

Community Foundation awards Excellence in the New Economic Era grants

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From staff reports |

More than \$87,000 in funding.

That was the announcement from the Community Foundation of Tompkins County, noting that it awarded 41 Excellence in the New Economic Era grants to 28 organizations and municipalities to "build and strengthen programs which have suffered funding cuts as well as to build capacity to work more efficiently and more effectively."

The majority of grants are from the Tompkins Today and Tomorrow Fund, with additional support from donor-advised and field of interest funds of the Community Foundation. For the first time, individual donors provided initial contributions to increase the grant pool at the start of the process with additional support from the Park Foundation.

Awards that provide support for a strong program with demonstrable outcomes that has experienced a reduction of funding since 2008 went to:

1. Child Development Council, for developmental assessments
2. Unity House, for purchase of equipment to support residents
3. Better Housing for Tompkins County, for emergency home repair materials
4. Alternatives Venture Fund, for the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program
5. Planned Parenthood of the Southern Finger Lakes, for cervical cancer prevention vaccine for uninsured girls
6. Cornell Cooperative Extension of Tompkins County, for Caroline youth services, Lansing youth services and for 4-H Urban Outreach
7. Catholic Charities of Tompkins/Tioga, for a job developer in the Immigrant Services program and a second grant for utility assistance
8. Southside Community Center, for nutrition and hot food program
9. Ithaca Health Alliance, for the Ithaca Free Clinic
10. Town of Ulysses, for the youth employment program
11. Foodnet Meals on Wheels, for menu improvement

Awards that provide capacity building for operational or strategic planning, board or staff development, or collaboration/restructuring went to:

1. Suicide Prevention & Crisis Service, for crisis line staff professionalization
2. Cancer Resource Center of the Finger Lakes, for development resources
3. Finger Lakes ReUse, for upgrade and expansion of materials tracking system
4. Historic Ithaca, to qualify as a community based development organization for IURA funding

5. Human Services Coalition, for 2-1-1 database enhancement
6. State Theatre, for a digital projector to expand revenue generating programs
7. Cornell Cooperative Extension of Tompkins County, for PEAKS fundraising tool and a second grant for fundraising planning for Primitive Pursuits
8. New Roots Charter School, for required strategic planning
9. Family & Children's Service, for development restructuring
10. Ithaca Health Alliance, for Ithaca Health Fund
11. National Alliance on Mental Illness, Finger Lakes, for strategic planning
12. Tompkins County Public Library Foundation, for board and staff development
13. Community Arts Partnership, for an expansion of the Ticket Center

For more information about the mission and operations of the Community Foundation, and guidance regarding how to invest in the community as a Foundation donor, visit www.cftompkins.org.

