

Berkshire
Taconic
Community
Foundation



News

Northeast Dutchess Fund Awards \$65K in Grants to Twenty Nonprofit Groups, Amenia Resident Gloria Callen Assumes Role of Chair

July 18, 2012

SHEFFIELD, MA—The Northeast Dutchess Fund (NED) announced today that it has awarded \$65,530 in grants to 20 nonprofit groups. A fund of Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation, the Northeast Dutchess Fund awards grants to nonprofit organizations improving the quality of life for residents in Amenia, Clinton Corners, Dover Plains, Millbrook, Millerton, North East, Pine Plains, Stanford, Washington, Wassaic and Wingdale.

The Northeast Dutchess Fund is one of 11 permanently endowed area funds which serve a specific geographic region and further the foundation's mission to improve the quality of life for all residents of the region it serves. NED has supported 82 organizations with grants for a broad range of projects in the arts, civic interests, health and human services, education, the environment and youth.

Long time Chair of the Northeast Dutchess Fund, Nancy Stahl, will be stepping down and Amenia resident and Berkshire Taconic board member Gloria Callen will assume the role of Chair. "NED began in 2002, with Nancy Stahl as its first chair. Through her tenure, the fund has brought in over \$1.3 million in gifts, the endowment has grown to almost \$1 million, and NED has given almost \$500,000 in grants to strengthen our communities in northeast Dutchess County. We are all so grateful for the time and energy Nancy has devoted to the fund. Our goal is to continue her good work and make a significant impact on our community." Stahl will remain on NED's advisory board.

The fund awarded the following grants :

ArtEast: \$1,000 to develop promotional materials for a free open studio tour.

Bard College Center for Civic Engagement: \$2,000 for the Pine Plains Citizen Science Program, which brings college students to local elementary schools in the Pine Plains School District for a Day of Science and brings middle school students to the Bard campus to conduct unique science experiments in the Reem and Kayden Center for Science and Computation.

Catskill Hudson Area Health Education Center: \$2,500 for Scrub Club--Pathways to Health Careers, an afterschool program for Dover High School students interested in health care careers.

Dutchess Community College Foundation: \$5,000 to continue GED and ESL instruction in Millerton.

Dutchess Land Conservancy: \$2,755 to purchase a GPS mapping system that will improve land management efforts.

First Presbyterian Church of Millerton: \$3,000 for Caring Community, a free monthly dinner for people in need.

Food of Life Food Pantry: \$7,500 to help feed the growing number of families in northeast Dutchess County who are experiencing food vulnerability.

Friends of the Irondale Schoolhouse: \$3,750 towards the renovations of the 150 year-old schoolhouse.

Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival: \$3,000 to fund Free Will at Millbrook High School, an arts-in-education program that teaches Shakespeare and supports a production of Othello for the entire Millbrook community.

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Millerton Adopt-A-Family: \$3,000 to provide warm winter clothing and toys to needy families.

North East Community Center: \$5,000 to support three childhood enrichment programs that provide child education and development activities, day care and parent support.

NorthEast-Millerton Library: \$1,300 for "Music in the Annex," a series of free performances.

Rebuilding Together Dutchess County: \$5,000 for the Rebuilding Day program, to provide significant and needed renovations to low-income housing.

Rural & Migrant Ministry: \$1,500 for the Overnight Leadership Camp, a youth empowerment program for children of migrant workers.

Saint Francis Health Care Foundation: \$2,125 to fund "Check Yourself Out," a teen breast self-exam education pilot program.

Sustaining Education Enrichment and Development (SEED) Fund: \$10,000 challenge grant to raise \$20,000 for endowment that supports enrichment projects for students of the Pine Plains Central School District.

Stanford Grange: \$500 to host a Christmas party for foster children.

The Susie Reizod Foundation: \$2,000 for New Shoes Donation Program which provides new shoes to low-income families.

The Wassaic Project: \$2,500 to provide high quality sound for the annual three day, free, public festival of music and art.

Town of Dover Recreation Commission: \$1,000 for Community Cares, a service learning project for youth.

Town of Amenia: \$2,600 to provide free after-school dance instruction to youth in the Webutuck School district.

"We are incredibly grateful for the support of Berkshire Taconic's Northeast Dutchess Fund," said Christina Boryk, Executive Director of Rebuilding Together Dutchess County. "The impact of the current housing crisis and related recession on lower income homeowners has had a significant negative effect on homeowners in the northeast region of our county. This grant allows Rebuilding Together to assist low income homeowners who desperately need home repairs and modifications to stay warm, safe, dry and independent in their homes."

A committee of local residents reviews applications to the Northeast Dutchess Fund and awards grants based on excellence of the proposed project or service, its impact on the organization or community, and the ability of the organization to carry out the project. The next deadline to apply for the Northeast Dutchess Fund will be Spring 2013. Applications are available [online](#) or by calling 413.229.0370.

To make a donation to the Northeast Dutchess Fund or for more information visit our [website](#) or call 413.229.0370.

Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation celebrates 25 years of building stronger communities and helping donors make a difference through charitable giving in northwest Litchfield County, CT; Berkshire County, MA; and Columbia County and northeast Dutchess County, NY. Each year, the foundation distributes over \$7 million through grants and scholarships to nonprofits and individuals in the arts and education, health and human services and environmental protection. Berkshire Taconic is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit public charity. You can make a difference. We can help.

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800 N Main Street, PO Box 400, Sheffield, MA 01257-0400 | 413.229.0370 | info@berkshiretaconic.org