

# A CATALYST FOR CHANGE

## CHAIRMAN'S LETTER



**Barbara P. Shineman**  
Chairman

It's the beginning of another year, and a time for reflection. I am amazed that our foundation has begun its fourth year of operations. No longer a start-up, we have made the transition to growth phase, with a full-capacity board of talented directors and a management team that has put in place all the necessary infrastructure to run our foundation as an efficient business. Now we are ready to expand our collaborations with the region's organizations that are providing services or programs to improve the quality of life in Oswego County.

Our foundation's vision is to be a transformative "Catalyst for Change" to create a vibrant community life for the Oswego County region. The only way this vision will be achieved is through the efforts of the organizations we partner with.

We are very encouraged by and interested in the Oswego County Community Health and Poverty Reduction Task Force. Unprecedented collaborations are happening at task force meetings between the government, social service agencies, school districts, the business community, colleges and universities and not-for-profit organizations.

In 2016 our foundation will be looking for ways in which we can assist with projects that support the Task Force's long-term commitment to positive change in our county. Our future depends on all of us joining forces to tackle the tough challenges our county faces.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Barbara P. Shineman**  
Chairman

**Gary Shanley**  
Vice-Chair

**Kathleen Fenlon**  
Secretary

**Thomas W. Schneider**  
Treasurer

**Margaret Barclay**  
Director

**Kathy Barker**  
Director

**Tara FitzGibbons**  
Director

**Floris Palmer**  
Director

**Casey Raymond**  
Director

**Karen S. Goetz**  
Executive Director

**Penny Halstead**  
Sr. Administrative Assistant

## GRANTS IN THE COMMUNITY

### Victory Transformation, Inc.



Victory Transformation, Inc. is a Christian outreach and healing mission. Although many of its services target disadvantaged and disenfranchised or at risk adults and families, it has something for everyone.

Victory is about empowerment. It has two fundamental beliefs: (1) The majority of people do not want to live in poverty or "live off the system" and (2) Encouragement, edification, discipleship and love provide a way out of an undesirable lifestyle if someone is seeking change in their situation. Their volunteers are people that have received help and ministry through them.

Victory is unique because it has a Drop-In Center that allows for significant and intimate interaction with people. In other words, people they help tend to stay with them and become part of their community. This enables them to have meaningful relationships with people beyond meeting the need they sought help for and it also provides opportunities for these people to give to others. In addition to the Drop-In Center, Victory has a café called the Victory Roadhouse. The café provides low-cost meals with a \$1.50 daily special.

Victory also assists people with housing and critical needs. It uses the services already in place and collaborates with churches and organizations to help ensure that people not only have their needs met but are in sustainable situations. With funding from the Shineman Foundation, Victory will be renting a house as part of its emergency housing initiative, called Rapid Rehousing Program. They will provide supervision and ensure safe, drug-free emergency housing for at least 60 individuals in the first year, and help them obtain safe, affordable housing and necessary services within 30 days of emergency placement.



## RECENTLY AWARDED GRANTS

- **ARISE** – \$26,000 will be used to purchase aluminum ramps for terminally ill people referred by Oswego County Hospice, making it possible for those individuals to remain at home with their families and continue to have access to the community.
- **Everson Museum of Art** – \$15,000 will be used to enhance the museum's reach in Oswego County for students and educators alike to experience the museum and its collections through visits to the museum in Syracuse and outreach efforts in Oswego County.
- **LaVeck Concerts** – This is a capacity building grant for LaVeck Concerts for \$22,500. Now in its seventh year, LaVeck Concerts provides 5 to 6 concerts per year at the Pulaski Congregational Church, bringing the majesty of classical music to new audiences and making a small community proud of an absolutely world-class experience.
- **Oswego County Opportunities, Inc.** – In jeopardy of reducing services due to a decrease in funding, the \$32,000 grant will help support OCO's Call-N-Ride program in order to sustain the current level of operations over the next year while alternative funds are secured.
- **Oswego Players, Inc.** – Support from the Richard S. Shineman Foundation, with a grant for \$7,000, will be used to hire a marketing intern for one year to guide the organization with the public relations and marketing of its programs and productions, increasing awareness of the organization and audience participation in productions to maintain the organization's place in the cultural life of the greater Oswego community.
- **Public Broadcasting Council of CNY, Inc.** – \$30,000 will be used to provide tuition support for Oswego County schools to participate in the innovative Enterprise America program at WCNy in Syracuse. This program is a true game-changer, as students not only learn vital 21st century learning skills but apply them in a real-world setting while exploring careers, which makes education relevant to them and challenging them to succeed.

**ARISE**



**LAVECK**  
CONCERT SERIES

Oswego County  
**Opportunities**  
Helping People. Supporting Communities. Inspiring Lives.



**WCNY**

## NON-PROFIT SPOTLIGHT

### Blessings in a Backpack



The local Oswego-Fulton chapter was founded in 2013 and now feeds 250 children on weekends during the school year. The program is a hybrid of private sector funding and public partnership carried out in schools. Now also supported by the Richard S. Shineman Foundation, the local chapter coordinates services not only with the federal government, but also with New York State, which feeds hungry children during the summer, and with another local group headed by the Kiwanis Club, which feeds them during the Thanksgiving and Christmas vacations and during the winter and spring breaks. The chapter staff includes four board members, two consultants, and 50 volunteers. All are unpaid, so that 100% of all donations go to feed hungry children. For them, the reward is to see happy and fed children.

Oswego County has 28% of its children (7,198 children) living in poverty and 26% experiencing hunger. Nutritional deficiencies in childhood cannot be made up later: they result in physical stunting, inability to focus and learn in school, emotional damage, permanent injury to health and damage to and possible destruction of the child's immune system.

The children in Oswego and Fulton have been extremely appreciative of the program. When they were gathered and told what they would receive, they spontaneously cheered and burst into applause. During the first year, the program was evaluated by sending home surveys with the kids to learn how the food was being used and what the reactions were to weekly food items. One child wrote, "I only wish that everybody in my family could be in this program." The children have been overwhelmed by the evidence that so many people in their communities care about them.

The chapter looks beyond the benefits of filling hungry bellies today to the longer-term benefits for the children of better health, improved school attendance and performance, enhanced emotional resilience, and stronger identification with the community.

2016 DEADLINES

JUNE 10

Grant application submission deadline for Round 2 grant awards

SEPT 23

Grant application submission deadline for Round 3 grant awards