

Rowley Family Foundation Fund for Women & Children 2019 Grant Recipients

Orange County

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Orange County, NY

The Young Women's Leadership Project is a new program based on The Indivisible Self: An evidence-based model of wellness. Up to 12 matches of middle school-aged girls and their Big sisters will participate in the 12-month series of events, activities and experiences. There will be a focus on the elements of wellness, which include creativity, coping skills, empowerment, social skills, spirituality, self-care, gender identity, cultural competence and physical well-being.

Children's Rights Society, Inc.

This new Special Advocates for a Greater Education (SAGE) program is a collaboration between the Children's Rights Society and the Dispute Resolution Center. Volunteer mentors will be paired with school-aged children who are placed in foster care through the Department of Social Services, or whose parents or caregivers are current or former respondents in a neglect or abuse proceeding in Orange County Family Court. The mentors will be a point of contact and support for each child, helping maintain and encourage active participation and success in school while keeping relationships with the child's parent/caregiver(s), teacher(s), school administrators, school social worker and school psychologist. Approximately 50 children and families will benefit from this education mentoring program.

Legal Services of the Hudson Valley

Legal Services of the Hudson Valley will add a new component to its Solutions to End Homelessness Program (STEHP) programs in order to meet the observed and well-documented need to advocate for and provide legal services to tenants living in substandard housing conditions. Project activities and services include advocacy, advice & council, community legal education programs, pro se assistance, a pro bono program, legal representation in illegal lockout, eviction, mortgage foreclosure, and public benefits cases. This program is in Orange County, with some focus on the City of Newburgh.

Newburgh Free Library

Newburgh Girls Code Club (NGCC) is a new program that addresses the issue of gender inequality in the technology field by providing inner city girls and young women, ages 10-18, with the access, education and exposure to engineering skills in a casual club environment. The project will include 2 cohorts of interactive coding workshops, a summer immersion coding bootcamp, monthly family code club, collaborations with local technology corporations, mentoring opportunities with professional women in the field, and "Enterprising Women" panel discussions and celebrations. A total of 45 girls will participate in the first year.

Regional Economic Community Action Program

RECAP's new Growing Into Responsible Healthy Leaders Successfully (GIRhLS) will address many of the pressing issues young women face today and is specifically designed to embrace and integrate prevention strategies with 5th - 8th grade girls. Programming to engage this population before at-risk behaviors begin leads to a healthier, well-adjusted adult who is more likely to finish school, find a livable wage job and maintain a healthy lifestyle. The program will have 50 girls participate in the first year.

Sullivan County

Sullivan 180, Inc.

The Demonstration Project is a new, two-part initiative that will help low income women learn to eat healthier on a fixed budget and document and share the experiences of participating women and their families to create community wide impact and inspire healthy behavior change throughout Sullivan County. The project will utilize a trained Community Health Champion (CHC) to work with Head Start parents to help them adopt better eating habits. There will be 8-12 participating families in the first year.

Sullivan County Community College

Funding will support reopening the childcare center on campus under the Faculty Student Association. Many students are single parents who will benefit from having their child in daycare on campus while they are in class. This center will offer parents an opportunity to focus on their education without worrying about childcare and the excessive costs that accompany it. The daycare is anticipating supporting 20 or more children.

Ulster County

Center for Creative Education

Sisters Persevere In Conscious Evolution (S.P.I.C.E) is a year round project for low income women and their children with a special focus on women of color. With the increase of single parent households and the need for many to have multiple jobs, CCE has recognized that women and children lack accessible, affordable and meaningful programs that enrich, educate and bring together community. As programs for youth are on the rise, communities lack enriching parallel programs for women. CCE has identified these needs and will provide weekly, monthly and quarterly programs, free of charge, to women and children.

Ellenville Regional Hospital

This new project will include two interventions. The first intervention will employ the use of the evidence based Community Health Worker model to work with families in reducing adult and childhood obesity. The second intervention will be a partnership with Planned Parenthood to offer a teen health education program aimed at reducing teen pregnancy. For the first intervention, there will be 45 families participating and assigned to the Community Health Worker, and 200 families will be impacted over the next year. For the second intervention, 60 teens will participate.

Ulster Community College Foundation, Inc.

Lights for Learning provides emergency funding in the form of grants and interest free loans to the most vulnerable students at SUNY Ulster, allowing them to stay in class when they would otherwise be on the verge of dropping out due to the financial hardship. Over 90% of these students are women.

Orange and Sullivan Counties

St. Luke's Cornwall Health System Foundation, Inc.

This program will make an impact on mothers struggling with Substance Use Disorder (SUD) by providing the education and resources necessary to break the cycle of addiction and empower them to provide a safe environment for their child(ren). It will create a positive relationship between hospital caregivers, mothers, and program candidates in order to facilitate treatment and overcome perceptions that act as a barrier to seeking treatment. This program will enroll 12-24 mothers.

Bethel Woods Center for the Arts

Bethel Woods will partner with Safe Homes of Orange County to offer therapeutic support through community creative arts therapy for the women and children they serve. This will be incorporated into Safe Homes programming to provide a new outlet for mothers to connect with each other and their children. It is an 18-month pilot program inclusive of two 8-week support groups, wherein members of the Museum Education and Creative Programs team provide 90-minute experiences in art and music making for mothers and their children. This program will help 140 women, 32 in the support groups and 108 in the access/pass program.

Orange, Sullivan & Ulster Counties

Catholic Charities of Orange, Sullivan, and Ulster

The CCOSU Mom's University is a new initiative that will support the safety and well-being of the family through psychoeducational interventions. This will be accomplished by engaging mothers and families in preventive dialogues that support and address their needs. These dialogues include topics that address issues of abuse, household challenges and neglect. This program will have 100 participants.

Hudson Valley Manufacturing Workforce Center, Inc.

The Hudson Valley Manufacturing Workforce Center, Inc. will create videos targeting the young women of the tri-county region, that can be used on GoMakelt.org, in classroom presentations and on social media. These videos will spotlight women in manufacturing at all levels from apprentices to engineers and showcase the many opportunities for success available throughout the region. They will encourage young women to visualize themselves in rewarding careers allowing them to earn a living wage, raise their families and thrive in the Hudson Valley. Videos and programs like www.gomakeit.org help connect women with local jobs, encourage them to enroll in apprenticeships and assist them in taking the first step towards a fulfilling career.

Braeside Camp

This new supportive Mother/Child program will work to empower women to be the best version of themselves and enhance their parent child relationships. The program will foster an approach to parenting through the use of self. This will include 4 components: parenting skills group, individualized assistance program, life skill workshops, and a weekend retreat. There will be 30-60 participating mothers and their child(ren).

Rowley Family Foundation Fund for Women and Children

The newly created *Rowley Family Foundation Fund for Women and Children* is a philanthropic effort designed to identify and address pressing issues impacting some of the most vulnerable members of our community. Through targeted and specific funding, the goal of this initiative is to support nonprofits in the region to elevate their programming to empower the women and children of Orange, Sullivan and Ulster Counties.

The Fund for Women and Children is launched with initial support from the Rowley Family Foundation, in partnership with the Community Foundation of Orange and Sullivan. This strategy is designed to be as efficient and effective as possible in targeting resources and solutions that are making a difference in helping women and children thrive and reach their potential by offering help, hope and lasting change that improves lives and strengthens communities.

2019 was the inaugural year for this new initiative and we were thrilled to see the unbelievable response to the application. In total, 87 applications for support were submitted totaling \$2,768,724! The Rowley-Murray family reviewed all applications thoroughly and were humbled to learn more about the work of the valuable programs in the area. Stay tuned for updates on this initiative in the months ahead!