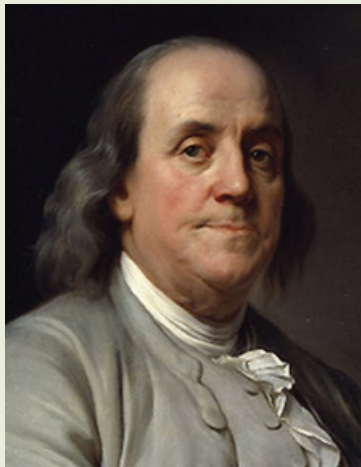




DID YOU KNOW?

The Legacy of Benjamin Franklin Lives on at CFTT



The legacy of Benjamin Franklin continues to touch the lives of Americans every day. Without a doubt, Franklin was one of the most influential and famous men of his time. Benjamin Franklin was an American polymath— a writer, scientist, inventor, statesman, diplomat, printer, publisher, and political philosopher. Among the most influential intellectuals of his time, Franklin was one of the Founding Fathers of the United States, a drafter and signer of the Declaration of Independence, and the nation's first postmaster general.

In his will, Franklin stated that he wished to be useful even after his death. To fulfill this wish, he left a bequest of 1,000 pounds of sterling silver to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the City of Philadelphia in 1791. This amount represented half of what he earned during his tenure as President of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania from 1785 to 1787.

Franklin's bequest came with a unique stipulation: the funds could not be touched for 200 years. When the time came in 1991, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania had over \$2 million from Franklin's estate to distribute. Recognizing that community foundations across the state had the best understanding of their regions' needs, the state entrusted these funds to foundations like The Community Foundation for the Twin Tiers (CFTT). In 2007, CFTT received a portion of this financial distribution, ensuring that Franklin's foresight would continue to benefit our communities for generations to come.

One of Franklin's lesser known but deeply impactful contributions is the Benjamin Franklin Trust Fund. This community impact fund embodies Franklin's vision of supporting public good, ensuring that local communities continue to thrive.

Franklin's generosity reminds us of the power of giving. His words continue to inspire us: "When you are good to others, you are best to yourself." — Benjamin Franklin

Through the Benjamin Franklin Trust Fund at CFTT, we ensure that his vision of service, innovation, and philanthropy continues to make a lasting impact. His generosity lives on, touching countless lives and demonstrating that Franklin's influence is truly timeless.

Benjamin Franklin's contributions to American society extend well beyond his lifetime. His forward-thinking generosity continues to strengthen communities today. Through the Benjamin Franklin Trust Fund, we honor his legacy and sustain the spirit of giving for generations to come.



"When you're good to others,
you're best to yourself."
- Benjamin Franklin

For Good. For Ever.

For more information on how you can make a difference, visit
www.twintierscf.org or contact us today!

Community Foundation for the Twin Tiers Announces New Scholarships for 2025 School Year

The Community Foundation for the Twin Tiers (CFTT) has announced the launch of new scholarship opportunities for the 2025 school year, expanding its commitment to supporting local students in their pursuit of higher education. These scholarships aim to provide financial assistance to graduating high school seniors and current college students across the Twin Tiers region. These new scholarships are as follows:

Alan H. Walker and Deborah A. Walker Scholarship - This non-traditional healthcare scholarship honors the memory of Alan Walker and the extraordinary bond he shared with his caregivers. It reflects his commitment to supporting the next generation of compassionate medical professionals. Designed for students dedicated to caring for others, this scholarship recognizes individuals who have demonstrated hard work, grit, determination, and a deep sense of empathy in their service to others.

Donald E. "Coach" Ennis Memorial Scholarship - Following his game plan, this scholarship was created in honor of Donald's unwavering dedication to education and athletics and will be awarded to a Waverly High School senior who participated in Waverly Wolverine Athletics.

Karen Eltringham Excellence in Nursing Scholarship - Karen Eltringham, a beloved long-time resident of Athens, PA, dedicated her life to caring for others with unparalleled compassion and empathy. In memory of Karen Eltringham's unwavering dedication and compassion, this nursing scholarship has been established to support aspiring nurses who share her commitment to patient care, compassion and empathy.

Knoxville Yoked Church Scholarship - Knoxville Yoked Church has established this scholarship to support graduating seniors from Cowanesque Valley High School. This scholarship is designed to encourage and empower students with a passion for vocational, hands-on skilled trades, helping them take the next step toward achieving their career aspirations.

Make the World a Better Place Scholarship - In a time when the world faces many challenges and divisions, this scholarship was created to celebrate something different. The "Make the World a Better Place" scholarship honors Coudersport High School seniors who embody compassion, empathy, and humility in their daily lives. These are the qualities that bring hope and help create a brighter, kinder world.



With a focus on empowering students through educational funding, CFTT administers a variety of scholarships, each with unique criteria based on academic achievement, financial need, community service, and career aspirations. This year, the foundation has introduced several new scholarships, further increasing access to educational opportunities for students from diverse backgrounds.

"We are thrilled to offer these new scholarships for 2025," said a Joselyn Allen-Elford, the Resource Development Associate for the Community Foundation for the Twin Tiers.

"Education is a powerful tool for shaping the future, and we are dedicated to ensuring that students in our community have the support they need to reach their goals." Eligible students are encouraged to explore the available scholarships and submit applications before the designated deadlines.

The Community Foundation for the Twin Tiers has a long-standing tradition of partnering with donors to create meaningful scholarship programs that make a tangible difference in the lives of young people. By awarding these scholarships, CFTT continues to invest in the region's future leaders, professionals, and community advocates.

Students, parents, and educators interested in learning more about all of the 2025 scholarships, can visit the CFTT website for detailed information on eligibility, application deadlines, and submission requirements.



For Good. For Ever.

For more information on how you can make a difference, visit www.twintierscf.org or contact us today!

The Power of Community Foundations in New York & Pennsylvania

Across New York and Pennsylvania, Community Foundations play a crucial role in fostering philanthropy, supporting local initiatives, and strengthening the communities they serve. As trusted stewards of charitable giving, these foundations work tirelessly to connect donors with causes that align with their values, ensuring long-term, meaningful impact.

What Are Community Foundations?

Community Foundations are nonprofit organizations dedicated to improving the quality of life in their regions. They manage charitable funds from individuals, families, and businesses, investing these resources to support local nonprofits, scholarships, and special community projects. Because of their deep-rooted understanding of regional needs, Community Foundations are uniquely positioned to address challenges and drive positive change.

The Impact of New York & Pennsylvania's Community Foundations

New York and Pennsylvania are homes to a robust network of Community Foundations that collectively manage billions of dollars in assets and distribute millions annually in grants and scholarships. Whether funding food security programs, supporting educational initiatives, or strengthening economic development, foundations provide vital resources that touch countless lives.

For example, the Community Foundation for the Twin Tiers (CFTT) serves communities in Pennsylvania and New York by facilitating charitable giving and providing grant funding to nonprofit organizations. Through its efforts, CFTT has supported local food banks, scholarship programs, youth development initiatives, and more.



How You Can Get Involved

Community Foundations thrive on the generosity of individuals who want to make a difference. Whether through establishing a fund, contributing to an existing initiative, or volunteering, there are many ways to support their mission. If you are interested in learning more about how you can create a lasting impact in your community, consider reaching out to your local Community Foundation.

At the Community Foundation for the Twin Tiers, we are dedicated to empowering donors, supporting nonprofits, and fostering community growth. Together, we can build stronger, more resilient communities across Pennsylvania, New York and beyond.

Why Community Foundations Matter

Sustained Impact: Unlike one-time charitable donations, funds managed by Community Foundations grow over time, ensuring a continuous stream of support for future generations.

Local Knowledge & Expertise: These foundations have deep connections within their communities, allowing them to identify and address pressing needs effectively.

Donor Flexibility & Legacy Giving: Community Foundations offer a range of giving options, from donor-advised funds to endowments, allowing individuals to leave a lasting legacy.

Collaborative Problem-Solving: They work with local leaders, nonprofits, and businesses to develop strategic solutions that strengthen communities.



For more information on how you can make a difference, visit www.twintierscf.org or contact us today!

General Scholarship Application Checklist

The Community Foundation for the Twin Tiers offers a variety of scholarships to students in Bradford, Potter, Sullivan, Tioga Counties in Pennsylvania, and Tioga County, New York. To assist you in applying, here's a general CFTT scholarship checklist.

1. Review Available Scholarships

- Visit the Community Foundation for the Twin Tiers' [Scholarships Available](#) page to explore the scholarships that align with your academic interests and background.
- Each scholarship may have specific eligibility criteria, such as academic performance, field of study, or community involvement.

2. Gather Required Documents

- Application Form: Complete the specific application form for each scholarship you are applying for.
- Academic Transcripts: Ensure your high school or college transcripts are up-to-date and meet the scholarship's requirements.
- Letters of Recommendation: Some scholarships might require a letter of recommendation, obtain letters from teachers, mentors, or community leaders who can speak to your qualifications and character.
- Essays or Personal Statements: Most scholarships require essays or personal statements. Tailor each to the specific scholarship prompt.
- Proof of Eligibility: Provide necessary documents such as proof of residency, financial need, or acceptance into an accredited institution.

3. Complete the Application

- Fill out the application form accurately, providing all requested information.
- Attach all required documents, ensuring they are complete and legible.
- Proofread your application and essays for grammar and clarity.
- Ask a parent, guardian, or trusted friend to review your application and essays for grammar and clarity.

4. Submit the Application

- Submit your application by the specified deadline.
- Scholarship applications can be submitted via email or mail.
- Confirm receipt of your application if possible.

5. Follow Up

- Check the status of your application if the scholarship provider offers a way to do so.
- Send a thank-you note or email to the scholarship committee to express your gratitude for their consideration.



For detailed information on each scholarship, including eligibility criteria and application deadlines, please refer to the [Scholarships Available](#) page.

By following this checklist and thoroughly reviewing the specific requirements for each scholarship, you can enhance your chances of a successful application.

COME & GIVE WITH US!

Join us on June 5–6, 2025 | 7pm–7pm



CFTT is a 2025 NEPA Gives Partner

Get ready to give!

On June 5–6, visit nepagives.org and donate to us and/or to any of the great nonprofit organizations participating in your community.

All giving will end at 7 PM on June 6, so make sure to donate on time!

Questions? If you have any questions or would like more information, let us know. You can contact, Joselyn Allen-Elford at jallenelford@twintierscf.org or by phone 570-888-4759.

Thank you in advance for your generosity to the community!

For more information on how you can make a difference, visit www.twintierscf.org or contact us today!



Dear Friends and Supporters,

As we reflect on the past year and look forward to the opportunities ahead, I want to take a moment to express my deepest gratitude for your unwavering support of the Community Foundation for the Twin Tiers (CFTT). Your generosity and dedication to our mission have helped strengthen our region, providing vital resources to address local needs and empower those we serve.

At CFTT, we believe in the power of philanthropy to create lasting change. Through our partnerships with donors, nonprofits, and community leaders, we have been able to support initiatives that enhance education, health and human services, the environment, the arts, and economic development throughout our five-county region. This past year alone, we have awarded grants and scholarships that have made a tangible difference in the lives of individuals and families in Bradford, Potter, Sullivan, and Tioga Counties in Pennsylvania, as well as Tioga County in New York.

One of the most rewarding aspects of our work is witnessing the impact of your generosity. Whether it's providing scholarships to deserving students, supporting programs that fight food insecurity, or helping nonprofits expand their reach, your contributions have transformed lives and strengthened our communities. Together, we are building a foundation for a brighter future.

As we move forward, we remain committed to our mission of connecting people who care with causes that matter. We invite you to continue this journey with us—whether through giving, volunteering, or spreading awareness about the critical work being done across our region. Every act of kindness, no matter how big or small, helps to shape a more vibrant and thriving community for generations to come.

Thank you for being an essential part of the CFTT family. Your support fuels our passion and purpose, and we are honored to work alongside you in making a lasting impact.

With gratitude,
Charity Field, President, CFTT



Volunteer Spotlight:

Rinaldo "Ray" DePaola: Guiding CFTT with Leadership and Dedication

Rinaldo A. DePaola, the esteemed Board Chair of the Community Foundation for the Twin Tiers (CFTT), has long been a driving force in community development and philanthropy. With a distinguished legal career and a deep commitment to service, DePaola's leadership has helped shape CFTT's impact across the region.

Before stepping into his role at CFTT, DePaola built a successful legal career as an attorney at Griffin, Dawsey, DePaola, and Jones, P.C. His expertise in the legal field equipped him with the knowledge and strategic insight that he now brings to his work with CFTT.

Throughout his career, he has been known for his integrity, dedication, and ability to navigate complex challenges—qualities that have made him an invaluable leader in both the legal and nonprofit sectors.

As Board Chair, DePaola has been instrumental in guiding CFTT's mission of strengthening communities through charitable giving and endowment building. Under his leadership, the foundation has continued to expand its reach, supporting local initiatives and providing resources to those in need. His ability to foster collaboration among donors, nonprofits, and community leaders has ensured that CFTT remains a cornerstone of regional philanthropy.

Beyond his professional accomplishments, DePaola is a devoted husband and father. His commitment to family and community are deeply intertwined, reflecting his belief in the power of giving back and creating a lasting impact for future generations.

As CFTT moves forward under his guidance, Ray's leadership continues to inspire those around him, ensuring that the foundation remains a vital force for good in the Twin Tiers and beyond.



"Our foundation is built on the belief that when a community comes together, we can turn dreams into opportunities and challenges into triumphs. Together, we're shaping a brighter future for everyone."
- Ray DePaola

For more information on how you can make a difference, visit www.twintierscf.org or contact us today!

**CFTT Selected for ARC's
READY Community
Foundations Training Program
and Funding Opportunity**

The Community Foundation for the Twin Tiers (CFTT) is honored to be one of 30 community foundations chosen to participate in the Appalachian Regional Commission's (ARC) READY Community Foundations program. This initiative, part of ARC's broader READY Appalachia capacity-building effort, is designed to strengthen local philanthropic organizations by providing no-cost training and funding opportunities.

Through this program, CFTT engaged in a six-week, cohort-based training focused on financial management, endowment growth, community-driven fundraising, strategic grantmaking, and more. The knowledge gained will enhance our ability to support the Twin Tiers region, ensuring long-term sustainability and impactful community investment.

With the training now complete, CFTT is actively working on our grant proposal to further expand our philanthropic reach. We are deeply grateful for this opportunity and look forward to leveraging these resources to better serve our communities.

Stay tuned for updates on our progress and the positive impact this initiative will bring to our region!



DONATE NOW!

**We know this area.
We love this area.
We love its people,
places, history - and
future. There's no
place like our home.
No place we'd
rather be. And you
probably feel the
same.**

Our mission, since we began in 2002, is clear: Improve the quality of life for people living in the Twin Tiers region.

Develop a spirit of philanthropy. Support nonprofit organizations by connecting donors to community needs. Build permanent charitable funds. Bring people together to solve community problems.



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 - David Carson, Vice Chairman**
 - Ray DePaola, Chairman**
 - Christopher Desrochers**
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 - Joy Glassmire, Sectary**
 - Barry Hayman**
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 - Wendy Swartz, Treasurer**



- OUR TEAM**
- Charity Field**
President/CEO
 - Joselyn Allen-Elford**
Resource Development Officer
 - Sandy Peterson**
Information Systems Director

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