



# Winter 2018

THE RIPPLE EFFECT, ONE ACTION, MANY RESULTS

COMMUNITY IMPACT

## Think Global, Act Local

Environmental Education Fund, our newest Field of Interest Fund

Gerry Cox and Caroline Ulrey Cox have taken the adage, **"Think globally, act locally,"** and put those words into practice by creating an environmental education fund.

The Coxes, who live in Ithaca, want the fund to support any organization that educates the public about ecological issues in the entire Cayuga Lake watershed.

**"This topic is not well covered in our educational system, but it's important to us,"** said Gerry, a former assistant dean at the Cornell University College of Arts and Sciences. **"Our concern is with the long-term health of this region's ecosystem and its inhabitants."**

The fund, which will begin making grants in 2019, is designed to encourage multiple donors to contribute. **"The interest in environmental grantmaking to a wide variety of local nonprofits is very great,"** said George Ferrari, chief executive officer of Community Foundation. **"We have a lot of grant seekers asking us about it. Yet we receive the fewest gifts with that designation."**

Gerry shared, **"I realized that our common definition of ecology is inadequate. We need to enlarge it from the scientific study of organisms in an ecosystem to a broader definition that includes our experiences within it. Just as no man is an island, we are part of an ecological whole. I've been thinking about how to try to make this inclusive**

**change come about, and education seems to be one of the best ways."**  
~ From interview with Sherrie Negrea

The Coxes wanted the fund to be open for anyone to contribute, so they turned to Community Foundation.

**"This is a way to say to others who have this interest, 'You too can help make this happen,'"** said Caroline, a former Community Foundation board member. **"It isn't about us; it's about the opportunity and the need."**



Gerry said **"Ultimately, we hope that this new fund will support the vital work of the regional organizations that educate the public about becoming stewards of our watershed,"** he said. **"The fund can help influence what happens here if others learn more about the environment and realize their own stake in it."**

**Learn More Online:** In addition to the environment and sustainability, Community Foundation's grant areas include: community building, education, health and human services, and arts and culture.



## Thank You to Our Volunteers

Serving on grant review teams, office filing, board service, committee work, the list goes on; you are ambassadors of community philanthropy. Photo: Midge Robinson, Carol Murray, Marge Hansel



## Thriving through Collective Impact

Over \$60,000 of grants, supporting innovative collaborations throughout our community. Learn more online at [www.cftompkins.org](http://www.cftompkins.org) and [www.buildingbridgestompkins.org](http://www.buildingbridgestompkins.org)



## Community Education and Events

We share insights and expertise alongside others, as we work to improve the quality of life in Tompkins County. Photo: Ann Martin, Travis Brooks, Eileen Driscoll

*You can get involved with your Community Foundation, call us, or visit [www.cftompkins.org](http://www.cftompkins.org)*



## By The Numbers (12/31/2017)

### Assets: \$18.2 Million

\$12.2 Million Endowed Funds

\$ 6.0 Million Non-Endowed Funds

### Fund Types (111 Funds)

7 Community Impact Funds

11 Field of Interest Funds

30 Agency and Designated Funds

63 Donor Advised Funds

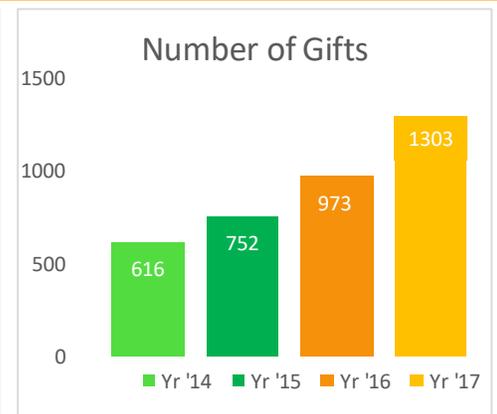
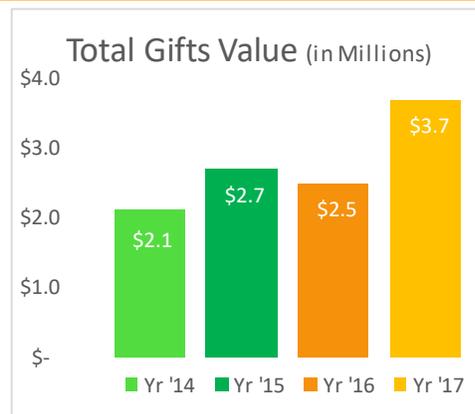
### 2017 Grant Cycles (\$ Granted)

\$ 165,500	Library Grant Cycle
\$ 93,251	Spring Grant Cycle
\$ 79,545	Out of Cycle Requests
\$ 20,300	Women's Grant Cycle
\$ 61,292	Fall Grant Cycle



Catheryn Obern-Robinson, Rich Robinson and Phil McPheron are all smiles about the Community Foundation.

## Community Foundation enables everyone to be a philanthropist



### Community Connections

Enjoying our Holiday Open House are our donors and friends. Gene Yarussi, retired executive and former board member, and Bill Currie, Morgan Stanley wealth advisor and Community Foundation board member, share their good wishes for the community.

## Community Investments

In our 18<sup>th</sup> year, through donors provided over \$12.5 million in 3,100 awards and counting. Community Foundation is a leading public grantmaker in Tompkins County.

