# CFTC Logo MAY 2011.tif

**ADVANTAGES TO WORKING DIRECTLY WITH**

**THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION**

**Donor Confidence** - Administration of an agency endowment by a neutral third party like the Foundation provides added assurance to an agency’s donors that their gifts will be used as intended.

**Investment Expertise** - Most nonprofit organizations do not have the time or expertise to manage their own portfolios. The Community Foundation exists specifically to administer endowments for Tompkins County region.

**Economy** - Foundation assets are commingled for investment and administrative purposes, often at a lower cost than smaller pools of capital could achieve on their own.

**Greater Visibility/Publicity** – Agency endowment funds are listed with other similar funds in various Foundation publications and on the Foundation website. Periodic stories in the Foundation’s Annual Report and monthly e-newsletters provide additional opportunities to educate the public about the agency’s mission and work in the community.

**Security** - Careful stewardship by the Foundation's board and staff assures prudent management and accountability to donors' intentions.

**Simplicity** – The Foundation takes care of the ongoing administrative and reporting details of operating an endowment fund, including grant distributions to the agency. The Community Foundation provides customized statements that enable an agency to monitor the activity of their fund. These semi-annual statements provide detail on all account activity. Additional information requests are accommodated on a customized basis to meet the organization’s needs.

**Relevance** – If an agency goes out of business, the Foundation will ensure that the agency’s fund continues to address similar needs within the local community.

**Public Accountability** – The Foundation makes a full accounting to the community through annual reports certified by independent auditors.

**Service and Added Value** – The Foundation will exist in perpetuity ensuring that the agency’s fund is and will continue to be professionally managed, regularly evaluated for performance and independently audited each year.

**Fundraising Assistance**

1. The Foundation provides donor acknowledgement letters to all donors who make a contribution to the agency’s endowment fund.

2. The Foundation notifies its agency customers each time a contribution is accepted on its behalf.

3. If the agency does not know how to handle or liquidate stock contributions from their donors, the Foundation will manage the liquidation of these contributions on the agency’s behalf.

4. The Foundation can assist agency endowment customers in developing various fundraising strategies.

5. The Foundation will provide assistance and expertise to the agency in the area of Planned Giving. The Foundation is experienced in handling deferred gifts including trusts, gifts of real estate, life estates and other complex arrangements, which are usually the source of larger donations. A community foundation’s permanence is often appealing to donors who want to feel their gift will be lasting and well managed. Often, these donors feel more comfortable about making a large gift to funds held within a community foundation.

6. The Foundation is available to work with the agency’s donors and their professional advisors to establish customized plans that will ultimately benefit the agency endowment customer.

7. The Foundation can assist with the development of educational, philanthropic seminars to be presented to the agency’s donors and prospective donors.

8. The Foundation will provide assistance in the development of brochure copy if the agency endowment customer is interested in creating their own unique brochure to advertise their endowment fund.

9. Please refer to the attached Community Foundation spending policy for administrative fund contributions (fees), minimum starting balances, and grant available balances.