

Adirondack Trust Company Community Fund

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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ADIRONDACK TRUST COMPANY COMMUNITY FUND DONATES \$40,000 TO LEND-A-HAND GRANT RECIPIENTS

Saratoga Springs, New York...The Adirondack Trust Company Community Fund announced today that the Independent Advisory Committee has awarded Lend-A-Hand Grants to twenty-three, local, nonprofit organizations. The grants were handed out at the Community Fund's annual grant award reception. The name of each organization is listed below. Directors or representatives of the organizations were present at the reception and briefly spoke about their respective organization's mission and how the grant will support their particular cause.

Grant awards were provided to:

1. **After the Fire, Inc.**
Lend-A-Hand Grant will provide funding to immediately help families of Saratoga County get back on their feet after a fire. These services are provided at no charge to these families and all by volunteers, 24/7/365.
2. **Amorak Youth**
Lend-A-Hand Grant will provide funding for a free, local summer youth program for 13-15 year olds. This program provides for two experienced educators who help these children enjoy fun and educational summer activities.
3. **Ballston Spa Film Festival**
Lend-A-Hand Grant will help to provide funding for this organization to expand the events they offer for outdoor film screenings, which in turn will draw more families to the festival.
4. **Ballston Spa Partnership for Innovation in Education**
Lend-A-Hand Grant will fund the 2015 Girls' Summit, a full-day, STEM-based forum for and about girls. The event is designed to empower, inspire and inform girls to lead healthy lives and better prepare for their future.
5. **Ben Osborn Memorial Fund, Inc.**
Lend-A-Hand Grant will fund children in need, age 5 through 18, in the form of gender and size appropriate clothing assistance during the school day. Often children have an accident at school so that their clothing is soiled beyond wear. The program is administered through school nurses and helps hundreds of children.
6. **First Baptist Church of Ballston Spa**
Lend-A-Hand Grant will help to provide funding for the continuation of the Ballston youth summer lunch program, with an expansion to the communities of Malta and Rock City Falls. The summer lunch program provides nutritious lunches five days a week during the months of July and August.
7. **Lake George Music Festival**
Lend-A-Hand Grant will help to provide funding for the Fifth Year Anniversary Season, August 17-27, 2015. Talented young musicians gain valuable musical, educational experiences, including the opportunity to perform at a various venues with large audiences.
8. **National Museum of Racing and Hall of Fame**
Lend-A-Hand Grant will help to provide funding for the "Horsing Around with the Arts" program scheduled for spring 2015. This is a youth-based art exhibit at the Museum and is tailored for students' grades 3-7 and 8-12.

9. **North Country Wildcare**
Lend-A-Hand Grant will provide funding assistance for the North Country Wildcare's Hotline. The hotline services Saratoga County and neighboring regions, acting as a resource in regard to wildlife issues. Help is available 24/7/365.
10. **Opera Saratoga**
Lend-A-Hand Grant will help to provide funding so Opera Saratoga can expand its programming outside of its traditional performance venue. "Saratoga Sings" is a new program to address this goal. The program will offer free performances over a 6-month period from January – June 2015.
11. **Prospect School (a.k.a. Center for Disability Services)**
Lend-A-Hand Grant will help to provide funding to cover the cost of equipment used in an innovative and unique program called M.O.V.E. (Mobility Opportunities via Education) which assists students, many with severe physical and cognitive disabilities, in increasing their independence and improving their health. Students age in range from 2-21.
12. **Racing City Chorus**
Lend-A-Hand Grant will help to provide funding so the RCC can entertain the area's senior citizen population by bringing them the familiar sounds of holiday music during the Christmas season.
13. **Rebuilding Together Saratoga County**
Lend-A-Hand Grant will help to provide funding to support a much-needed technology upgrade that will enable RTSC to implement their planned Safe and Healthy Homes Initiative. This includes the purchase and implementation of the Healthy Homes tool.
14. **Regional Food Bank of Northeastern New York**
Lend-A-Hand Grant will help to provide funding to support the Food bank's Retail Store Donation Program or RSDP. Through RSDP, the Food bank partners with retailers to make frequent pick-ups of smaller amounts of donated products from individual stores.
15. **Saratoga Bridges**
Lend-A-Hand Grant will help to provide funding for their "Breaking Down Barriers through Art" program. This program provides art opportunities for their clients using an integrated community outreach model.
16. **Saratoga Center for the Family**
Lend-A-Hand Grant will help to provide funding for the "Heel-to-Heal" 10 week program for high school aged girls (8th – 12th grade) to increase self-esteem, confidence, mindfulness, coping skills and physical activity.
17. **Saratoga Community Health Center / Saratoga Hospital**
Lend-A-Hand Grant will provide funding for assistance with the CHC Patient Prescription Relief Fund. This program will help individuals (patients) who cannot afford to cover prescription co-pays or medications; currently at 125 patients and growing.
18. **Saratoga Independent School**
Lend-A-Hand Grant will provide funding for the purchase of (10) scales and an additional \$300 for development of mathematics and science curriculum materials. The balancing scales will allow students to visualize math and science concepts, test hypotheses and explore relations and change.
19. **Saratoga Sponsor A Scholar**
Lend-A-Hand Grant will provide funding for the purchase of graphing calculators for the incoming class of program participants made up of academically motivated, but economically disadvantaged sophomores in the Saratoga Springs City School District.
20. **Saratoga Springs Synchronized Program**
Lend-A-Hand Grant will help to provide funding for three teams to be developed via this program. The Saratoga Springs Synchronized Skaters are girls which are part of three teams: one competitive team and two exhibition teams.
21. **Senior Citizens Center of Saratoga**
Lend-A-Hand Grant will help to fund the bus trip program. The trips are in high demand with about 250 senior citizens annually enjoying the activity. The grant from ATCCF helps contain cost so that the program is sustainable.
22. **Shelters of Saratoga**
Lend-A-Hand Grant will help to provide funding for the purchase of bus passes that the shelter guests can use for transportation to required Department of Social Services appointments: job searches, job fairs and interviews, medical appointments, and skills training.

23. **Wait House**

Lend-A-Hand Grant will help to provide funding for case management services in their Emergency Shelter program. This program targets youths from 16-21 years of age. Wait House is the only shelter for homeless youth in Warren and Washington counties.

Speaking on behalf of the ATCCF Independent Advisory Committee, volunteer Chairperson Joan Taylor commented, “The message we want to send is one of sincere gratitude, both to our donors, as well as to the nonprofits that tirelessly work to better our community. The culmination of our year long efforts, the 2014 Lend -A-Hand Grant Award Ceremony was a moving event where we had the privilege of recognizing the incredible dedication of this year's twenty-three nonprofit Lend-A-Hand Grant recipients, and supporting the amazing variety of charitable works they perform. Thank you to all the business and individual donors who contributed to the 2014 Autumn of Giving Match Campaign which supports our Community Fund's grant program. Your belief in and support of our mission: to foster and perpetuate the local philanthropy that is so integral to the strength of our community, is making a difference for all of us.”

The Adirondack Trust Company Community Fund ("The Community Fund") was established in 2009 to serve as a perpetual source of philanthropic support for the needs of local charities. The Fund is an independent 501(c) (3) charitable organization. The Adirondack Trust Company serves as the Trustee and Administrator of The Community Fund with the guidance of an Independent Advisory Committee, comprised of individuals from the community. The Community Fund's website is www.atccf.org.

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