Earlier this year, the Six Town Community Fund approved up to $5,000 in grants to support nine community projects benefitting residents across the region.

The Six Town Community Fund was established in 2013 as a component fund through the Northern New York Community Foundation. This charitable fund serves as a permanent, philanthropic resource to bolster programs, projects and activities in southern Jefferson County. The community fund was built through the generosity of several individuals, businesses and organizations, along with a matching grant from the Community Foundation. The fund continues to enjoy steady growth, due in large part to the passion and dedication of community fund supporters and committee members.

“It is fulfilling to see the gifts made by people who love the Six Town area being put to work to make a difference in a grassroots, hyperlocal way,” said Rande Richardson, Executive Director, Northern New York Community Foundation. “This has proven to be a nice vehicle for donors to focus their giving in a flexible, yet enduring way, for the places that have great meaning for them.”

Since its inception, the Six Town Community Fund has awarded $15,000 in grant funding to support 22 different community projects. Each grant recipient is making a meaningful impact on the quality of life in the towns of Adams, Ellisburg, Henderson, Lorraine, Rodman and Worth. A full recap of this year’s grant awards are inside this newsletter. The next round of community fund grant requests from local non-profit organizations will be reviewed and determined later this year.

“Our goal remains the same: To support projects and initiatives that have a lasting, positive affect on the Six Town region,” said John Treadwell, Six Town Community Fund committee member. “I believe we are accomplishing that goal together and look forward to being able to grant larger awards as the fund grows.”
South Jefferson Rescue Squad, Inc. / $1,000

This grant will help the organization purchase an APX radio to assist the rescue squad’s transition to a new form of county-wide communications system. The agency responds to nearly 10,000 calls per year with a core group of one full-time medic, one part-time paramedic, and close to 50 volunteers supporting its efforts.

Henderson Harbor Performing Arts / $800

This grant was awarded to support the costs of bringing the Red House Arts Group from Syracuse to perform a Shakespeare program this summer. For more than 20 years, the association has promoted music, theater and the arts in southern Jefferson County and across Northern New York.

South Jefferson Central School / $750

Grant funding will be utilized to support the school’s technology club, which recently created project-based activities centered on STEAM initiatives. The grant will assist with the purchasing of materials and supplies for the program.

Historical Assoc. of South Jefferson / $500

This funding support will assist with the organization’s ongoing community campaign to restore seven stained glass windows at the Six Town meeting house in Adams. This grant will help with renovations to the first window.

Adams Revitalization Committee / $500

Entering its fourth year, this grant will support the Adams Community Concert Series and its summer performances, which are free and open to the public. Funding will be utilized to assist with musicians fees.

Union Academy of Belleville / $500

This grant supports the renovation to the historic Union Academy bell tower, a well-known landmark in the Six Town area. The bell tower was erected in 1845. The organization’s mission is to enhance educational opportunities for students at Belleville-Henderson school.

Mannsville Free Library / $250

This grant will advance the “Life is Like a Box of Chocolates” program which encourages teamwork, kindness, and awareness of diversity. The grant funding will be used to purchase materials that are part of the program experience.

Henderson Historical Society / $200

This grant will purchase maple trees that will beautify the HHS walking trail. Several trees were damaged in a series of winter storms. The trees planted this spring will enhance the scenic trail for residents.

Earlier this spring, a community forum was held for nearly 40 attendees for a discussion on reducing the stigma of addiction and offering hope for recovery. The conversation was led by Credo Community Center. A grant from the Six Town Community Fund assisted with the promotion and awareness of these community discussions.

Pictured (L-R): Doreen Slocum, Credo Peer Advocate Coordinator; Jim Scordo, Executive Director, Credo Community Center; Liz Walker, Six Town Community Fund committee member.

2018-19 Grant Application Now Available

Local organizations in the southern Jefferson County towns of Adams, Ellisburg, Henderson, Lorraine, Rodman, and Worth are encouraged to apply for a grant through the Six Town Community Fund at the Northern New York Community Foundation.

Organizations with a 501(c)3 non-profit classification are eligible to apply. Other agencies, community groups, or individuals seeking a fiscal sponsor for a community project are encouraged to partner with an eligible non-profit or the nearest municipality. Eligible organizations are encouraged to begin identifying potential projects for 2019, developing project budgets, and additional funding sources for their request. Grant recipients will be determined in December.

Interested organizations are encouraged to contact the Northern New York Community Foundation at (315) 782-7110 to discuss potential projects. Inquiries can also be made to Max DelSignore, Community Foundation assistant director, via email at max@nnycf.org.

SIX TOWN GIVING: Donors to the Six Town Community Fund recently gathered to celebrate some initial accomplishments and results of grantmaking, as John D. Marsellus responds to a question. The Marsellus family has been long associated with the Henderson Harbor area and were lead donors to help establish the Six Town Community Fund.
Six Town Community Fund: Generous Giving

Founding Donors ($5,000 or more)

Mollie Bangs
Frank and Ann Cean
Hi-Lite Airfield Services, LLC
Maurice L. Herron
Daisy Marquis Jones Foundation
Bill and Bonnie Kellogg
The Marsellus Family
The Porter Family
Dave and Mary Stone
Jay and Dawn Stone
Alan Reed
Robert and Julia Storms
Barry and Ellen Waite

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South Jefferson Lions Club
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Doug and Karen Spooner
Bill and Teresa Stoodley
Dave and Carol Stoodley
Mark and Tammy Taylor
Thomas Excavating LLC
John and Sara Treadwell
LaRayne Urbanczyk
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Watertown Savings Bank
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In Memory Of:
Given by

Mollie L. Bangs
Betty G. Andrews
Barbara S. Hatheway
Susan Munro
Rande Richardson
Sara Schastok
Dave and Mary Stone
Mark and Tammy Taylor
John and Sara Treadwell
Joan Treadwell Woods

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Rande Richardson
Dave and Mary Stone
Tom Williams
Dave and Mary Stone

In Honor Of:
Given by

Carol Arnold
Susan and Albert Richter
Carol Bushnell
Adams Free Library
Brendan Higgins
Edgar J. Higgins Jr.

Gifts to the Six Town Community Fund can be made to the Northern New York Community Foundation

Simply specify “Six Town Community Fund” in the memo line and mail checks to:
131 Washington Street, Watertown, NY 13601 or you may give online at www.nnycf.org

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Please make gifts payable to the **Northern New York Community Foundation** and write “Six Town Community Fund” on the memo line. Your contribution is tax-deductible to the fullest extent of the law. Detach this form and mail it with your gift to: **Northern New York Community Foundation, 131 Washington Street, Watertown, NY 13601**