Why did you join the Community Foundation of Orange and Sullivan’s (CFOS) Board of Directors?

Founding CFOS Board members Gerald Jacobowitz and Ken Abt asked me to join the Finance Committee back in 2001. The Foundation had just reached about $1M in assets and the board was looking to create a more formal structure within the Finance and Investment area. They thought that I was an “up and coming” banker (serving at the time as a CFO of a community bank) and believed working with the Foundation would be great exposure for me within the community where I worked and lived.

I am thrilled to report that I still have a “passion” for the work of the Foundation. I am so proud of what we have accomplished and thank Gerry and Ken profusely for originally reaching out to me nearly 15 years ago!

What do you enjoy doing when you aren’t working or volunteering?
Watching and attending New York Mets Games; spending time at the family homestead in Watkins Glen; enjoying a good meal and relaxing with friends and family at the MANY fine restaurants in our area.

What is one quote that you try to live by?

“No to Worry.”
A short but rather mighty quote that my mother and her three sisters instilled in our family to reassure us that a problem or situation is never as serious as we may think. My Aunt Christine had special “No to Worry” signs made for all the family, cousins and relatives still have in their homes today!
What are your favorite worthy charitable causes?
Supporting the three area colleges (Marist – my alma mater, Mount St. Mary College and SUNY Orange).

Donating to many of the funds administered by the CFOS as well as supporting the President’s Circle initiative of the Foundation.

Supporting many of the causes that employees of Walden Savings Bank select for the community service / not for profit of the month (e.g. American Cancer Society Relay for Life, Hudson Valley Food Bank, American Heart Association); and

Supporting our church.

What is one thing that people don’t know about you?
I am a former Balloon Handler for the Macy’s Thanksgiving Day parade.

What are two things that make you the happiest?
Coaching, mentoring and developing employees and watching them excel in their goals, aspirations and careers.
When Allison and I have all three children under one roof! My oldest daughter (Sara) is in Boston and my two boys (Chris and Matt) are so busy with college and work that our time together is very rare. Therefore, I truly enjoy holidays and summer vacations when we are all together creating new memories.