

## Great Partnerships Enhance Credibility- WEACT Awards Dr. Perera



WEACT's Annual Gala 2019 on October 16<sup>th</sup>, ***Building Power- In the Streets, In the Community, In the Capitol*** celebrated five honorees, including the Center's own Founding Director, and current Director of Translational Research, Dr. Frederica (Ricky) Perera.

Peggy Shepard, WEACT Executive Director described the fruitful relationship between Dr. Perera's and the Center's research-to promote health and environmental justice for children. ***"Our partnership helped each other's credibility,"*** stated Ms. Shepard.

For over twenty years, the collaboration ensured that the Center's research was turned into action. Ms. Shepard said, ***"we needed the facts on environmental exposures and the scientific partnership with Ricky and the Center provided us with this ammunition"***.

Dr. Perera is internationally recognized for pioneering the field of molecular epidemiology, utilizing biomarkers to understand links between environmental exposure and disease with the goal of prevention. The Center's research has revealed that prenatal exposures such as air pollutants, chemicals in plastics, pesticides and flame-retardants are linked to neurodevelopmental problems.

Dr. Perera, graciously accepted her WEACT award on behalf of her colleagues at the Center. We at the Center are proud to have Dr. Perera honored for her commitment to children's health as we celebrate Children's Health Month and continue this important work.