



LEGACY
FOUNDATION
of Tompkins County

Celebrating 78 Years
of Making a Difference
for our Community

2023





Letter from the President

This fall marks the 78th anniversary of the creation of The Ithaca Foundation, which created an enduring

fund “designed to encourage and support character, health, building, educational, recreational and welfare activities in the larger Ithaca community.” In 1961 The Ithaca Foundation became The Tompkins County Foundation, recognizing the entire community that benefits from its work, and in 2007 The Tompkins County Foundation became The Legacy Foundation of Tompkins County in recognition of the organization’s long history and long-term view of its place in the community. Our founders understood how critical support was for our non-profit community and how that support was directly linked to the quality of life in Tompkins County. I am amazed and in awe of their foresight, and I along with our other Board members are very honored to continue the work of the Legacy Board.

What many people may not know is that we are a private foundation but unusual in that our endowment was not created with one large gift as is the case with most private foundations. Our founders created a fund that was built by the community at large, one generous gift at a time. And through the years, it is this endowment fund that is now able to award critical grants that help our non-profit community make a strong community for us all.

Legacy has played a key role as a funder in Tompkins County responding to the needs of our community. Our endowment supports all the giving we do. But the needs in our community have increased over the years and if we want to continue to serve our community now and for future generations, building our endowment must be a top priority. **With all this in mind, I am happy to announce the board’s decision to embark on an Endowment Campaign in honor of our upcoming 80th anniversary in 2025. We will be sharing more information about this effort in the coming months.**

I hope you can take a minute to browse through our Report to the Community. See the good works we are so proud to support. If you have any questions about Legacy, or how you can get involved, please do not hesitate to reach out to our director, Perri LoPinto. We would love to hear from you and answer any questions you might have.

Wishing you the best,

Peter Grossman
Legacy Board President

The Legacy Foundation of Tompkins County

is a private foundation committed to improving the quality of life in Tompkins County by supporting non-profit organizations through semi-annual grant awards. Funding for grants comes from our endowment that continues to grow from careful management by our board, and donations and planned gifts from our generous community. We invite those organizations needing assistance to apply for support, and we invite those community members who love Tompkins County and the quality of life it strives to provide for its citizens, to join our efforts by making a gift to Legacy.

Our History

In 1945, five public-spirited businessmen, Paul Brainard, William Burns, Sherman Peer, George Rogalsky, and Gerald Williams dreamt of a way to provide for the betterment of the community that they had grown to love. They decided to create an endowment that would support worthy organizations that make our community a caring and vibrant place to live. Gifts poured in from local residents, and soon grants were being awarded, fulfilling the goals and dreams of the original founders. Those dreams and goals continued to be stewarded today by Legacy’s dedicated board of directors.

With the continued generosity of the community, and well-managed investments, the Legacy Foundation’s endowment now supports two grant cycles annually that award over \$200,000 to worthy Tompkins County organizations. Legacy continues to follow the vision of the founders, working to make our community a better place for us all.

On the cover: A program participant from the Youth Farm Project’s summer agricultural work-training program for teens.

Photo on page 2: Downtown Ithaca Children’s Center and the Sciencenter collaborate on family activities.



Supporting the Community through Grantmaking

Twice a year the board reviews grant applications in the Foundation's areas of interest: Health, Recreation, Education, Human and Social Services, Aging, and the Arts. A rating system is applied to all grant applications by each board member and then the board meets to discuss and award grants. Legacy routinely receives more worthy grants than our resources can fund. That is why growing the endowment and increasing our capacity is a current priority for the Foundation.

Over its 78-year history,
more than

\$5 million

has been distributed
to local organizations
that serve our community.

The Legacy Foundation
has supported over

250

Tompkins County
organizations over
its 78-year history

Our 2023 Grantees

The Legacy Foundation supports programs, projects, and capital expenditures in the areas of: Health, Education, Recreation, Human and Social Services, Aging, and the Arts. Support may also be given to requests for “seed” money for new or innovative projects or programs.

Legacy Foundation also provides endowment funds for two award programs created by Tompkins Trust Company, now Tompkins Community Bank. The James J. Byrnes Awards for Excellence identifies and rewards excellence in volunteering within Tompkins County, and the Raymond Van Houtte Education Awards, identifies and rewards outstanding teachers and other employees of Tompkins County schools.

SPRING CYCLE

Alcohol & Drug Council of Tompkins County: Grant supplied the funds for bedding in the new 40-bed detox facility.

Catholic Charities Tompkins/Tioga: The grant supported unfunded Community Habilitation services for people with disabilities.

Caroline After School Program: Funds supported the purchase of new technology for the program.

Cayuga Medical Center Foundation: The grant helped to support the creation of a training center for medical professionals.

Enfield Community Council: The grant supported the purchase of a new laptop, software, a projector, and a tablet – all to enable program expansion for the Community Center.

Finger Lakes ReUse: The funds will help support infrastructure improvements that will help address the growing demand for reuse services in our community.

Groton Community Cupboard: The grant helped to underwrite some of the costs associated with moving to a new facility that will better serve the community.

Groundswell Center for Local Food & Farming: Funding purchased tool kits for new farmers to the program.

Hospicare & Palliative Care Services of Tompkins County: The grant helped to cover costs for patients in the residence so no one is turned away for lack of funds.

Human Services Coalition (HSC) of Tompkins County: The funding supported outreach events for new populations that are struggling with housing issues and not aware of the assistance available through the HSC.

Ithaca Public Education Initiative (IPEI): This funding helped to support the Student Leadership Grant Program.

Ithaca Youth Bureau/ Paul Schreurs Memorial Program: Grant supports educational opportunities for marginalized students to explore career and college exploration, skill-building, and community service.

Kitchen Theatre Company: This funding supported the joint production by the Kitchen and Hangar Theatres of “What the Constitution Means to Me.”

LifeLong -Tompkins County Sr. Citizens’ Council: The grant supported technology upgrades and the creation of a video that will be used to expand and inform the community about LifeLong programs.

New Roots Charter School: Funding supported the school’s Youth Ecological Restoration Corp, which provides students with employment and educational opportunities in restoring the wetlands of Cayuga Lake

Paleontological Research Institution: This grant helped to underwrite the replacement of the roof over the Specimen Collections Wing.





Racker: Funds were used to purchase specialized sensory therapy equipment.

State Theatre of Ithaca: Supported the renovation and expansion of the theatre lobby which includes an ADA accessible entrance.

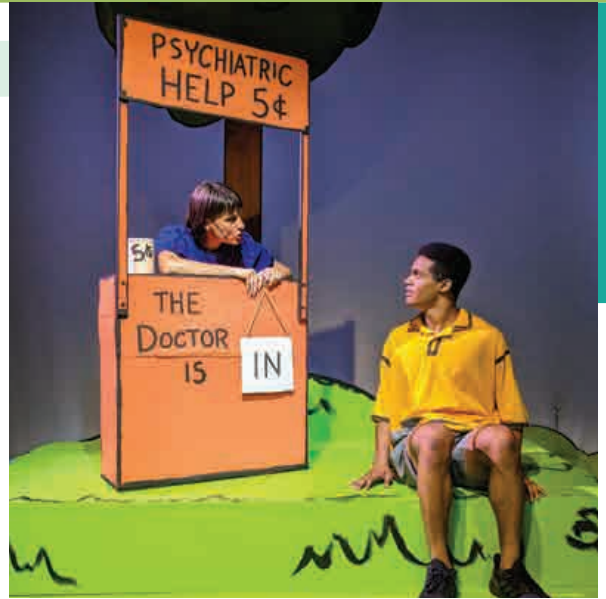
Sciencenter: Funds were used to develop an exhibit called “Changing Skies Gallery” that focuses on changing climate and the impact on weather.



The Ithaca Voice: Grant helped to support a new staff member that will focus on health-related news and investigative reporting.

Ulysses Philomathic Library: The Funding supported a chair yoga class for seniors and people with mobility issues.

Unity House of Cayuga County: Funding purchased a smart board for use in a classroom setting for people with disabilities.



Walking On Water Productions: The grant underwrote some of the costs associated with the family fare production of “The World According to Snoopy.”

Youth Farm Project: Funds were used to support a summer agricultural work-training program for teens of all cultural backgrounds.

YMCA of Ithaca & Tompkins County: The grant helped to fund the purchase of new ADA pool entry stairs.



FALL CYCLE

Beverly Martin School PTA: The grant will contribute to an emergency fund that provides support for families in need.

Child Development Council: Funds will be used to support the Basic Needs Program for families.

Community Science Institute: Funds will be used for the Volunteers in Precipitation Monitoring program.

Family and Children's Service: Grant will support the KINECT program for at risk youth.

Finger Lakes Land Trust: The grant will help cover the cost of purchasing wetlands and stream banks that protect Cayuga Lake's water quality.

First Congregational Church: Funded the purchase of an Automated External Defibrillator and first aid kit.

Food Bank of the Southern Tier: Funds will support a school food center in Tompkins County.

Foodnet Meals on Wheels: Funding will purchase technology to support educational opportunities for participants of the Senior Social Connections Program.

Golden Opportunity: Funding will cover an afterschool enrichment and tutoring program.

Greater Ithaca Activities Center: The grant will help cover the costs the Hospitality Employment Training Program.

Habitat for Humanity: The grant will help cover costs for a historic renovation on Aurora St. in Ithaca.

Ithaca Community Orchestra: The grant will help cover the costs of the Fall Concert.

Ithaca Community Recovery: Funding will cover the costs of new chairs for meeting rooms.

Ithaca Health Alliance: Funds will be used to upgrade the laundry facility for the clinic.

Ithaca Neighborhood Housing Services: Grant will help to fund the Minor Repair Program.

Ithaca Welcomes Refugees: The grant will help cover the costs of small household items and groceries for newly arriving refugees.

Love Living at Home: Grant will help with costs of setting up an office space with better community access.

Running to Places Theatre Company: Funds will help underwrite productions so they can be free for kids to participate and free for people to attend.

Southside Community Center: Funding will cover repairs to agency van.

Tompkins Learning Partners: Supported their communications and technology upgrades.

United Way of Tompkins County: Funds will help with expansion of the Volunteer Tompkins platform.

Varna United Methodist Church: The grant will cover the costs of purchasing yarn so the Pew Knitters can make gloves, hats, mitten and lap blankets for people in need in the community.



Wharton Studio Museum: Funds will underwrite interpretive signage at Stewart Park.

Women's Opportunity Center: The grant will help cover the costs of renovations to the front entrance.



Legacy Summer Gathering 2023

This past summer the Legacy Foundation hosted a gathering at the Treman Center to share the good work the Foundation does for our community. A short presentation included stories from some of our grantees, as well as reflections from friends of Legacy and why they are supporters.



Grantee Spotlight: Kitchen Theatre



Artistic Director Emerita
Rachel Lampert

In 1991, the Kitchen Theatre Company was created as a place where talented young artists could work together and hone their craft. Early productions were high energy and explored how we see the world. From the very beginning, thought-provoking works, and a commitment to a robust connection with the audience was infused into all the work presented. After 32 years, and over 200 productions, that still is the case. The Kitchen Theatre's tagline – Important Conversation Happen in the Kitchen – remains the guiding light of all the work presented.



Erica Steinhagen and AnnaJo Lubasi in "What the Constitution Means to Me."

The post-pandemic time brought critical challenges. Audiences were used to staying home during Covid and are just now starting to return. Leadership at the Kitchen Theatre knew that to survive and thrive in this post-pandemic world restructuring and re-imagining would be key.

Artistic Director Emerita Rachel Lampert stepped back into Leadership, alongside former KTC staff members Stephen Nunley, Lesley Greene and

Karl Gregory as volunteers, to help the theatre during the transition out of the pandemic. "We needed to re-think things. We convened focus groups and met with other performing arts organizations. It was a great opportunity to think outside the box. Going forward we have shifted our programming and created partnerships, for example co-producing with the Hangar Theatre, that will help us be stronger and financially viable going forward" says Lampert. "We finished our 2023/24 Season with sold out houses. Seeing audiences returning is the vote of confidence we needed."

The Legacy Foundation has supported the Kitchen Theatre with several grants over the years, including underwriting their internship program and helping to fund a collaborative production with the Hangar Theatre this past Spring. Legacy is proud to be able to support the Kitchen Theatre and their important conversations for our community.



Five shows are scheduled for the 2023/24 season. For more information on the Kitchen Theatre visit kitchentheatre.org.

MISSION:

To create bold theatre within our intimate space that engages community and sparks important conversation.



Donor Spotlight: Jim and Terry Byrnes

In 1988, Jim and Terry Byrnes moved to Ithaca. Jim was hired to be the new president of Tompkins Trust Company, now known as Tompkins Community Bank. It was a coming home of sorts as Jim had attended Cornell and Terry's father was a Cornellian.

As the new president of Tompkins Trust Company, Jim had a seat on the Tompkins County Foundation board, now known as The Legacy Foundation. Both he and Terry are very community minded, and the work of the Legacy Foundation – funding non-profit organizations that make our community a better place to live – resonated with them both immediately. Jim quickly became very involved with the community through his work as President of the Bank, as well as through the work he did at Legacy.

Terry had also been working in the banking industry, but since she was moving to a new community with a young child, she decided to get involved by volunteering. She joined the hospital board and served on her son's school PTA. Later Terry became instrumental in the creation of the Ithaca Public Education Initiative (IPEI) and its program, Kids Discover the Trail!. Terry's main interest has always been education.

Jim served on the Legacy Foundation Board of Directors from 1989 until 2006. "The Foundation gave me the opportunity to learn about our non-profit sector in depth" says Jim, "I felt that the mission of the bank and the mission of the Foundation had much in common."

Jim retired from Tompkins Trust Company in 2014 and they now split their time between Ithaca and Florida. As annual donors to the Legacy Foundation, their



Terry and Jim Byrnes

commitment to the Ithaca community and the work of the Foundation remains strong. "Supporting the Foundation is very important to both of us," says Jim, "because making a gift to Legacy ensures that the money will be used locally to help this community." (Legacy serves Tompkins County exclusively.) "I know first-hand that the board conducts a careful review of all the grants submitted and considers the health of the community as a whole when making awards. That is important to us as well."

Jim and Terry look at their giving as a way to show their affection for a community to which they have strong ties. They feel their giving will be well-stewarded and will help those future community members yet to come. They were once new to Ithaca and Tompkins County and want others settling here to find the same caring and welcoming community they did.

The Legacy Foundation is grateful to have such wonderful supporters like Jim and Terry!

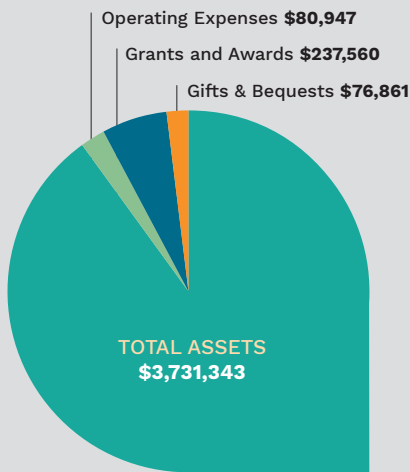
James J. Byrnes Awards for Excellence

Established in 1985, the Tompkins Community Bank's (formerly the Tompkins Trust Company) Awards for Excellence program was created with a generous gift to the Legacy Foundation in celebration of the bank's 150th anniversary. The program recognizes outstanding contributions to the quality of life in Tompkins County through religious, charitable, scientific, educational, artistic, literary, or civic achievement.

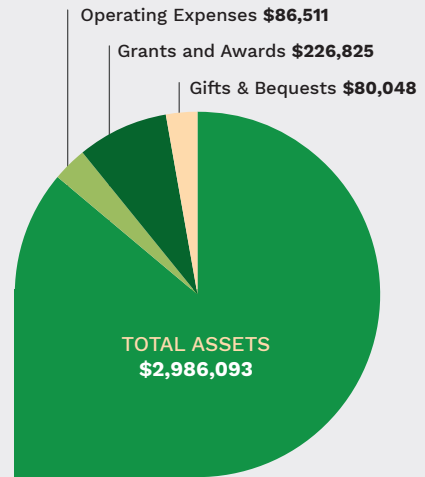
In 2014, to recognize and honor James J. Byrnes' retirement as Chairman of the Board of Tompkins Financial Corporation and Tompkins Trust Company, the name was changed to the James J. Byrnes Awards for Excellence, and an additional gift was made in his honor. Nominations are submitted by community members, and awards winners are selected by a committee of Legacy and Tompkins Community Bank representatives. Presentations are held annually in the spring.

Financial Picture

2021



2022



Summary of Endowments Fund Accounts as of 12.31.22

General Endowment: **\$2,691,821**

Growth from the endowment supports annual granting

Catherwood: **\$15,998**

Growth from this fund benefits the United Way of Tompkins County

Sciencenter: **\$33,826**

Growth from this fund supports the Sciencenter

Tompkins Trust Company: **\$221,380**

Growth from this fund supports the James J. Byrnes Awards for Excellence

Van Houtte: **\$37,175**

Growth from this fund supports the Ray Van Houtte Education Awards

External Trust Income for 2022

Jewell Trust: **\$9,714** to support granting

Smith Trust: **\$48,720** to support granting

Strong Trust: **\$9,614** to support granting

Board of Directors and Staff

Our Board of Directors is composed of civic leaders who have proven competence in business, finance, and community agency management. They have exhibited exceptional concern for the quality of life in our community through their leadership in diverse local organizations.

Peter Grossman, Esq., President
Partner, Hancock Estabrook

Mary Opperman, Vice President
President, Opperman Consulting Group

Dana Christofferson, Secretary/
Treasurer
Financial Advisor, Northwestern Mutual

Dr. David Evelyn
Retired VP for Medical Affairs,
Cayuga Medical Center

Gregory J. Galvin, Ph.D.
Chairman, President & CEO, Rheonix

David E. Iles, CPA
Managing Partner, Sciarabba Walker
& Co., LLP

Thomas LiVigne
Retired Director, Cornell Real Estate
Department

Jean McPheeters
President,
Jean McPheeters Consulting LLC

Stephen Romaine
President & CEO,
Tompkins Financial Corporation

Peter Salmon
Managing Director, IFN Consulting

Perri LoPinto,
Executive Director

Michelle "Shelli" Mekos,
Recording Secretary



Legacy Society Members are friends of the Foundation that have made thoughtful provisions in their estate plans for the benefit of Legacy. Some gifts have been realized.

Laura Atwood
Beverly Baker
Paul & Henrietta Brainard
Dorothy Booth
J. Tracy Brooks
Willis W. Brown
Tim Butts
Seth Warner Burchard
Martin P. Catherwood
Eugenia Van Cleef
G. Ferris Cronkhite

Alice E. Ewald
Joanne Volpe Florino
Albert W. Force
D. Aldus Fogelsanger
Mary E. Ford
Raymond Frear
Peter & Kristin Grossman
Greg & Bev Hartz
Janet & John Hewitt
John & Mayfred Hirshfeld
Susie M. Hoyt

Wallie A. Hurwitz
Cecilia Jewell
Thomas & Lisa LiVigne
Perri & Mick LoPinto
Lawrence McDaniels
Daniel & Jean McPheeters
Mary & Kip Opperman
Mr. & Mrs. Papas
Katherine V.W. Palmer
Lillian C. Payne
Arthur & Katy Pearce

Sherman Peer
Laurence Pumpelly
Edward & Henrietta Richardson
Marjorie Ruth Ross
Adaline B. Roe
Ruth B. Rogers
Addie A. Sage
George V. & Jean A. Smith
Doris S. Strong
Allan H. Treman
Anna G. Whitcomb
Jean White

Legacy's Endowment Campaign

Now is the time to invest in our community.

Legacy was created in 1945 by 5 local businesspeople who wanted to show their love for their community. They started a private foundation and with a few modest gifts, created an endowment that they hoped would grow and be able to serve the non-profit community. This was very unusual, as most private foundations were created with one large gift from one donor. But Legacy's Founders felt strongly that the non-profit community made Tompkins County a better place to live, and they believed the community at large would step forward to support and give to this endowment.

They were right. The Legacy Foundation's endowment – **built one gift at a time from local community members like you** - has supported over 250 local charities since its inception, making a real difference for our community year after year.

As we look to the future, we know those needs will continue to grow.

To ensure our community has the resources it needs to keep our community strong the board at Legacy has decided to embark on an Endowment Campaign to grow and strengthen our Endowment. And we invite you to join our efforts.

Start now.

For more information on Legacy's Endowment Campaign contact **Perri LoPinto, at 607-319-0164.**





LEGACY
FOUNDATION

of Tompkins County

P.O. Box 97 Ithaca, NY 14851

**Celebrating
78 Years of Making
a Difference
for our
Community**

Mission: The Legacy Foundation provides support to local organizations that work every day to make Tompkins County an inclusive, welcoming, and affirming place to live and work. Founded in 1945 by business leaders who invested their time and resources, we continue to rely on the generosity of community members to help build our impact.

Vision: The Legacy Foundation is a leader in advancing Tompkins County as a vibrant community with a healthy, diverse, economy; great natural beauty; arts and cultural organizations that enrich lives; and a focus on wellbeing for all.



CAPTION HERE

Legacy Foundation

www.tcllegacy.org