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GIVE. ADVOCATE. VOLUNTEER. LIVE UNITED.

Community Matters

Chenango United Way

Biannual Newsletter

Issue 1

July 2013



Mini Golf Event is a Success

On Saturday, March 2nd, we were proud to have hosted our fourth annual mini-golf fundraiser. It took place at the American Legion from 12pm-9pm, and proved to be a great event enjoyed by attendees of all ages.

There were 18 holes at the event, each created by local businesses and organizations. Participants paid an entrance fee and also had the option of bidding on an assortment of raffle prizes.

We also had a chance to highlight our community partners, along with our target areas of income, education, and health.

At the event we raised approximately \$5,950 towards our fall campaign. We can't wait for next year's event!



Community Partner Spotlight: The Impact Project

The Impact Project spent the winter months restoring Irma McGowan's old trailer in a drastic way, and looks towards more exciting projects for the future.

Last Thanksgiving, the Impact Project began what would be its largest project yet; giving Irma McGowan, the owner of a 50 year old trailer in detrimental condition, a new-refurbished trailer to call home. This improved Irma's quality of life dramatically with the introduction of a new septic system and water lines, a new electrical system, and a new roof with gutters, just to name a few improvements. This was made possible thanks to those who volunteered funds, resources, and manpower.

Since it was founded in 2004, the Impact Project, a faith-based organization in Greene, NY, has assisted 55 homeowners and recruited approximately 1200 volunteers. The Impact project's mission is to assist low income families with home repair projects. This helps to substantially improve the

quality of life for residents and maintain or increasing equity on their homes once projects are done, residents are then able to maintain the repairs on their own. Furthermore, projects like that of Irma's



trailer assist in reducing the need for residents to be reliant on Social Services such as HEAP. Currently, the Impact Project is in the process of procuring a permit to

build a ramp for a family whose current ramp is in disrepair, making it difficult for handicapped family members to get in and out of the house. The Project is also looking forward to installing a LP gas furnace in a family's home at no cost. Director Jim Willard has certainly done an astounding job managing the projects that the Impact Project takes on. For more information on the Impact Project, visit their website at:

www.theimpactprojectgreene.org

Mid-Year Site Visits Are Almost Completed

Zoe Blicksilver, Upstate Institute Fellow from Colgate University has been working on organizing the mid-year site visits with our 22 different community partners. So far, almost all visits have been completed with two Board Member volunteers in attendance at each visit.

These informal visits have proven to be a great way to see the far reaching effects of Chenango United Way Funding first-hand, along with the true diversity of the programs that we fund.

Each site visit and corresponding mid-year report are given a score out of 15 that reflects items ranging from evidence of collaboration with other organizations

within the community to the meeting of goals that had been set both in the organization's Request for Proposal and revised outcome chart. These scores will also form an important part of the RFP process in the fall.



A Special Thanks to the Following for assisting in these visits:

Deb Barker
Lisa Huggins-Colabelli
Anne Drexler
Kendall Drexler
Greg Fuller
Bekky Hargrave
Rowena Krum
Charlie McMullen
Olin Miller
Victoria Mitchell
TJ Moorehead
Barb Tompkins
Jennifer Tavares
Dan Wagner
Joyce Zummo



Our New Location!

We have moved to the front suite of 83 N. Broad Street, as of this past February. Our main reason for doing so was to increase our visibility to the community. We were lucky enough to have this opportunity at no additional cost to us.

Come visit us Monday through Friday from 8am to 3pm. You can also give us a call at (607) 334-8815. Look forward to having you stop in!

Campaign Fall 2013



We exceeded last year's campaign goal of \$444,000. This year we hope to raise \$456,000.



Youth Philanthropy Council Awards

On Thursday, June 6th the Norwich High School Youth Philanthropy Council announced their annual grant allocations to three organizations in the community: The Chenango Arts Council, Catholic Charities Crime Victims Program, and Hospice and Palliative Care of Chenango County



The Youth Philanthropy Council, currently based out of Norwich High School, receives \$5,000 in yearly monetary support from Chenango United Way, and \$5,000 from the Foundation of South Central New York, that it works to disperse among three different non-profits in the area.

This year, the Chenango Arts Council, which provides grants to local artists and organizations, and art related programming to the community, received \$4,550. Catholic Charities' Crime Victims Program, which has provided services to victims of domestic violence, received \$4,250. Finally, Hospice and Palliative Care received \$1,200 from the YPC.

The goal of the YPC has been to allow students to understand the needs within

the community, along with the value of "community action."

The allocations have also focused on organizations that have had an impact on Chenango County, rather than solely the criteria of service in the areas of Income, Education, and Health as the Council had focused on in the past. There were seven different proposals, making decisions extremely difficult.

The students conducted site visits on the organizations that applied for funding and discussed all of their options thoroughly before coming to a conclusion. This also worked to expose students to many non-profits in the area that they would not have had the chance to visit otherwise.

Community Partner Updates

Literacy Volunteers

The Literacy Volunteers have continued to improve adult literacy in the community through their tutoring programs. As of June 1, 72% of adult learners achieved at least one literacy related goal. This has enabled adults to improve their job prospects and attain greater self-sufficiency.

Grow, Cook, Eat

Cornell Cooperative Extension's Grow, Cook, Eat program has done a wonderful job teaching adults new healthy eating habits through weekly classes. It has enabled participants to cook nutritious meals at home and increased their knowledge of gardening and composting. All 19 participants have had a one on one goal setting session with the coordinator and are expected to demonstrate their skills through use of a Grow, Cook, Eat journal.

Crime Victims Program

The Crime Victims Program, housed by Catholic Charities, but serving all of Chenango County continues to help those who have been victims of domestic violence through cooperation with CPS, and work at the Child Advocacy Center, providing counseling and support to those who need it. As of June 1st, 26 families had been helped through this program.



VOLUNTEERS AND PROJECTS NEEDED

September 28th, 2013 9am-12pm

Contact Victoria Mitchell at chenangouw@frontiernet.net or (607) 334-8815 for more information.

What Does Your Donation Support?

Community Partner	2013 Allocation
INCOME	
CASH Coalition	\$13,000
Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Rehousing Program - <i>Catholic Charities and Chenango Housing Council</i>	\$17,291
Housing Counseling - <i>Opportunities for Chenango</i>	\$14,821
Impact Project	\$8,063
Literacy Volunteers - <i>Opportunities for Chenango</i>	\$12,827
Roots & Wings - <i>Catholic Charities</i>	\$13,503
Supplemental Security Income Project - Legal Aid	\$16,059
Teen Development - The Place	\$13,943
EDUCATION	
AmeriCorps - The Place	\$20,164
KIDS Program - The Place	\$13,553
Oxford Youth Center	\$20,164
PAL Family Resource Center - Mothers and Babies Perinatal Network	\$18,622
Service Learning Program - The Place	\$18,842
Youth and Seniors Historical Shadowing Program - Chenango County Historical Society	\$4,627
HEALTH	
Counseling Program - Catholic Charities	\$20,113
Crime Victims Program - Catholic Charities	\$20,113
Danielle House	\$3,758
Grow, Cook, Eat Program - Cornell Cooperative Extension	\$20,079
Prescription Assistance Program - Chenango Health Network	\$20,113
Reaching Out No Cost Healthcare Program - Family Planning of SCNY	\$20,113
Retired and Senior Volunteer Program - Opportunities for Chenango	\$17,256
Splash Program - Norwich Family YMCA	\$2,847

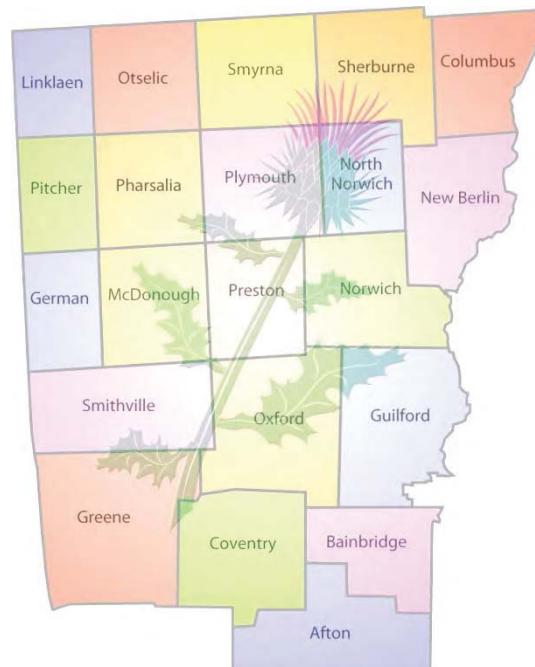


coming soon >>>

Sunday, September 1st
Fundraising Campaign Begins

Saturday, September 28th
Day of Caring

Friday, October 4th
Completed RFPs Due



Contact Us at 607-334-8815
www.chenangouw.org