

A CATALYST FOR CHANGE

NEWSLETTER | SPRING 2015

WWW.SHINEMANFOUNDATION.ORG

CHAIRMAN'S LETTER



Barbara P. Shineman
Chairman

It is finally spring, and with that rebirth comes a period of reflection. I am delighted that our Foundation has just begun its third year. The Richard S. Shineman Foundation was incorporated on January 28, 2013; its mission was/is to enhance the quality of life for the Oswego community and county residents. The foundation does this by using its financial resources to stimulate community resources while encouraging strong social bonds and building the capacity of not-for-profit partners.

My husband, our benefactor, would be very pleased to see how far our foundation has come. Once a fledgling, it has grown, thanks to his vision and some hard work, to be a known entity in Central New York that is making a positive impact in the community. Governance and management are basic components of the Foundation's operations. A seven-member Board of Directors and an executive director comprise the current governance and management taskforce. Strong leadership skills are evident among board members and the executive director. We are fortunate to have this committed, highly conscientious board involved with the governance of the Foundation, and an outstanding executive director and her new assistant who handle management responsibilities.

"Office location" is another significant fact. My husband would be pleased that the Foundation's office is located in Sheldon Hall, the college's oldest, most revered building. In close proximity is the new "Richard S. Shineman Center for Science, Engineering and Innovation."

The Foundation's focus on becoming a "catalyst for change" is constantly evolving as we accept grant applications and award grants. At our most recent board meeting, approximately \$410,000 was awarded to deserving organizations. Our mission to enhance the quality of life for the community and surrounding county is slowly and surely becoming a reality.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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GRANTS IN THE COMMUNITY

Oswego Renaissance Association



To continue the momentum of the neighborhood revitalization work that began in Oswego last year, the Richard S. Shineman Foundation announced its second grant award to the Oswego Renaissance Association in March. The grant will support ORA's programs this coming summer, including the Renaissance Block Challenge Grants, Neighborhood Pride Grants for parks and streets, and the grants for painting homes in historic colors.

The Renaissance Block Challenge Grants is ORA's largest program, providing grants to groups of homeowners in targeted city of Oswego neighborhoods. The grants provide matching funds to residents for exterior home improvements. According to Paul Stewart, executive director of ORA, last year 96 homes in 13 city blocks were awarded over \$81,000 in matching grants, and collectively invested over \$315,000 in improvements throughout the neighborhoods.

"Not only are we seeing significant improvements in homes throughout Oswego, but there has been a lot of additional spillover activity as a result," said Paul Stewart, ORA Founder and Director. "In the same neighborhoods where neighbors have been involved in our programs, we are now seeing residents and developers forming partnerships. In one instance, a large group of neighbors were so inspired that they combined resources, bought a rundown property, and are working with a developer to have it restored to a beautiful single family home."

Positive signals promote confidence, leading to investments in the neighborhood. This in turn promotes stable and increasing home values, attracts new residents, builds confidence, and increases capacity of the neighborhood to meet future challenges. Such neighborhoods become Neighborhoods of Choice. Neighborhood health can be restored, maintained and strengthened, when interventions provide neighborhoods with the resources and confidence to reinvest in their neighborhoods. This happens by leveraging the strengths of a neighborhood, especially its people. The ORA employs this tried and true methodology to promote neighborhood revitalization in Oswego, NY.

For more information, visit the ORA website: www.oswegonline.com

NON-PROFIT SPOTLIGHT

The United Way of Greater Oswego County



Volunteers from SUNY Oswego Lakers Women's Hockey team serve soup to community members at the Annual United Way Stone Soup Luncheon. The luncheon collects nonperishable food items along with monetary donations to raise awareness and help support local food pantries throughout Oswego County.

The United Way of Greater Oswego County is embarking on a new era with the recent hiring of a new Executive Director and Resource Development Director. With fresh leadership, community collaborations and campaign relationships will be strengthened and new ones will be formed. The United Way has always strived to improve lives by fostering partnerships, mobilizing the community to give and volunteer, raising awareness of local human needs and supporting solutions that address those needs. We strive to stop hunger, help children and youth succeed, and better the health and well-being of our community. We see results by not only being a fundraising arm for 27 programs that address these needs throughout Oswego County; but also by providing events throughout the year that bring awareness and positive results to issues.

Aside from collaborative events such as Stuff-a-Bus or the United Way Golf Tournament, we rely on workplace campaigns and individual donors to help us provide solutions to our neighbors and community members. Contributions to the United Way help provide health clinic visits, youth mentoring, services for homeless youth, senior citizen meals, childcare programs, prevention and outpatient drug treatment, victim advocacy services, and support for vision/hearing loss to name some. To learn more about the United Way or how to get involved, please visit www.oswegounitedway.org



RECENTLY AWARDED GRANTS

- **Cayuga Community College-Fulton Campus** – The Richard S. Shineman Foundation has given them a \$45,000 "matching-challenge" grant to assist in their campaign to build out their Fulton storefronts at River Glen Plaza off Route 481. Renovating the storefronts will help them achieve their goals to increase their Oswego County high school "capture rate" by 2018-19, increase the number of community functions they host by 2017, and increase attendance at student events by 50% in the next three years.
- **Fulton Family YMCA** – With a \$25,000 grant from the Richard S. Shineman Foundation, the Fulton YMCA is able to make their Family Programming position full-time, with the intent that by 2016, the position could be fully funded by operating support and not require grant support. A portion of the Shineman grant also enables them to offer nutritious snacks for school age and camp children.
- **Move Along Inc.** – The \$14,200 grant received will enable this organization to add dedicated equipment that can be used for their Inclusive Sports program to eliminate the present redundant mileage cost associated with using their weekly program equipment.
- **Oswego County** – Working in partnership with Oswego schools, the County Legislature is undertaking a comprehensive program and policy review. The Richard S. Shineman Foundation awarded Oswego County a \$36,500 grant to fund 1/3 of a study to develop a set of comprehensive poverty reduction strategies for the County. The goal of this grant is to reduce the number of people falling into poverty, while also increasing the capacity of those struggling to enter the economic mainstream in Oswego County.
- **Wisdom Thinkers Network** – Support from the Richard S. Shineman Foundation, with a grant for \$15,000 will enable them to have a professional academic evaluation done by Syracuse University to document the success of their Stories to Light Our Way character education and anti-bullying program, and to sustain their efforts to expand the program.



JUN 12

Grant application submission deadline for Round 2 grant awards

OCT 9

Grant application submission deadline for Round 3 grant awards