Lazare and Charlotte Kaplan Foundation

The Lazare and Charlotte Kaplan Foundation awards grants to charitable organizations and community programs/projects as well as educational scholarships.

Lazare Kaplan, one of the world’s best-known diamond merchants and the man who cut the 726-carat Jonker diamond in 1936, established this educational foundation in 1965 in his and his wife’s name. Descended from three generations of jewelers, Russian-born Lazare grew up in Belgium. In 1896, at the young age of 13, he began his apprenticeship at his uncle’s diamond cutting factory. His manual dexterity and knack for cleaving flawed and irregular stones made Kaplan one of the most well-known diamond cutters of his time. At age 20, Kaplan started his own diamond business and eventually moved his family to the United States. He was an amazing diamond cutter recognized for over 75 years of innovative design and diamond cutting. In the early 1920’s Lazare purchased a family farm in Lew Beach just outside of Livingston Manor in Sullivan County and embraced the community, becoming active as a Livingston Manor Rotarian in the mid-sixties. Lazare passed away at the age of 102 at the farm.

Lazare established the Lazare and Charlotte Kaplan Foundation with an unexpected $60,000 insurance settlement he received. The foundation was originally established as an endowment for Sullivan County Community College to award scholarships to students.

The mission of the foundation is “To get the kids off the streets of Livingston Manor” – and to the extent that we have funds available from earnings and capital gains, as designated by the Board of Directors, to meet the needs of Livingston Manor first, and then if resources are available, to extend the same to our neighboring communities. This means providing funds for education to individuals in the arts and sciences and especially in the trades. It also means supporting programs like afterschool activities, educational support, competitions, recreational facilities, etc. We should fund projects that are supplemental, and not within the realm of responsibilities of the schools or other governmental agencies. With our limited resources, we must restrict ourselves to assistance which is vital to the individual or activity concerned: that is, without our help, it would not take place.

To date, the Foundation has awarded scholarships to over 1,500 students and has provided numerous community grants to nonprofit organizations and community programs/projects that serve Livingston Manor and the neighboring communities.

About the Community Foundation of Orange and Sullivan:
The Foundation has significantly increased local charitable funds and empowered donors to make a profound difference in the quality of life in our region with the creation of over 240 funds that will provide grants and scholarships forever. Since 1999, the Foundation has been an effective steward of the community’s charitable resources and has been a leader in the administration of scholarships, and grant making for the benefit of nonprofit organizations in Orange and Sullivan Counties, and beyond.

Contributions to the Lazare and Charlotte Kaplan Foundation may be made to CFOS-Lazare and Charlotte Kaplan Foundation and sent to the Community Foundation of Orange and Sullivan, 30 Scott’s Corners Drive, Suite 203, Montgomery, NY 12549. Secure online donations may also be made at www.cfosny.org. The Community Foundation of Orange and Sullivan is a 501(c)(3), nonprofit organization. All gifts are tax deductible under current tax laws. For more information, call the Community Foundation at (845) 769-9393.
Awards:
The Lazare and Charlotte Kaplan Foundation Fund will consider grants starting at $250.00, with larger grants awarded based on need and merit, to Livingston Manor and Town of Rockland organizations whose project/program fit with the mission statement.

Application:
Attached.

Deadline:
Applications must be received by October 1. Awards will be announced in December.

Questions:
Gary Siegel, President, L&C Kaplan Foundation (845) 798-2188 cdtripsllc@gmail.com
Sarah Pruschki, Communications & Program Coordinator at (845) 769-9393 or sarah@cfosny.org
Stacey Muller, Finance Manager at (845) 769-9393 or stacey@cfosny.org

Criteria:
Each application will be reviewed based on the following criteria (An agency is eligible to receive a grant if they received a grant the previous year, however, priority shall be given to new applicants)

- **Fit the mission:** Does the proposed project/program fit with the mission and priorities of the Lazare & Charlotte Kaplan Foundation?
  The mission of the foundation is **“To get the kids off the streets of Livingston Manor”**
  – and to the extent that we have funds available from earnings and capital gains, as designated by the Board of Directors, to meet the needs of Livingston Manor first, and then if resources are available, to extend the same to our neighboring communities.
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- **Effectiveness:** How well does the request describe how it addresses the funding priority of the Lazare & Charlotte Kaplan Foundation?

- **Applicant:** Does the applicant have a reputation for implementing quality programs?
  Does the applicant have the staff/resources to execute the project?

- **Number of people served:** How many individuals will be served by this project? If only a few will be served, is it likely that the learning from this project will provide greater benefit for the future?

Review Process:
All applications will be rated upon the criteria listed above and reviewed by the Board of Directors of the Lazare & Charlotte Kaplan Foundation.

The Board of Directors reserves the right to request any additional information as needed.

Submit applications electronically to:
Community Foundation of Orange and Sullivan
30 Scott’s Corners Drive, Suite 203
Montgomery, NY 12549
sarah@cfosny.org
LAZARE AND CHARLOTTE KAPLAN FOUNDATION FUND
GRANT APPLICATION FORM

ORGANIZATION INFORMATION

Name of Organization:

Type of Organization: □ 501 (c)(3) □ Community Organization Project
□ Other (Please Specify):

Street Address:
City: State: Zip:
Phone No: Fax No:
Name:
E-mail Address:
Fiscal Year (Month & Day): From _____/_____ to _____/______

Description of Organization: (attach a separate sheet of paper as necessary)

I certify that all information included in this application packet is accurate and complete.

Authorized Signature:
Typed Name of Authorized Signatory:
Date:

PROJECT INFORMATION

Contact Person: Title:
Phone No: Fax No:
E-Mail:

Name of Project to be Funded:

Program Summary: (attach a separate sheet of paper as necessary)

Primary Town Served: Target Population:
Amount Requested: Total Program Budget:
Program Start Date: ___/___/____ Program End Date: ___/___/____

Where do the Project/program beneficiaries live? (Total must equal 100%)

Livingston Manor: _____% Roscoe: _____% Other: _____%
ORGANIZATION

Alternate name your organization may go by:

Mailing Address for organization if different from street address:

Web address:

GRANT APPLICATION CHECKLIST

SUBMIT A COMPLETE SET OF THE FOLLOWING (electronically to cindy@cfosny.org)

____ 2 Page Grant Application

____ 1-2 page narrative. The narrative must address each bulleted item:

- Program
- Need for Program
- Clearly describe how program fits with the mission statement of the Lazare & Charlotte Kaplan Foundation
- Qualifications and role of personnel
- Number of people impacted and how they will be impacted

____ Complete program budget must include income and expenses. Please indicate which sources of income are pending and which are secured. If applying to other foundations, please indicate which foundations and the status of your application with them – pending, secured.

____ List of governing board (for 501(c)(3)) names and affiliations (i.e. profession, community represented), officers or authorized people for the organization.

____ Current, board approved, annual operating budget for the organization for the current fiscal year reflecting projected income and expenses.

SUBMIT ONE (1) SET OF THE FOLLOWING:

1. Current IRS 501(c)(3) Determination Letter(s) if applicable. Name and address must be current.

2. Outstanding grant report(s) if applicable.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Complete applications can be submitted electronically (preferred), mailed, faxed or hand delivered to the following:

Community Foundation of Orange and Sullivan
30 Scott’s Corners Drive, Suite 203, Montgomery, NY 12549
T (845) 769-9393  F (845) 769-9391  E-mail: sarah@cfosny.org