



The ***Children & Youth Fund Field of Interest Fund*** is part of the Community Foundation of Tompkins County. The Fund's mission is to promote healthy development of children and youth in ways that complement existing services.

A special feature of Community Foundations, Field of Interest Funds aggregate multiple gifts from many donors over a period of time or are created by individual donors with a strong desire to see grants to address a particular concern. These funds prioritize a specific constituency, issue or geographic area to provide focused yet flexible and responsive grants addressing defined challenges and opportunities.

Field of Interest Funds connect donors with similar concerns and build on the power of synergy and magnification to be able to do more than any one individual might be able to do. Often guided by a committed group of volunteer individuals in an advisory capacity, Field of Interest Funds seek out the latest knowledge and needs in their particular area and use the power of convening to catalyze action to improve our community.

Your candid views and responses to the following questions will assist the Community Foundation in developing priorities and guidelines for future grants. Thank you for participating today and thank you for your commitment to youth.

Group 1 Notes in Purple Elementary

Group 2 Notes in Green

Group 3 Notes in Red Middle and High School

1. What physical, social and emotional health issues and trends are you seeing now?

Obesity
Nutritional health
Asperger's
ADHA
Bipolar disorder
PTSD
RAD
Increased asthma
Increase allergies, peanuts
Eating disorders
Hygiene, w/o hands on parent care
Lack of sleep
Dental
Too much technology
Lack of creative play
Lack of social skills
Diabetes
Feel unwanted
Lack of structure

Youth on psychotropic medications
Parent drug abuse
Parental exp. During pregnancy
Depression
Anger
Impulse control
ODD
Anxiety phobias: germs, dental
OCD
Lack of dental for kids with Medicaid (dental health referral services)
Lack of quality parenting (huge increase)
Parents are high need
Kleptomaniacs
Food hoarding
Bullying
Over prescription of drugs to control children's behaviors

Increasing stress, loss of work, income, diminishing services
Decreased safety nets
Families changing, breaking up, more grandparents as primary guardians
Increasing behavior issues
Lack of discipline at home, manners, structure
Families in crisis leads to inability to manage social/emotional/physical needs of children
Routines and ability to access services, appointments, and health care is poor
Stress from needing 2, 3 or 4 jobs, reduces the time with children
What happens in the summer? Lack of supervision, consumed by TV and electronics
Not just an economics issue
Parents not accepting responsibility and not prioritizing their children, happens all across the economic class spectrum
Lack of a family health plan (as there was for the H1N1 pandemic)
Nurses caught in the middle
Lack of employer support for the parent
Behavior Concerns:
 ADHD
 Reactive Attachment Disorder, no bonding
 Oppositional Defiant Disorder
 Physical acting out, violence
 Increased autism diagnoses
 Bad language
Obesity
Poor nutrition, not always accessing food stamps even when eligible
Dental
Not enough food
Asthma
Pulled out of classroom for so many treatments, missing much classroom instruction time
Behavior medications out of school
Diabetes
Residency is not stable, moving in and out of district

Unsupervised children
Grandparents parenting teens
Foster care kids coming and going
 More transient youth, moving within TST BOCES area region

Multiple schools per year causing Difficulties socializing, fitting in
Mental Health Issues
Stress, self imposed, lack of supervision
Cutting, increase in last few years, peer induced, [County Youth Services will send info about Self-Injurious Behavior developed by Janis Whitlock at Cornell]
Sexual activity, more active, 2-4 pregnancies per year
Eating disorders
Financial stress on kids
No cash
No food
No medical insurance
No medications
Family finances causing stress
Eye care suffers
Dental care suffers
Transportation costs preventing doctors visits
Poor diet
Obesity
Need access to healthy food
Cell phones
Distracting
Used for bullying, sexting- Parents need more information about controls on phones
Cayuga Heights police officer, good resources on bullying, kids, parents, staff
Bullying
Cass Program at Lansing uses older students to teach younger students
Nurse as point of contact to identify bullying- they see bullied students complaining of physical ailments to avoid conflicts and to have someone to confide in
At middle school and high school, lots of kids self medicate for asthma and diabetes so this is less of an issue than for younger children
More evidence of students on the Autism spectrum, mainstreaming is good but has challenges
Substance Abuse
Prevalent- lots of alcohol and marijuana plus now seeing
Abuse of medications including over the counter medications
Kids know the street value and where to obtain, points of sale

2. What current services and supports for youth are helpful?

Big brother/big sister
Afterschool
Health department free immunizations
Racker Centers
DSS Tompkins County case management
Early interventions
Ithaca Youth Bureau
WIC
Cornell student diabetic monitor
TC Mental Health
Family & Children's (waiting list)
GIAC

Hospital adolescent psych
American mobile dental
Moms program
Lion's Club
CCE
Catholic Charities
Local food pantries
Food Bank of the Southern Tier
Cornell Elves, School of Agriculture and Life Sciences
IPEI
Day treatment
INHS
Salvation Army
TC Action
211
OJ guide
Advocacy Center
Police

Foodbank back pack program, sending food home, not in preK, not in all schools and all districts
Family Workers, HeadStart, in danger with budget cuts, home visits, goals, needs, strengths, and referrals to community resources
Evenstart
Family liaison
Facilitated enrollers at ICSD for access to health care, insurance, food stamps
Free and reduced breakfast and lunch
Transportation matters
Extracurricular and sports, for all, not just for those who can manage their own transportation

Ithaca Youth Bureau, Youth Employment Program & Learning Web
Lions Club
Cooperative Extension- Rural Youth Services Programs have staff in rural schools
Primitive Pursuits- an example of an effective outdoor education program
Salvation Army
Churches' discretionary funds, glasses, shoes, etc.
Libraries, healthy activities
Private benefactors, pay for prom dress, etc
Cornell's Upward Bound program
Anger management Program- run by Bridges for Youth
TC Mental Health visit to schools, need more mental health services, school counselors
Advocacy Center
 LGBT issues
 Domestic abuse
 Date rape
BOCES
 Lighthouse
 Possibilities

3. What specific funding might help? What specific actions might help?

Extra child psychiatry additional access
More social workers in school
More access to clinical services
Didactic parenting classes, hands on demonstrations, varied locations
Pediatric dental clinic
Parent mentors, under used grandparent population
Nutrition clinic
Breast feeding
Availability of fruits and vegetables
BJM fruits and vegetable program
Improvement of school lunches
Teaching kids to be outside
Playground group activities
Education, kids, community parents
Comprehensive policy thought TST BOCES
Increase education in relationship and boundary setting
Child rearing schools, sim.
Ref. of medicines

Available transportation (work activities, health care, pick up a sick child)

More RED transport program with volunteers

School based clinics

Immunizing children at school

Dental

Well checks

Most waking hours at school, so what about cuts

School nurses consistent, structure, some children seek out daily contact check in to manage their anxiety

Basics: clothing, shoes, snowpants

Nurse's discretionary fund for emergencies and essentials

Cornell Elves

Social workers and psychologists on site at schools

Information re: NYS insurance for children

Ithaca Free Clinic for children?

More affordable dental care

Cover costs of medications & other unbudgeted needs

Transportation, access, rural transport

Need for parental responsibility and more presentations by police on bullying, cell phone use & limitations and substance abuse

SUMMARY

Psychiatry (access to mental health care)

Dental

Nutrition and physical activity

Parenting

Relationships

SUMMARY

Increasing stress, loss of work, income, diminishing services

Decreased safety nets

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Increasing behavior issues

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Poor nutrition, not always accessing food stamps even when eligible

Dental

Foodbank back pack program, sending food home, not in preK, not in all schools and all districts

Family Workers, HeadStart, in danger with budget cuts, home visits, goals, needs, strengths, and referrals to community resources

Extracurricular and sports, for all, not just for those who can manage their own transportation

Available transportation (work activities, health care, pick up a sick child)

School based clinics

Nurse's discretionary fund for emergencies and essentials

SUMMARY

(Group 3 agreed with most of the summaries from the other two groups) +

Mental health needs are huge- more in school services needed

Need for counseling and therapy, less medication based solutions

Need for information resources about programs and services available- like OJ Guides

Need to help students manage Stress

Need to help students and families manage Financial challenges

Bullying affects students physical and social emotional health and needs more work

Need to reduce Substance abuse

Community resources

Thank you so much for supporting the Children & Youth Fund of the Community Foundation of Tompkins County in this meaningful way!