

Select 2016 Women's Fund Grantee Impact Reports



Catholic Charities of Tompkins/Tioga, A Place to Stay - \$3,500

This grant supports a new strength-based program that combines short-term residential stays for women with increased access to local resources and services. Participants secure employment, transportation and stable housing. Women residents receive encouragement and self-sufficiency in a safe space. Learn Lisa's story in this [video](#).



The Advocacy Center, Critical Needs Fund - \$1,850

Your support helped 78 women attain home safety, primarily through transportation assistance for shelter access, emergency moving costs, food security, lock changes and medical assistance. "Transportation assistance



continues to be our most common need." Tompkins County does not have enough affordable housing, public transportation is limited and domestic violence victims continue to need access to shelters.



*Catholic Charities of Tompkins/Tioga, Immigration Services
Program Path to Citizenship - \$3,000*

This grant helps women obtain green cards and become US citizens.

“Funding has drawn women out of the shadows to apply for their first green card. The result is local women going to school, receiving in-state tuition or legally obtaining work for the first time since entering the United States. Refugee women (like Thet) obtain their first passport ever; a document that allows them to return to their former home country after being exiled for many years.”

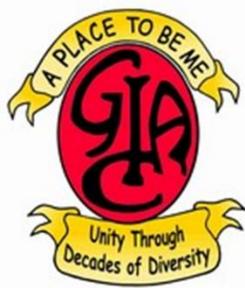


(Pictured) Thet at her naturalization ceremony.



*Greater Ithaca Activities Center, Teen Girls Empowerment Group
(Renamed by participants to Motivated Sisters of Strength (MSS))
- \$3,300*

The Women's Fund Grant supports a new initiative designed to help empower a group of teen girls and young women, ages 16-25 considered at-risk. Your support builds their self-esteem and marketable work skills through mentorship, social skills training, personal hygiene training, job skill training and coaching. Funds are used for one-on-one counseling, group socialization through planned interactions and self-introspection exercises. The young women embrace the powerful transformative aspects of the program offered in a safe, supportive environment to grow and



improve their lives. **One participant is enrolled in college, two returned to high school – and graduated! Two are back in high school to finish their education. One participant found meaningful work at GIAC, “Being a summer camp counselor for a four year old group was the highlight of my summer!”**

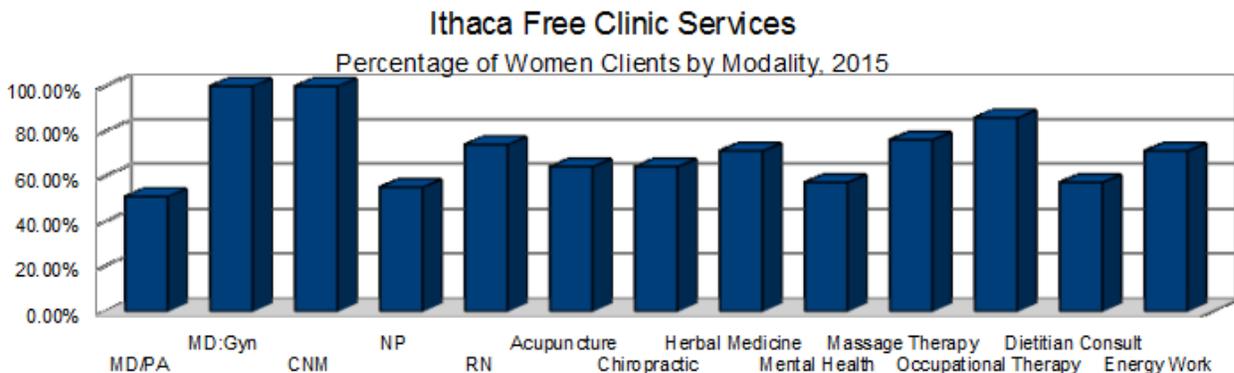


Ithaca Health Alliance, Services for Women - \$3,500

Ithaca Health Alliance (IHA) support from the Community Foundation provides funding to sustain and continue healthcare and health-related financial aid to under-resourced women in Tompkins County. IHA provides free diagnostic lab services, primary care, therapeutic healthcare, and financial aid to more than 1,000 low-income, uninsured or underinsured patients, 57% of whom are under-resourced women. This grant helps women receive annual gynecological exams; employment physicals, tuberculosis testing; and chronic care medical case management, often known as well-visits, the basics of healthcare.



Child Development Council, Access to Employment - \$1,520



This grant supported 31 women to gain employment who primarily have transportation costs as barriers. Many women continue to be challenged by the lack of affordable and accessible childcare in Tompkins County. The Child Development Council works with women seeking employment to find dependable childcare and help them apply for subsidies through the Department of Social Services.



Cancer Resource Center of the Finger Lakes, Wigs for Cancer-Related Hair Loss - \$1,800

“Although we've had a Boutique with wigs for more than five years, most of the wigs had been donated; wigs that were most appropriate for older white women. This grant allowed us to specifically purchase wigs that had a more youthful style and/or

were more appropriate for women of color. This made everyone feel more comfortable and more welcomed.”



Women's Opportunity Center, On the Job Training - \$2,250

The grant provides On the Job Training (OJT) for women participants. They receive financial support as they complete an intensive training to learn skills in retail or in the office environment at the Mary Durham Boutique (Non-profit clothing store). Check it out at 110 W. Court Street, Ithaca.

Three out of five participants were hired for full time work and one was hired part time

within the first three months of program



completion. Outcome: **100% retention rate for the first 180 days (and counting) of their employment.**