

GIVING MATTERS



COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION
of
ORANGE and SULLIVAN

WINTER 2024

**Connecting People Who Care
With Causes That Matter**

CFOS Make a Difference Grants Address Veterans' Needs

We are proud to announce the recipients of our 2023 Make a Difference grants. Grants totaling \$10,000 have been distributed to two nonprofit organizations that provide programs and services addressing the emerging social and emotional needs of veterans in Orange and Sullivan counties.

"Veterans who sacrificed to serve our country should have the support they need to live healthy, happy lives," said Elizabeth Rowley, CFOS President and CEO.

"Our distribution committee chose to focus this year's grants on nonprofits addressing the needs of this vulnerable population."

The grant recipients are Victory Hill Therapeutic Horsemanship and STEAM (Siegel Trust Enriching Arts & Music) Fund. Each will receive \$5,000 for their programs supporting local veterans.

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Message from leadership



Reflecting on the last ten years at the CFOS, there are so many memorable moments and meaningful relationships that have made an impression on me.

I often say I have the best job in the world - one where I have a chance to make a difference in the lives of others every day and get to be surrounded by people who truly value the importance of giving back. There are so many incredible stories of passion and dedication here at CFOS - each one with champions who exemplify the spirit of philanthropy to their core.

The heart of our work lies in the nonprofits and students we support. Witnessing the enthusiasm and dedication of our donors has been a constant source of inspiration. The numerous events we've hosted and attended over the years have not only brought our community together but have been a testament to the power of collective action.

The importance of leaving a lasting impact on the lives of others and the community is a guiding principle that has shaped our endeavors at CFOS. Together, we have built a legacy of philanthropy that extends beyond our contributions. On a personal note, the birth of my two children stands out as a significant milestone, a reminder of the precious moments that make life truly special!

I extend my heartfelt thanks to everyone who has been a part of this journey. The best is yet to come!

Elizabeth Rowley
CFOS President and CEO



Save The Date!

9th Annual Hudson Valley Gives - May 15, 2024

Nonprofits: register to participate now at HVGives.org.

Businesses: sponsor by emailing Megan@cfosny.org.

Donate to your favorite cause on **May 15** at HVGives.org.

Training for nonprofits is available in person and online.

Nonprofits can win additional monetary prizes on the Giving Day.

Fundraising with the Help of Business Partners

When CFOS Funds team up with philanthropic businesses, the results can be truly impactful. Recently, two CFOS funds successfully partnered with stores in Orange County on fundraising initiatives, both benefiting from “round-up for a cause” campaigns. These collaborations encourage customers to make a difference with every purchase by rounding up their total to the nearest dollar, with the additional change going directly to support the nonprofit.

Hudson Valley Light It Up Blue partnered with Macy’s at the Galleria at Crystal Run, raising \$1,350 to support nonprofit organizations providing services to individuals with autism. Meanwhile, the Food Bank of the Hudson Valley joined forces with Adams Fairacre Farms, raising funds for its mission of feeding the region’s food insecure. These partnerships not only raise awareness but also provide a unique way for customers to contribute to causes close to their hearts.

Furthermore, Resorts World Catskills teamed up with Everi to launch their Everi Cares Giving Module, a platform for patrons to donate the change from redeemed gaming vouchers at redemption kiosks. CFOS was chosen as one of the potential recipients of this campaign, with patrons rounding up for a couple of months now.

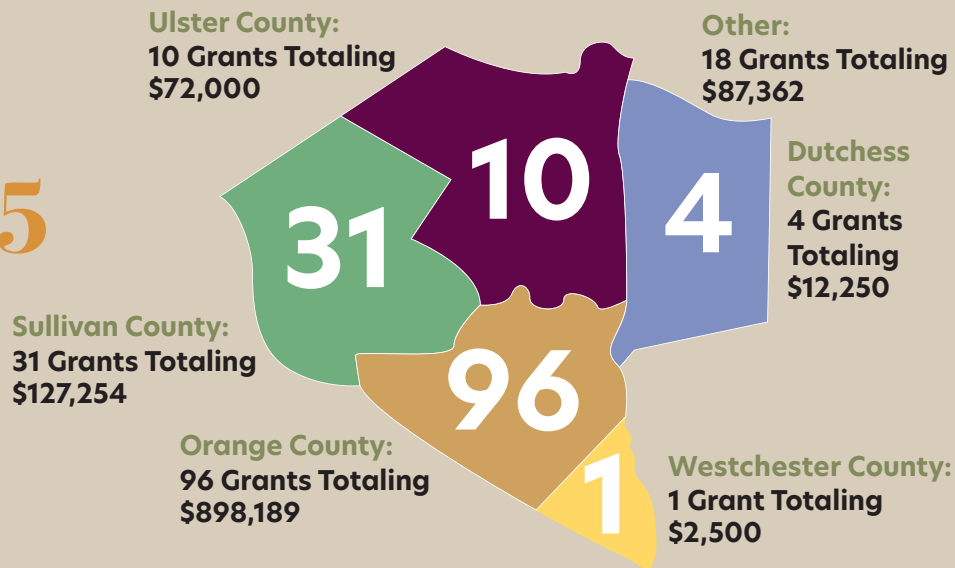
Hudson Valley Light It Up Blue continued its impactful collaborations, partnering with Hook & Reel Cajun Seafood & Bar in Middletown for a successful Christmas with Santa event and receiving support from Walden Savings Bank’s 22 Days of Giving Campaign, raising an additional \$1,800 for autism awareness and Light It Up Blue 2024.

Looking ahead, Hudson Valley Light It Up Blue will host its annual event at Otterkill Country Club on Saturday, April 27. More information can be found on their fund page at cfosny.org. These partnerships and initiatives demonstrate the power of collaboration between CFOS Funds and philanthropic businesses in making a positive difference in communities.



160 Grants Totaling \$1,199,555 distributed from CFOS Funds to Nonprofits

(July 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023)



Nearly \$500 thousand in CFOS Scholarships Available for Class of 2024

Students are encouraged
to apply now!

The CFOS scholarship portal is now open! A total of 140 scholarships worth nearly \$500 thousand will be distributed from funds at the Community Foundation of Orange and Sullivan this spring. High school seniors and adults returning to college are encouraged to apply for these scholarships at cfosny.org. The deadline to apply is April 15.

After filling out a universal 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 the best-fit scholarship opportunities for their unique circumstances and abilities.

For more information or to apply for Community Foundation scholarships, visit cfosny.org or call CFOS Programs and Donor Services Coordinator Lisa Mitchell at 845-769-9393.

CFOS Scholarship Spotlight



Matthew R. Bertholf Scholarship Fund

The Matthew R. Bertholf Scholarship Fund was established to honor and remember Matthew "Matty" Bertholf, who was the epitome of what it meant to live in and embrace Sullivan County.

This fund awards scholarships to graduating seniors of the

Tri-Valley Central School District who plan to continue their education in the fields of trades or applied technology.

In 2023, the fund proudly celebrated its 12th Annual Horseshoe Tournament, a cherished tradition that brings together friends and family in remembrance of Matty while rallying support for the scholarship fund.

Thanks to the generosity and unwavering support of the community, more than \$10,000 was raised during the tournament. The tournament's success year after year underscores the enduring impact of Matty's legacy.

CFOS Make a Difference Grants Address Veterans' Needs

Victory Hill Therapeutic Horsemanship's grant is designated for veterans' equine retreats. The focus of the program is on the veteran building a healthy relationship with their equine partner. In doing so, the veteran can learn essential skills for building healthy relationships and strategies for overcoming mental health challenges. Along their journey of education and recovery, their equine partner offers them non-judgmental feedback on how successful they are at accomplishing their goal of mastering necessary coping skills and improving their mental health.

"ALIVE AGAIN"

STEAM (Siegel Trust Enriching Arts & Music) Fund's grant is designated for "ALIVE AGAIN" presented by Theresa Sareo. "ALIVE AGAIN" is a 60-75-minute presentation by singer-songwriter and trauma survivor, Theresa Sareo, for veterans in the Hudson Valley.

By sharing her personal story with veterans through her music, Theresa Sareo aims to teach, heal, and inspire awareness regarding the physical and psychological effects of trauma, and how to navigate through personal life challenges. Participants are provided with tools to develop the self-awareness, self-control, and interpersonal skills that are vital for success.

The Make a Difference Fund was established by the leadership of the Community Foundation of Orange and Sullivan in 2003 to meet emerging needs in the areas in which it serves.



The 46th Annual 98.3 WSUL Heart-A-Thon

raised
\$80,950

for the prevention, education, and treatment of
heart disease in Sullivan County.

Congratulations

to all involved in this outstanding community effort!

WELCOME TO THE

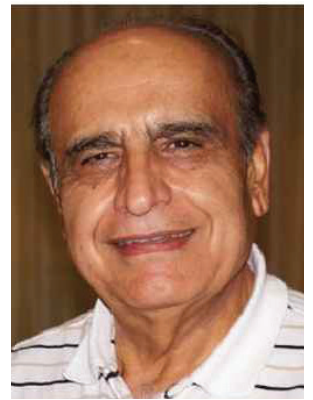
The following funds have joined the CFOS Family of Funds since our last publication.
We are honored to support their charitable intentions.
Please visit **cfosny.org** to learn about these funds or make a contribution.



Bear's Cars Fund



Cornwall Volunteer Ambulance Scholarship Fund



**Dr. Hassan Sadaghiani
Memorial Scholarship**



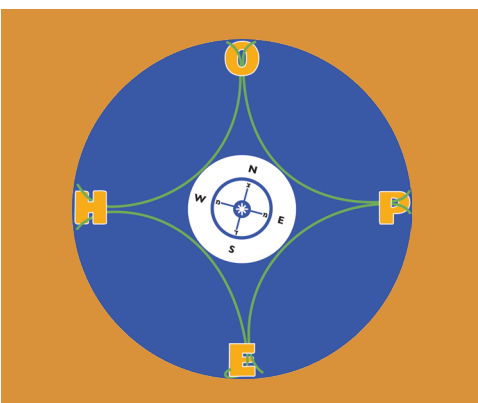
Friends of TJ Foundation



**Friends of Orange County
think Differently**



Friends of Child Advocacy Center Fund



Hope's Compass Fund



Hudson Valley Athletic Club



**Margaret R. Smith Future Female
Leader Scholarship**



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FAMILY



Newburgh Girls Tennis Fund



Sadaghiani Family Port Pride Scholarship



Sean T. "Mr. C"
Cunningham Scholarship



Service Family Foundation



Valley Central Gymnastics Booster Club

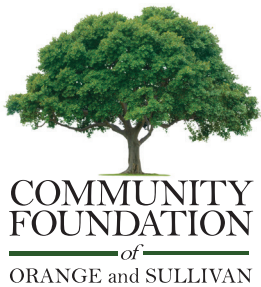
Celebrating Giving Hearts at Donor and Volunteer Reception

Thank you to all who joined us on February 8 at the Wallkill Golf Club for the CFOS Donor and Volunteer Appreciation Reception. We were thrilled to host this special event to show our love and appreciation to our loyal volunteers and committed donors.

Congratulations to longtime dedicated volunteer Gary Schuster, Esq., this year's recipient of the Karen Minogue Award for Distinguished Service. Schuster has served as general counsel for CFOS since 2016.

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25TH ANNUAL RECEPTION!

Save the Date, October 23, 2024

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"I am humbled and proud to receive the Karen Minogue Award for Distinguished Service from the Community Foundation of Orange and Sullivan," said Schuster. "It has been my privilege to help this organization do its good work over these many years alongside its talented and dedicated staff, board, and volunteers."

Karen Ellsweig and Senta Curran were honored for five years of service. Gary Schuster, Esq., Ginny Hughes, Joann Menendez, and Maggie Smith were awarded 10-year certificates. Honored for 15 years of dedication were Allison Wynkoop, Gerald Skoda, and Pam LaLonde. Finally, 25-year certificates were bestowed upon Gerald Jacobowitz, Esq., and RJ Smith.

