

Investing in Your Community: What Makes Us Unique

*Community Foundation
of Tompkins County*

September 15, 2014



Substitute a child who's important to you.
What do you most wish for her/him?



KDT! THRIVES BECAUSE OF OUR ANNUAL SPONSORS

- BorgWarner Morse TEC
- Cornell University
- Legacy Foundation
- Park Foundation
- Tompkins Trust Company
- Triad Foundation
- and many other individuals & businesses...





DISCOVERY TRAIL SITES

- PreK - Johnson Museum
- K - Tompkins County Public Library
- 1 - Museum of the Earth
- 2 - Sciencenter
- 3 - Cornell Plantations
- 4 - The History Center's Eight Square Schoolhouse
- 5 - Cornell Lab of Ornithology
- 5/6 - Cayuga Nature Center

DISCOVERY TRAIL FIELD TRIPS INCLUDE...

- Introduction and orientation
- Curriculum-based educational program with staff educator
- Time for exploration (depends on site)
- Lunch

IT'S MORE THAN JUST A FIELD TRIP!

- Pairing of classes from schools that combine in middle school
- Buddy-up of students from different schools
- Pre/post-visit classroom activities
- Take-home book to read with families
- Grants for buddy-up trips to other DT sites
- Come-back pass for entire family
- Teacher professional development workshop
- Continuous improvement of the program through professional evaluation

EDUCATIONAL ASPECTS



Direct instruction



Discovery learning



New social context



New physical context

KDT! PROGRAM OUTPUTS

- 3,700 student trips per year
- 25,000 student trips since 2005
- 100% participation by Ithaca, T'burg schools
- ICSD classes buddy up with another school to promote cultural awareness

SOME KEY IMPACTS

- Adds hands-on to classroom lessons
- Engages un-engaged students
- Reduces conflict in middle school
- 30% continue learning at home
- 12% use their family come-back pass

STUDENTS ON *KDT!*...

- "I didn't know you could have so much fun learning"
- "It helped me explore what the community has to offer"
- "I started to think nature is cool"
- "I learned to cooperate in different situations"

COUNTY EXPANSION

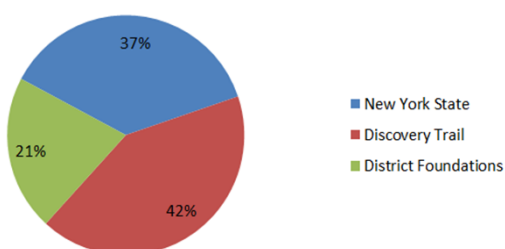
**Our goal is for every child
in Tompkins County
to experience *KDT!***

BUDGET FOR TOMP CO

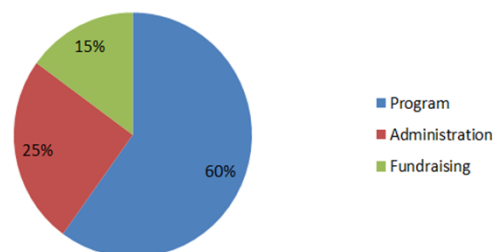
- 6,000 student trips @ \$30
- \$180K per year
 - \$80K (Disc Trail)
 - \$40K (Districts)
 - \$60K (NYS BOCES Aid)
- In-kind from school districts
 - Busing
 - Teacher professional development time

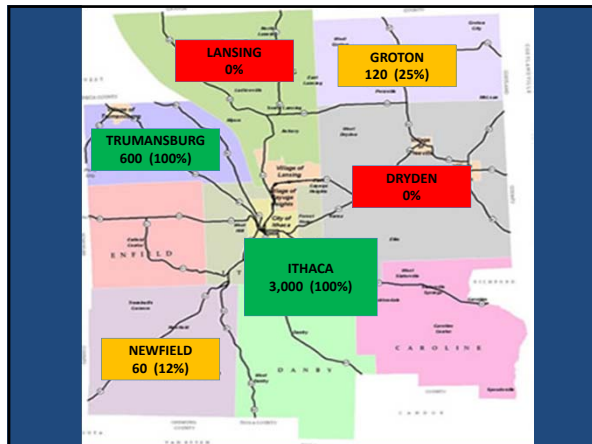
FUNDING GOALS

Income



Expense





CHALLENGES & SOLUTIONS

- Sustainable funding
- Capacity of Discovery Trail sites
- Buy-in from new districts

THANK YOU!!!
TO OUR
DONORS & SPONSORS

