This past year, the Yates Community Endowment awarded 16 grants totaling $142,200 to support nonprofits that serve Yates County residents.

2023 Grant Recipients

**Bishop Sheen Ecumenical Housing Foundation:** Supports emergency relief funding for housing-related emergencies of Yates County residents. $2,500

**Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) of the Southern Tier, Inc.:** Provides support for the advocacy program for children, birth to age 21, who are involved in the Family Court System due to neglect or abuse by a parental figure. $9,000

**Dundee Library:** Supports the courtyard garden project: a community garden accessible to people of all mobility levels. $2,500

**Finger Lakes Health Foundation, Inc.:** Supports the purchase of alternating pressure mattresses for patients at Soldiers & Sailors Memorial Hospital in Yates County. $5,000

**Keuka Housing Council:** Provides funding for Firm Roots, a new program to be held at the HOPE Center that will allow any child up to age 17 to enjoy a fresh cooked meal at any time during normal operational hours. Participants will also have the opportunity to learn different life skills, such as how to prepare meals, budgeting, job preparation, and other daily living skills. $15,000

**The Living Well:** Supports the expansion of the DreamCatchers afterschool program into the Dundee community. $20,000

**Milly's Pantry:** Provides operational support for the backpack program that supports youth in Yates County. $2,500

**Our Town Rocks:** Supports the improvement of the physical, social, and economic health of Yates County residents, encouraging self-reliance and providing opportunities for residents of all ages to cultivate an active, healthy, mind and body. $10,000

**Penn Yan Theatre Company:** Supports the summer theatre camp for Yates County youth. $1,000

**Pro Action of Steuben and Yates:** Provides continued support for operations at the HOPE Center Keuka Food Pantry. $7,800

**Rainbow Junction, Ltd.:** Provides operational support to the renovations needed at the existing Penn Yan Center and the newly acquired Dundee Center. $45,000

**St. Mark’s Terrace HDF Corp.:** Provides funding for upgrades to equipment for the wellness program. $3,400

**Saunders Finger Lakes Museum:** Supports the creation of the NEST (Nature Escape Sensory Trail) adding to the Museum’s experiential offerings that inspire appreciation and celebrate the cultures and ecology of the vast Finger Lakes region. $10,000

**Yates County History Center:** To continue operations at the Yates County History Center. $1,000

**Yates Cultural & Recreational Resources, Inc.:** To continue operations at the Yates Community Center, including the fitness center, ELEVATE Youth and Core Adult programming, walking trail, and fields. $2,500

**YMCA of Greater Rochester:** To fund scholarships for Yates County youth ages 3-15 to attend the YMCA’s day camp at Camp Cory in Penn Yan. $5,000

These grants were made possible with funding from the Yates Community Endowment Fund as well its affiliate funds, including the Robert F. Flickinger Memorial Fund; Greater Rochester Women’s Fund; Iacona Youth Success Fund; David and Carol Laniak Family Fund; McMullen Family Fund; Philip and Dolores Neivert “Fun Fund”; Rochester Area Community Foundation’s Community Impact Fund; Spring Hill Fund; V.J. Stanley Sr. Fund; and William P. and Abigail Roberts Van Wagenen Fund II.
About Us

The Yates Community Endowment is a permanent endowment fund at Rochester Area Community Foundation. Since its beginning in 2011, the Endowment has made it a goal to consistently support local nonprofits that are on the front lines dealing with the county’s evolving needs. By doing that, neighbors are helping neighbors.

Yates Community Endowment has distributed more than $700,000 in grants to nonprofit organizations serving Yates County.

Donor Spotlight

“Born and raised in Yates County, my husband Art and I have made a conscious effort to continue to give back to the community where our ties run deep and we have chosen to grow our family. We feel very fortunate to be able to call Yates County home and the place where I work. We both believe strongly in giving back, and being involved in a community that is near and dear to our heart. Knowing that our donation continues to build on a fund that grows in perpetuity and that will give back for generations to come — tackling ever changing challenges and supporting a variety of projects — is what continues to make us passionate about the Yates Community Endowment.

Having local board members vet and pick nonprofits to partner with year after year while pulling the resources at the Community Foundation in Rochester is the best of all worlds. This is an investment into our community: where we work, play, and grow our family. There is so much good work being done, and we are proud to be part of it.” —Brianne Kirk

Yates Community Endowment Advisory Committee

Ann McMullen, Co-Chair
Susan Priem, Co-Chair
Nancy Bailey
Megan DeFranco
Jeffrey Johnstone
Brianne Kirk
Edith Mann
Mark Morris
Nancy Rees
Phil Riehl
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Visit racf.org/Yates or contact us to learn more.

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