2022 Community Grants

PROGRAMS

PROJECTS

PURPOSE

COMMUNITY FOUNDATIONS OF THE HUDSON VALLEY

Inspiring and Celebrating Local Charitable Giving
2022/2023 Community Grants: Programs, Projects, and Purpose

The Community Foundations of the Hudson Valley is pleased to announce the 2022/2023 cohort of Community Grants recipients. Through the support of generous donors, our growing Community Grant Endowment funds and proceeds from the 2022 Garden Party – this year’s program will distribute over $130,000 to 42 nonprofits in the region.

The following pages contain descriptions of grant recipient programs, projects, and community-strengthening purpose.

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With gratitude for generous community members like you who make this critical work possible.

Cover photos: (l-r) Phillies Bridge Farm Project, Unshattered, Arts Mid-Hudson, Hudson Valley LGBTQ Center
Dutchess Community Grantees

Abilities First
abilitiesfirstny.org

Funding will support staff training activities, which may include engaging a speaker, purchasing training materials or enrolling staff members in fee-based programs. Actual expenditures will be based on the area of greatest need. One such need, TCI Training (Therapeutic Crisis Intervention), has been identified as a priority. TCI is a Cornell University training program that helps schools develop a comprehensive crisis management system. The program helps the school create a trauma-sensitive environment where both adults and students feel safe, proactively trains staff to prevent and/or deescalate potential crisis situations with students, and helps staff to manage a crisis safely in a therapeutic manner.

Abilities First is a trusted provider of educational, vocational, residential and habilitation services to people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) and their families. Celebrating its 60th anniversary, the organization has kept pace with community needs and now serves over 1400 people with disabilities each year.

Arts Mid-Hudson
artsmidhudson.org

Funding will allow Arts Mid-Hudson to upgrade their computers which will help them to connect to the community in a seamless way while keeping everyone safe. They were able to transition to remote, cloud-based, online systems during 2020 because of their use of laptop computers. Those computers are now over 6 years old, and they are in desperate need of better processors to expand their reach, marketing efforts, and design abilities. New versions of software require better processors and are unsupported by the current system. With offices in Poughkeepsie and Kingston, having laptops with current operating systems will greatly increase staff efficiency, decrease the time spent working on IT problems, and enhance their ability to create and connect in the community.

Arts Mid-Hudson’s mission is to provide vision and leadership to support thriving and diverse arts in the Mid-Hudson Valley. They value the abundant presence of art in the Mid-Hudson Valley and its ability to uplift, empower and engage. They honor diversity and celebrate creativity. They are committed to playing a central role in supporting and promoting all of the arts in the communities they serve.
Common Ground Farm  
commongroundfarm.org  
Funding will go a long way in supporting Common Ground Farm to make critical infrastructure investments in their farming operation so that they can survive extreme weather conditions over the long term, such as the drought that they experienced this summer. Specifically, funding will be used to replace their current irrigation pipes with new ones with a greater diameter, which will allow for greater output to adequately water their fields.

*Common Ground Farm supports and engages their community by fostering access and connection to fresh food and local agriculture through farming, education, and farmers’ markets.*

Community Action Partnership for Dutchess County  
www.dutchesscap.org  
Funding will support the purchase of a new keyless entry system to replace the obsolete units in Poughkeepsie and install the keyless entry system to the agency’s sites in Red Hook and Dover Plains. Efficient, fast, easy access to the buildings provides safety and security for the staff. The threat to computer systems, data storage, and client records is consistent and relentless. Implementing cybersecurity education and enhancement measures is a priority to protect the agency and provide assurances to insurance providers. The implementation software will train and test uses on phishing attacks and provide Endpoint Detection and Response (EDR).

*The Mission of Community Action Partnership for Dutchess County (CAPDC) is to partner with individuals and families to eliminate poverty and identify the resources and opportunities available to enhance their self-reliance. CAPDC supports the strength-based philosophy of Family Development, believing that all families have strengths and supporting them in their identified goals of self-sufficiency will lead to long-term outcomes.*

Dutchess County Pride Center  
www.dutchesspridecenter.org  
Funding will go towards staff and volunteer training. All Dutchess Pride’s volunteers, including their Board of Directors, must complete trainings in Diversity, Equity and Inclusion and Conflict Resolution. For those volunteers working with children, including their Board of Directors, they ask them to also complete trainings in Positive Youth Development and a more intensive Conflict Resolution training.

*Dutchess County Pride Center provides social and support services to the local LGBTQ+ community. Their goal is to improve the health, safety and wellbeing of the entire LGBTQ+ community in Dutchess County and surrounding areas. They support, educate, and advocate for all members of the LGBTQ+ community, including LGBTQ+ youth and young adults through outreach, support groups, and social events.*
Dutchess Outreach  
www.dutchessoutreach.org
Funding will be specifically allocated for the purchase of food and food materials (to-go containers). While they have always relied on donors to provide in-kind food donations and will continue to do so, increasing their food budget will allow them to purchase the food necessary to sustain their growing programs. This will also enable them to purchase food that they know their clients need, which accomplishes two things; 1. further develops their sense of independence and, 2. allows clients to select items that are correlated to their health needs and/or are culturally relevant to their cooking.

*Dutchess Outreach acts as a catalyst for community revitalization and exists in Dutchess County as an advocate and provider of food access and emergency relief programs to ensure that everyone, regardless of income, has access to fresh, healthy food, and the support they need.*

Fareground Community Kitchen  
www.fareground.org
Funding will support three programs. At their Free Marketplaces, they offer an enhanced mobile food pantry experience where they bring a range of pantry staples, refrigerated, and frozen foods including locally grown items. Their weekly community-based distributions of healthy foods operate using a choice model so participants can select the foods that appeal to them and their families. Healthy Snacks for Youth provides nourishing food for youth that they can access themselves whether after school, during the weekends, or in the summer. Fareground currently operates ten Tiny Food Pantries and two Community Fridges which enable them to provide healthy food to community members who are not able to make it to the Free Marketplaces.

*Fareground, Inc. is a food justice, anti-hunger organization, dedicated to nourishing the community by operating free marketplaces, community fridges, tiny food pantries, and other programs to distribute fresh and prepared foods. Fareground aims to collaborate to serve the community in a variety of ways to create fair ground. With a focus on healthy food and accessibility for all, Fareground promotes the necessary changes to build local food security.*
"It is easier to build strong children than it is to repair broken men." - Frederick Douglass. This quote is one of the first things you see when you walk into Finish Strong. It is the standard that Finish Strong’s founder, Dennis Woodbine, consistently aims for when designing and delivering the program. As an emerging nonprofit in our community, funding will be used to meet Finish Strong’s 2023 financial goals. An accountant will be hired in 2023, and funds will support the purchase of QuickBooks to be installed during the fourth quarter. The accountant will be charged with three main tasks: set up a bookkeeping system for leadership to manage that includes grant management and payroll; complete quarterly and year-end tax filings; and create a financial plan for 2023 – 2025. A strong financial foundation will support their work and programs for our local youth.

Finish Strong Wellness Center is a 501(c)(3) non-profit agency committed to providing programming to increase physical, intellectual, emotional, and relational wellness in youth ages 6 – 18 in the Hudson Valley. Their mission is to promote the strengths and abilities of their participants by providing evidence-based, trauma-informed services that empower and enrich them to face life’s challenges with confidence, competence, and resilience.

Howland Chamber Music Circle

Funding will bring high quality musicians, the Windsync Woodwind Quintet, to perform in the Beacon schools the same week they are performing a concert for their concert series (the week of April 30, 2023). Windsync’s educational work includes tour stops at public schools and ongoing collaborations with the Sistema Ravinia and Houston Youth Symphony Coda social music programs. WindSync has been featured in educational concerts presented by the Seattle Symphony, the Hobby Center, and Orli Shaham’s “Baby Got Bach,” and the ensemble’s concerts for young people reach over 5,000 students per year.

Howland Chamber Music Circle’s mission is to present musical concerts primarily, but not exclusively, in the southern portion of Dutchess County, to promote and encourage appreciation of and education about fine music and its performance, and to establish a bond of community among those who participate in the cultural life of the Mid-Hudson Valley.
**Hudson Valley ReEntry Network**  
[www.hudsonvalleyreentrynetwork.com](http://www.hudsonvalleyreentrynetwork.com)  
Funding will allow Hudson Valley ReEntry Network to continue their quest to offer the Reentry Hotline to the residents of Poughkeepsie and expand their services to the remaining counties in the Hudson Valley. These funds will be used to pay their current Call Center Monitors and train new ones as well as paying for phone service and rent.

*Hudson Valley ReEntry Network has a three-fold mission. First, to provide a strong community network in the Hudson Valley that connects job training, education, employment, housing, therapeutic programs and other related support services to formerly incarcerated people and their families. Second, to create progressive and innovative ways to better serve the ReEntry community and their families through housing, therapeutic programs and job training. And third, to educate the Hudson Valley on the need to assist in the reintegration of formerly incarcerated people for the betterment of the Hudson Valley community as a whole.*

**Mediation Center of Dutchess County, Inc.**  
[www.dutchessmediation.org](http://www.dutchessmediation.org)  
Funding will allow MCDC to create a responsible financial plan each year to meet the needs of the community it serves. Unrestricted, general grant funds provide MCDC with the much-needed foundation to operate successfully and cover their necessary administrative costs, such as Financial Audits.

*The purpose of the Mediation Center of Dutchess County is to provide and promote conflict prevention, management, and resolution services and education to individuals, families, businesses, and organizations in Dutchess County.*

**Mid-Hudson Aquatics Inc.**  
[www.midhudsonaquatics.org](http://www.midhudsonaquatics.org)  
Funding will help offer full and partial scholarships for families that would otherwise not be able to participate. Mid-Hudson Aquatics promotes aquatic awareness by teaching confidence in water safety, swimming, fitness and competition. MHA serves with an emphasis on diversity and inclusion; primarily underrepresented children of all economic backgrounds, including special needs and Spanish speaking families. The outcome of this grant is to sustain a skill that will change and safeguard a child's life forever.

*Mid-Hudson Aquatics is an organization dedicated to promoting aquatic awareness through teaching confidence in water safety, learning to swim, fitness and competition with an emphasis on diversity and inclusion.*
Mid-Hudson Discovery Museum, Inc.
www.mhdm.org

Funding will be used to increase their capacity-building efforts. This includes efforts related to promotions, outreach, and staffing. For example, the Museum is seeking funding to replace interior and exterior signage with new LED signs that reflect the Museum’s new branding, provide greater visibility, and better promote Museum offerings. Over the last eight months, the Museum has been rebuilding its staff team, including new leadership positions as well as part-time and full-time positions for Museum Greeters. The Museum has hired several new staff members, including a new Executive Director, a STEM Engagement Manager, and several new Greeters, many of whom are recent Poughkeepsie High School graduates or local college students.

The mission of the Mid-Hudson Discovery Museum (MHCM) is to empower children and their families. Their vision is a world in which each and every child develops curiosity, confidence, and self-worth.

People USA
www.people-usa.org

Funding will support multiple high priority areas identified in their strategic plan overview, especially technology upgrades. Many staff need upgraded hardware, software, and other IT needs, so that they can more efficiently and effectively serve people. They also need newer computers that can handle the more sophisticated software they are using now that New York State is recognizing their models and making them Medicaid Billable, a new area of licensure, oversight, and growth for their organization.

People USA is a peer-led mental health nonprofit that creates, provides, and promotes its own innovative crisis response and wellness services.

Ramapo for Children
www.ramapoforchildren.org

Funding will allow Ramapo to transition to a new era for their Rhinebeck. Through a strategic planning process, they anticipate updating their website and materials, launching a capital campaign to help offset the costs of maintaining their 240-acre campus, developing plans to attract and retain high quality staff for their summer programs, and transitioning to some new software and systems for managing fundraising. Additionally, Ramapo has been working on issues of racial equity. They are diversifying their board and leadership team, updating hiring and supervisory practices, and training staff on diversity, equity, and inclusion.

The mission of Ramapo for Children is to create nurturing environments in which all children can thrive.
RDC Loaves and Fishes Inc./Center of Compassion
www.rdccenterofcompassion.org
Funding will contribute to salary costs for their recently hired part time assistant to help run their daily program as well as their food pantry. Their mission is to be able to hire two more part-time skilled individuals to help with the daily running of the Center.

The mission of The Center of Compassion is to be a welcoming presence that nourishes hope, trust and ultimately human liberation and empowerment. In all its endeavors, The Center of Compassion strives to bear compassionate presence in their world, to serve the poor, and to seek avenues of collaboration with others who share these goals.

Rebuilding Together Dutchess County
www.rebuildingtogetherdutchess.org
Funding will support the upgrade of their technology. As a result of this important work, more low-income homeowners will have safe, affordable, and healthy homes; aging housing stock will be revitalized; homes and neighborhoods will be safer; nonprofit facilities and community assets will be improved; and whole neighborhoods will be stabilized and revitalized.

Their mission is “Repairing homes, revitalizing communities, rebuilding lives,” and their vision is “Safe homes and communities for everyone.” They provide critical repairs, accessibility modifications and energy efficiency improvements for low-income homeowners, including those who are seniors, persons living with a disability, families with children or veterans, at no cost to the homeowner. Their services ensure that qualified low-income homeowners live independently in warm, safe, healthy and dry homes.

Unshattered
www.unshattered.org
Funding will provide operational support of fundraising services so that Unshattered can expand its capacity to serve even more women who are overcoming addiction. Because the work of fundraising is still handled by their founder, they are neither efficient nor optimizing their opportunities to grow and expand their mission. This work will be a direct impact on their growth and ability to serve even more women in recovery through their high-impact model.

Unshattered is a nonprofit social enterprise whose mission is to end relapse by providing job skills training and employment to women overcoming addiction. Through their proven model of employment which incorporates personal and professional development, they have seen ZERO employees relapse in their three years of providing full-time employment for women in recovery. Unshattered women make gorgeous handbags out of repurposed materials as a metaphor for their life of brokenness being turned
into one of beauty, value, and purpose. Unshattered aims to pave the road between sobriety and long-term success.

**Wassaic Project**

[www.wassaicproject.org](http://www.wassaicproject.org)

Funding will provide general operating support to fund their 2022/23 programming: community events open to the public which include art, music and film in a COVID-safe environment, Summer and Winter Exhibitions, the Haunted Mill, and education enrichment and youth summer camps.

The Wassaic Project uses art and arts education to foster positive social change. Wassaic nurtures connections between their artists and their neighbors facilitating a mutual broadening of perspectives and respect across economic and cultural boundaries.

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**YIT Foundation**

[www.yitfoundation.org](http://www.yitfoundation.org)

Funding will directly benefit Mid-Hudson preemies and their families through the purchase of formula, diapers, and clothing. These critical supplies represent the difference between life and death - and are, unfortunately, often inaccessible to low-income families. According to Mid-Hudson Valley Community Profiles, 14% of neighbors in their community are raising children in poverty. Birthing a baby prematurely is stressful and traumatic in any family but compounds day-to-day struggles for those already experiencing financial difficulties. Not only do they face a litany of medical questions and needs, but they also face the unexpected and sudden arrival of a family member who will need intensive care.

The Mission statement of YIT foundation Inc. is to raise awareness for the need to help both preemies and homeless veterans. They will assist preemies and their families with struggles that include accommodation and transportation when their baby is in NICU. They as well aim to help provide safe and permanent accommodation for homeless families that include war veterans alongside help with needed healthcare services and sourcing for entitled benefits. They aim to be a social organization that will help preemies and the homeless become functional members of society.
Community Grants – Putnam County

Ecological Citizen’s Project
www.ecologicalcitizens.org
Funding will support their organizational goals for the coming year, including maintaining and enhancing their programming, while building administrative and general operating support.

The Ecological Citizen’s Project (ECP) works to demonstrate solutions to global problems at the local level. They have a track record of social impact in the Hudson Valley: Establishing a Community Choice Aggregation in the mid-Hudson valley which moved 40,000 Hudson Valley residents to 100% NYS renewable energy, leading an innovative Town of Philipstown community climate action campaign, and launching the Regenerative Communities project in 2020 that has trained twelve diverse new farmers and placed them on land to steward public food gardens that address local food insecurity in low-income, BIPOC-majority communities.

Garrison Art Center
www.garrisonartcenter.org
Funding will help pay for their communications and marketing manager position and advertising budget, enabling them to expand their audience and create a more inclusive space. As a result of their 5-year strategic plan, they have hired their first communications and marketing manager to assist with culture and audience development.

Founded on the banks of the Hudson River in 1966, Garrison Art Center seeks to connect and enrich lives by cultivating an open environment for creating and appreciating art. Through education, exhibition and community outreach programming, their vision is to foster a vibrant, diverse community where art is everywhere and accessible for ALL to experience.

Manitoga/the Russel Wright Design Center
www.visitmanitoga.org
Funding will be applied towards building their team of educators and guides from the local community to execute and expand their education outreach and help achieve our equity, inclusion and access goals. By specifically targeting and engaging with historically marginalized and under-funded communities through education programming and meeting their goals of diversity, equity, inclusion, and access by growing our audience from the ground up, the effect will be transformative for Manitoga.

Manitoga is the landmarked home and 75-acre woodland landscape of mid-century industrial designer Russel Wright. Manitoga/The Russel Wright Design Center’s mission is to preserve and share Manitoga as the embodiment of Wright’s design philosophy and life’s work; demonstrate the power of land reclamation, environmental stewardship, and integrated design; and celebrate good design and creative living in harmony with nature through tours and programs.
**Philipstown Behavioral Health Hub, Inc. & Village of Cold Spring**  
www.philipstownhub.org

Funding will facilitate capacity expansion, starting with extended telephonic hours, thereby allowing additional time for community members to engage in behavioral and mental health services. They hope to create a model for high-quality, multidisciplinary mental health responses that can be replicated in neighboring communities. The Village of Cold Spring is small, yet the municipality provides a high concentration of services with a skeleton staff and a meager budget. They are lucky to have an outstanding police force. They believe that, in coordination with the Hub, the CSPD can create a gold standard for mental health response in a small community.

*The Philipstown Behavioral Health Hub was created in July 2019 by concerned Hudson Valley citizens in the communities of Cold Spring, Garrison, and Nelsonville. Their mission is to create and coordinate local access to mental health and addiction resources for the residents of Philipstown, New York.*

**Putnam History Museum**  
www.putnamhistorymuseum.org

Funding will be allocated to professionally transport a Native American dugout canoe to the museum for permanent display as part of PHM’s BIPOC History & Culture Initiative: “Indigenous Peoples in Putnam County.” Any additional funds would enable them to develop interpretive labels and panels for the exhibition, and to develop public programming to complement the exhibition as well.

*The mission of the Putnam History Museum is to collect, preserve, interpret, and present the history of Putnam County, Philipstown, the West Point Foundry, and the Hudson Highlands.*

**Second Chance Foods**  
www.secondchancefoods.org

Funding will support filling their staffing capacity need. To meet this need, they would like to increase the hours for the part-time operations assistant so that she can help with the enormous task of volunteer management. Second Chance Foods relies on its volunteers to help with all areas of collecting, transporting, harvesting, cooking, and preparing meals and food, and delivering to partner orgs.

*Second Chance Foods is dedicated to rescuing unsold, un-served, and aesthetically imperfect food and distributing it in an effort to reduce food waste and food insecurity. They collect food from farms, grocery stores, restaurants and other purveyors in the Hudson Valley Region and distribute it directly to community outreach organizations that provide meals to people who need it most.*
Community Grants – Ulster County

Afghan Circle of the Hudson Valley
www.afghancirclehudsonvalley.org

Funding will allow the Afghan Circle to be directly involved with two households of refugees from the Taliban takeover of Afghanistan. One is a couple in their thirties, living in Kripplebush, both of whom are in the process of applying for well-deserved asylum in the U.S., with their assistance. The second household is a family of six, living in Gardiner, comprising a 10-year-old girl, two young men in their twenties, their parents, and an aunt. They are also in the asylum-seeking process.

The Afghan Circle of the Hudson Valley formed in January of this year to welcome, resettle and integrate exiles from Afghanistan into their community — as is happening in more than 250 communities across the U.S. Their Circle has twenty volunteers who are spread across Ulster and Dutchess Counties. More than 200 donors have been involved so far, and United Way of Kingston has served as their fiscal sponsor.

Arm of the Sea Productions, Inc.
www.armofthesea.org

Funding will support marketing and program logistics related to expansion of programming at Tidewater Center in Saugerties. Tidewater Center draws an audience of residents and visitors of all ages and backgrounds. During the 2023 season, Arm-of-the-Sea plans to reach out to specific groups, including fishermen, kayakers, seniors and local youth. Arm-of-the-Sea is scheduled to do an arts residency project this year at the Saugerties High School. The project is designed to continue into next summer as a means of involving students at the Tidewater Center.

The mission of Arm-of-the-Sea (AotS) is to create theater and offer experiences that inspire wonder, spark joy, offer insight and enrich the public imagination. They accomplish their mission primarily by translating insights from science, history and literature into the visual poetry of mask and puppet theater. The immediacy and handmade quality of this venerable art form offers a surprising means to engage people across many ages and walks of life. Videos of their work are available at https://vimeo.com/armofthesea.
Catholic Charities of Orange, Sullivan, and Ulster

www.cccsos.org

Funding will provide General Operating Support of their Case Management program. This will allow them to be most flexible in meeting the needs of the people they assist with basic necessities of life, including food, shelter, and baby supplies. The additional funding will stretch their budget so that they can provide assistance to more Ulster County residents in need. It is their goal to provide family support that will, as a result, help children thrive and families become more engaged, contributing members of their community.

Catholic Charities of Orange, Sullivan, and Ulster, as one of the human service agencies of Catholic Charities of The Archdiocese of New York, is committed to building a compassionate and just society. They serve the homeless, the hungry, the emotionally and physically challenged, as well as immigrants, and the marginalized and vulnerable of Orange, Sullivan, and Ulster Counties. They collaborate with parishes, Catholic, and non-Catholic partners alike to provide help and create hope for people of all religions.

Center for Creative Education

cce4me.org

Funding will allow their Find the Fun children to flourish. CCE's Find the Fun program offers educational support and enriching opportunities that emphasize teamwork, social-emotional well-being, academic success, and pure enjoyment. Their highly qualified, bilingual staff serves students from pre-K through middle school, with opportunities for high school students to participate as counselors-in-training. The program runs from 3:00-6:00 pm on school days at CCE’s well-equipped facility in Midtown Kingston. Many kids arrive by school bus, as coordinated with Kingston City Schools. They are greeted with a nutritious meal before doing their homework and then proceeding to classes in dance, music, technology, educational games, and outdoor and other activities that foster physical, intellectual, social, and emotional development.

The mission of the Center for Creative Education (CCE) is to enrich the social and cultural awareness of their youth and community through arts, wellness and education. WHAT THEY DO: They fulfill this mission by providing accessible, affordable, equitable and innovative, high-quality programs with a special emphasis on serving low income, minority and at-risk children and youth. The Center provides a wide array of classes in dance, music, fitness, theater, spoken word, computer arts technology and the visual arts. These classes are offered after school at their main site in midtown Kingston and in school districts throughout the Hudson Valley.
**Circle of Friends for the Dying**

[www.cfdhv.org](http://www.cfdhv.org)

Funding will allow CFD to open the first comfort-care home for the dying in the Mid-Hudson Valley in December of 2022, a goal made possible by the bequest of a lovely house in the historic Rondout in Kingston, owned by the late Jim Gohlke. This will be the first Comfort Care Home in the Mid-Hudson Jane Barry Circle of Friends for the Dying and will accommodate individuals with a prognosis of 3 months or less to live. The residence is free of charge and there is a planned space for out-of-town family to stay and visit. Hospice will be on call 24/7, and CFD staff and volunteers will be on site round the clock.

*The Mission of Circle of Friends for the Dying is nothing less than creating a safe, comfortable home-like space where individuals with a prognosis of three months or less to live, can dwell in an atmosphere of peace and tranquility at their end of life. Cared for by trained staff and community volunteers, these individuals and their loved ones can be assured of round-the-clock attention to their needs.*

**Hudson Valley LGBTQ Community Center**

[www.lgbtqcenter.org](http://www.lgbtqcenter.org)

Funding would offset costs associated with supporting current youth staff and engaging new group leaders. They are also hoping to bring on a part-time caseworker with Spanish-language skills. This will allow the Center to offer more groups and services aimed at supporting their Spanish-speaking youth as well as fill a gap in services to Spanish-speaking members of the broader LGBTQ+ community. Through their youth services programming, the Center consults with middle and high school Gay Straight Alliances (GSAs) in the region, to build their capacity to serve their community. They also offer weekly study hall events, health education workshops, teen dances, and opportunities for leadership building for LGBTQ youth, their families, and their allies.

*As a safe, supportive environment, the Hudson Valley LGBTQ Community Center provides services, professional resources, and programs that unite the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer/questioning community across lines of age, race, gender, and economics. The Center’s purpose is to strengthen, support, and celebrate LGBTQ individuals, families, and groups in their efforts to achieve their fullest potential. The Center strives for positive social change through advocacy, community education, cultural awareness, and wellness programs that assist in the creation, development, and growth of LGBTQ-affirming organizations, institutions, and culture within the community at large.*
**Maya Gold Foundation**
**www.mayagoldfoundation.org**
Funding will be used to pay an administrator to coordinate the Maya Gold Foundation’s programming. The focus of programming will be to expand the Teen Mental Health First Aid program, reaching as many teens as possible. Teen Mental Health First Aid (TMHFA) teaches high school aged students (specifically grades 10, 11 and 12) how to identify, understand, and respond to signs of mental illnesses and substance use disorders among their friends and peers. The training gives youth the skills to have supportive conversations with their friends and peers and get a responsible and trusted adult to take over as necessary.

*The Foundation’s core values are to: uplift and empower youth and adults, promote and embrace change, work with compassion and respect, and celebrate creativity and joy. They are committed to supporting and developing programs for teens in New Paltz and the surrounding areas that will enhance emotional awareness, build mutual support and caring among teens and adults, strengthen inner resilience, and teach mindfulness practice.*

**Old Dutch Church**
**www.oldutchchurch.org**
The Old Dutch Church offers a safe and welcoming place to build community in the heart of uptown Kingston. The mission of the church is to share its space. This means every square inch of it. The Sanctuary for concerts and live theater, movies and community education events, the church hall is used for the Kingston Farmers Market, community choirs, as a place for senior exercise groups to meet, it's shared with not for profits for fundraising events, dinners, banned book fairs, and even drag shows. They really do mean all are welcome here! With countless events each week they see the needs of the community. Funding will supplement the community outreach fund to support individuals and families that are most in need. This money will be used to support the monthly hosting of the Ulster County Mentor Me participants, the purchase of gas and food cards, and to provide funds for the purchase of food items for their food pantry, and to aid in emergency rental assistance. Funding will be used to support their work in three categories: youth at promise (aka at risk), food insecurity, and housing support.

*The Old Dutch Church is the oldest institution in the Hudson Valley; for nearly 400 years it stands as a place of increasing inclusivity. Its mission can best be described as a place where whatever they can do singularly - they can do better in community. This is an institution that looks to break down walls that divide and one that strives to bring people together. Creating space where everyone is free to be their best and giving people a safe place to grow is how they fulfill their mission.*
People’s Place  
www.peoplesplacekingston.org

This grant will supply critical funding to help People’s Place volunteers, staff, and board members in their educational process of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. People’s Place across the entire organization will deepen their understanding of these three words and their distinct values. They will become a more welcoming and inviting organization for people when utilizing services. It will also have a major impact on the culture of acceptance of their volunteers and staff. While their volunteer base is overwhelmingly non-diverse, and they are working diligently to help educate volunteers in these areas. The first step in driving DEI is ensuring that both their paid and volunteer workforce is diverse and representative of the community culture and customer base. To that end, some of the funds received will be used for recruitment, a key piece of creating an inclusive organizational culture.

The mission of People’s Place is to feed, clothe and respond to the essential needs of the people in Ulster County with kindness, compassion and the preservation of human dignity. The purpose of People’s Place is to operate solely to fulfill their charitable mission of feeding and clothing individuals while providing hope, support and assistance with life events.

Phillies Bridge Farm Project, Inc.  
www.philliesbridge.org

Funding will support the purchase of a replacement utility tractor for the farm. A reliable utility tractor is crucial if the organization is to keep meeting their education, crop production and donation, and wage equity goals. This grant will benefit their CSA members and all the recipients of their produce through their Food Justice program. Their CSA membership includes the local population as well as low-income individuals who partake in their sliding scale CSA.

Phillies Bridge Farm Project’s mission is to develop and demonstrate sustainable agriculture; educate the community about food justice and the sources of healthy food; and provide access to sustainably grown produce for local community members, with a focus on food-insecure households.
Resource Center for Accessible Living, Inc.
www.rcal.org
The Resource Center for Accessible Living is recommitted to bringing their services into the community and expanding services to include a more diversified approach. Already partnering with organizations like RUPCO, The Office of the Aging and Family of Woodstock, they are about to embark on partnerships with the new Broadway Bubble Laundromat, to offer Benefits Advisement Services to low income and disabled individuals who are seeking financial assistance such as SNAP, HEAP, Medicaid, and Social Services but need assistance with filling out the applications. Funding will support technology needs to allow them to offer fully hybrid meetings to their members without reducing accessibility for those using mobility devices who want to attend in person.

RCAL’s mission is to facilitate independence, choice, accessibility, and participation in all aspects of life. They believe in Respect, Integrity and a Commitment to Service Their vision is to live in a fully accessible, integrated community without barriers for people with disabilities. Overall they assist persons with disabilities to live in the community in the least restrictive way possible.

Rosendale Theatre
www.rosendaletheatre.org
Rosendale theatre provides programming for all residents as well as visitors to the region. They work with volunteers to attend to special interests including the Music Fan Series, Teen Advisory Group, Teen Theatre Program, Sunday Silents, The Celebrating Aging Series, LGBTQ programs, programs in Spanish, and programs educating about our indigenous history. Funding will supplement and support their general operating expenses, especially marketing expenses, including graphic design and the implementation of social media. They are still recovering from the pandemic. To succeed and rebuild, they recognize that they need to diversify their programs, build their capacity and operate as multi-use art and community center. They are working towards more rentals and co-produced events with other organizations. To achieve this, they would like to offer the Theatre to more groups in the area.

The mission of the Rosendale Theatre Collective is to operate the historic Rosendale Theatre as a vital and diverse cultural Hudson Valley nonprofit organization. They use the power of film and live performance to entertain, educate and inspire connection.
TRANSART and Cultural Services, Inc.
www.transartinc.org
Funding will provide general operating support as TRANSART transitions to a full programming delivery in the fully restored Burger Matthews House. The purpose is to position the organization for the next phase of operations and improve the effectiveness of administrative operations and community outreach efforts.

TRANSART uses the transformative power of art to advance and preserve the history, popular culture and art of peoples of African descent, cultivating communities where all voices are heard, understood and valued. Located in New York State's Mid-Hudson Valley, TRANSART offers exceptional cultural educational programs, exhibitions, performances and information services to a diverse community. They are committed to the conservation and presentation of cultural programs and artifacts of the African cultural heritage and are dedicated to the inclusion of artists of color in the region’s artistic community and development conversation.

Ulster County Community Action Committee, Inc
www.uccac.org
Funding will address three areas of operations: assessment of current services, marketing their wide array of services to the community and planning and implementing a strategic plan which will include fundraising goals.

UCCAC empowers lives through community programs and partnerships that promote individual and community enrichment. They are an organization that promotes self-sufficiency and strives to end poverty by focusing on the values of collaboration, openness, respect and empowerment.

Ulster Immigrant Defense Network
www.ulsterimmigrantdefensenetwork.org
Funding will support the launch an innovative program of workforce development which would consist of education and training related to worker cooperatives. The funds would be utilized to provide a half-day workshop on the LLC cooperative model including childcare and refreshments/food for attendees.

The Ulster Immigrant Defense Network is a coalition formed by local faith communities, other non-profits, and concerned residents to provide a network of safety and support for their immigrant friends and neighbors, who are valued members of their communities. The Ulster Immigrant Defense Fund is a charitable fund that provides emergency financial assistance to individuals and families affected by deportation proceedings for legal representation; transportation to court appointments and ICE check-ins; basic human needs such as food, clothing, and shelter; and, in addition, finances some aspects of UIDN activities such as the bilingual Helpline.
Funding will enable ULA staff to receive quality subscription-based, online adult education materials and laptop computers. This will provide staff the ability to be more flexible and able to access adult learners who cannot come into the office in Kingston for intake and assessment. By increasing their capacity to reach adult learners in the communities where they live, they are able to expand their outreach and tutoring efforts into more rural areas of Ulster County. Further, laptop computers will also give ULA staff the capability and flexibility to work remotely as needed.

The ULA’s mission is to empower people through literacy by training volunteers to become literacy tutors.
25 Van Wagner Road
Poughkeepsie, NY 12603
845-452-3077

P.O. Box 3046
Kingston, NY 12401
845-338-2535

CommunityFoundationsHV.org