

**GEORGE LATIMER, Westchester County Executive**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Contact: Catherine Cioffi  
Communications Director**

**Office - (914) 995-2932**

**Cell- (914) 954 -5579**

**[CCioffi@westchestergov.com](mailto:CCioffi@westchestergov.com)**

**Caren Halbfinger**

**Office – (914) 813-5013**

**Cell – (914) 224-7651**

## **Statement on Tuberculosis**

The Westchester County Health Department has learned that a Monroe College student at the New Rochelle campus was diagnosed with active Tuberculosis (TB). The student, who is not from Westchester, is being treated, is not on campus, and is expected to make a full recovery.

The Westchester County Health Department, working closely with Monroe College, has identified and notified those students and faculty who were exposed, to recommend and offer free evaluation and testing.

Tuberculosis is an infection that usually causes cough and fever. It spreads through the air when a person with active TB coughs or sneezes. A long period of close contact with an infected person is usually required for tuberculosis to be transmitted.

In 2018, Westchester County had the second highest case rate of residents with TB outside of New York City, according to the New York State Department of Health. Last year, cases of active TB were identified in Westchester residents who ranged in age from 8 to 81 years old. TB also touched the lives of hundreds of Westchester residents who were exposed to someone with infectious TB at work, school or home, in a social setting or a healthcare facility. The Westchester County Department of Health informed them about their exposure, offered them screening to determine whether they had the disease, and provided follow-up treatment to those who needed it.

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**About Westchester County**

Westchester County, located in the heart of the historic Hudson Valley, covers 500 square miles and has a population of just under a million. Originally home to Native Americans, who were members of the Lenape tribe, it is today a rich mix of many cultures and landscapes. The County is a blend of bustling cities, quaint villages and picturesque towns as well as open spaces and a network of beautiful parks. Westchester is made up of 6 cities, 19 towns and 20 villages. Westchester County is known for top-notch public schools, and a high quality of life. The County is also an intellectual capital, boasting a highly educated workforce, competitive colleges and universities, Fortune 500 companies, world changing non-profits, and cutting-edge research centers. Westchester is led by County Executive George Latimer, who took office in January 2018 as the ninth County Executive. Using inclusion and openness as a foreground, Latimer is fighting to make Westchester a destination for all people to live, work and enjoy. Learn more about Westchester County by visiting [www.westchestergov.com](http://www.westchestergov.com)

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