



Clifton-Fine Growing Together

Connecting our communities of Fine, Oswegatchie, Star Lake, Newton Falls, Wanakena and Cranberry Lake to enhance quality of life for all

COMMUNITY FUND / A BROAD IMPACT

Clifton-Fine donors strengthen quality of life across region through annual giving, grantmaking

Thoughtful donors have made a commitment to building the **Clifton-Fine Community Fund** as a lasting philanthropic resource to benefit residents of all ages.

Because of these meaningful gifts, **nearly 50 community projects** have received a grant award that has made a direct impact on the towns and hamlets that comprise the Clifton-Fine region. Over the past decade, grants have supported essential needs, health and wellness initiatives, education enhancements, arts and culture programs and more, touching the communities of **Fine, Oswegatchie, Star Lake, Newton Falls, Wanakena, and Cranberry Lake.**

In 2023, the Community Fund awarded three grants totaling \$6,000. Grant funding was provided to help the **Arc Jefferson-St. Lawrence Foundation** purchase equipment for The Lodge at Dodge Pond in Oswegatchie to enhance beach and water access for individuals with disabilities participating in programs. Another award supported the **Clifton-Fine Central School District's Backpack Pantry** to increase support for local children and families with essential needs. A key grant helped the **Fine Volunteer Fire Department** secure 9-1-1 reflective signs to place in windows at local residences to improve responsiveness to calls.

See **IMPACT** on page 2



"I proudly support projects in this area, such as the hospital, the food pantry, the Wanakena History Center, the footbridge and the North Shore Hub, as a tribute to my family, which has been here since the 1960s. I urge those who have the means to contribute to the Clifton-Fine Community Fund, which has funded these projects and dozens of others that answer urgent local needs and foster economic development so important here."

— Paul Flynn, Wanakena



Northern New York
**Community
Foundation**

Newsletter of the Clifton-Fine Community Fund, a Northern New York Community Foundation affiliate



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CLIFTON-FINE COMMUNITY FUND

A Northern New York Community Foundation affiliate

ESTABLISHED 2013

MISSION

The Clifton-Fine Community Fund supports programs, projects and activities that enhance the quality of life for our communities in perpetuity.

OUR STORY

The **Clifton-Fine Community Fund** was established in 2013 as a geographic-specific fund to support efforts that strengthen the quality of life in the southeast St. Lawrence County towns and hamlets of **Fine, Oswegatchie, Star Lake, Newton Falls, Wanakena and Cranberry Lake**. The **Northern New York Community Foundation** stewards this charitable fund. To build initial support, the Foundation awarded a \$50,000 challenge grant to donors interested in giving to this philanthropic resource. By the end of 2014, people from across the region came together to create a \$100,000 community fund. It awards grants to support local projects and nonprofit organizations that serve the region in perpetuity. Families from across the region can now give to support the places they love and call home, forever.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Halsey Bagg, Cranberry Lake

Dave Daut, Wanakena

Mary Hooven, Cranberry Lake

Malinda Riquelme, Star Lake

Neil Woodworth, Wanakena



**Northern New York
Community Foundation**
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Feature photography by Kara Dry

COMMUNITY FUND / WHY I GIVE

"We believe in volunteering and giving; it makes our lives and our community better. We have been blessed here in Cranberry Lake and the Clifton-Fine region, and we want to share those blessings. We believe in the role the Community Foundation and its Clifton-Fine Fund plays to ensure the things we care about can be strengthened and sustained for future generations."

Susan & Andy Smith,
Cranberry Lake



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The fire district covers more than 200 homes.

The Community Fund is a Northern New York Community Foundation affiliate. Its core functions of reviewing requests for grant funding and making grant awards are accomplished through an all-volunteer committee with guidance from Community Foundation staff.

Annually, the Community Fund issues a call to nonprofit and municipal organizations for requests for grants. It receives proposals

ranging from \$250 to \$5,000 for a wide range of worthy and important projects.

Donors of the Clifton-Fine Community Fund believe in making a thoughtful gift to the region that matters most to them. The fund's impact will continue to be far-reaching through important grants to area nonprofits and community organizations. With each new gift to the community fund, momentum will continue to grow, thanks to the unwavering philanthropic spirit of the Clifton-Fine region.

COMMUNITY FUND / GRANTMAKING

Since **2014: \$55,100** to aid **48** community projects or initiatives



THE ARC JEFFERSON-ST. LAWRENCE provides a variety of programs and services for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. A \$1,000 Clifton-Fine Community Fund grant to the **Arc Jefferson-St. Lawrence Foundation** supported **The Lodge at Dodge Pond** in Oswegatchie where an inclusive environment and programming is offered to people with disabilities of all ages. Thirteen individuals from the Clifton-Fine area attend the organization's Day Habilitation at the Lodge. Funding helped purchase equipment to increase beach and water access for program participants. Many people enjoy fishing, swimming, kayaking and other recreational sports on the pond.

COMMUNITY FUND / WHY I GIVE

"By supporting the Community Foundation and its Clifton-Fine Fund, we support a wide range of essential projects that make a tangible difference in our community. Safeguarding that even remote areas receive attention and needed resources, such as essential equipment for our small rural hospital, the local food pantry, and preserving our heritage and local history."

Allen Ditch & Andy Augustine,
Wanakena

COMMUNITY FUND / GIVING

Legacy planning ensures your impact continues, forever

For the past 11 years, many people have demonstrated a sincere belief in their community with a meaningful gift to support the **Clifton-Fine Community Fund**.

It is interesting to note how each generous supporter has a specific affinity for their community. Whether a longtime, year-round or seasonal resident, volunteer, or just one who admires the Adirondacks, each person believes in the region's potential and in what the Clifton-Fine area continues to offer. The Clifton-Fine Community Fund was established in partnership with the **Northern New York Community Foundation** to build charitable support and strengthen

that faith within each community. This charitable fund is a core piece of the community growing together for the future.

Take a drive and pick a community. You will likely find a project, program or initiative that's been positively impacted by a grant from the Clifton-Fine Community Fund. Revitalized trails, multi-generational programs, and community development efforts have been made possible because of the generosity of all who have given to the fund.

The Clifton-Fine Community Fund can be a catalyst for even greater change. It builds momentum each year. It is an impetus for nurturing a spirit of philanthropy

that has been part of the region's identity for years. The Community Fund is an example of a growing trend of people charitably supporting the place where they grew up, spent time with family, operated a business or organization, and made a lifetime of memories.

There are several meaningful ways to participate at any level and through a variety of charitable giving vehicles. Through the Community Foundation, supporters have made a charitable gift to the Community Fund from a donor-directed fund. The community fund may be included as part of an individual or family's legacy plan through an estate or will. Specific designations can be

made into the community fund based on a particular community, need, or charitable passion. There are options to ensure gifts to the Clifton-Fine Community Fund, and the region you love, are lasting and perpetuated.

Giving can be transformational. It is happening where you live. The **Clifton-Fine Community Fund** is poised to be a community builder and impact generations to come. Why?

Because of you, meaningful projects will continue to happen.

Because of you, faith in your community will be strengthened.

Because of you, the Clifton-Fine region will continue to grow, forever.

COMMUNITY FUND / WHY I GIVE

"We both grew up in families that volunteered time and talent to local organizations, and giving back to our community is very important to us. We are fortunate to be able to work with the Community Foundation and Clifton-Fine Community Fund to support philanthropy across the region."

Grace & Tom Sauter,
Wanakena



COMMUNITY FUND / COMMUNITY PHILANTHROPY

■ The **Clifton-Fine Community Fund** and the **Northern New York Community Foundation** gratefully thank all donors who help support and strengthen the quality of life for all in the **Fine, Oswegatchie, Star Lake, Newton Falls, Wanakena, and Cranberry Lake** communities. **THANK YOU SO MUCH!**

Sustaining Gifts

The following supporters made gifts to the Clifton-Fine Community Fund from January 1, 2023, to August 23, 2024

Anonymous	Allen Ditch &	Leslie & Dana Hall	Brian Kerwin	Babette L. Simpson
Peter & Dottie Bragdon	Andrew Augustine	Carl J. Hoffman &	William & Sheila Mackintosh	J. Schuyler Smith Jr.
Ronald M. Capone &	Paul J. Flynn	Elizabeth H. Naumburg	Robert & Evelyn Meredith	Rose & Gary Surman
William B. Gleason	Alice Galvin	Sally & Ed Holden	Carol Murray	Martin & Jean Szkotak
Jared M. Cooper	Reynald Grammo	Charles & Mary Hooen	Katherine Oser	Thomas Welling
Bert A. Corey	John & Pamela Grimmke	Dr. Kelly R. Huiatt	Rande Richardson	Neil & Holly Woodworth
Max & Sara DelSignore				

Recent Tribute Gifts

Includes only gifts made to the Clifton-Fine Community Fund of the Northern New York Community Foundation in memory or in honor of a loved one from January 1, 2023, to August 23, 2024

In Memory of Given by

Clinton E. Farnsworth III
Max & Sara DelSignore
Rande Richardson

Grace Grammo
Reynald Grammo

Willy Grimmke
John & Pamela Grimmke

Herb & Mimi Keith
Alice Galvin

Christine Marie Sauter-Milligan
Max & Sara DelSignore
Rande Richardson

Dorothy Welling
Thomas Welling

COMMUNITY FUND / HOW TO GIVE

- Mail gifts to: **Northern New York Community Foundation, ATTN: Clifton-Fine Community Fund, 131 Washington St., Watertown, NY 13601.**
- Access secure online giving at nnycf.org/giving and designate your gift to the **Clifton-Fine Community Fund.**
- To discuss additional giving options, contact **Max DelSignore**, Community Foundation assistant director, max@nnycf.org, or **315-782-7110.**