

FUND FOR WOMEN

of the Southern Tier, Inc.



2015 Annual Report



FUND FOR WOMEN
of the Southern Tier, Inc.

Get Involved!

You make a difference when you volunteer, donate, or participate!

www.ffwst.org

We help girls and women achieve economic self-sufficiency and realize life goals.

www.ffwst.org

607-542-7558



Christine G. Sharkey
President

Women helping women. Those words inspired us in 2009 when the Fund for Women was born, and they continue to inspire today. What is different today is how many have joined us in our mission – women and men alike, businesses large and small, and partnerships with so many organizations that are tailoring programs to meet the needs of girls and women in our community.

Donations to the Fund for Women of the Southern Tier are nearing the \$1 million mark since our humble start in 2009. Even while we are just two-thirds of the way to our endowment goal that will ensure grant support is available for years to come, we have also been returning funds to the community through the grants process. To date, we have distributed \$180,000 to the girls and women of Steuben, Chemung, Schuyler and Yates counties as they strive to achieve self-sufficiency and life goals.

In 2015, more than \$40,000 was awarded to 49 individuals and 13 organizations. While most grants run through our annual grant process, we saw an explosion in demand for our Barriers to Care grants which help women being treated for breast cancer. The \$8,000 in funding provided by our local Komen affiliate was quickly exhausted, and the Fund for Women board of directors approved more funding of its own to meet this important need.

I'm hopeful that this year's annual report not only communicates our thanks to our donors and volunteers, but also shares with you the stories of the women we help which make our work worthwhile. While it is the impact that our grants have on the lives of girls and women that motivates each of us, it is the generosity of our donor community that makes that work possible. Whether that generosity comes in the form of time or money, please know how valued and appreciated your contributions are.

It is my privilege and honor to be leading this organization through the next year. I look forward to the opportunities ahead!

Best,

Christine G. Sharkey

Board of Directors 2016

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First Vice President

Amanda Chafee
Second Vice President

Kathy Stickler
Treasurer

Danette Miller
Secretary

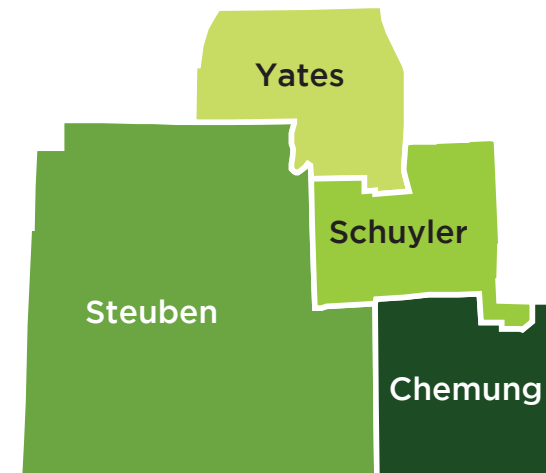
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Gail Baity
Suzanne Blowers
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Ellen Barnes O'Hare
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Our Mission

Our mission is to help girls and women achieve economic self-sufficiency and realize life goals.

Our Service Area

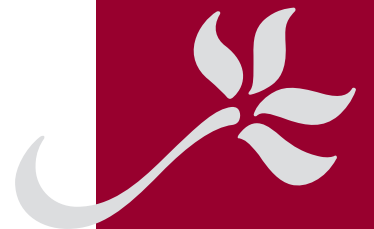


Established in 2009, the Fund is the first funding stream dedicated solely to helping improve the lives of girls and women residing in the Southern Tier counties of Chemung, Schuyler, Steuben and Yates in New York State.

All Volunteer, All the Time

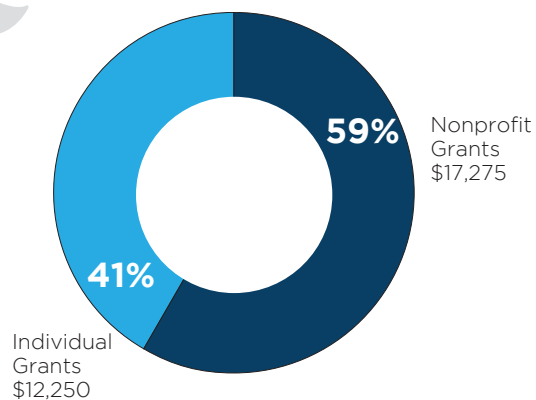
FFW is fortunate to have dedicated volunteer committees working hand-in-hand with the Board to fulfill our mission. These committees work tirelessly to safeguard and grow the Fund's finances, run our grant application and disbursement process, manage our events and more.

We are always looking for volunteers to join a committee and get directly involved in making decisions and doing the work of the Fund. If you are interested, please visit our website at www.ffwst.org and fill out our volunteer interest form.

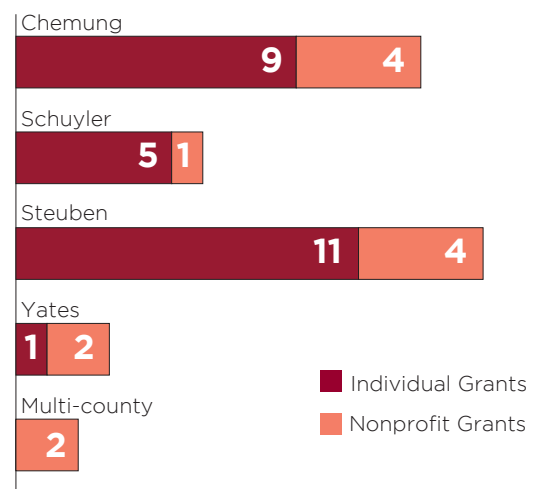




Grant Distribution



Geographic Distribution

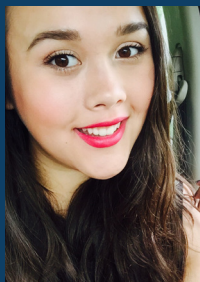


Individual Grants

In 2015, the Fund for Women awarded individual grants of \$200-\$500 each to 26 girls and women to help further their educations and reach their career goals. The awards assisted the recipients in funding educational expenses in the fields of education, nursing, medical records, environmental studies, and the arts.

Individual Grants List - Total \$12,250

- | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| Laurie Abreu | Jenifer Hopkins |
| Kristi Brown | Gail Lewis |
| Caitlin Burns | Karrie Neurauter |
| Sarah Chorney | Kayla Rounds |
| Kate Coller | Raevyn Saunders |
| Megan Daigle | Hailie Searles |
| Jami Fredo | Chantel Snyder |
| Stephanie Gleason | Brittany Thompson |
| Kera Groves | Veronica Tuazon |
| Sarah Hable | Caroleen Vaughan |
| Carissa Hamilton | Elizabeth Waite |
| Chameil Haney | Sara Wead |
| Minnie Hathaway | Megan Winebarger |



"I am so grateful that my community has this amazing resource for women and girls like me who are trying to work towards their goals and make financial ends meet."

Veronica Tuazon
Freshman at Stony Brook University

Nonprofit Grants

Awards to nonprofit organizations supported programs and services for girls and women facing barriers to improving their quality of life, such as low income, high medical costs, and unaffordable housing. Grants also funded proactive programs to help girls and women achieve self-sufficiency, fitness, health and wellness.

Nonprofit Grants List - Total \$17,275

Arts Center of Yates County \$2,200 -Yates County

The Arts Center of Yates County is a safe harbor provided to women in partnership with Safe Harbors of the Finger Lakes. The Arts Center provides an accredited art therapist to work with victims of domestic violence using art to help reconcile emotional conflicts and build self-esteem. This pilot program tests the desire for such a program as well as its effectiveness in supporting the emotional and spiritual healing and well-being of participants and increasing an awareness of and appreciation for the arts by participants.

Career Development Council \$1,000 - Chemung, Steuben, Schuyler Counties

"LIFE: Powered by YOU" is a series of workshops that focus on empowerment and self-esteem for at-risk middle school girls (grades 7, 8, 9). The program, which has been supported by the Fund for Women since 2010, focuses on building confidence, character and communication skills as the young women interact with area professionals. Keynote speakers focus on young women expanding their possibilities and being their own best selves and advocates.

The Painted Post Food Pantry, Inc. "Not By Bread Alone" \$2,000 - Steuben County

The "Not By Bread Alone" program provides items which cannot be purchased with food stamps or through other funding sources. Items on the women's shelf include: laundry soap, sanitary supplies, hair care products and makeup.

Catholic Charities of Steuben \$1,500 - Steuben County

"Bridges Out of Poverty" focuses on getting the whole community working together to create conditions that empower people to move out of poverty.

Economic Opportunity Program, Inc. \$2,000 - Chemung County

The Economic Opportunity Program's "Small Business Incubator" project assists in business creation and retention, encouraging women entrepreneurs in identifying potential business opportunities derived from favorite hobbies, abilities or extracurricular activities.

Faith in Action Steuben County \$1,300 - Steuben County

Faith in Action's volunteer caregiving program, "Maintaining Elderly Independence", is designed to help the elderly continue living independently by providing assistance with transportation, light housekeeping, companionship, grocery shopping and many other non-hands on services.



Did you know that women's sanitary supplies, hair care products and makeup cannot be purchased with food stamps? The Painted Post Food Pantry's "Not By Bread Alone" program provides these necessities to women and girls with its grant from the Fund for Women.





"Girls my age especially need this workshop," was the feedback from a Horseheads middle schooler on "LIFE: Powered by YOU." Conducted by the Career Development Council, these empowerment and self-esteem workshops have received grants from the Fund for Women since 2010. This year, the program reached over 100 at-risk middle school girls from three counties.

A breast cancer diagnosis can shake a woman to her core. Elmira YWCA's "Breast Health Program - Healing & Beyond" helps women in Chemung and Schuyler counties heal minds and souls while recovering physically as well.

Family Service Society, Inc. \$1,000 - Steuben County

The Domestic Violence Intervention Project provides counseling services to women who are survivors of domestic violence in the greater Corning area.

Glove House \$500 - Chemung County

The Glove House's "Get Fit!" program aims to improve the overall health and wellness of the girls served in a fun and exciting way.

My Place: A Play and Learning Center \$750 - Schuyler County

"Empowering Mom" is a program from My Place that offers local community moms a gathering place to get together, socialize, be inspired and to develop skills they need to enhance their parenting skills.

Safe Harbors of the Finger Lakes, Inc. \$1,500 - Yates County

Safe Harbors operates Girl's Circle/Women's Circle Support Groups that are focused on empowerment, self-awareness, positive self-image, healthy relationships and respect.

Southside Community Center \$1,025 - Chemung County

The Southside Community Center developed ten weekly STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) activities for all interested girls in grades 4-8.

Tanglewood Nature Center & Museum \$1,500 - Chemung County

Tanglewood Nature Center & Museum offers a summer science camp with a target audience of primarily at-risk girls aged 9-12 who have shown an interest in science. This organization is a recipient of the Rachel C. Wood Distinguished Leadership Award.

YWCA Elmira & the Twin Tiers \$1,000 - Chemung-Schuyler Counties

YWCA Women's Breast Health Program "Healing & Beyond" addresses the needs of women recovering from breast cancer, which go beyond physical healing and include classes involving healing that helps the mind and soul.

Health Grants - Barriers to Care

The Barriers to Care program, originally established with a grant from Komen Twin Tiers, provides up to \$500 per woman per year to address expenses that emerge as barriers to breast cancer treatment. During 2015, grants totaling \$11,750 were awarded to 23 women.

Fund For Women Activities Annual Giving Opportunities

Our fund development drives our ability to provide support for girls and women in our community. We sponsor annual giving opportunities to address the year-round needs the Fund supports, as well as offering networking, educational and celebratory experiences for our donors and contributors, and supporting other area nonprofits with similar missions.



Mother's Day Appeal

Mother's Day offers a meaningful opportunity to honor or memorialize the special women in your life by contributing to the Fund for Women. To symbolize the lasting benefit your gift makes possible, the Fund plants a daffodil in Sperr Memorial Park in Big Flats for each woman honored. 2015 marked our third year, and the hundreds of daffodils in bloom, individually and together create a magnificent tribute to women.



Fundraiser Dinner

2015 marked our Fourth Annual Fundraising Dinner. This dinner is both our premiere event and largest source of revenue. In addition to a lovely meal, the event included a silent auction and featured E. Marie McKee as our speaker. This special event allows the women of our community to gather, network, and share experiences, while supporting and growing the endowment.



Fund for Women Race for the Cure Team

The Susan G. Komen Twin Tiers Region is dedicated to saving lives and ending breast cancer forever by empowering people, ensuring quality care for all and energizing science to find the cure. Each year the Fund for Women sponsors a team for this tremendous community event. In 2015, over twenty Fund for Women runners and walkers came out to support the cause against breast cancer and raised \$3,500 for Komen Twin Tiers.



Year-End Annual Appeal

At the end of each year, as we reflect on our experiences and blessings, our successes and our challenges, the Fund for Women asks you to consider "paying it forward" to help others in our community. Look for the Annual Appeal letter just as the bustle of the season begins.



Thank You!

The Fund for Women continues to advance our mission with the generous contributions made by community members from all walks of life who want to support women's self-sufficiency and goal achievement. We are truly honored to be stewards of your gifts that will empower girls and women in the Southern Tier. Thank you so very much!

Benefactor (\$5,000+)

Annot Ogden Medical Center
Corning Enterprises
Corning Incorporated Science & Technology
Penny & Kirk Gregg ✨
Susan G. Komen Twin Tiers Region Affiliate
Vulcraft of New York, Inc
Marcia Weber & James Flaws ✨
Karol Wight ✨
Rachel Wood & Joe Miller ✨

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Barbara Blumer ✨
Polly Chu & Bill Mattingly ✨
Connors Mercantile
Corning's Gaffer District
Dresser-Rand Company
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Nancy Golomb ✨
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Kay Rogus ✨
Georgia Rossi
Kathy Stickler
Elizabeth Tranter ✨
Marianne Young ✨

Donor (\$250 - \$499)

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Kristin Crossland ✨
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Clover Drinkwater ✨
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Jane Muuse ✨
Maryanne Rittenhouse ✨
Cathy Sutton ✨
Lei Yu

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Karen Vaughn
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Kristine & James West
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Lynn Woodard
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AJ's Hair & Make-up
Alli's Studio
Aniello's Pizzeria
Bottles & Corks
Buechner Family
Cabin in the Clouds Christmas Forest
Community Foundation of Elmira-Corning and the Finger Lakes, Inc.
Connors Mercantile
Corning Chamber of Commerce
Corning Display Technologies
Corning Museum of Glass
Crystal City Olive Oil
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Pure Design
Radisson Hotel Corning
Ray Jewelers
Scents By Suzy/Suzanne V.
Christine Sharkey ✨
Simply Time Photography
Sorges
Soul Full Cup
Trincherro Family Vineyards
Valicenti Insurance Services, Inc.
Bridget Bossart Van Otterloo
Watkins Glen Harbor Hotel
Wegmans Corning
Keri Wilson - Custom Cupcakes

✨ Fund for Women Founder

Gift Opportunity

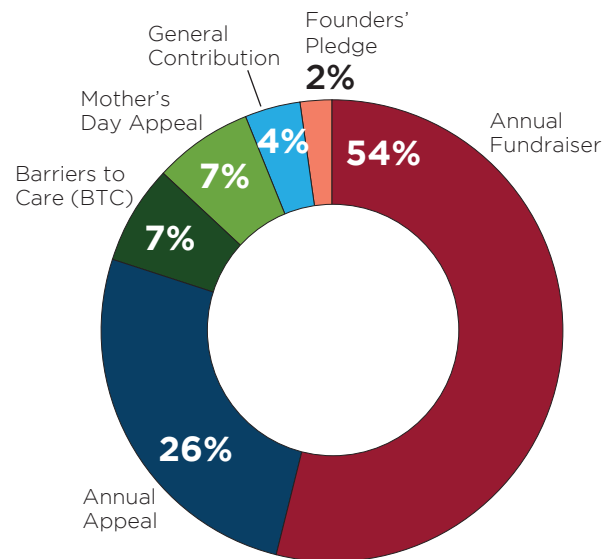
Please consider additional opportunities to support the Fund for Women this year. If you would like to make a gift now, please use the enclosed envelope. You may also donate online anytime at our website: www.ffwst.org



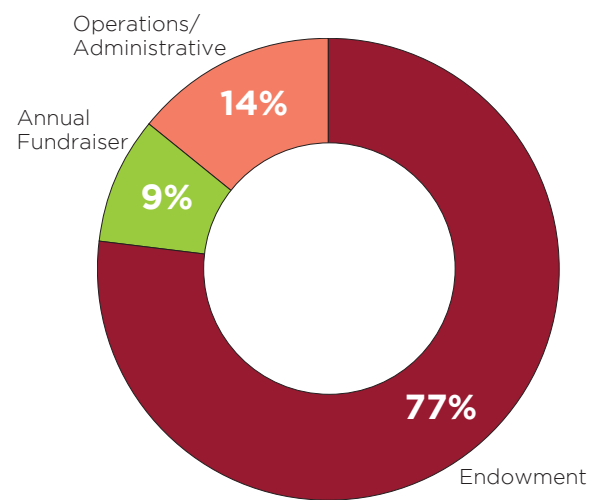


2015 Income and Expenses

Where Funds Came From (by thousands)



Where Funds Went (by thousands)



Beginning Balance \$30,800

INFLOWS

Annual Fundraiser	\$82,885
Annual Appeal	\$40,284
Barriers to Care (BTC)	\$10,626
Mother's Day Appeal	\$11,545
Founders' Pledge	\$2,750
General contribution	\$6,075

Total Inflows \$154,165

OUTFLOWS

Endowment	\$(108,828)
Annual Fundraiser	\$(13,218)
Operations/Administrative	\$(19,800)

Total Outflows \$(141,846)

Change in cash \$12,319

Ending Balance \$43,119

Fund For Women Endowment at the Community Foundation

Beginning Balance \$635,590

INFLOWS

Contributions from FFW operating	\$108,828
Contributions from FFW fundraising made directly to Community Foundation	\$10,916
Investment income, net of fees	\$15,661

Total Inflows \$135,405

OUTFLOWS

Individual and Nonprofit Grants	\$(29,525)
Barriers to Care Grants	\$(11,750)

Grants awarded subtotal \$(41,275)

Miscellaneous administrative fees \$(2,766)

Total Outflows \$(44,041)

Investment market change \$(43,103)

Change in endowment \$48,261

Ending Balance \$683,851





Calling all volunteers!

The Fund for Women is an all-volunteer organization, investing our time and talents in making a positive change in the lives of women and girls in our community. We are always looking for like-minded individuals to help further our mission. If you are interested in volunteering, please go online to www.ffwst.org and fill out our volunteer interest form. We look forward to working with you!

Connect with us!

For information about the Fund for Women, our events, and ways you can contribute, you can visit our website at www.ffwst.org, call us at (607) 542-7558, or connect with us on Facebook or Twitter.