



Blue Fund Grant Summary: Northeastern New York/Capital Region

2018-2023

2018 (\$327,174)

Boys & Girls Clubs of Schenectady

Positive Behavioral Intervention Services

\$115,234

This project will address the need for prevention counseling services, crisis intervention, individualized behavior plans, and positive behavioral intervention (PBI) for children who have experienced trauma in their lives. PBI teaches respect, responsibility, and safety at the club — promoting confidence to engage and succeed in activities. This initiative will serve more than 900 children daily with a minimum of 150 receiving intensive counseling services.

Cornell Cooperative Extension of Albany County

Supporting Healthy Youth and Families Initiative

\$211,940

This project will educate children and their families and caretakers on the importance of well-child visits and strategies for health and safety at home. The initiative uniquely targets youth, adults, and families as they learn together. Experienced staff will provide practical programs about healthy living, good nutrition and food selection, physical fitness, and stress reduction to ultimately promote lifelong healthy behaviors.

2019 (\$460,000)

Albany County Department of Health

Developing Community Partnerships to Prevent Diabetes

\$150,000

This program will help reduce the number of residents with prediabetes while addressing health equity issues. Using the Four Pillars of the National Diabetes Prevention Program, this initiative makes it easier for people with prediabetes to access evidence-based and affordable lifestyle change programs. The Albany County Department of Health and community partners will implement strategies and contribute resources.

Coarc

Weaving Wellness

\$185,000

This program will expand opportunities for staff development, enhance benefits, promote wellness, and empower people with disabilities to participate in and contribute to their communities. Employees will also have access to free virtual behavioral health services to help balance work-life challenges. These wellness spaces and class offerings will further educate and empower employees and individuals while building relationships.

The Foundation of Champlain Valley Physicians Hospital

Spur of the Saranac River Trail Greenway

\$125,000

This project will include a series of outdoor physical activity stations for mental, emotional, and behavioral clients of Behavioral Health Services North program. Clients from this program exhibit higher rates of health-related illnesses and diseases. Construction will also take place on a fenced-in soccer field that will be used as an enclosed skating rink in the winter.

2020 (\$300,000)

Capital Region Community COVID-19 Response Fund

Community Foundation for the Greater Capital Region

\$150,000

The Capital Region Community COVID-19 Response Fund, a coalition of corporate, philanthropic, and government partners, is supporting local nonprofit agencies addressing basic needs, tackling food security, and providing child care services and housing. The fund has raised over \$1,085,000, and nearly all the funds have been deployed to over 100 organizations throughout 11 counties, which has helped meet the needs of over 500,000 local neighbors in need.

Center for Disability Services

Behavioral Health Family and Caregiver Support Program

\$50,000

The program will provide engagement, support, education, and clinical therapy to the family members and caregivers of individuals with disabilities who receive services with the Center for Disability Services to improve the well-being and mental health of the individuals and their families. This initiative will provide a supportive and therapeutic network for caregivers that promotes good mental health, facilitates group and individual support, provides support for children, and coordinates referrals for caregivers to community resources as needed.

Field and Fork Network Inc.

Double Up Food Bucks: Innovating Technologies and Expanding Geographies

\$50,000

Double Up Food Bucks is a successful nutrition incentive program in Western New York that is expanding across the Capital Region. Double Up matches Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits \$1 for \$1 for the purchase fresh produce, making healthy nutritious foods more accessible and affordable to those receiving SNAP benefits.

Soul Fire Farm Institute, Inc.

Equity and Access in the 518 Food System

\$50,000

A new program center will provide sustainable farming training and education for youth and adults and distribute healthy food to vulnerable populations in the Capital Region.

2021 (\$725,000)

The Bernard & Millie Duker Children's Hospital at Albany Med

Albany Med CARES for Kids

\$100,000

The project will establish Albany Med Community Access Resources Education Support (CARES) for Kids, a mental health program that provides psychological support and screening at community sites, including schools and community centers, for underserved children and families residing in the Capital Region.

Comfort Food of Washington County

Community Food Processing Kitchen

\$125,000

The project will construct, equip, and operate a commercial food processing kitchen to support Farm to School program for five local school districts as well as continued distribution to low-income families through the agency network in Washington, Warren, and Saratoga counties.

Saratoga Hospital Foundation

Establishing Saratoga Hospital as a New York State Designated Primary Stroke Center

\$100,000

The project will enhance and expand stroke services for residents of the Saratoga Region by supporting education, equipment, and certification costs associated with establishing Saratoga Hospital as a Joint Commission-American Heart Association certified and a NYS Designated Primary Stroke Center.

St. Peter's Hospital Foundation

Feeding a Healthy Future

\$100,000

The project will address childhood obesity by providing opportunities for physical activity, education on healthy food choices, and proper dental care, as well as increased access to healthy food for youth from low-income households.

Whitney M. Young, Jr. Health Center

New Social Health Engagement Specialist for Whitney on Wheels Mobile Health Units

\$300,000

Expansion of Whitney M. Young, Jr. Health Center's "Whitney on Wheels" (WOW) mobile health units program. Funds will allow the organization to hire a social health engagement specialist to better connect services and improve primary and dental care in underserved communities, eliminating many barriers to care.

2022 (\$665,000)

Capital Roots

Increasing Healthy Food Access Across the Capital Region

\$125,000

Capital Roots will provide food security for families in the Capital Region with top quality, low-cost access to healthy food in retail environments in their own neighborhoods.

Healthy Alliance Inc.

Schenectady Maternal and Child Health Community Health Worker Hub

\$175,000

The project will bring together a coalition to pilot a Community Health Worker hub, focused on maternal and child health in Schenectady, NY.

Holiday Helper Fund

End of year grants to various organizations

\$40,000

Highmark Blue Shield of Northeastern New York employees selected eight nonprofits that align with Blue Fund strategic health focus areas to receive a \$5,000 donation. They are: The Capital Region Food Bank, CAPTAIN Community Human Services, City Mission of Schenectady, Mom Start Here, Mental Health Association of Columbia & Greene Counties, The Ronald McDonald House, SNACPack Program, and Things of My Very Own.

Social Enterprise and Training Center

The Wellness Spot: Advancing Access and Equity

\$150,000

The project will provide an innovative, comprehensive, and responsive community-based location to increase access and equity for marginalized young people who are severely impacted by provider shortages, lack of treatment options, and limited culturally competent services.

United Way of the Greater Capital Region

Jubilant Birth Albany

\$175,000

Jubilant Birth Albany is a simple yet innovative economic and health intervention that achieves better maternal health and birthing outcomes, reduces poverty, and builds economic security for women and their families through direct income assistance and culturally appropriate program delivery.

2023 (\$550,000)

Bethesda House of Schenectady

Cara House Medical Care Program

\$100,000

The project will support operations, outreach efforts, medical equipment and educational materials to the chronically homeless, medically complex, and economically disadvantaged community in Schenectady County.

Black Nurses Coalition, Inc.

Health Equity Now!

\$100,000

This program will provide culturally competent health access, care, treatment, and advocacy directly to minority and underserved residents and communities to help eliminate healthcare disparities.

Russell Sage College

Mentorship Training to Support BIPOC Nursing Students

\$125,000

Russell Sage College will implement mentor training to support *ICAN* (I Can Achieve a Nursing Degree), a program that empowers BIPOC high school students to seek nursing degrees, reduce the nursing shortage and increase the diversity of nursing professionals in New York State.

Siena College

Interprofessional Complex Care Teams (Hotspotting) at Siena College

\$150,000

The project will support hotspotting, a health care method aimed at reducing costs while improving patient health and experience by identifying “super-utilizers” (those with frequent hospital visits or admissions), and provides hands-on, individualized interventions for patients with complex social and health care needs.

South End Children’s Cafe

Love in Action: Feeding and Nurturing Children

\$175,000

South End Children’s Café will enhance health equity for children residing in under-resourced communities facing daily violence, by providing a safe, stable community space where children and youth learn, grow, gather, and play.