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Yates Community Endowment Distributes \$34,022 to Seven Nonprofits Serving Yates County

The Yates Community Endowment awarded \$34,022 in grants to seven organizations that are serving Yates County residents. An additional \$10,000 in support was a co-investment by Rochester Area Community Foundation for one of the grants.

The Endowment's all-local advisory board hosted the 2017 annual meeting and grant reception at Climbing Bines Craft Ale Company in Penn Yan.

At the event, advisory board members announced a new goal — to add another \$1 million to the permanent fund that provides current and future support for the Yates County community. In 2016, the Endowment exceeded its first goal to raise \$1 million in five years.

Tom and Carolyn Argust announced a \$50,000 gift to jumpstart this fundraising effort. Tom was one of the founders of the Yates Community Endowment, served as co-chair of the advisory board in its early years, and continues to serve as a board member. The Argust gift combines with \$164,000 in other gifts and interest to push the endowment total to \$1,214,000.

Since its founding in 2011, the Yates Community Endowment has awarded more than \$190,000 to support projects and programs in Yates County. The 2017 grants, totaling \$34,022, were awarded by the Endowment and several of its affiliate funds to:

Arc of Yates, Inc.: Camp Week 2017 includes every one of the 400 individuals supported by the Arc of Yates — from the preschool to the DRIVE program, and all-day program participants. **\$5,000** (Includes \$4,000 from the Spring Hill Fund)

Big Brothers, Big Sisters of Greater Rochester: The Mentoring Youth for Educational Success project focuses on enrolling mentees who are chronically truant, at high risk of educational failure, reside in female-headed households in poverty and/or have parents who are incarcerated or affected by incarceration. **\$5,000** (*Includes \$1,800 from the Robert F. Flickinger Fund*).

Friends of the Outlet: New “Welcome to the Outlet Trail” signs will give interpretive information and enhance visitors’ experience on the trail. Five initial signs will be posted. **\$4,500** (*Includes \$700 from the Robert F. Flickinger Fund and \$1,300 from the Willie Taaffe Memorial Fund*).

S2AY Rural Health Network, Inc.: Supports the purchase of age-appropriate books and supplies for the Fair-y Tale Festival and refreshments for the community reading nights and Back to School Community Gathering. **\$5,000** (*Fully funded by \$2,000 from the Robert F. Flickinger Fund and \$3,000 from the Spring Hill Fund*).

Yates Cultural & Recreational Resources, Inc.: The “You’re Welcome” program, in conjunction with several partners, creates a well-trained workforce in the tourism sector. The grant will allow the Yates County unemployed to access these trainings. **\$4,222**

YMCA of Greater Rochester: Supports scholarships for Yates youth to attend Camp Cory — either four students in a three-week leadership program or contribute toward 25 students attending day camp. **\$3,300** (*Includes \$1,000 from the McMullen Family Fund*).

ProAction of Steuben & Yates, Inc.: The proposed Hope Center will assist individuals and families living in poverty by offering support to meet basic needs and providing a full assessment to identify other individual/family needs. The Hope Center also will serve as the main food pantry for the county. Referrals for additional resources also will be provided, along with any other needed supports. **\$17,000** (*Includes \$10,000 from Rochester Area Community Foundation and \$2,000 from the McMullen Family Fund*).

For more information on the Yates Community Endowment, visit www.racf.org/Yates or call Jonathan Hoose at 585.341.4363. If you are interested in making a contribution to the Endowment, you can mail a check payable to Yates Community Endowment, 500 East Avenue, Rochester, NY 14607, or make an online donation at racf.org/SupportYates.