



Every Fund Has a Beginning

Behind the names are people, places and ideas that became part of the Twin Tiers' story.

Scroll through the list of funds held at the Community Foundation for the Twin Tiers, and something quickly becomes apparent.

There are a lot of names.

Names of people. Names of families. Names of organizations. Names of places. Some are immediately recognizable. Others might make you wonder about the story behind them. And there is almost always a story. Long before a fund has a balance, awards a scholarship, or provides a grant, it begins with something much simpler: someone cares about something.

Sometimes, it is a place.

The Carantouan Greenway Fund holds a particularly special place in CFTT's history as the very first fund established at the Community Foundation. Its purpose is rooted in preserving and protecting a part of the community for the future.



Sometimes, it begins with a desire to strengthen an organization that already means something to a community.

Across the Twin Tiers, charitable funds have been established to provide lasting support for organizations and institutions that residents rely on and value. From libraries and historical organizations to community programs and other local resources, these funds help ensure that something important today can continue to be important tomorrow.

Sometimes, it is education.

Throughout the Twin Tiers, scholarship funds carry the names of teachers, parents, grandparents, community members and entire families. Their purposes are just as varied as the people behind them. Some encourage students pursuing particular careers. Others recognize community service, academic achievement, financial need, the arts, music, athletics or students who will be the first in their families to attend college.

And sometimes, the story is simply about making sure something important remains part of a community.

Funds at CFTT have been established to support libraries, historical organizations, environmental conservation, youth programs, community organizations and other causes woven into everyday life throughout the region.

Today, the Community Foundation for the Twin Tiers is home to more than 170 charitable funds.

Together, they form something of a living history of the Twin Tiers. They tell us what people who came before us valued. They show us what today's donors believe is worth investing in. And, perhaps most importantly, they leave resources for people who haven't even been born yet to continue benefiting from those decisions.

A name on a fund may be only a few words. The story behind it can last for generations.

To learn more about making a bequest to the Community Foundation for the Twin Tiers, contact us at info@twintierscf.org or by phone at 570-888-4759.

More Than A Field House



For more than a century, Island Park has been at the heart of outdoor recreation in Blossburg. The 62-acre park is home to football, baseball, tennis, Little League, swimming, community festivals, family gatherings, and countless memories. It is a place where the community comes together. But for Southern Tioga student-athletes, one important piece has always been missing. Today, when football teams take the field, the visiting team gathers in an old borough garage during halftime. Until very recently, the home team gathered beneath the trees, sitting on tree stumps. There is no field house, no locker room, and no dedicated space for teams to prepare, gather, and support one another.

That is beginning to change.

The Southern Tioga School District, Borough of Blossburg, Tioga County, and Community Foundation for the Twin Tiers are coming together around a shared vision for the next phase of improvements at Island Park. With the football field, track, fencing, and other improvements already moving forward, the proposed Community Field House will provide locker rooms, a concession stand, gathering and programming space, and opportunities for student athletes, youth sports, community programs, and events.

The school district is leading the vision and connecting with community members, businesses, alumni, and supporters. Behind the scenes, the Community Foundation is providing the charitable framework, grant writing assistance, administrative support, and stewardship that help make the project possible. Through the Foundation's fiscal sponsorship, gifts can be managed with transparency, accountability, and careful attention to donor intent, while also creating opportunities to pursue charitable grants that may otherwise be unavailable.

Not long ago, Southern Tioga students gathered beneath a tree, sitting on tree stumps, before taking the field. Tomorrow, they'll walk into a space made possible because a community chose to invest in them.

Want to Learn More?

The Community Field House Project is just getting started, and there are many ways to be part of its future. If you would like to learn more about the project, discuss partnership opportunities, or explore making a contribution, please contact:

Bill David, Southern Tioga School District - 570 404 4912 | bdavid@southerntioga.org
Charity Field, Community Foundation for the Twin Tiers - 570 888 4759 | cfield@twintierscf.org



The Vision

We are transforming the community landscape by creating a flexible, multi purpose athletic and community facility. This space is designed to be a hub for student-athletes, youth sports, and local events-bringing people together and fostering a vibrant local community.

Community Field House Project at Island Park, Blossburg

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

Fun and Surprising Facts About

Philanthropy

DID YOU KNOW?

 **\$617.2
BILLION**
GIVEN TO CHARITY IN 2025

 **\$394.2
BILLION**
GIVEN BY INDIVIDUALS

 **\$24.6
BILLION**
ENVIRONMENT & ANIMALS

 **\$99.5
BILLION**
HUMAN SERVICES

 **\$92
BILLION+**
EDUCATION

 **\$117.15
BILLION**
GIVEN BY FOUNDATIONS

Americans Gave More Than \$600 Billion to Charity

- Americans gave an estimated \$617.2 billion to charitable causes in 2025—surpassing \$600 billion for the first time.
- Total charitable giving increased 5.7% from the previous year.
- Even after accounting for inflation, charitable giving increased by 3%.

Individual Donors Make the Biggest Difference

- Individuals gave approximately \$394.2 billion to charities in 2025.
- Individual giving accounted for nearly 64% of all charitable giving in the United States.
- Individuals gave more than three times as much as foundations, which contributed approximately \$117.15 billion.



Americans Support an Incredible Variety of Causes

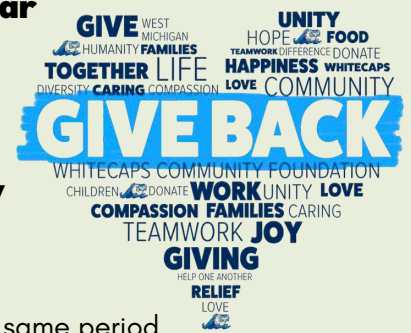
- Education received more than \$92 billion in charitable gifts in 2025.
- Human services organizations received approximately \$99.5 billion.
- Giving to environmental and animal-related organizations reached approximately \$24.6 billion, an increase of 11% in just one year.

Foundations Give More Than \$100 Billion a Year

- Foundations gave an estimated \$117.15 billion to charitable causes in 2025.
- Foundation giving increased 5.7% from the previous year.
- Foundation giving has remained above \$100 billion annually since 2022.

Corporate Giving Has Grown Dramatically

- Businesses gave approximately \$43.67 billion to charitable causes in 2025.
- Over the past five years, corporate giving has grown by approximately 60%.
- That growth significantly outpaced the 29% increase in total charitable giving over the same period.



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A Message from the President & CEO



Dear Friends,

As we move into the final months of 2026, I find myself reflecting on what makes the Community Foundation for the Twin Tiers so special. It isn't simply the number of funds we manage, the grants we award, or the scholarships we provide. It is the people behind all of it.

Every day, we have the privilege of working with individuals and families who want to leave their communities a little better than they found them. We see donors honor the memory of loved ones, organizations working tirelessly to meet local needs, students pursuing exciting new opportunities, and community members coming together because they believe in the future of the Twin Tiers.

This year has given us much to celebrate. CFTT awarded more than \$186,000 in scholarships to 119 students across our five-county service area. Those students are now beginning the next chapter of their lives at colleges, universities, community colleges, and technical programs. Behind each of those awards is a donor, family, or organization that believed investing in education was an investment worth making.

Our work extends far beyond scholarships. Through the charitable funds entrusted to CFTT, local nonprofit organizations receive resources to strengthen programs, address community needs, and create opportunities throughout our region. At the same time, we continue working with donors who are thinking about what they want their own charitable legacy to look like.

That is one of my favorite things about a community foundation: generosity takes so many different forms. There is no single way to make a difference. A gift can help a student today, support a nonprofit tomorrow, honor someone special, or establish a resource that continues giving back for generations.

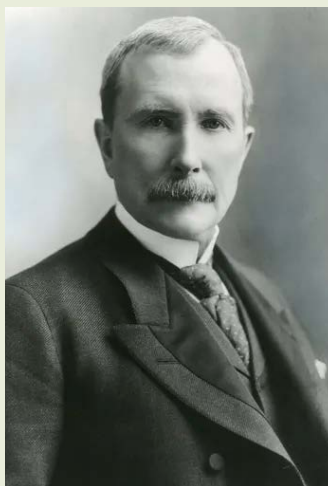
As you read this edition of our newsletter, I hope you learn something new about CFTT and the many ways philanthropy touches our communities. More importantly, I hope you see yourself as part of this work. Whether you have established a fund, made a donation, volunteered your time, served on a committee, partnered with us, applied for a grant, or simply shared our mission with someone else—you are part of the CFTT story.

On behalf of our staff and Board of Directors, thank you for your continued trust and support. We are grateful to serve the Twin Tiers and excited about all that we can accomplish together. **For Good. For Ever.**

Warmly,

Charity Field, President & CEO

A Little Twin Tiers History



John Davison Rockefeller

Did you know a small Tioga County town has a connection to one of the biggest names in American business history?

John D. Rockefeller, founder of Standard Oil and one of the most famous businessmen and philanthropists in American history, was born in Richford, New York, in Tioga County. Rockefeller was born there in 1839 before his family eventually moved west. He would go on to build Standard Oil and become one of the wealthiest individuals in American history.

Over his lifetime, Rockefeller donated an estimated \$540 million, supporting education, medical research, public health, disease prevention, religious organizations, humanitarian relief, conservation and other charitable causes. His philanthropy helped establish institutions including the University of Chicago, Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research, General Education Board and Rockefeller Foundation, leaving a legacy that continues today.

It's an unexpected reminder that the communities of the Twin Tiers have connections that reach far beyond our region.

Sometimes, a little piece of local history has a very big story behind it.

"Think of giving not only
as a duty but as a
privilege."
- John D. Rockefeller

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

NEPA Gives Raises More Than \$52,600 for Twin Tiers Organizations

The Community Foundation for the Twin Tiers (CFTT) is proud to celebrate another successful year of NEPA Gives, with more than \$52,600 raised for participating organizations throughout the Twin Tiers. Through donations, prizes, and stretch funds, local nonprofits received valuable support to advance their missions and keep making a difference in the communities they serve.

NEPA Gives is a 24-hour online giving event that brings together donors, nonprofits, businesses, and community members in support of organizations making an impact throughout Northeastern Pennsylvania and the Twin Tiers.

Building on the success of CFTT's first year participating in NEPA Gives, the 2026 event brought even greater support and participation to our region. Together, participating organizations raised more than \$52,600 to support their work and strengthen communities throughout the Twin Tiers.

Beyond the dollars raised, NEPA Gives provides local nonprofits with an opportunity to increase awareness, connect with new supporters, and share the important work they are doing throughout our communities. "NEPA Gives continues to show what can happen when our communities come together in support of local organizations," said Joselyn Allen-Elford, CFTT's Resource Development Associate. "Seeing the event grow in our region has been incredibly exciting. Every donation matters, but so do the new connections and increased awareness these organizations gain by participating."

CFTT was also grateful for the support it received during the event, raising over \$4,600, including stretch funds, from 36 donors. Those gifts help CFTT continue building philanthropic resources and supporting nonprofits, students, and communities throughout the Twin Tiers.

CFTT looks forward to continuing its partnership with NEPA Gives and creating even more opportunities for local organizations and donors to come together in support of the region.



"NEPA Gives continues to show what can happen when our communities come together in support of local organizations"

- Joselyn Allen-Elford, CFTT's Resource Development Director

WHAT'S NEW @ CFTT?

A New Name, the Same Commitment to Tioga County Youth

The Community Foundation for the Twin Tiers (CFTT) is pleased to announce a new name for one of its grantmaking funds: the Floyd "Vic" Hooker Youth Fund is now the Tioga County NY Youth Fund. While the name is changing, the legacy behind the fund remains an important part of its story.

The fund was previously named in recognition of Floyd "Vic" Hooker and his connection to supporting young people and the Tioga County community. His name has long been associated with a fund dedicated to creating opportunities for area youth, and that history will continue to be recognized as the fund moves forward under its new name.

The Tioga County NY Youth Fund will continue to provide annual grant support for programs and initiatives benefiting children and young people throughout Tioga County, New York. Local nonprofit organizations can seek funding for efforts that provide meaningful opportunities, experiences, services, and support for area youth.

The new name was selected to more clearly communicate both who the fund serves and where its grantmaking is focused, helping nonprofit organizations and community members more easily identify funding opportunities available specifically for Tioga County, New York. Although the name on the fund has changed, its purpose has not. The values and charitable intent that shaped the Floyd "Vic" Hooker Youth Fund remain at the heart of the Tioga County NY Youth Fund.

For CFTT, this transition reflects the enduring nature of community philanthropy. Funds may grow and evolve over time, but the generosity, vision, and history that helped establish them remain part of their legacy. As the Tioga County NY Youth Fund, the fund will continue building upon that legacy by investing in young people and strengthening the future of Tioga County, New York, for generations to come.



Floyd "Vic" Hooker

*Create
YOUR
Legacy*

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

A Charitable Fund Can Support More Than Scholarships

When people hear "Community Foundation," they often think of scholarships—and scholarships are certainly an important part of what we do. But did you know that a charitable fund at the Community Foundation for the Twin Tiers can be created to support much more than education?

Charitable funds can be designed to support nonprofit organizations, specific communities, programs, causes that are important to you, or a variety of needs throughout the Twin Tiers.

For some donors, that may mean creating a fund dedicated to supporting youth programs or services for older adults. Others may be passionate about the arts, animal welfare, health and human services, recreation, community development, or helping address needs within a particular town or county.

A donor may also choose to establish a fund that benefits a specific nonprofit organization. This can provide a way to support an organization and its mission well into the future. Other funds can be established with broader purposes, giving them the flexibility to respond to community needs and opportunities as they change over time.

Funds can also carry a special meaning for the people who create them. Families may establish a fund in memory of a loved one, honoring that person's life by supporting a cause or community that was important to them. Individuals may create a fund during their lifetime and have the opportunity to see their charitable giving make an impact in the community.

And you don't have to establish a new fund to participate. Donors can contribute to existing CFTT funds that already support causes and communities they care about.

With so many possibilities, charitable giving can be as unique as the people behind it.

The Community Foundation for the Twin Tiers works with donors to help turn the things they care about into meaningful charitable impact—today, tomorrow, and for generations to come.



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Joselyn Allen-Elford
Resource Development
Director

Sandy Peterson
Information Systems
Director

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For Good. For Ever.



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