Keeping the Promise

The Community Foundation
of Herkimer & Oneida Counties, Inc.

The first 55 Years
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How do you describe 55 momentous years?
That was our challenge as we contemplated a title for this publication.

We knew it would be the story of extraordinary people, local men and women from all walks of life, whose paths have crossed through an association with The Community Foundation.

Some have been people of great means. Others have had great need.

Some had exceptional vision. Others, immense passion. Many embodied both.

Most importantly, it is a story of the commitment that people of one generation made to the well-being of those who come after and how that commitment continues to be fulfilled through The Community Foundation of Herkimer & Oneida Counties.

It became obvious that this is the story of a promise kept. Our search for a title was over.

We hope you will be as inspired by reading this remarkable story as we were in compiling it for you.

Utica, New York
May 2, 2007
By 1952, America’s passage into the post-war era was well underway.

Harry Truman’s decision not to seek re-election set the stage for Dwight Eisenhower to defeat Adlai Stevenson for the presidency. The death of George VI brought Elizabeth II to the throne in Great Britain. Joseph Stalin, Eva Peron and Chou En-Lai were other prominent names on the international scene.

Back at home, television was becoming a dominant entertainment medium. The production of TV sets topped the 6 million mark as households coast-to-coast tuned in for the premieres of such programs as The Today Show, The Adventures of Ozzie and Harriet and The Jackie Gleason Show.

The Greatest Show on Earth won the Academy Award for Best Picture, the Yankees beat the Dodgers in the World Series and, with his tour of Europe, Louis “Satchmo” Armstrong became known as the international ambassador of American jazz.

On a more serious note, a poliomyelitis epidemic struck some 50,000 Americans. In an attempt to prevent the disease, gamma globulin was administered to 25,000 children in Utah, Texas and Iowa. At the University of Pittsburgh, Dr. Jonas Salk was testing his vaccine.

“LOOM TO BOOM”

Oneida and Herkimer counties were making transitions of their own as the second half of the 20th century unfolded. The period would become known as the region’s “loom to boom” era, when an economy long based heavily on the textile industry was transformed into one dominated by high-tech, service and defense-related operations.

Names like General Electric, Chicago Pneumatic, Griffiss, Bendix and UNIVAC joined mainstays like Remington, Revere and Utica Mutual to forge a new generation of prosperity. The need for a highly skilled or retrained labor force gave impetus to the establishment of Utica College and the Mohawk Valley Technical Institute (which became Mohawk Valley Community College).

That so many major entities were attracted to or created in the area during this period was not happenstance. It was the result of a unified effort on the part of an extraordinarily talented, committed and well-connected group of local leaders who saw a need and responded to it.

Those same leaders were about to put their skills to work on another important cause.
A Vision

The community foundation movement in America took root in 1914 when the vision of Judge Frederick Goff culminated in the establishment of The Cleveland Foundation. An early 20th century banker and attorney, Goff chafed at the problems trust departments faced when literal compliance with a donor’s outdated instructions hindered the use of funds. As an observer of the challenges and opportunities philanthropy presented, he sought to create something different.

Goff recognized that new trends in philanthropy at the time included an increasing distinction between secular and religious purposes, along with the idea of focusing on a geographic community in contrast to the interests of a particular faith. At the same time, large professionally managed foundations such as Rockefeller and Carnegie were becoming increasingly influential as they began to fund research and promote social policy.

What Judge Goff contemplated took the best of these trends and melded them into something entirely new — *a community foundation*. He envisioned a philanthropic organization that could play an influential role in defining needs and coordinating resources, while involving people of relatively modest means.

It would build on the new trends of interfaith cooperation and involve citizens across a geographic region. By pooling donations derived from permanently endowed funds, it would become a significant charitable vehicle. It would ensure its public purpose by having representatives from across the region serve on its governing board, yet it would have the expert financial management that banks offered. Finally, if a donor’s original purpose became impossible to fulfill, its public orientation would allow the foundation to vary within reason from that design as long as the result reflected the donor’s philanthropic intent.

Vehicle for the Long Term

Although formal establishment was nearly four years away, the first seeds for a community foundation in the Utica area were planted in January 1949 through the merger of the Utica Community Chest and Council of Social Agencies. The new Greater Utica Community Chest and Planning Council successfully combined planning, budgeting and fundraising activities for a plethora of human service causes into a single agency.

While dynamic and effective, the new organization had as its purpose “helping agencies do a better job at the actual point of service to people in need.” Its focus was on the present: namely, annual fundraising to meet community needs that currently existed.

Almost immediately the group’s leadership recognized the value of also having a mechanism that would address local community needs on a long-term basis, along with the interests of donors who wanted to help meet those needs in perpetuity through bequests.

It would be a community trust, producing annual income allocated judiciously by a responsible group of citizens to meet changing and evolving community needs.
At its May 29, 1950 meeting, the board of directors of the Community Chest and Planning Council authorized President Henry T. Dorrance to appoint a special committee to study the feasibility of establishing such a trust in Utica. The group was chaired by Roy C. Van Denbergh. Its members were Henry F. Coupe, J. David Hogue, Warnick J. Kernan and John L. Train.

An excerpt from the minutes of that meeting was prophetic:

“A community trust is a long-range community program. It will not be the exclusive project of the Community Chest and Planning Council. In the years immediately ahead of us it may make little impact on the community. But with intelligent interpretation of its meaning by attorneys and others, and acceptance on the part of those considering such bequests, it can become twenty-five years from now a powerful positive resource in the welfare and health of the community.”

Agreement

The committee’s two-year study included fact-finding about local bequests and their effectiveness in meeting community needs, as well as obtaining a great deal of information from the National Committee on Foundations and Trusts for Community Welfare. In addition, correspondence was carried out with other foundations and trusts operating in New York State.

Seeing how various local bequests had lost their usefulness due to changing community needs and conditions, and at the same time how community foundations in other areas were addressing those shortcomings, Van Denbergh’s committee concluded that such an organization would be right for Utica. Consequently, it was agreed that the Utica Foundation should be established.

The certificate of incorporation was prepared, approved by a State Supreme Court Justice and filed in the office of New York’s Secretary of State on December 17, 1952.

The original incorporators were:

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Signature</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Elizabeth P. Balch</td>
<td>William C. Murray</td>
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<td>J. Leo Coupe*</td>
<td>Alexander Pirnie</td>
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<td>Henry T. Dorrance</td>
<td>Faber Stevenson</td>
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<td>J. David Hogue</td>
<td>John L. Train</td>
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<tr>
<td>Warnick J. Kernan</td>
<td>Roy C. Van Denbergh</td>
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*Henry F. Coupe was a member of the original committee. Upon his death in June 1952, his place was taken by J. Leo Coupe.
Roy C. Van Denbergh
President

If Roy Van Denbergh’s leadership of the study committee was not enough to make him the clear choice to become the Foundation’s first president, the qualities he embodied certainly were.

The native of East Greenbush, New York and graduate of Albany State Teachers College arrived in Utica in 1911 to become principal of the new 1,200-pupil Brandegee School on the city’s east side. Within a few years he had so impressed officials of the Savings Bank of Utica with his suggestions about the school savings plan, that he was offered the job of assistant to the bank’s president. Thus began a career that would have him rise through the ranks to the presidency himself in 1932. He continued in that capacity until his retirement in 1957, having successfully led the institution through the turbulent times of the Depression and World War II.

Throughout the years there was hardly an important community undertaking with which Van Denbergh was not associated. He chaired a local campaign to aid victims of the 1923 Japanese earthquake, was treasurer of the state cancer drive, a director of the Utica Chamber of Commerce and Better Business Bureau, and a guiding force for the improvement of local hospital services. One of the first trustees of the Munson-Williams-Proctor Arts Institute, he was that group’s treasurer and became its chairman, holding the post at the time of his death in 1974 at the age of 90.

As extensive as Van Denbergh’s achievements were, it was the nature of much of his work and the compassion on which it was based that made his legacy so extraordinary.
Early in the Depression he organized a committee that raised funds to provide work for the unemployed. An experimental project, it set a pattern for nationwide programs. On a less visible level, he was known to forgive or otherwise make special arrangements on loans to help area families make it through the Depression years.

He formed the Utica Americanization Council to aid immigrants in becoming citizens. It included language courses at Brandegee School. Following World War II, he chaired Utica’s emergency housing advisory committee that fought to provide veterans with suitable housing in the area.

He served as The Community Foundation’s president until 1968, when he was made chairman of the board. Upon his retirement from the board in 1971, he was elected an honorary director.

J. David Hogue
Vice President

When J. David Hogue took over as publisher and president of Utica’s two newspapers, the Daily Press and Observer-Dispatch, in 1937, he pledged to give his readers “accurate, informative, interesting and wholesome” newspapers that would be “welcomed by men, women and children alike.” For 21 years he did just that.

The DePauw University graduate brought with him the belief that his newspapers could and should provide publicity and encouragement for area successes, in both the economic and cultural arenas. That conviction proved to be invaluable to the community as a whole as it rebounded during the “loom to boom” era and specifically to The Community Foundation in its formative years. Both papers carried front-page stories on the Utica Foundation’s incorporation in December 1952, explaining in detail its purposes and structure, and continued to provide positive coverage in the years that followed.

Recounting his success in turning the Utica newspapers into one of the most progressive and efficient units in the Gannett Group, following Hogue’s death in 1958 an editor wrote in the Daily Press, “David Hogue was not an ordinary person. There was nothing ordinary about him. His vital job of leading the Utica newspapers through good times and bad over 20 years would have been more than enough for most people. But Mr. Hogue’s energy was amazing.”

He applied that energy in being more than a respected publisher. He was a true believer in the potential of the Greater Utica Area. The community and The Community Foundation were the better for it.
Any roster of the leading citizens who worked in a multitude of ways to improve the quality of life in Greater Utica throughout the first half of the 20th century would include prominent attorney Warnick Kernan.

A native with a rich family heritage in the area, Kernan graduated from Georgetown University and Cornell Law School. For a time he served as commissioner of public schools in Utica.

His successful legal career encompassed serving as president of both the Oneida County and New York State bar associations. He was a member of the State Mortgage Advisory Committee and the State Law Revision Commission, chairing the latter.

Active in the Democratic Party, he was named chairman of its state convention in Albany in 1928.

He was president of the Utica Library Board, president of The Community Chest, a director of the American Legion and served on the Utica Branch of the Foreign Policy Association. He was an organizer of a major labor union fund drive during the Depression and during World War II served as president of the United War Chest of Greater Utica.

His stature in the community was indicated by the major events at which he was a key figure. In 1923, he was one of the speakers at the ceremony dedicating the statue of Vice President James S. Sherman on Utica’s Parkway. Nine years later he was the toastmaster at Utica’s official centennial celebration.

Kernan, who was known respectfully as the dean of lawyers in Oneida County, lent his considerable experience and expertise to the Foundation as one of its original incorporators and as a member of its board until 1972.

Serving as one of The Community Foundation’s original incorporators was only one of many monumental roles William Murray played in the area’s industrial, social and cultural sectors during his lifetime. The native of Dunkirk, New York and graduate of Cornell University was vice president and treasurer of Utica Radiator Corporation (later Utica Boilers) when it was founded in 1928. He went on to become the firm’s president and chairman of the board.
His business acumen called him to service on the boards of various other corporations as well as numerous health, educational and financial institutions. In addition to the Foundation, community organizations of which he was a director included the YMCA, YWCA, Cosmopolitan Center, Red Cross, United Way, Senior Day Center, Oneida County Historical Society, Chamber of Commerce and Better Business Bureau.

An avid supporter of the arts, Murray served as president of Munson-Williams-Proctor Arts Institute for over 20 years and became the honorary chairman of its board. He had also served as president of the Central New York Community Arts Council. He was the catalyst for the movement to preserve and restore the Stanley Theatre, initially writing a personal check to save it from the wrecker’s ball.

So significant were his lifetime accomplishments and contributions to the community that he was awarded honorary degrees by Hamilton College, Colgate University and Utica College.

He remained on the Foundation’s board until his death in 1977.

**Alexander Pirnie**

**Treasurer**

While Alexander Pirnie was widely recognized as a dedicated and influential United States Congressman who represented Central New York from 1958 through 1972, he was an equally important figure with The Community Foundation for an even longer period.

Pirnie was a native of Pulaski, New York and a graduate of Cornell University and Cornell Law School. He began practicing law in Utica in 1926 and quickly became active in community service. In 1933 he was honored by the *Utica Observer-Dispatch* as its most “useful citizen of the year” for his extensive work on behalf of the unemployed. He led the Community Chest drives in 1935 and 1936, and in 1955 served as president of the Chamber of Commerce.

Complementing his professional and community service work was a long and distinguished career in the U.S. Army, which began in 1924 when he was commissioned a second lieutenant in the Infantry of the Officers Reserve Corps. He served in Europe during World War II, earning the Bronze Star and Legion of Merit, and retired as a colonel in the Army Reserve in 1963.

While in Congress he was a member of the powerful House Armed Services Committee and successfully led efforts to keep open Griffiss Air Force Base, which local leaders had worked diligently to bring to the area two decades earlier.

A superb orator, Pirnie frequently put his speaking skills to work on behalf of the Foundation. He served the longest of any of the original incorporators,
remaining on the board for 30 years until his death in 1982. His leadership, judgment and acute sense of the needs of the community were considered key in shaping and guiding the organization throughout those years.

HENRY T. DORRANCE
SECRETARY

It can be said that Henry T. Dorrance got it all started. An early believer in the community trust concept, it was under his direction as president that the Community Chest and Planning Council undertook the exploration of establishing such a mechanism locally.

A native of Camden, New York, Dorrance graduated from Cornell University and Harvard Law School. During World War II he served in the Judge Advocate General’s Corps of the Air Force, attaining the rank of full colonel and earning the Legion Award of Merit for outstanding service. Following the War he resumed his successful legal career, along with a far-reaching involvement in community service causes. Besides the Community Chest and Planning Council, he served as president of the Chamber of Commerce and of the Boys Club.

But it was his intense belief in the viability of The Community Foundation to be the solution for meeting long-term community needs that took center stage. That conviction and the enthusiasm that flowed from it led him to become known as the Foundation’s “sparkplug” during its formative years. He remained a director and the secretary of the board until his death in 1961.

In 1959, he was responsible for the creation of the George E. Upson Fund, the Foundation’s first fund from an individual unaffiliated with the organization.

His innumerable contributions to The Community Foundation were summed up in an annual report dedicated to him:
“He was impressive in stature, pre-eminent in character and blessed with a superb mind and gift of wit. Cordial in manner and wise in counsel, he demanded much of those with whom he worked, but always returned more than he received.”
Elizabeth Prescott Balch

“Betty” Balch was a positive force in the community well before answering the call to become one of the incorporators of the Utica Foundation. The Rome native and graduate of Sweet Briar College in Virginia had distinguished herself as a leader with numerous causes and organizations, including having served as president of the Junior League and as a board member of the Visiting Nurse Association, Senior Day Center and Community Chest. Also active at First Presbyterian Church and with the Players Theater, she was honored as Outstanding Alumna of Sweet Briar College in 1978. She was also known as an outstanding needle-woman and taught crewel jewelry for many years.

Married to Richard Balch, president of the Horrocks-Ibbotson Company and a leading figure in state and national Democratic Party circles, she continued to serve on the Utica Foundation’s board until 1968. As an original incorporator and the only female member of the group, she was a forerunner in the truest sense of the word. She helped shape the organization and paved the way for the profound roles women would play in its development, impact and ongoing progress.

J. Leo Coupe

The Foundation’s original organizing committee included eminent Utica attorney Henry F. Coupe. Upon his passing in June 1952, just a few months before the incorporation papers were formally filed, Henry’s place on the incorporating board was taken by his nephew, J. Leo Coupe. A successful lawyer in his own right, J. Leo would remain a valuable member of the Foundation’s board for the next two decades.

A graduate of Hamilton College and Harvard Law School, Coupe was as dedicated to community service as he was to the practice of law. He was the founder and an active leader of the local chapter of the Legal Aid Society, which helped make legal services in civil cases available to everyone, regardless of their financial status. His other contributions ranged from chairing the Oneida County Mental Health Board and being the New York Governor’s delegate to the 1961 White House Conference on the Aging, to serving on countless local boards, including United Way, St. Elizabeth Hospital, Catholic Charities and the Red Cross. Groups he served as president included the Hamilton
The Founders continued...

College Alumni Association and the Oneida County Bar Association. He was also actively involved in the Republican Party.

Coupe was regarded as a man of great ability and great dignity, who cared deeply about the clients and community he served. He considered the Foundation to be one of the area's greatest assets and his long tenure on the board made him one of the few who helped lead it from modest beginnings to a position of substantial endowment and grantmaking capability.

Faber Stevenson

While all of the other original incorporators engaged in social service work as an avocation, for Faber Stevenson, it was his vocation.

Born in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania in 1903, Stevenson graduated from Westminster College and, after earning a Master's from Columbia University, went immediately to work in the community chest field. He served with several such organizations on the east and west coasts before coming to Central New York in 1946 as director of the Utica Community Chest. He would remain in the post until his retirement in 1967.

In 1949, he oversaw creation of the new Community Chest and Planning Council and shortly thereafter provided professional staff support to the committee that explored establishing The Community Foundation. As a veteran practitioner in the field, he brought a unique understanding of both short-term and long-term community needs, and the different methods for addressing them. After the Foundation was formed, he was instrumental in producing its early informational literature.

The nature of his work led to an awareness of, and contact with, virtually every service program in the community. He was instrumental in the formation of such agencies as the Mohawk Valley Workshop, Meals On Wheels and the Central Homemaker Service, and took a special interest in projects like the 1951 study that led to the merger of St. Luke's and Memorial hospitals.

In 1955 he provided leadership to the Community Chest and Planning Council at another key juncture in its history, formation of the United Fund, which combined the community chest appeal with the Red Cross and other independent agencies.

Stevenson served on The Community Foundation’s board until 1970, bringing the enthusiasm for which he was well known and wisdom only he could contribute.
John L. Train

When John Train passed away on June 12, 1958, the Utica Daily Press, in an editorial salute to him, said, “No city ever has enough of such personalities and Mr. Train’s death leaves a vacancy on Utica’s honor roll which will be hard to fill.”

The Community Foundation was among those feeling the void.

Train was a natural fit for The Foundation’s start-up board. He had arrived in Utica in 1914 to take charge of the fledgling Utica Mutual Compensation Insurance Corporation, forerunner of the Utica National Insurance Group, and proceeded to guide it into becoming one of the most successful operations of its type in the country. Along the way he became a leader in a host of programs for the betterment of his industry and community.

Always forward thinking, he chaired the Governor’s Committee to Employ the Physically Handicapped and his voice and counsel were heard and heeded by community leaders, lawmakers and other public officials on major issues ranging from revising the City of Utica’s charter, to structuring its municipal water authority.

A native of Batavia, New York, Train was a graduate of Syracuse University and its law school, and practiced law briefly in Syracuse before joining the New York State Insurance Department in 1905. His rapid rise there led to the call to Utica Mutual.

Despite all of his achievements, Train was most remembered as a quiet and unassuming man of uncompromising integrity, with a gentle sense of humor and an extraordinary commitment to those causes in which he believed. The Community Foundation was one of them.
Improving the lives of children has always been a focus of Community Foundation grants. From equipping a new center at Agape (now Thea Bowman) House in 1990, to instituting the Care for Our Kids initiative that followed; funding educational and recreational programs, to supporting health-related and character-building services, The Foundation has recognized that children are the future of our community.
This foundation, the true value of which will be seen over the years to come rather than in the immediate present, offers to the citizens of Utica and its neighboring communities a method of expressing their interest in the welfare of the community in a wise and practical way for all time to come.

From the report presented at the annual meeting of the Greater Utica Community Chest and Planning Council, February 11, 1953

“Foundation Formed for a Better Utica”

The headline on the front page of the Utica Observer-Dispatch of December 23, 1952 spoke volumes. In publicly announcing the organization’s incorporation, it captured the essence of what the new Utica Foundation—which would serve not only Utica but neighboring communities as well—was all about.

The article that followed explained the Foundation’s origins and reiterated its mission as stated in the Letter of Incorporation: to accept and use funds for the purposes of

• Caring for the indigent, sick, aged and helpless, young and underprivileged;
• Providing needed facilities for recreation, the elimination of juvenile delinquency and the development of good citizenship;
• Improving living and working conditions;
• Advancing health;
• Advancing education;
• Providing for the care and humane treatment of animals.

To a public familiar with the workings of the Community Chest, but mostly unacquainted with the concept of a community trust, the article explained the differences between the two.

It also disclosed the Foundation’s leadership structure: management by a board, elected by corporate members who would be appointed proportionately by the Oneida County Bar Association, the Community Chest and Planning Council, the mayor of Utica and those area banks with trust departments acting as a unit. The banks would serve as custodian of the Foundation’s funds.

“Of Increasing Significance and Value”

“The organization of this foundation is only the first step toward accomplishment of its purposes,” Board Secretary Henry Dorrance was quoted as saying. “There must be, over the years to come, constant effort to build up its resources and to maintain them at a high level. There must [also] be diligent and wise analysis of the needs of the community...."
“It will be of increasing significance and value in the years to come,” forecast Warnick Kernan. “No one can foresee changes in the needs and problems of a community. If each of us were here, say in the year 2000 A.D., we might well wish to channel our gifts quite differently than we would today.”

The Foundation, added President Roy Van Denbergh, “is as nearly perpetual an agency as law and human ingenuity can devise.”

**Small Steps**

The ’50s continued to bring noteworthy, albeit modest “firsts” for the Foundation. In March 1953, the board held its first post-incorporation meeting in the trustees room of the Savings Bank of Utica. In October, the organization recorded its first donation, $25 from Vice President William Murray, to cover the cost of an accountant’s report.

Several significant events took place in the opening months of 1954. In January, continuing the effort to educate the community, the Foundation published its first brochure. Titled *For Lives to Come*, the publication was comprehensive in its description of the Foundation’s purposes, operations, safeguards as a charitable vehicle and benefits for donors, including the tax advantages and ability to indicate

It was a far-sighted group of organizers that gave The Community Foundation life, but it was one remarkable woman who truly made it come alive.

Rosamond G. Childs joined the Foundation’s board in 1954, becoming one of the first directors not among the original incorporators. In 1956 she became its first major donor, establishing the Rosamond Childs Fund with a gift of $6,000. Important financially and symbolically in the Foundation’s early years, it was only a hint of what was to come.

She remained on the Foundation’s board for 14 years, exercising her passion for philanthropy with further contributions to the fund, by being similarly generous to other charitable causes and even providing direct financial aid to individuals or families she knew to be in need. She also served on other boards, including those of Faxton Hospital, Children’s Hospital and The House of the Good Shepherd.

An acute hearing loss contributed to her retirement from the Foundation’s board in 1968, prompting her to comment that “it would be much better to have a younger woman who is more in touch with civic affairs to replace me.”

Childs would live another 19 years, however, before passing away on December 16, 1987 at the age of 100. Shortly thereafter, a bequest in her will established a second fund at the Foundation.
preferences for causes their donations would support. It further defined the leadership structure, noting that the board included a total of 15 directors, 12 corporate members plus three other persons elected by them. The board would elect officers annually and all officers and directors would serve without pay.

The cost of printing the booklet, $878, was underwritten by the Community Chest and Planning Council, with the understanding that it would be reimbursed when the Foundation was able to do so. One thousand copies of the booklet were printed and mailed to selected recipients across Oneida and Herkimer counties, including doctors, lawyers and clergy. The breadth of distribution was a clear indication that even at this early date, the Foundation was committed to serving the residents of both counties. The mailing was accompanied by a letter from Foundation President Roy Van Denbergh.

In March, Rosamond G. Childs, Walter J. Matt and Julius Rothstein joined the board, becoming the first directors outside of the founding group. Childs, whose full story is told in the adjoining column, would become one of the most influential figures in the Foundation’s history. Matt was president of the F.X. Matt Brewing Company and would serve on the board for 19 years. Rothstein, manager of the First National Bank Building, remained on the board until 1960.

**First Funds**

No gifts were received in 1954 or 1955, but in 1956 Childs made the first sizeable gift to the Foundation, $6,000, which established its first fund. Total gifts for that

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the Rosamond G. Childs Fund. Stemming from an early investment her father made in the Benjamin Moore Paint Company, it amounted to approximately $5.6 million.

**Delivering On the Promise**

This fund became and remains The Community Foundation’s largest. Immediately it gave the Foundation formidable grantmaking capability, transforming it from an organization with great promise to one that could deliver on that promise by making a meaningful difference in the community. Along with the first Childs fund, it has generated hundreds of grants totaling millions of dollars that have benefited virtually every type of worthwhile cause. These grants have included many of The Foundation’s largest.

What’s more, the unrestricted nature of both Childs funds allows the income from them to be used for ever-changing and emerging community needs, empowering The Foundation to be precisely the long-term vehicle its founders envisioned. As great as the financial impact has been, the modesty and spirit with which Rosamond Childs quietly built her legacy make it even more special. She said that society had been good to her and that in repayment, she felt she should do her best to improve the quality of life in the Greater Utica Area. Her first fund remained anonymous for a decade until she reluctantly agreed to have it carry her name. Her lifestyle belied that of an individual with her means and she was frequently heard admonishing friends to “open up their checkbook and help” when a need arose.

In 2006 The Community Foundation honored her memory with the introduction of The Rosamond Childs Award for Community Philanthropy, now given annually to a recipient who has demonstrated the qualities she exemplified. Very simply, Rosamond Childs always wanted to make a difference. Very powerfully, she always will.
Taking Root continued...

year amounted to $6,054.88 and included donations of $2 each from 19 other individuals, as well as $16.88 from the Utica Executive Club.

The following year, 1957, brought the creation of a second, much larger fund, when the assets of the former Utica Dispensary were liquidated and placed with the Foundation. Over $61,000 strong, the new fund prompted President Van Denbergh to say, “The Foundation is for the first time in a position to begin to carry out the purposes for which it was organized.”

1957 also marked the establishment of the George E. Upson Fund, from the estate of the onetime city editor of the *Utica Daily Press* and later an officer of the Utica Provident Loan Association. Even larger than the Dispensary Fund, it was also significant for another reason: it was the first fund originating from a person unaffiliated with the Foundation’s board. Although not restricting use of the fund, Upson made clear his interest in promoting the welfare of children.

The next year, 1958, brought the arrival of another figure who would become a giant in the Foundation’s life, Addison M. White. Appointed to the board to take the place of John Train, who died in June of that year, White’s contributions to the Foundation over more than three decades would become incalculable and are also chronicled in an adjoining column.

In 1958, another giant in The Community Foundation’s history arrived on the scene when Addison M. White joined the board. So began a 34-year association during which his name became synonymous with the Foundation and its ever-growing good work in the community.

A descendent of the area’s early settlers, White was a Korean War veteran pursuing his career at The Savings Bank of Utica when he “accepted” an appointment to the Foundation’s board by President Roy C. Van Denbergh, who also happened to be White’s boss at the bank.

“I didn’t know much about the Foundation at the time,” he later recounted, “so I took the assignment out of a sense of duty. As I read the reports of other foundations...

I realized what a good thing this would be for our community. So I stuck with it.”

It was fortunate for the community that he did.

He went on to become president of both the Savings Bank and the Foundation, retiring from the bank in 1977 but continuing to lead the Foundation until 1992. While the Foundation was the focal point of his community activity, he also made time to provide leadership to a host of other civic causes, ranging from college foundations to United Way, health institutions to economic development groups, the Christmas Seal campaign to the Oneida County Historical Society.

During his tenure, the Foundation’s assets grew from $68,000 to over $18 million and it awarded...
Carrying Out the Purposes

Van Denbergh’s assertion that the Foundation could now start carrying out its purposes came to fruition in the increased grantmaking that began to take place in 1959. Through 1958, the Foundation had made a total of just four grants, amounting to $425, all which went to the United Fund. By contrast, emanating largely from the Utica Dispensary Fund, seven grants totaling $2,000 were made in 1959 alone. Most benefited area hospitals, plus The House of the Good Shepherd. Grant activity was now significant enough to warrant the formation of a screening committee, whose members became Henry Dorrance, Walter Matt and Addison White.

Two funds, the Bessie C.B. Capron Fund and Henry T. Dorrance Memorial Fund, joined the endowment in 1961. A third, the Ellen Knowler Clarke Fund, was in the fold by the time the decade closed. The Capron Fund became the Foundation’s largest to date and the Dorrance Fund was its first to the honor the memory of a founding director.

1968 brought the retirement of Roy Van Denbergh from the presidency and the election of Addison White to take his place. In 1970, a second descriptive publication was produced, Utica Foundation, Inc. — For Those in Need … Today and in the Years to Come. It carried a sub-theme of Living Beyond Our Lifetime.

$4.2 million in grants. As president, White always sought to apply the highest degree of stewardship over funds entrusted to the Foundation, realizing that the public’s confidence was paramount to its future. It was during his presidency that the Foundation’s first staff was hired. Until that time, White personally devoted countless hours to maintaining records in a meticulous and organized style.

He was a man of deep compassion who saw The Community Foundation as a means of helping the less fortunate and addressing critical human needs. His leadership style reflected the conviction that consensus-building, respect for differences of opinion and listening to others were still the keys to working effectively with people.

An Innovator

While maintaining the Foundation’s stability and high credibility, White was not afraid of change or innovation. Under his leadership in 1991, for example, the Foundation stepped up to provide $100,000 in funding to replace Regents, Nursing and Empire State college scholarships that area high school graduates had earned but were to be denied due to a cutback in State spending.

Precedent-setting at the time, White called the action “very much in keeping with the Foundation’s charter, which makes the promotion and encouragement of education and the advancement of human knowledge as high a priority as supporting general charitable causes.”

He believed that the Foundation’s role would continue to increase in importance. At his retirement in 1992, looking back at the Foundation’s first 40 years, he characterized it as having moved from “the diaper stage, to short pants, to long pants,” adding that its work had “just begun.”

In typical fashion, even as he stepped down from active service with The Community Foundation, he was looking ahead to its future.
The booklet reported that as of July 1 of that year, the Foundation’s eight existing funds, along with the value of two funds known to be forthcoming, gave the organization total resources of nearly $515,000. From its inception it had disbursed almost $166,000 in grants.

**More “Firsts”**

Although by now a vital, maturing organization, the Foundation continued to mark “firsts” in the 1970s. In 1972, under Addison White’s leadership, the practice of publishing an annual report each year was instituted. In 1974, Muriel Hineline became the first woman to serve as an officer, when she was elected vice president. Her tenure on the board ultimately spanned 28 years, during which she also distinguished herself as an insightful member of the screening committee.

The organization’s role in Herkimer County was reinforced in 1977 with the establishment of the Harry F. Dise Fund, which was earmarked specifically to benefit causes in Little Falls. Dise grew up in that community and although he spent most of his career as a successful businessman in the Prescott, Arizona area, he retained strong feelings for his hometown and its people. Created by a substantial bequest from his estate, the fund was designated to support their well-being in perpetuity.

The addition of the Dise Fund helped the Foundation reach a milestone that year when its assets crested the million-dollar mark for the first time, standing at slightly over $1,154,000 at year’s end. Fifteen funds now comprised the endowment. Grants for the year numbered 27, totaling over $48,000.

Although hiring full-time staff was still a few years away, by 1980 the administrative needs of the organization had reached a point that the board authorized funding for a part-time secretary.

Measured against the dramatic growth the Foundation would begin to experience in the mid-1980s, its development throughout the first three decades was slow. But the organization had taken root. It was working and it was starting to make a difference.

It was ready to take its impact to an entirely new level—and the resources to do that were just around the corner.
If the years 1952 through 1986 marked the period in which the Foundation took root, the three that followed became the season in which it blossomed. That was made possible by landmark bequests.

At the close of 1987 the Foundation received approximately $1 million, representing a portion of the assets of the former Faxton Street Home. Thus, the Faxton Street Home Fund was created. Established in 1870 as a residence for homeless women, the facility had carried out its mission and met related needs for over a century. As new community services arose to meet those needs, however, it merged with several local nursing facilities in 1972. In keeping with the Home’s original purpose, the Foundation’s board resolved that income from the fund would be used for the care and assistance of sick, elderly, handicapped and similarly needy individuals.

Late 1987, also brought the passing of Rosamond G. Childs. Her will provided for a bequest which would establish a second fund in her name at the Foundation. That she would remember the organization in her estate surprised no one; that the gift would be so large, $5.6 million, surprised everyone. By itself, it instantly tripled the size of the Foundation and opened up an entirely new world of grantmaking possibilities.

In 1989, after the last resident of the Faxton Street Home passed away, its board turned the Home’s remaining endowment of some $3 million over to the Foundation, increasing the size of the Faxton Street Home Fund nearly fourfold.
The achievements, traditions and dignity that make our community’s past so rich are kept alive in the faces and personalities of our seniors. Better living facilities, state-of-the-art health care and meaningful social activities are among the programs the Foundation supports to improve life for the elderly. A 1993 grant helped fund several improvements at the Heritage Home, including a new lounge where residents could celebrate both the past and present. Support for such projects comes from various funds within the Foundation’s endowment, especially the Faxton Street Home Fund, whose namesake was among the forerunners of the Heritage Health Care Center.
A New Era

With assets that barely exceeded $1.7 million in 1986 on a path to top $12.6 million by the close of 1989, the Foundation was catapulted into a new era in virtually every sense of the word.

Beyond its volunteer board, the recast organization would require full-time professional management on a day-to-day basis. Consequently, in July 1989, Gordon M. Hayes, Jr., became the organization’s first executive director. He brought a background that was strong in both local heritage and financial experience, qualities that would serve the Foundation well in the ensuing years.

Shortly thereafter, a second full-time staff position was added, combining the duties of secretary and administrative assistant.

With its operations having outgrown the office provided at the Savings Bank of Utica for many years, in September 1989, the Foundation moved to its own offices at 270 Genesee Street in Utica.

In three eventful years, the Foundation had passed major turning points, which had brought dynamic change. Visibly, financially and structurally it was ready to welcome the opportunities and challenges the final decade of the 20th century would bring.

While there was much to build on, there was much yet to build when Gordon M. Hayes, Jr., became The Foundation’s first executive director in 1989, and build he did.

Under his leadership, the organization made the transition from an all-volunteer group to a professionally staffed foundation. New policies in grantmaking, investments, governance and fundraising all contributed to a greater impact in the community. Visibility was increased through more creative grantmaking, including the Regents scholarships and “Care for Our Kids” initiatives, and The Community Foundation’s first advertising campaign.

The organization also broadened its role as a resource for nonprofits through grantmaking that helped them build capacity and agency funds that allowed them to benefit from The Foundation’s investment program.

Most noticeably, the period was marked by an increased emphasis on regionalism, which encompassed all aspects of The Foundation’s operations and culminated with the name change in 1996.

During Hayes’ tenure, assets grew from slightly over $9 million to more than $50 million.

“Through it all,” he said, “we worked to keep The Foundation a gentle, thoughtful leader, continuing the legacy established by Addison White and all of the original incorporators.”
Throughout its history, The Community Foundation has benefited from the wisdom and dedication of men and women from across Herkimer and Oneida counties who have served on the board and in other volunteer capacities. One such leader was Mary Griffith of Rome, trustee emerita, a member of the board from 1992 until 2003. She is pictured above at the Rome Art & Community Center, one of numerous cultural organizations whose programs and facilities have been enhanced with Community Foundation support.
The '90s opened as eventfully as the '80s closed.

With the word out about the Foundation's greater capabilities, requests for grants reached new heights, both in the number of applications and amounts sought. The trend was fueled by decreases in government and corporate support that many nonprofits were feeling at the time.

In 1990, grants awarded reached 60, totaling over $700,000. This increased activity prompted another expansion of the staff, the addition of a program officer to support the process through which the Foundation received, reviewed and acted upon funding requests. At the same time, a full-time secretary was added, enabling the fourth staff member to serve as grants administrator and general administrative assistant.

Ironically, the Foundation's significant growth in the late '80s created a new challenge, the need to raise even more money. It stemmed from the federal requirement that to maintain its status as a community foundation, providing donors with the corresponding tax benefits, the Foundation had to generate at least 10 percent of its annual income from public support. With a smaller endowment generating a relatively modest investment return, this hadn't been a concern. However, the much larger endowment now made it one.

The Foundation met the challenge in a way that not only satisfied the requirements of the public support test, but at the same time increased community participation and added a dynamic new dimension to its grantmaking.

**New Role**

During 1990, the Foundation applied for and was awarded a $250,000 challenge grant under the Leadership Program for Community Foundations sponsored by the Ford Foundation and the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation. The Utica Foundation became one of only 17 community foundations in the nation to receive one of the prestigious grants.

Identifying the need to improve the quality and availability of childcare in Oneida and Herkimer counties as one of the region's most urgent needs, the Foundation's board earmarked the grant to be used for that purpose. It went a step further by allocating an additional $750,000 of the Foundation's own resources, making a total of

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Transformation

"While The Foundation will always recognize its historic roots in the city and people of Utica, the new name formally recognizes what has increasingly been our mission and practice: being the community foundation for all residents of both counties."

President William L. Schrauth
August 1996
$1 million available for the childcare cause, to be spent over a five-year period.

A stipulation of receiving the Ford-MacArthur funding, was, however, that the Foundation raise $500,000 to add to its permanent endowment. That was addressed in a Leadership Campaign, launched in 1991, which was unprecedented not only in its fundraising focus, but in the new donors it reached and the number of volunteers who became engaged on the Foundation’s behalf.

The Leadership Campaign and childcare project became ground-breaking successes. Through the efforts of nearly 40 committee members, over $634,000 was raised and added to the Foundation’s endowment. The “Care for Our Kids” program, as it was called, led to the creation of hundreds of new childcare slots throughout the two counties, along with improved facilities and additional training for care providers.

By dovetailing these two efforts, the Foundation simultaneously met a major challenge and an important need. In the process, the nature of its operations was forever changed.

The fundraising effort attracted over 75 major gifts, from individuals and businesses across the region, many of whom had never considered a gift to the Foundation much less been asked. The “Care for Our Kids” program was forged by two committees, one in each county, comprised of more than 60 individuals from the childcare field who worked cooperatively in examining the issue and identifying solutions.

The Foundation was no longer merely a collector and distributor of funds. It was now also a convener that could effectively bring together multiple resources to address important community issues.

No Letup

The surge in grant activity encompassed both more and larger grants. In 1989, the Foundation’s 48 grants had averaged $6,854 each, for a total of just under $329,000. By 1995, the comparable figures climbed to 85, $10,446 and almost $888,000. Evidenced by the childcare initiative, the grants were evolving in their design, too. While the Foundation continued to fund traditional items like equipment purchases, capital campaigns and scholarships, more dollars were supporting the development or improvement of programs.

Commenting on this dual focus, Vice President Muriel Hineline said at the time, “It’s gratifying to know that we can now consider larger requests and that our capacity to give is...
staying ahead of inflation. We have to strike a balance between making some dreams come true and making sure programs and services that are essential to the community’s health and well-being continue.”

The grants were expanding in a geographic sense, too. In 1991, grants in Herkimer County topped the $100,000 mark and support to nonprofits serving Rome and western Oneida County was on the increase. Even the northern reaches of Herkimer County were feeling the impact, with over $50,000 in grants awarded to organizations in the Old Forge area in 1994-95 alone.

The endowment kept growing as well. Between 1990 and 1995 assets nearly doubled, from $15.4 million to over $29 million. The addition of two major funds, the Frank W. Baker Fund and the Wesley and Marion Small Fund, established in 1992 and 1994, respectively, accounted for nearly half of this growth.

Baker had been the owner and operator of F. J. Baker and Sons, one of Utica’s oldest family businesses and one of the nation’s largest growers and wholesalers of cut flowers.

Wesley Small was the publisher of the Herkimer Evening Telegram. The $4.4 million fund bearing his name and that of his wife became the third largest in the Foundation’s endowment. Specified to support causes in Herkimer County, it prompted the establishment of an advisory committee to oversee grantmaking activity there. In preparation for that work and receipt of the fund itself, in the summer of ’94, the Foundation held informational sessions for nonprofits in Herkimer and Old Forge on how to apply for grants.

Additional information about the Smalls and the background of their fund is featured on the following page.

Also contributing to the growth of the endowment during this period was an increased attention to donor services, aimed at making the Foundation a more useful and attractive philanthropic vehicle. Family funds, for instance, were promoted as meaningful ways to honor loved ones while at the same time accomplishing charitable goals. The efforts bore fruit. Between 1991 and 1995, 42 new funds were set up at the Foundation, some 30 of which were family oriented.

In 1993, the Foundation’s first designated fund was established, the James K. Clark Fund, through a bequest from the estate of its namesake. Clark was a Utica native who became a successful engineer, eventually retiring in 1961 as chief engineer for the Partlow Corporation. Having received much appreciated services from the Central Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired late in his life, he designated that the agency benefit in perpetuity from the income generated by his fund.

Other accomplishments in the first half of the ‘90s included further expansion of the Foundation’s public information efforts. In 1991, a quarterly newsletter, Foundation Letter, was introduced and in 1992, the format of the annual report was expanded to full magazine size.
The period brought several developments on the administrative front. At the urging of Addison White, the by-laws were amended to formally define the breadth of the Foundation's service area. The wording was changed to read: “The territory in which operations are principally to be conducted is the City of Utica, the remainder of Oneida County and Herkimer County, State of New York.” Board representation increasingly reflected that.

Mary K. Griffith, president of the Rome College Foundation, joined the group in 1992, as did John F. Winske, plant manager of Remington Arms Company in Ilion. Larry Bull, president of Herkimer Petroleum Products, was elected two years later.

Other by-laws changes involved board composition, including the institution of term limits to foster an ongoing influx of new ideas and perspectives, and the first of what would be several adjustments over the years in the appointing authorities, to reflect changing community conditions.

In 1992, Addison White’s long and distinguished tenure of service came to a close when he retired after 34 years on the board, including 24 as president. He was succeeded at the helm by Dwight E. Vicks, Jr., president of Vicks Lithograph and Printing College.
Corporation. Reflecting the new policy of more frequent changes in leadership, Vicks was succeeded by William L. Schrauth, president of the Savings Bank of Utica, who was elected Foundation president in 1995.

In April of that same year, J. Leo Coupe, the last of the surviving original incorporators, passed away.

**A New Identity**

The regional perspective that had existed since the beginning, but had grown incrementally and substantially over the decades, came to full manifestation in August 1996 when the Utica Foundation changed its name to The Community Foundation of Herkimer & Oneida Counties, Inc.

“While The Foundation will always recognize its historic roots in the city and people of Utica, the new name formally recognizes what has increasingly been our mission and practice: being the community foundation for all residents of both counties,” then President William L. Schrauth said in making the announcement.

“We’re pleased that the new name provides a stronger identification with Herkimer County,” added Larry Bull. “The Foundation has already made a significant difference here and its impact will only continue to grow as we feel the effects of the recently created Wesley and Marion Small Fund. The new name is another reason why Herkimer County residents can be excited about embracing The Foundation as their own.”

“Those who live in Rome and its surrounding area also benefit from The Foundation’s work and participate in supporting The Foundation and overseeing its operations,” commented Mary Griffith. “For all of us here and in the communities throughout the rest of Oneida County, the new name reinforces the fact that The Foundation’s scope far exceeds the confines of Utica.

“On the contrary, as the area begins to realize that a regional approach to solving problems and meeting needs is essential to our future, The Foundation is emphasizing that approach right now.”

Along with an updated mission statement, the new name was accompanied by a new logo, featuring a sunburst against the backdrop of the two counties.

“We think it captures the energy, enthusiasm and positive momentum of The Foundation, highlighting how its work radiates out to all sections of Herkimer and Oneida counties,” Schrauth emphasized.


He couldn’t have chosen better words to describe the transformed organization The Community Foundation had become.
Although there are more sophisticated ways to see the progress kids make in the Root Farm’s equine assisted therapy program, the most obvious is spelled SMILE. These youngsters, who battle such conditions as cerebral palsy, Down Syndrome and autism, are among the handicapped youngsters and adults across the region being helped by agencies that have received Community Foundation funding. A 2003 grant enabled Root Farm to buy and install mirrors, which aided both therapists and riders.
The nature of the renamed Foundation was evidenced quickly and clearly in January 1997 with the announcement of a new grants policy.

Planted in a workshop led by William Somerville of the Philanthropic Ventures Foundation, the policy was based on a strategy of “finding good people who could be trusted, and then trusting them.” It focused on people and ideas: on what mattered most to the community and would make a positive difference in people’s lives, rather than fitting grants into narrowly defined criteria.

At the same time, the grants process was streamlined to facilitate proactive grantmaking and additional attention was paid to monitoring the effectiveness of grants. The new guidelines were explained in special informational sessions for nonprofits held throughout the two counties.

A New Era
Almost overnight the fresh thinking ushered in a new era in The Foundation’s grantmaking. While conventional needs were still addressed, an increasing number of grants now targeted issues: social, cultural and even economic, including their long-term causes and solutions.

In Utica, for example, a fledgling operation that would go on to become one of the community’s most powerful weapons in the fight against inner-city crime and decay, JCTOD Outreach, Inc., received a crucial early boost when The Foundation helped fund its transitional housing program for single mothers recovering from substance abuse.

Across town, The Foundation helped another promising organization get off the ground with support to GroWest, Inc., for its start-up and Neighborhood Revitalization Project. The venture not only fostered revitalization of properties on Utica’s west side, it became a program-related investment that continues to generate a return for The Community Foundation.
Another start-up grant helped launch Utica Monday Nite.

In Rome, grants symbolic of the period included investments in a life-altering program at Welcome Hall, improvements at the Rome Art & Community Center and Rome Community Theatre, and construction of a new baseball park at the former Griffiss Air Force Base.

With assistance from The Foundation, the Cluster-13 group in Camden was able to acquire a home of its own for basing the vital parenting, youth and housing rehabilitation programs it offered the community.

In Herkimer County, the policy triggered funding that helped bring new teaching technologies to the Town of Webb High School, strengthen the Kinderwood childcare program and establish the broad-based CAP-21 organization.

In the southern part of the county, grants included one that brought single-parent families closer together through a powerful program delivered by Community Maternity Services, and another that promoted senior fitness through the YMCAs in Mohawk and Little Falls.

Students in the Clinton Central School District were the beneficiaries of the Kirkland Fellowship Program, which enabled teachers to improve their skills through outside experiences. Students in Clinton, Utica and Rome were exposed to hands-on learning in the classical music realm, through the creative “Ladies of the Keyboard” project.

Benchmarks were surpassed not only in the spectrum of grants made, but in the speed with which they were awarded. In February 1998, for instance, a rapid-response grant from The Foundation enabled the Senior Day Center of Utica to keep its doors open without interruption through the emergency replacement of an old boiler.

The tone was set. The possibilities for innovation and impact were unlimited—and so was The Foundation’s eagerness to consider them. Even when grant requests were
turned down, an effort was made to direct agencies to other potential funding sources.

In 1997, grants topped the million-dollar mark for the first time, numbering 123, totaling $1,036,081. The following year that threshold was reached after only eight months, with the 1998 year-end totals reaching 151 grants, amounting to over $1.8 million.

To mark the rejuvenated grants program and share some of the success stories, in 1997, The Foundation inaugurated what would become a series of three year-end events called “Celebrating Our Community.” Held at the Stanley Theatre, the programs brought Foundation and nonprofit constituencies together to learn more about and recognize grant-supported initiatives that had been particularly effective.

The new grants policy not only served The Foundation and community well in the late ’90s, it became the philosophy upon which the grantmaking continues to be based today.

Creating Legacies
As dramatically as the grants operation changed and grew in the late ’90s and on into the 21st century, the same was true in the development area. While the endowment was still heavily bequest-based, growing numbers of individuals, families and organizations were attracted to The Foundation’s broader flexibility as a philanthropic vehicle.

They took advantage of the ability to establish funds, the fruits of which they could see during their lifetimes. These funds could honor loved ones and address causes of particular interest to the individual or family, giving the funds added meaning.

The Women’s Fund of Herkimer & Oneida Counties was established in 1997 as a donor-advised fund to support causes that create economic, educational and personal growth opportunities for women and girls. Over the next decade, it would raise more than $300,000 and provide over $65,000 in grants.

In 1999, the theme What’s Your Legacy? was adopted, suggesting the lasting significance of gifts made to The Community Foundation.

Also fueling this growth, not only for The Community Foundation of Herkimer & Oneida Counties but for its counterparts across the nation, was the unprecedented affluence Americans as a whole were enjoying. Charitable giving had evolved, noted Gordon Hayes in the fall 2000 issue of Foundation Letter. “Family philanthropy was now a powerful way to express values, strengthen relationships and make a difference.”

Although all fund types grew, the popularity of designated funds, donor-advised funds and agency funds did so at a record pace.

At the close of 1996 the number of funds making up The Foundation’s endowment
had stood at 79. In just five years that figure climbed to 135. During the same period, assets grew from $33.4 million to over $50 million.

**More Precedents**

The transition in leadership continued in 1998 when Harold T. (Tom) Clark, Jr., president of MacClark Restaurants, succeeded William Schrauth as Foundation president. The following year the board structure was modified to include four institutions in Herkimer County as appointing authorities, assuring that at least four trustees would be from that county.

The year 2000 saw The Foundation set another precedent when it awarded four grants without being asked. The support, to HealthFriends in Utica for an inner-city medical service, the Humane Society in Rome for pet therapy for the handicapped, Little Falls Hospital for a school health education project, and Thomas R. Proctor High School in Utica for a mentoring program, was prompted simply by The Foundation’s learning of the need. It would establish the practice of offering support proactively.

Grantmaking took another creative turn that year, into the arena of economic development, when The Foundation awarded grants to Leadership Mohawk Valley, to improve employee training in local businesses, and to Mohawk Valley EDGE, for a workforce recruitment and retention program.

It became increasingly common to award grants on a “challenge” basis, encouraging grantees to build their own base of support while being helped by The Community
Foundation. An example was a $100,000 grant to the Old Forge Library’s renovation, expansion and endowment-building project, which was awarded with the provision that the library raise at least that much from other sources. The challenge was successfully met.

“Two” became a special number for The Community Foundation in 2000. Grants topped the $2 million mark for the first time, with 200 awards totaling over $2.2 million.

**Telling the Story**

The first year of the 21st century also had The Foundation reaching out in new ways to tell its story. The annual report and newsletter continued to expand as they reached existing audiences, but for the first time newspaper advertisements were produced to better inform the general public of the organization’s work. Carrying the *What’s Your Legacy?* theme, the ads described the origins and focus of several funds.

In 2001, changes occurred in the top leadership positions at both the volunteer and staff levels. In May, Milton Bloch, CEO of Munson-Williams-Proctor Arts Institute, was elected board president and in July, Gordon Hayes stepped down as executive director. Former board president William Schrauth, who had retired as president of the Savings Bank of Utica, was named interim executive director while a search for Hayes’ successor was conducted.

That year also marked the formation of the Summer Fellows in Philanthropy Program. It introduces outstanding college students to the field of philanthropy through summer internships at The Foundation, during which they help evaluate grants and conduct research.

On another academic front, in 2002, The Foundation awarded a record number of scholarships, 70, totaling over $78,000.

**The Summer Fellows in Philanthropy Program**

introduces outstanding college students to the field of philanthropy through internships that are meaningful to both the students and The Foundation. As the 2006 history and research fellow, Zack Lazovik helped gather information for The Foundation’s 55th anniversary celebration, including the publication of this book. Other summer fellows have been instrumental in evaluating the effectiveness of Foundation grants.

Zack Lazovik
Turning 50

Although The Community Foundation officially turned 50 on December 17, 2002, the milestone was commemorated throughout much of 2003. An extensive marketing campaign, which added radio and television advertising to the communications mix, created a higher level yet of visibility across the two counties. The celebration culminated on November 14 with a 50th anniversary gala at the Munson-Williams-Proctor Arts Institute, featuring NBC Today Show personality Willard Scott as guest speaker.

Within weeks The Foundation was beginning its second half century of operations from a new home. Having outgrown the Genesee Street office, the operation was relocated to 1222 State Street in Utica. Providing more adequate accommodations for donors, volunteers and the larger staff, the facility continues to serve The Foundation well.

Other highlights of 2003 included the announcement, in March, of The Foundation’s largest grant to date, a $400,000 commitment to the stage modernization and expansion project at the Stanley Theatre. With it, The Community Foundation became one of the earliest major supporters of this initiative to enhance one of the region’s most treasured assets.

The year also realized over $4.9 million in contributions, a near doubling from 2002, as well as launching of The Foundation’s Web site, www.foundationhoc.org.

Moving Beyond

With the innovations in grantmaking and development having brought broad new dimensions to The Foundation’s operations, several developments remained to complete its evolution into the organization as it stands today.

In January 2005, Margaret Anne (Peggy) O’Shea was named to head The Foundation’s staff, a position that now carried the title of president & CEO. She succeeded Al Sassone, who had been appointed to the post in 2002.
Bringing extensive training and background in nonprofit management, O’Shea had joined The Foundation in 2000 as senior program officer and was promoted to director of programs and development in 2003. She has applied that experience in leading a staff that today has eight members, with professionals to address each discipline, including development and donor services, grantmaking, marketing and finance.

The staff supports not only The Foundation’s traditional areas of operation, but also its ever-expanding role as a convener and facilitator of programs to enhance the management of nonprofits across the two counties.

Under O’Shea’s leadership, the Legacy Society, a mechanism for honoring donors who have chosen to make a planned gift to The Foundation through a trust or bequest in their will became firmly established.

Two changes in the board’s top leadership also took place during this period. Richard L. Hanna, president of Hanna Construction, Inc., served as board chair from 2003 until 2005. In 2005, Camille T. Kahler, Esq. was elected to the post, becoming the first woman to hold the position.

In 2006, acknowledging both its heritage and ongoing mission, The Foundation introduced annual awards to recognize outstanding achievements in philanthropy and community service. The Rosamond Childs Award for Community Philanthropy honors the memory of The Foundation’s first and largest benefactor and is presented to a donor who best exemplifies her philanthropic spirit. The Community Impact Award is given to an organization that has been notably effective in its work.

The first Rosamond Childs Award was presented posthumously to Richard W. Couper. Two organizations received the first Community Impact Award: CAP-21 and Compassion Coalition. The 2007 Childs and Community Impact award recipients were, respectively, Richard L. Hanna and Thea Bowman House.

The 366 grants made in 2006 brought to over 3,500 the total number of grants awarded by The Foundation in its first 55 years. That support, dispersed to more than 500 organizations across Herkimer and Oneida counties, has amounted to over $24.5 million. At the close of 2006, The Foundation’s total assets, which included 230 funds, stood at a remarkable $73.7 million.
Included in the subjects addressed by Community Foundation grants are history, healthcare and the humane treatment of animals. The Foundation’s impact in Herkimer County has encompassed all three.

Two grants in 2005 supported the relocation and preservation of Hemmer Cottage in Old Forge, making it both a tribute to the community’s storied past and a multipurpose facility for today. The Cottage also houses CAP-21, which itself has received Foundation support.

Five grants have been made to Valley Health Services, including one in 2002 that helped establish its Cardiac Rehabilitation Program. The program provides quality rehab services to local heart patients who otherwise would have had to travel out of the area to receive them.

Through a challenge grant, awarded and successfully met in 2000, the Herkimer County Humane Society was able to construct an improved facility for housing our four-legged friends.
A Promise Kept

"The [Community] Foundation is today’s answer to unforeseeable change. Through this community trust, funds can be established for general or specific purposes with the assurance that 50 years from now or 500 years from now, the then members of this perpetual trust will faithfully administer these funds according to the intent and spirit of those who established them.

From For Lives to Come
March 1954

Beyond the obvious growth, perhaps The Community Foundation’s most gratifying achievement is the fact that in 2007 it is precisely the organization our founders envisioned over 55 years ago.

It is a permanent vehicle through which area residents who are interested in the welfare of Herkimer and Oneida counties can and do perpetuate their interest in a way that best meets community needs—now and forever.

Many have already participated in that process. Many more will do so in the years to come.

For that reason, The Foundation’s story cannot be fully contained within the pages of this or any other history book. It will always be a continuum.

A new chapter is written every time a donor cares, remembers, makes a difference, and every time a life becomes healthier, happier, stronger as a result.

It is a story of happy endings which has no end.

It is the ongoing story of an enduring institution.

It is the story of a promise kept.
Christopher Harding Donalty isn’t just remembered in the fund that bears his name at The Community Foundation, through it, he lives on. Chris, who died from Sudden Unexpected Death in Epilepsy at the age of 21 while a senior in college, excelled academically, athletically and most importantly, in the personal qualities he embodied throughout his life. His memory remains alive in the love of his family and friends who created the fund and help it grow, and in the lives of the young people who benefit from the scholarships it produces. The fund is among many at The Foundation that remember and honor people who were — and always will be — very special.
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It is clear that over The Foundation’s 55-year history, planned gifts in the form of bequests have been the springboard for our exceptional growth and expanding impact. With that very first bequest in 1957 from the George Upson estate and the multi-million dollar gift left to The Foundation by Rosamond Childs in 1987, through the nearly $735,000 received from bequests in 2006, planned gifts are the sustenance and future of The Foundation. Additionally, they create a perpetual legacy to the donors who understand that The Community Foundation exists forever and, through it, so do their hopes and dreams for others.

As they plan their estate, donors work with The Foundation and their financial advisors to create future gifts that meet their financial needs and match their values. Donors can direct charitable assets to an existing fund at The Foundation or create a new one through their will or in a trust. Naming The Foundation as the beneficiary of a life insurance policy or retirement account is another vehicle for powerful giving that does not reduce current income.

To privately discuss planned giving options and benefits, please contact The Foundation office at 315-735-8212. We would be happy to assist you with these important decisions.

As referenced in this book, our Legacy Society was created in 2005 to honor and recognize donors who have made a future planned gift to The Community Foundation of Herkimer & Oneida Counties, Inc. Anyone who has done so is invited to become a member. Please let us know. To date, as we celebrate this special anniversary year, we have 55 Legacy Society members. How appropriate.
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From 1952 through 2006, The Community Foundation of Herkimer & Oneida Counties made more than 3,500 grants, totaling over $24.5 million. They were made to the over 500 organizations, listed below, many of which received multiple grants.

In addition to the grants, The Foundation awarded nearly $1 million in scholarships, benefiting approximately 1,000 recipients.

Abraham House
Acacia Village
Adirondack Architectural Heritage
Adirondack Playhouse
Adirondack Railway Preservation Society, Inc.
Adirondack Sporting Clays Academy, Inc.
Ages Together
Alliance Lodge 1097
Alliance Peer Support Center
ALS of Utica
Alzheimer’s Association of CNY - Mohawk Valley Regional Office
Alzheimer’s Disease Assistance Coalition
American Cancer Society - Herkimer Unit
American Cancer Society - Oneida County Chapter
American Diabetes Association - CNY Chapter
American Heart Association, Utica Chapter
American Lung Association of Mid-York, Inc.
American Red Cross - Mohawk Valley Chapter
American Red Cross - Rome Chapter
American Red Cross - Utica Chapter
Amicable Masonic Lodge #664
Amos House
The Anchor
Animal Protection League
The Arc, Oneida-Lewis Chapter NYSARC
The Arts Guild of Old Forge, Inc.
Associated General Contractors of America
Association for Help of Retarded Children
Audubon New York
B Sharp Musical Club
B-52 Mohawk Valley Museum
Bagg’s Square Association, Inc.
Barneveld Free Library Association
Bassett Healthcare
Bassett Hospital - Friends of Bassett
Big Brothers/Big Sisters of the Mohawk Valley
Bikes for Kids
Birthright of Oneida County
Blessed Sacrament Church Youth Ministry
BOCES Herkimer
Boonville-Oneida County Fair
Boy Scouts of America - General Herkimer Council
Boy Scouts of America - Land of Oneidas
Boy Scouts of America - Revolutionary Council
Boys & Girls Club of Utica, Inc.
Bridge Builders Coalition
Bridgewater Free Library
C.A.U.T.I.O.N.
CAMCU, Inc.
Camden Library Association
Camden Middle School
Camden Rotary Club
The Camp for Special Kids Charities of the Mohawk Valley, Inc.
Camp Mark Seven
Camp Nazareth
Camp Ronald McDonald
Canine Working Companions, Inc.
CAP-21
Capitol Theatre
CareNet Pregnancy Center of CNY
Casting For Recovery, Inc.
Catholic Charities of Herkimer County
Catholic Charities of Oneida & Madison Counties
Cato Institute
The Center for Growing and Becoming
Central Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired
Central New York 32nd Degree Masonic Learning Center
Central New York Arthritis Foundation
Central New York Community Arts Council, Inc.
Central New York Conservancy
Central New York Health Systems Agency, Inc.
Central New York Labor Agency, Inc.
Central New York Services, Inc.
Central Oneida County Volunteer Ambulance Corps
Chadwicks Union Free School
Chamber Music Society of Utica
Charles T. Sitrin Home
Chevra Hatzalah
Child Life Program - Children’s Hospital Foundation at WMC
Children’s Museum
The Children’s Rights Initiative, Inc.
Children’s Theatre for the Arts & Humanities, Inc.
Christ Episcopal Church
Church of Our Lady of Lourdes
Citizens United for Research in Epilepsy
City of Rome
City of Utica
Civic Musical Society of Utica, Inc.
Clinton ABC Program, Inc.
Clinton Central School District
Clinton Central School District Foundation
Clinton Early Learning Center
Grantees continued...

Clinton Fire Department
Clinton Historical Society
Cluster 13, Inc.
Colgate University
Commitment
The Community Foundation of Herkimer & Oneida Counties, Inc.
Community Maternity Services
Community Transportation Services
Compassion Coalition
Compeer of the Mohawk Valley, Inc.
Corn Hill People United, Inc.
Cornell Cooperative Extension - Herkimer County
Cornell Cooperative Extension - Monroe County
Cornell Cooperative Extension - Oneida County
Cornhill Community for Change, Inc.
Cosmopolitan Community Center, Inc.
Council of Churches of the Mohawk Valley, Inc.
Council of Community Services of New York State, Inc.
County of Oneida Workforce Development
Court Street Family Health Center
Covenant House
Cross Roads Youth Center
Daydreams, Inc.
Deerfield Volunteer Fire Company, Inc.
DeWitt Clinton PTO
Dodge Pratt Northam Art & Community Center, Inc.
Dolgeville Central School
Dolgeville Manheim Historical Society
Dolgeville Rotary Club
Dolgeville-Manheim Public Library
DUDA/Utica Monday Nite
Dunham Public Library
Earville Opera House
East Canada Valley Vision, Inc.
East Side Senior Day Center, Inc.
Emmanuel Episcopal Church
Emmaus House
Empire State College
Entrepreneur Center
Erwin Library and Institute
Family Advocacy Center
Family Debt Counseling Service, Inc.
Family Nurturing Center
Family Services of the Mohawk Valley, Inc.
Father Parker Shanti
Faxon-St. Luke’s Healthcare Foundation
Faxon-St. Luke’s-Memorial Hospital
Fenimore Art Museum
Ferret Institute
Fiber Foundation, Inc.
Floyd Community Instrument Ensemble
Folts Adult Home, Inc.
Folts Apartments, Inc.
Food Bank of Central New York
Footehills Rural Community Ministry
Frank J. Basloe Library
Frankfort Free Library
Freedom Guide Dogs for the Blind, Inc.
Friends of Historic Herkimer County
Friends of Polar Bears, Inc.
Friends of the ARC Foundation, Inc.
Ft. Stanwix Elementary School PTG
Ft. Stanwix Garden Club
Girl Scouts - Foothills Council, Inc.
Glimmerglass Opera, Inc.
Good News Foundation
Grantmakers for Children, Youth and Families
Greater Little Falls Community Chest, Inc.
Greater Syracuse YMCA
Greater Utica Artists League
Greater Utica Community Food Resource
Greater Utica Opera Guild
Greater Winfield Medical Building
Greene Kiwanis Club
GroWest, Inc.
Hamilton College
Hand In Hand Early Childhood Center
Health & Hospital Council of the Mohawk Valley
Health Friends
Helping Animals Live Organization
Heritage Farms, Inc.
Heritage Health Care Center
Herkimer County Special Olympics - Area 11
Herkimer Area Resource Center
Herkimer County Chamber of Commerce
Herkimer County Community College
Herkimer County Community College Foundation
Herkimer County Habitat for Humanity
Herkimer County HealthNet
Herkimer County Historical Society
Herkimer County Humane Society
Herkimer County Hunger Coalition
Herkimer County Legislature
Herkimer County World War II Memorial Trip, Inc.
Historic Old St. John’s Church
Hobart and William Smith College
Holland Patent Central School District
Holland Patent Free Library
Home Aide Service of the Central Adirondacks, Inc.
The HomeOwnership Center
Hope House
Hospice and Palliative Care, Inc.
Hospital Educational and Research Fund
The House of the Good Shepherd
Human Technologies Corporation
Humane Society of Rome
Idyllic Foundation
Ilion Central School District
Ilion Free Public Library
Insight House Chemical Dependency Services, Inc.
Institute of Black Awareness
Institute of Gerontology
Jason Gleasman Olympic Fund
JCTOD Outreach, Inc.
Jervis Public Library
Jewish Community Federation of Mohawk Valley
Johns Hopkins University
Jordanville Public Library
The Joseph Center
Junior Achievement of the Greater Mohawk Valley
Junior Junction, Inc.
The Kelderman Center
Kernan Elementary Magnet School
Khoros Performing Arts Company for Kids
Kids Against Pollution
Kinderwood Program
Kirby Free Library of Salisbury
Kirkland Art Center
Kirkland Fellowships
Kirkland Town Library
KPMG Pear Marwick, LLP
Landmarks Society of Greater Utica
Leadership Mohawk Valley
League of Women Voters
Learning Disability Association of the Mohawk Valley
Legal Aid Society of Mid-New York, Inc.
Literacy Volunteers of America-Mid York
Little Falls City School District
Little Falls Community Outreach
Little Falls Family YMCA
Little Falls Historical Society
Little Falls Hospital
Little Falls Public Library
Loretto Utica Center
Love, Inc. of Greater Utica
Lutheran Care Ministries Network
Lynn University
Mohawk Valley Economic Development District, Inc.
M.D. Anderson Cancer Center
Madison Central School District
Madison County ARC
Madison-Oneida BOCES
Multi-Cultural Association of Medical Interpreters of CNY
Martin Luther King School
Masonic Medical Research Laboratory
Masons-Alliance Lodge #1097
Meals On Wheels
Medical Mission Sisters
The Metropolitan Opera
Michelle Adey Memorial Fund
Middleville Free Library
Mid-State Committee on Area Wide Health Planning
Mid-Utica Neighborhood Preservation Corporation
Mid-York Child Care Coordinating Council
Mid-York Library System
The Mohawk Homestead
Mohawk Valley Resource Center for Refugees
Mohawk Valley Ambulance Corps, Inc.
Mohawk Valley Applied Technology Corp.
Mohawk Valley Ballet
Mohawk Valley Braille Transcribers, Inc.
Mohawk Valley Center for the Arts, Inc.
Mohawk Valley Chamber of Commerce
Mohawk Valley Choral Society
Mohawk Valley Community Action Agency, Inc.
Mohawk Valley Community College
Mohawk Valley Council on Alcoholism/Addictions
Mohawk Valley Easter Seal Society
Mohawk Valley EDGE
Mohawk Valley Network
Mohawk Valley Nursing Home, Inc.
Mohawk Valley Perinatal Network, Inc.
Mohawk, Weller Library
Mt. Markham Central School
Munson-Williams-Proctor Arts Institute
Muscular Dystrophy
Myers Park Concerts
National Audubon Society
National Center for Missing & Exploited Children
National Multiple Sclerosis Society, Upstate NY Chapter
The Nature Conservancy Central NY Chapter
Neighborhood Center of Utica, N.Y., Inc.
New Hartford Adult Dining & Activity Center
New Hartford Central Schools
New Hartford Community Coalition, Drug Prevention
New Hartford Public Library
New Hartford Youth Coalition
New Horizons
New York Alliance for Abstinence Education
New York Mills 9-11 Memorial Inc.
New York Mills Little League
New York Mills Union Free School
New York Photonics Development Corporation
New York State Historical Association
New York State Parks & Conservation
New York State Trooper Foundation, Inc.
Newman Center at Utica College
Newport Free Library
North Country Public Radio Endowment Fund
North Pointe Cultural Arts Center
North Utica Senior Citizens Community Center
Northern Frontier Project
Notre Dame Junior-Senior High School
Old Forge Library
Oneida Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution
Oneida Community Mansion House
Oneida County Aviation Association
Oneida County Chapter Epilepsy Foundation of America
Oneida County Child Advocacy Center
Grantees continued...

Oneida County Habitat for Humanity, Inc.
Oneida County Historical Society
Oneida County Medical Society
Oneida County NAACP Youth Council
Oneida County Office for the Aging
Oneida County Volunteer Firemen's Association
Oneida County Workforce Development
Oneida County Youth Bureau
Oneida County Youth Bureau
Oneida-Herkimer Counties-Area 12 Special Olympics
Oneida-Herkimer Resources & Environmental Action
Operation Sunshine
Oriskany Little League
Oriskany Public Library
Oriskany Village Museum
Our Kids Kan XL
Our Lady of Lourdes Elementary School
Parents Anonymous of the Mohawk Valley, Inc.
Parkway Senior Center
Paul Smith's College
Peacemaker Program, Inc.
Pinecrest Bible Training Center
Pioneer Fitness Center
PJFCJ Fund, Inc.
Planned Parenthood Mohawk Hudson, Inc
Players of Utica, Inc.
Poland Central School
Poland Public Library
Presbyterian Home for CNY, Inc.
Presbyterian Residential Community, Inc.
Prospect Free Library
RAIN
Redeeming Love Fellowship
Remsen - Steuben Historical Society
Remsen Central School District
Remsen Development Corporation
Remsen Volunteer Fire Company
Rescue Mission of Utica
The Research Foundation of SUNY
Resource Center for Independent Living
The Richfield Springs Youth Ministry Corporation
Rising Stars Soccer Club
Rochester Grantmakers Forum
Rome Area Chamber of Commerce
Rome Art & Community Center
Rome Baseball Association, Inc.
Rome City School District
Rome Clean and Green
Rome Colts Pop Warner Football Organization
Rome Community Theater
Rome Family Services
Rome Free Academy Junior ROTC Program
Rome Girls Softball
Rome Historical Society
Rome Home
The Rome Indians Baseball Team, Inc.

Rome Industrial Development Corporation
Rome Memorial Hospital
Rome Memorial Hospital Foundation
Rome Rotary Benevolent Fund
Rome Sports Hall of Fame & Museum
Rome Up & Running, Inc.
Root Farm Foundation
Rotary Club of Little Falls
Rotary Club of Utica
Rotary Club Polio Plus
Rotary District 7150 YE
Rotary International Foundation, HPCPB
Sagamore Institute
Salvation Army - Rome
Salvation Army of Herkimer
Salvation Army Utica Citadel Corps
Samaritan Counseling Center of the Mohawk Valley
Save of the Day Foundation
Save the Children
Sculpture Space
Senior Citizens Council of Rome
Senior Network Health
Shawangunk Nature Preserve
Sherrill Kenwood Free Library
ShowStopper Productions
Signature Band and Choir Camp
Sister Barbara Ginter Health Care Ministry
Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet
Social Science Associates
SPEBSQSA, New Horizons Chorus
Spring Farm CARES
St. Agnes Church
St. Anthony's Church
St. David's Episcopal Church
St. Elizabeth College of Nursing
St. Elizabeth Medical Center
St. Elizabeth Medical Center Foundation
St. Francis de Sales Church
St. George's Roman Catholic Church
St. John & St. Joseph Program
St. John The Baptist Church
St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church
St. John's Catholic Society of Utica
St. Joseph and St. Patrick's Church
St. Joseph's Nursing Home
St. Joseph's Hospital
St. Lawrence University
St. Louis Gonzaga Church
St. Mary's Church
St. Mary's School
St. Matthew's Temple Church of God in Christ
St. Paul's Learning/Child Care Center
St. Peter's Catholic School
St. Peter's School
State Council on Waterways
Stephens College
Stevens-Swan Humane Society
Stone Presbyterian Church
Sunset Home of Utica, Inc.
SUNY Delhi College Foundation
SUNY Health Science Center Foundation
SUNY Institute of Technology
Susquehanna SPCA
Swancott Home
Syracuse University
Teddy Bear Day Care at St. Paul’s
Thea Bowman House, Inc.
Thomas R. Proctor Senior High School
Town of Marcy
Town of New Hartford
Town of Warren Historical Society
Town of Webb Historical Association
Town of Webb School District
Tri-County Easter Seal Society
Tri-County Youth Football Association
Trustees of Masonic Home
Tug Hill Tomorrow Land Trust
United Arts Fund of the Mohawk Valley
Upstate Cerebral Palsy
United Irish Appeal
United Seniors of Oneida County, Inc.
United Way of Rome & Western Oneida County
United Way of the Greater Utica Area, Inc.
Unity Hall Foundation
University Hospital
University of New Hampshire
Utica Art Association, Inc.
Utica Boilermaker Road Race
Utica Boxing Association, Inc.
Utica City School District
Utica College
Utica Community Action, Inc.
Utica Curling Club
Utica Falcons Baseball Organization
Utica Family YMCA
Utica Head Start
Utica Industrial Development Corporation
Utica Marsh Council, Inc.
Utica Municipal Housing Authority
Utica Public Library
Utica Roadrunners, Inc.
Utica Symphony Orchestra, Inc.
Utica Zoological Society
Valley Health Services
Valley United Way
Village of Boonville
Village of Frankfort Fire Department
Village of Holland Patent
Village of Ilion
Village of New York Mills

Village of Poland
Village of Prospect
Village of Yorkville
Visiting Nurses Association Utica & Oneida County
Volunteer Center of the Mohawk Valley, Inc.
Waterville Public Library
Warson Williams Elementary School
WCNY TV/24
West Canada Valley Central School
West Exeter Volunteer Fire Department
West Side Senior Center
West Winfield Free Library
Westminster Presbyterian Church
Westmoreland Central School District
The Wharton Fund
Whitestown Hot Meals Council, Inc.
Willowvale Fire Company, Inc.
Women’s Employment & Resource Center
Woodgate Free Library
WRVO Stations
Xaverian Brothers Auxiliary
YMCA of Greater Rochester
YMCA of the Greater Tri-Valley
YMCA of the Mohawk Valley
Young Maine Readers
Your Neighbors, Inc.
Youth Outreach Group, Inc.
YWCA of the Mohawk Valley
Zion Child Care Center, Inc.
Ziyara Temple AAONMS
George Aney 2003–
Elizabeth P. Balch** 1952–1968
Susan Blatt, M.D. 1989–1999
Harold Bodmer 1966–1970
Milton J. Bloch* 1998–
Rosamond G. Childs** 1954–1968
Vincent R. Corrou, Jr. 1982–1999
J. Leo Coupe** 1952–1972
Dr. Irving Cramer 1977–1989
Rudy D’Amico 2003–
Victor T. Ehre 1972–1989
Timothy D. Foley 1999–
Kenneth W. Fuller** 1962–1977
Mary K. Griffith** 1992–2003
Jane Halbritter 1995–2002
Ellen E. Hanna 1974–1975
Muriel Hineline** 1968–1995
Joseph H. Hobika Sr.** 1994–2004
J. David Hogue 1952–1958
Harrison Hummel, III 2003–
Georgiana Roberts Ide 2004–
Robert F. Julian 2006–
Camille T. Kahler* 1997–2007
James S. Kernan, Jr.** 1974–1996
Warnick J. Kernan 1952–1972
John L. Knower** 1977–1995
Henry J. Leader 1959–1966
John J. Livingston 1999–
Watson Lowery** 1962–1982
Linda Macartney 2003–
David Mathis 1989–1999
Walter J. Matt** 1954–1973
Theodore C. Max, M.D. 2001–
Albert S. Mazloom 2003–
Grace McLaughlin 1997–2005
Mary Morse 1999–
William C. Murray 1952–1978
Alexander Pirnie 1952–1982
Earle C. Reed 1996–2005
Frederick J. Rathburn 1972–1974
Julius Rothstein 1955–1960
Burrel Rothstein 1973–1997
Faye Short 1999–
Wilma B. Sinnott 1968–1974
Sheila Smith 2000–
Dorothy Stehle 1978–1982
William R. Stevens 2000–
Faber Stevenson 1952–1970
John L. Train 1952–1958
Franklin Upthegrove 1974–1977
Roy C. Van Denbergh* ** 1952–1972
Dwight E. Vicks, Jr.* ** 1982–1999
Richard Zick 2006–

__

* President/Chair
** Emeritus/Emerita

Note: From 1952 through 2001, board members were referred to as “directors” and their elected head as “president.” In 2002, the nomenclature was changed to “trustees” and “chair,” respectively.
The Community Foundation gratefully acknowledges the following whose work, materials or assistance helped make this publication possible:

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The Community Foundation

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Benevolent Protected Order of Elks Prescott (Arizona) Lodge #330
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Emily Hildebrand
Therese Kelly, Heather Dawes | Little Falls Historical Society
Leslie W. Kernan
Benjamin P. Madonia III | Hamilton College
Susan Perkins | Herkimer County Historical Society
Russell Rhodes Collection | Oneida County Historical Society
Mr. & Mrs. Paul Stillman
Dave Tewksbury Photography
Utica Daily Press, Utica Observer-Dispatch microfilm files | Utica College Library,
Utica Public Library
Robert Van Denbergh

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Keeping the Promise
was produced by
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Glory Rasi | Designer
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Susan A. Korosec | Director of Finance, HR & IS
Corinne L. Ribble | Director of Philanthropy
Denise Salvatore | Associate Director of Finance
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