ENGAGED PHILANTHROPY, INSPIRED COMMUNITIES

Good times, bad times, challenging times unprecedented times. Your support of our Community Foundation means that together, we make times better no matter the current conditions. As we look back on a very successful 2019, we take pause to acknowledge the uncertainty, the anxiety, and the trials of the current conditions of a global pandemic and economic turmoil.

COVID-19 first captured our attention and altered our work in early 2020. Our changed world requires new dedication, resources, and tenacity now and forever into our future. Local funders and charitable residents continue to lean into new methods of solving extraordinary problems. Nimbleness, ingenuity, and effectiveness are hallmarks of public charities like community foundations. Crises like this one make the case for the role of the potent, locally controlled, flexible assets you have entrusted to our care.

We hope that in review of our past accomplishments we can find renewed hope and revitalized resolve in dealing with our current challenges. Read more in this report about how you continue to make a difference in our communities. See how grantees are approaching problem solving from a systems change perspective valuing collaborations and building trusting relationships. Discover how donors learn of needs from our programs and then take it up a step to do even more. Learn about new tools such as FreeWill, an online will drafting service, which assists you in making charitable plans.

More than ever we recommit our vision to you, even under these incredible stressors, that Tompkins County thrives thanks to engaged philanthropy.
OUR BOARD MEMBERS

Nicole Eversley
Bradwell

Theoria Cason

Janice Conrad

Bill Currie

Sandy Dhimitri

Clover Drinkwater

Christine Barksdale

Love Meier Swain

Stephen Pope

Not pictured: Rick Page

OUR STAFF

George P. Ferrari, Jr.
Chief Executive Officer

Janet Cotracacia
Chief Impact Officer

Nancy Massicci
Chief Development Officer

Amy LeViere
Chief Philanthropic Services Officer

Linda Gasser

Ann Martin

Mary MacAusland

Jim Mazza

Keith McCafferty

Lynn Swain

Lucia Tyler

Philip McPherson

Alice Moore

Susan Murphy

Stephen Pope

Ben Renberg

Liebe Meier Swain

Steve Ruoff

Kevin Shreve

Khandikile Sokoni

Lynn Swain

Lucia Tyler

Janice Conrad

Bill Currie

Sandy Dhimitri

Clover Drinkwater

Not pictured: Rick Page
Learning About Community Needs Makes a Dream Come True

Community Foundation helps individuals, families, businesses, and organizations give back to their communities in active and informed ways.

Since 2003, Sandy and Jay True have had a donor advised fund at Community Foundation, which allows them to respond directly to funding requests submitted by local nonprofits. One of these requests, from Loaves & Fishes, was seeking money to buy ceiling fans for the comfort and health of their guests. Loaves & Fishes did not ask for air-conditioning because they thought it was cost-prohibitive.

Sandy and her husband Jay, owner of True Insurance, however, decided to contact Loaves & Fishes to explore the possibility of going a step further to assure a more comfortable environment for patrons and volunteers. “We thought, ‘What if we look at air-conditioning and fans?’” Sandy said. “And that started the ball rolling.”

Rev. Christina Culver, Executive Director of Loaves & Fishes expresses gratitude for Sandy who along with other additional donors, funded the $30,000 project and “making our 36-year dream to cool the dining hall and kitchen come true.”

“’There are a lot of people in Ithaca who are very philanthropic, if they hear the story and hear the need.”

Sandy True Donor Advisor

ADDITIONAL SERVICES INCLUDE:

Designed philanthropy – effective giving strategies include consideration of purpose, control, tax benefits, and timeframe; providing flexibility and guidance

Local connections – matching donor interest with community needs, often leveraging the impact of initial available funding

Education and advice – programming covering a wide range of topics, issues, and interests, providing opportunities to listen and learn from one another and hear from experienced voices
Our Fall Grant Cycles have guidelines that continuously evolve in response to current needs and observations in our mission-driven sector. The 2019 Fall Grant Cycle aimed to develop capacity to improve the quality of life for all residents through collaborative planning, capacity building, and finding solutions to complex challenges.

Grant Cycle Priority Areas Including:

1. Access to affordable housing and transportation
2. Access to food security and nutritional health
3. Access to living wage jobs and safe housing for those re-entering after incarceration
4. Eliminating race, class, disability and gender as predictors of student participation and achievement
5. Strengthening our system of prevention and treatment services for people experiencing a mental health or substance use crisis
6. Access to high-quality affordable childcare in early childhood (birth-5)

$160,170 was granted to 15 programs representing a wide range of areas.

**Cornell Cooperative Extension of Tompkins County**

**$17,025** grant from the Collective Impact Fund

for “Development of a Comprehensive Plan to address Food System Issues in Tompkins County”

This project will develop a comprehensive Tompkins County Food System plan that documents and analyzes the system from production through consumption focusing on people at risk for food insecurity. The process will involve review of data and assets, engage context experts to identify challenges, and to collectively prepare a shared vision. These will inform goals with recommended actions for a just, equitable and healthy food system.

**Dorothy Cotton Institute’s Building Bridges Initiative**

(Fiscal Sponsor: Center for Transformative Action)

**$20,000** grant from the Environmental Education Fund

for Generating Diverse Community Engagement for the Ithaca Green New Deal

Building Bridges Initiative manages the community engagement process of the City of Ithaca’s Ithaca Green New Deal. The Ithaca Green New Deal aims to reach carbon neutrality by 2030. The collaborating partners include City of Ithaca, Coalition for Outreach, Policy and Education, Cornell Cooperative Extension of Tompkins County, Get Your Green Back Tompkins, Tompkins County Climate Protection Initiative, and Natural Leaders Initiative. The project educates, excites and engages people in conversations ensuring participation from marginalized communities, coaching them to take leadership and serve.

**Open Doors English** (Fiscal sponsor: Center for Transformative Action)

**$12,000** from the Tompkins Today and Tomorrow Fund

**$5,500** from Donor Advised Funds

Stephen & Linda Pope Fund and Blecher Schaffzin Family Fund

for the Julie Rudd Coulombe Language Program

Open Doors English, a new English as a Second Language (ESL) program, provides ESL instruction to over 110 students and helps students learn English to successfully navigate interactions with medical providers, teachers, employers and other social systems. Open Doors English also creates a warm community and helps students meet their healthcare, employment, education, transportation, social, emotional and other needs.
ANNIVERSARY TIMELINE
20 YEARS OF PHILANTHROPIC ACHIEVEMENTS

Our staff and board’s approach in our work with donors and nonprofit agencies exemplifies our values of integrity, flexibility, and leadership. Thanks to your encouragement, your participation and your generosity we deeply feel called to serve our community in whatever circumstances we encounter. We invite you to reflect on our milestones, partner in our work, and build new capacity well into the future.

“Our 20 years of growth, collaboration and impact are just the beginning of what our Community Foundation can and will do to improve life in Tompkins County and our local region.”

Susan Murphy
2019 Board Chair
New Legacy Society donor, Helen Bayer

Helen Bayer, a vibrant, caring person with a great sense of humor, passed away at age of 98. A Professor Emerita in the College of Human Ecology at Cornell for 34 years she taught courses on aging in the family, societal influences on child-rearing and issues in child development and family relationships. Concurrently for 12 years, she was a project director of Head Start Regional Training Office.

At the time that Helen graduated from college, some 75 years ago, women had to make a choice: Have a career, or get married and raise a family. Obviously, Helen chose to have a career. She married George Bayer, insisting there would be no children and no cooking. Friends say she would have made a great mother, but such were the times.

Helen’s estate planning attorney, Anna Holmberg, with financial guidance from Helen’s trusted personal assistant, Cathy Paddock, created a will which named the Community Foundation a recipient of some of her estate assets. Helen wanted to make an impact on basic needs and she established the Resilience and Possibilities Endowment Fund. This fund helps people, especially men, in various difficult situations such as health, food security, housing and opportunities. The fund provides advocacy for vulnerable and at-risk populations, while fostering and promoting resilience and identification of possibilities.

Helen’s caring philanthropy responds well to meeting local needs today and tomorrow.
COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS

AISHA JASPER
Community Development Liaison
Visions Federal Credit Union

For the past year, I have served as a community volunteer on the Philanthropic Services Committee.

Being involved with philanthropy is an opportunity on every level. An opportunity to not only do a civic duty, but also to represent the people in our respective communities. For me, this particularly resonates as an African American woman and the platform I have been given to voice experiences of my community and shape them into actionable change. A tall order to fill, but a challenge I embrace.

What began as a chance to learn more about Tompkins County, has now evolved into an opportunity to participate and be amongst those addressing the community’s most pressing needs.

I have been met with open arms by everyone at Community Foundation. I enjoy most hearing about the programmatic ideas that committee members feel would bring value to our mission. It’s no surprise that a room full of diverse minds has a room full of ideas for how to creatively make that happen!

I highly regard the Community Foundation for that very reason – there is no sense of “us” giving money to “them”. Instead, it is quite easy to see that the team is dedicated to empowering community members like me to have a seat at the decision-making table, and I couldn’t be more grateful.

JESSICA CUSTER-BINDEL
Child Care Specialist/Infant and Toddler Specialist, Child Development Council

I learned of the Community Foundation shortly after I moved to Ithaca. I took part in the Natural Leaders Initiative, a program that focuses on building inclusive, equitable and sustainable communities through civic involvement.

As an NLI grad, I was invited to a Spring Grant Review with the Community Foundation. In the first meeting, I wasn’t quite sure if I belonged; I had always been on the outside looking in when it came to grants, since I often found myself doing the asking. I was pleasantly surprised at how welcoming the grant review team was; everybody’s voice mattered. I walked away knowing a little more about grant writing, and a lot more about the importance of building relationships.

Fast-forward five years, and I had the opportunity to serve on a review team again. This time, I was a more seasoned Ithacan, and knew many of the non-profits that applied. It felt good to support the places that had supported me. I joined the Board in 2020, and a few months later, it was evident that this was going to be an unusual year. The COVID-19 pandemic has been difficult for many of us. The Community Foundation has been a source of hope, connecting people and resources, and helping many local agencies, including mine, The Child Development Council. As the year unfolds, I find myself learning how the steady work of connection and collaboration impacts our community.
New Charitable Funds in 2019

Many of us pass along our values through expressions of philanthropy. Including others is a community foundation hallmark taking on many forms, such as giving to or establishing a donor advised fund, memorial fund, endowment fund, or field of interest fund.

Responsive Community Philanthropy

Joel and Cathy Zumoff took the responsibility of “giving back to your community” to heart putting this into practice when they created two funds with very different priorities.

The Zumoffs established funds supporting different areas of need by providing financial resources for responsive community philanthropy. The Cathy Zumoff Basic Needs Fund prioritizes food, shelter, counseling, or other basic needs such as animal protection. The Joel Zumoff Education in the Arts Fund provides funding for arts organizations providing an educational component.

Giving and Gratitude Go Hand-In-Hand

Noah, Zach and Hannah Feldshuh and their parents, Martha Frommelt and David Feldshuh, are deeply grateful to the many Tompkins County teachers, coaches and mentors that have positively influenced their lives. The Noah, Zach and Hannah Feldshuh Fund is the family’s way to say, “thank you,” by supporting our very special community.

“So much is dependent on the situation one is born into and other uncontrollable circumstances. I’m honored and extremely grateful to join my family in creating this fund. I sincerely hope that this fund enables recipients to enjoy more moments of love and happiness in the way that our family’s togetherness provides me.”

ZACH FELDSHUH

“I am honored to share the namesake of this charitable fund with my beloved brother and sister. I would also like to convey my deepest gratitude to my parents without whom this would not be possible. Although in most instances, philanthropy has the outward appearance of a selfless act, for me it is quite the contrary. Helping others and empathetic engagement is something that is fundamental to my mental health. So, it is with the utmost appreciation, pride and excitement that I anticipate the future of this fund and the benefits it will create.”

NOAH FELDSHUH
FreeWill: A Planning Tool for Everyone

Your personalized will is the best way to prepare you and your loved ones. It is among the easiest ways to acknowledge your wishes and to plan for a future charitable gift too. Funded by Community Foundation donors in 2019 through December 2020, FreeWill.com/CFTC is available to create your legal will. It’s private, 100% free, and most people finish in 30 minutes or less.

Everyone needs a will, even if you plan to live to be 150 years old!

With a will you can help your loved ones and opt to help residents too. Join other donors who have included the Community Foundation in their estate plan to help residents in the region in many ways including basic needs.

You can also use it to better prepare for appointments with your attorney.

Your philanthropy, of any amount, positively impacts the people in our county and is key to a strong quality of life in our communities.

Check it out at www.freewill.com/CFTC

“Bequests are the easiest kind of giving. I urge you to consider how most effectively both to take care of loved ones, and to invest in a place that we all call home.”

Nina K. Miller
Legacy Society Member

See how Community Foundation can help you achieve your philanthropic goals.
cftomkins.org/resources/for-donors
Local businesses are making the area a better place. Community Foundation is grateful – and proud of these local employers and supporters. Each is important to a thriving community yesterday, today and tomorrow.

Thank you to our additional 2019 business supporters!

Agava
Arnolds Printing
Benjamin Peters
Borg Warner
Brown Advisory
Cayuga Landscape
Employment Express
First National Bank of Groton
GiveGab
Hancock Estabrook
Marriott Downtown Ithaca Commons
Morgan Stanley Ithaca Office
Pro Lawn Landscaping & Excavating
Rasa Spa
Sciarabba Walker & Company
Shaw and Murphy
Sheryl Sinkow Photography
Tioga Buffalo Building
Warren Real Estate
Wegmans
## Financial Statement

### Assets

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>2018</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Assets</td>
<td>$22,422,438</td>
<td>$17,571,435</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Liabilities</td>
<td>$667,051</td>
<td>$524,205</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Net Assets</td>
<td>$21,755,387</td>
<td>$17,047,230</td>
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### Statement of Activities

#### Revenue

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>2018</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Contributions/Grants</td>
<td>$4,273,207</td>
<td>$2,627,736</td>
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<tr>
<td>Investment Income</td>
<td>$3,025,111</td>
<td>$(922,679)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>$73,431</td>
<td>$100,483</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Revenue</strong></td>
<td>$7,371,749</td>
<td>$1,805,540</td>
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#### Expenses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>2018</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grants</td>
<td>$2,026,028</td>
<td>$1,844,419</td>
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<tr>
<td>Programs &amp; Services</td>
<td>$540,572</td>
<td>$536,679</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administration &amp; Development</td>
<td>$96,992</td>
<td>$94,539</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Expenses</strong></td>
<td>$2,663,592</td>
<td>$2,475,637</td>
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</table>

#### Change in Net Assets

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Change in Net Assets</td>
<td>$4,708,157</td>
<td>$(670,097)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Net Assets at Beginning Year</strong></td>
<td>$17,047,230</td>
<td>$17,717,327</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Net Assets at End of Year**  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Net Assets at End of Year</strong></td>
<td>$21,755,387</td>
<td>$17,047,230</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Variances reflect differences between typical community foundations’ grant reporting practices and audit report accounting standards for agency funds.
OUR MISSION
The mission of our Community Foundation is to improve the quality of life in Tompkins County by inspiring and supporting enduring philanthropy.

OUR VISION
Tompkins County thrives thanks to engaged philanthropy.

Additional annual report resources are available online.
www.cftompkins/about-us/annual-report/

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