

Community Foundation Launches New and Improved Website to Better Serve Donors' Giving Needs

The Community Foundation of Orange and Sullivan (CFOS) is proud to announce the launch of its newly designed website cfosny.org. The site serves the needs of our 300-plus component funds, each with its own fund page dedicated to educating the public about the cause and receiving donations. Fund representatives are able to see real-time donations, read their fund statements and access donor information.



"It's imperative that our website provides the same level of support and efficiency that we as an organization deliver in person for our donors. Our new website delivers on that objective by offering an easily navigable place for charitable individuals to support causes that matter, all from the safety of their homes."

- Elizabeth Rowley
CFOS President and CEO

First Reformed Church in Walden applied for and received a grant through the CFOS website.

The site is home to a scholarship portal where area students can search and apply for more than \$420,000 worth of available scholarships. Local nonprofit organizations are encouraged to visit the site to locate applications for funding sources such as the Orange and Sullivan COVID-19 Response Fund as well as other grants made available throughout the year.

The Community Foundation identified the importance of a new website to better serve donors' giving needs in its strategic plan developed in 2019. The urgency to accomplish this goal escalated when traditional in-person interactions came to a halt due to COVID-19.

"It's been said that an organization's website is its front door," added Rowley. "With the vast majority of communications moved online since the pandemic, never before has that analogy been more fitting. We are proud to have a modern website with the latest technology to support charitable giving in Orange and Sullivan counties."

The site was developed by Goshen-based marketing agency Focus Media.

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Gary Siegel*

SAVE THE DATE!

May 19, 2021



HVGives.org

CFOS Offers Grants and Supports Technological Assistance for Nonprofits

The health and financial impacts of the pandemic have made the role of nonprofits more critical than ever, but many are struggling to meet growing demand for their services while facing technology gaps. The Community Foundation of Orange and Sullivan has renewed its commitment to supporting area nonprofits addressing the critical needs of the most vulnerable populations in the two counties and helping them grow capacity.

The Orange and Sullivan COVID-19 Response Fund is again distributing grants thanks to another round of funding from a core group of initial funders. Since March, \$512,076 has been granted to 95 area nonprofits which have collectively served more than 600,000 people – providing food for the hungry, shelter for the homeless, protective personal equipment for healthcare workers, online access to education for students, diapers and formula for babies, and telehealth for the elderly and those with special needs.

Nonprofit organizations are encouraged to apply for grants and donations at any level are currently being accepted. For more information, visit www.cfosny.org/covid-19-response-fund/.

The Community Foundation is also now a part of the Hudson Valley Funders Network which is partnering with and funding the New York Council of Nonprofits (NYCON) to provide capacity building support to nonprofits in the Hudson Valley struggling due to the pandemic. **HudsonValleyFundersNetwork.org** was created as a central, accessible place for Hudson Valley nonprofits to access the information, resources, and support needed to build and strengthen their ability to sustain their charitable missions.

\$30,000 has been allocated specifically to fund assistance for organizations in Orange and Sullivan counties thanks to financial support from the Community Foundation, the Dyson Foundation, the Gerry Foundation, the Ralph E. Ogden Foundation and the Rowley Family Foundation. Contact NYCON at **800-515-5012 ext. 115** or email sweinrich@nycon.org for an initial assessment and to access no cost technical assistance, training and support.

6th Annual Hudson Valley Gives Online Giving Day Planned for May 19



Beautiful People raised \$20,000 through HV Gives in 2020.

With nonprofits unable to host traditional revenue-gathering events like galas and walks due to social distancing, never before has online fundraising been more important. The Community Foundation is proud to host its 6th annual Hudson Valley Gives on Wednesday, May 19. It's anticipated that the 24-hour event will top last year's unprecedented success.

"It's important for the fabric of our communities that these organizations have an opportunity to raise needed funds to keep their doors open," said Elizabeth Rowley, President and CEO of CFOS. "Hudson Valley Gives provides that opportunity in an entirely safe, online fashion."

Over the last five years, Hudson Valley Gives has supported hundreds of nonprofits in seven Hudson Valley counties by raising more than \$1.4 million. CFOS proudly leads this initiative, providing an online platform at HVGives.org and technical assistance and training for participating nonprofits. All donations received are deposited directly into each participating organization's bank account. The nonprofits are eligible for additional prize money thanks to the generosity of corporate sponsors.

Any 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization incorporated in or serving the Hudson Valley -- as well as charitable funds at local community foundations -- may participate in Hudson Valley Gives. To register, visit HVGives.org.

HVGives.org will open to online donations on May 1. There are a diverse array of local causes to support, including animal shelters, arts groups, ambulance corps, libraries, historical societies, museums, farmland and environmental preservation groups, food pantries, human service organizations, health agencies and hospitals, recreation and youth groups, scholarship funds, and veterans' organizations.

Event sponsors to date include Standback Contractors, LLC; Walden Savings Bank; Garnet Health; Touro College of Osteopathic Medicine; Seely & Durland Insurance; Newburgh Brewing Company; Glenn & Breheney PLLC; William A. Smith & Son Insurance and Bold Gold Media Group. If your business is interested in sponsoring Hudson Valley Gives, contact CFOS Director of Development and Communications Nicole Feller Lee at Nicole@cfosny.org.

CFOS Scholarships Application Portal is Open

A total of 150 scholarships worth nearly \$420 thousand will be awarded this spring to students in Orange and Sullivan counties. High school seniors and adults returning to college are encouraged to apply now for these scholarships through the Community Foundation.

Students can apply online at www.cfosny.org until April 15. After filling out a single application, they will be notified of which specific scholarships they are eligible for and whether those scholarships have additional application requirements. This streamlined process makes it easier for students to find fitting scholarship opportunities for their unique circumstances and abilities.

"We're proud to support deserving young people and other students realize their dreams of higher education or career training," said CFOS President and CEO Elizabeth Rowley. "Thanks to the generosity of our incredible donors, the Foundation is able to offer a wide range of scholarships annually which make a tremendous difference for local students and their families."

The most recent scholarship fund established in the CFOS family of funds is the Gail Culver Memorial Scholarship which will be awarded in the Port Jervis school district. The scholarship honors the memory of Gail Culver, a beloved retired teacher who taught for 30 years.

Special Thanks to our Annual Appeal Sponsors!

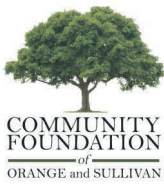
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The Gail Culver Memorial Scholarship honors the memory of the beloved Port Jervis retired teacher.

NEW FUNDS Established

- Hannah Cohen's Fund to Support Orange County Homeless
- Gail Culver Memorial Scholarship Fund
- Patty Dino Memorial Fund for St. Jude's
- Michael Frisbee Memorial Scholarship Fund
- Hudson Valley FIRST Lego League Fund
- Kingfisher Project Fund
- Dennis and Carmen Maher Youth Employment Foundation
- Tom Marks and Helen Ullrich Charitable Fund
- Newburgh Ministry Hope Endowment Fund
- Operation Endeavor Fund
- Orange and Sullivan County Capacity Building & Recovery Fund
- Evan Wade Pearson Memorial Fund
- People for People Fund
- Coach Peter Rickard Memorial Scholarship Fund
- Allan Schneider Endowment Fund
- Sweet Tears Fund
- These Dreams Photography Benefit Fund
- Unlikely MD's Fund
- Village of Montgomery Preservation Partnership Fund
- Warwick Skatepark Initiative
- Zachary Woods Memorial Fund



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BOARD SPOTLIGHT: Gary Siegel



CFOS Board Member Gary Siegel

Giving back to the community has been a staple in CFOS board member Gary Siegel's life. As a Rotarian for more than 40 years, Gary developed an outstanding network of fellow humanitarians; so, when the pandemic struck, they were ready for action!

Operation Feed was born with the collaboration of leadership from the Liberty NY Rotary Club, Rotary Club of Monticello, Operation Endeavor and Catskill Regional Medical Center (now Garnet Medical Center - Catskills). After supporting 25 local restaurants and delivering 2,645 meals to over 1,000 essential healthcare workers, they pivoted to Operation Feed 2.0 which provides meals for food insecure families. This was unprecedented as three Rotary Clubs, three Lions Clubs, five School Districts, the Boys & Girls Club, CFOS component fund A Single Bite, Skoda Farms, and 75 volunteers partnered to provide 25,000 healthy meals and fresh produce to 127 food insecure families. Operation Feed raised more than \$51,000 which was pumped back into the local economy.

"While I helped to lead and coordinate these efforts, their success could not have been accomplished without the teamwork and partnerships of local stakeholders who step up when there is a need," said Siegel. "I am so proud to be part of that team."

A Single Bite is continuing the Operation Feed 2.0 initiative, delivering healthy meals to food insecure families weekly. The Liberty NY Rotary Club recently kicked off Operation Feed 3.0, providing lunches for staff at local Covid-19 Vaccination Clinics. To support these initiatives and more, please consider a donation to the Orange and Sullivan COVID-19 Response Fund at www.cfosny.org/covid-19-response-fund/.

Meanwhile, The Siegel Family Music and Arts Endowment Fund has created **MISSION ONE GIG AT A TIME** to support local musicians, artists and venues in economic crisis because of the pandemic. To help support this effort, visit www.cfosny.org/our-funds/donor-advised/the-siegel-music-and-arts-endowment-fund/.