

## Court Watch 2019-2020 (Ann Pinna)

This has been a tough new year for us. Besides the coronavirus which prohibited monitors from attending court sessions, we lost a very dedicated and steadfast monitor and supporter: Sandy Sherman. We continue to grieve over our loss. Some of our accomplishments from last year are:

1. Monitored several cases each month in Family Court in order to observe equity and fairness for all participants.
2. Held several team meetings and Group Share Sessions to discuss common courtroom concerns and to offer each other ideas and suggestions to enhance our monitoring experiences.
3. Updated Observation Forms to make them more efficient and user-friendly.
4. Liaisoned with AAUW Westchester Branch to assist them in establishing their own Court Watch Program. We also were contacted by a representative from Harvard University to assist them with a domestic violence project they were undertaking, but, unfortunately, was not viable for our purposes.
5. Appointed Merrilee Osterhoudt, replacing Joanne Dyson, to perform data entry.
6. Provided training for two monitors: JoAnne Abraskin and Debbie Lee.

We hope to continue our monitoring of domestic violence cases in Family Court, once it is safe to do so.

April 8, 2020