

# THE POWER OF FRIENDSHIP AND PHILANTHROPY: TWO WOMEN'S IMPACT ON THE TWIN TIERS REGION

**At the Community Foundation for the Twin Tiers**, we are grateful for our volunteers and donors, who are the heart of the Foundation. Without their incredible dedication and philanthropic spirit, we would not be able to continue improving the quality of life for people in our area. We are especially lucky to have two outstanding volunteers, Susan Storch and Marguerite Shaner, who exemplify what it means to give back to the community.

Susan and Marguerite's involvement with our foundation started in different ways, but their passion for community involvement is evident in everything they do. Susan, who hails from Massachusetts and now lives in Troy, read about our foundation's formation in the local paper and was immediately impressed by what we were doing. Marguerite, from Rhode Island and now living in Luther Mills, became involved after Susan mentioned it. The two have known each other for over a decade, having met through their husbands' involvement in the Troy Rotary Club.

Susan and Marguerite serve on the Foundation's Board of Directors, which covers five counties, and have established their own funds. Marguerite's fund, the Troy Food Pantry Fund, benefits the Bradford County community's nutritional needs, while Susan's fund supports the Allen F. Pierce Free Library, where she has acted as treasurer for 35 years. In addition to their work with our foundation, they have volunteered for various other organizations, including child abuse centers and hospital auxiliaries.

When we asked Susan and Marguerite about their passion for community involvement, they spoke eloquently about how volunteering and giving positively impacts lives. Marguerite, who established a fund in memory of her son, is passionate about bettering the lives of children and their families: "Volunteering and giving enriches my life. It makes life fun because you meet so many interesting people along the path of volunteerism. You make connections and become friends."

Susan was taught from a young age the importance of giving back to her community: "It's important to stay in tune with your local community and give back as much as you can while you're able to, whether that be time, talent, or money. Giving back and looking after our community is an essential part of life."

At the Foundation Susan and Marguerite are good examples of the Foundation's wholistic approach to bettering our community. Working with the Foundation's personalized giving programs and with the depth of their volunteer experiences makes a more complete well-thought-out giving program that will be there forever for the community that they care so much about.



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**- Marguerite Shaner**

Looking to the future, both women plan to stay involved. They will continue volunteering and looking for opportunities where their giving can make the greatest difference and using the Foundation to assist them invest in the causes that they care about- and of course spend time with their friend.

Susan and Marguerite's contributions to our foundation have been invaluable. Their passion for community involvement is truly inspiring. They prove that anyone can make a difference in their community, and we are honored to have them as part of our team.