via Zoom), Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano, Westchester County Executive Ken Jenkins, and County Legislator David Imamura. Together, we explored how cross-system collaboration can create safer, more connected environments for children and families. The gathering reinforced Andrus's role as a convener, bringing together friends of Andrus, community partners, elected officials, Board members, and staff to share our work, highlight new initiatives, and deepen understanding of how we serve children and families.



L-R: Ken Jenkins, Mike Spano, Dr. Corine E. Lurry-Mabin, Dan Fossner

One Health reflects our commitment to healing the whole child and strengthening the entire family system.

During the breakfast, we highlighted Andrus's One Health approach—an integrated model that recognizes a child's well-being as deeply connected to their environment, nutrition, relationships, and access to supportive experiences. By looking beyond education and clinical care alone, One Health reflects our commitment to healing the whole child and strengthening the entire family system.

The small, thoughtful setting allowed for meaningful dialogue, shared vision, and a collective sense of momentum for the decade ahead.

We look forward to continuing this conversation at our next event in May, focused on mental health in recognition of Mental Health Awareness Month.

Screenagers Series: Continuing the Conversation

Our Senior Clinicians, Ashna Vohra and Sandra Vilar-Ferreira, have been leading meaningful virtual dialogues for staff, families, and the community on the impact of social media and youth mental health through our Screenagers series. With two sessions remaining, these facilitated discussions have fostered thoughtful, practical, and highly engaging conversations. Join us as we continue building a supportive, informed community. The next virtual screening is April 28.

New from the community programs

Andrus Care Management continues to strengthen community partnerships to support children and families. Collaboration with Second Chance Foods, a nonprofit dedicated to reducing food waste and increasing access to nutritious meals, enhances critical resources for those we serve. Assistant Director Nicole Gianatiempo continues to spearhead this partnership, ensuring families in our care community benefit from consistent, reliable support.

Inaugural Leadership Institute Cohort Graduation

Pictured: Our Leadership Institute Cohort Graduates.

We celebrated the completion of our first Leadership Institute cohort, where 18 leaders completed an 18-session program focused on both hard and soft leadership skills.

More than a training, the experience strengthened collaboration and built a lasting network of peer support across the organization.

We thank Richmond Community Services for their partnership and the participation of two outstanding team members.

Leadership in Action

Our Chief Financial Officer, Richard Thompson, and Associate Vice President of Advancement, Mary Grace Pagaduan, joined President and CEO Corine E. Lurry-Mabin for a Fiscal Year 2027 advocacy visit down to Washington D.C. with staff members of Congress.

The Andrus team met with Ryan Kambich and Anita Sarp, Senior Legislative Assistants and Appropriations Leads in Senator Kirsten Gillibrand's office; Alex Hiss, Senior Legislative Assistant in Senator Chuck Schumer's office; and Samantha Kirschner, Legislative Assistant in Representative George Latimer's office. These conversations focused on advancing support for programs that strengthen care for children and families across our communities.

Andrus President & CEO Corine E. Lurry-Mabin participated in the Westchester County Association Healthcare Consortium, where regional leaders discussed strategies to strengthen healthcare across Westchester. Corine shared Andrus's work supporting children and families, alongside discussions on workforce trends, policy updates, and the regional healthcare talent pipeline.

Vice President and Chief Administrative Officer Lynette Garcia-Johnson represented Andrus on a panel hosted by the Business Council of Westchester Not-For-Profit Council, where leaders discussed approaches to employee benefits and workplace culture.

L-R: Mary Grace Pagaduan, Richard Thompson, Dr. Corine E. Lurry-Mabin

Sanctuary Institute: What's New

The Implementation Collective

We're excited to introduce The Implementation Collective, a new Sanctuary Institute initiative designed to make trauma-responsive organizational change more accessible for smaller organizations.

Through a cohort model, participating organizations will move through implementation and certification together—building community, sharing resources, and strengthening capacity along the way.

Network Days Conference

We are also coming off a highly successful Sanctuary Institute Network Days Conference (April 15–17), where more than 170 attendees came together for connection, learning, and growth. In a powerful reflection of the Network's strength, 20 of the 21 workshops were led by participants themselves.

The strategies, insights, and shared experiences from those three days will continue to ripple outward strengthening the Sanctuary Model and the communities it touches.

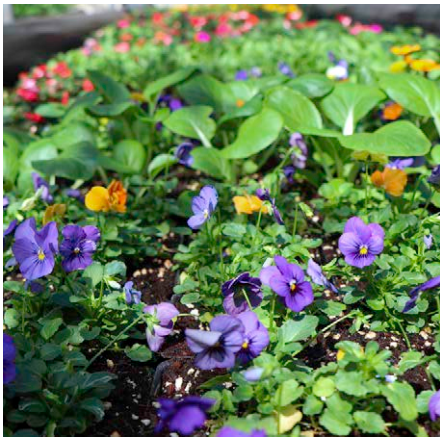
In the Spotlight: R.I.D.E. Program Featured

We are proud to share that Andrus's R.I.D.E. (Realizing Improvement through Dirtbike Education) program has been featured by the Motorcycle Safety Foundation, highlighting the innovative ways we support youth development through therapeutic recreation.

The article showcases how our staff—now trained as certified instructors—integrate riding, maintenance, and structured learning into a program that builds confidence, emotional regulation, teamwork, and resilience in the young people we serve.

As part of our broader One Health approach, the R.I.D.E. program reflects our commitment to meeting children where they are, using hands-on, engaging experiences to support healing and growth.

We are deeply grateful for this recognition and for the dedicated staff who make this work possible every day.

Spring into Color

Spring is in full bloom in Dr. Debra Argentina's greenhouse, where students are seeing their plantings come to life just in time for Mother's Day.