

# New funds established in 2021



In 2021, The North East Community Foundation saw a record number of new funds, scholarships and charitable gift annuities established including:

## The Clare Wilson Honorary Fund

To honor his legacy of service, Fuller Hose Company established the Clare Wilson Fund. The fund helps the fire company in two critical ways: meeting immediate equipment needs and ensuring that funds will be there in the future to support the changing needs of the community. In December 2021, thanks to the Clare Wilson Fund, the department received a much-needed new piece of equipment — an F550 multipurpose truck that will assist in brush fires and water rescues.

## The John Manville & Frieda Bodendorfer Phillips Fund

The fund was created by Deb Phillips and Jack Russell to honor family members' contributions to the community. Funds will be used to support qualified and deserving non-profit organizations whose activities and mission address agriculture and/or food related education, projects and needs.

## The Miller Family Scholarship Fund

For decades, the late Bob Miller and his family have provided scholarships to students in North East. In 2021, they opted to continue this long-standing tradition by partnering with The North East Community Foundation. The Miller Family Scholarship is unique in that it is available to students of any age pursuing 2-year, 4-year or vocational education.

## The Susan Valone MD Memorial Scholarship

Susan was raised in North East and went on to become an infectious disease specialist in Colorado. Her family established the scholarship in her memory. It will be awarded to students entering a career in healthcare.

## The Jane Novak Zavasky Scholarship Fund

Former North East Middle School English teacher Jane Zavasky and her family established a new scholarship in 2021. It will be awarded to students who are pursuing a degree in education with preference will be given to those who attended North East Middle School.

## The Fuller Hose Co. #1 Fund

The Fuller Hose Company #1 was established on December 31 of 1885 as a volunteer fire company serving the citizens of North East and beyond. The fund was established to ensure the future public safety needs of the growing North East community can be met. Specifically the fund addresses future apparatus replacement costs, as fire departments are encouraged to replace front line fire engines every 20 years from the date of manufacture. Fuller Hose Company #1 currently operates two engines, one tanker, one utility truck, one brush truck and two boats.

## DID YOU KNOW?



**Did you know North East Community Foundation provides its own match to local non-profits during Erie Gives?**

This is on top of funds donated by residents on Aug. 10 and matched by The Erie Community Foundation.

This year **NECF** was proud to contribute an additional \$30,000 in matching funds to support the mission of 21 local organizations that work to make life better for the people of North East.

## GIVE TODAY!

**01 DONATE:** Mail a gift of any amount to The North East Community Foundation, P.O. Box 327, North East, PA 16428.

**02 START A FUND:** Funds can be established in any amount. Call Melissa Fisher at 814.882.5594 to learn more.

**03 GRANTS:** 501(c)(3) organizations can request a grant at any time.

Find us on Facebook: [necommunityfoundation](https://www.facebook.com/necommunityfoundation)



The North East Community Foundation

PO Box 327  
North East, PA 16428

814.882.5594



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## We are grateful to those who made contributions or established a new fund in 2021

Anonymous 4 N.I.N.E. Place Advance North East Bridget & Tim Allburn Richard J. Anderson, Jr. Charlene S. Baird Susan Bartlett James Baur Be A Dog Golf Tournament Bella Salon & Day Spa, Inc. David Bradford Brett Maloney Landscapes, LLC Margery Campbell Kathy & Dennis Cantoni Patricia & Robert Chapman Emma Sue Cherico Ethelnyne & Craig Cunningham Kathy Cunningham William R. Cunningham Marie & Alan Dingfelder Downtown North East, Inc. Michael D. Dunlavey	Therese & Todd G. Dunn Danie Dwyer Erie Philharmonic Sandra Etter Sonia A. Fails Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund Melissa & Roy Fisher Pamela J. Forsyth Sara & Vernon Frye Fuller Hose Company James Gorzynski Greenman - Pedersen, Inc. Laurie Grimaldi Nicholas R. Grimaldi Sue Hammond Danielle & Corey Hansen Adrienne Hassenplug Linda Heun Orris C. & B. Dewey Hirtzel Memorial Foundation Mary Jean & Kenneth Hitz Catherine Howard Suzanne R. Jackson	Kathy & Robert Jeffery Kathleen Johnson Penny & Robert Johnson Kathy & Herbert W. Johnston Ann & Dan Keeley Charlene Kerr Knox, McLaughlin, Gornall & Sennett, PC Henry Kriegel Leafguard of Lake Erie, Inc. Beth & Billy Lewis Jean & Bill Lewis, Sr. Lollie & Co., LLC Fred Lucore Geraldine Luke Thomas Mack Virginia Madonia Charlotte Manison Linda Massey Heun Linda & Anthony Mazza Anna & Hugh McCartney Jennifer & Thomas McClure	David W. Meehl Mercyhurst University Kathleen Murphy Anne Narby William Neil Joellen Nelson North East Borough North East Community Players North East in Bloom Martha & Richard L. Nygaard Orton & Orton, LLC Ellen Otto Theresa & Richard A. Pekelnicky Andrea Phillips Deborah Phillips & Jack Russell Eric J. Purchase Lisa & Christopher Rakow Carol J. Reese Elle, Madeline & Clint Reid Sherri & Brent Roggie	Sample News Group dba Corry Journal Judy & Tom Schenker Nancy Schneider Shawn Schultz Jean Selkregg Skunk & Goat Tavern Jennifer & Doug Smith Stetson Brothers Ace Hardware Straw Hat, LLC SWELL Joan E. Trey Renee Triana Trolley Line Vineyards, LTD Jennifer Tuttle United Way of Erie County Alice E. & Charles L. Valone Bev & Al Walz Robin & Tim Ward Stacey Wedzikowski Michelle Wilkins Jane & Michael S. Zavasky Barb & Paul Zorzie
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# 2021 Annual Report

TO THE COMMUNITY

For 30 years,  
making life better  
for the people of  
North East has  
been the mission  
of The North  
East Community  
Foundation.

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



# A letter from the Chairman



Dear members of the North East community,

When I joined the board of The North East Community Foundation it was 2001, I was 36 and the Foundation felt blessed to have \$250,000.

Recently NECF celebrated two significant milestones – our 30th year impacting the quality of life in North East and an endowment that has grown to more than \$10 million.

Thinking of all that has been done over the last 30 years and all who have contributed their time, talents and resources to leave a lasting legacy on our community is humbling.

It's been said: with great power comes great responsibility. Which is why in 2021 NECF began its own strategic visioning process. We now have the funds to make meaningful and transformational change. Therefore, we needed a vision, board structure and strategic direction to support it.

Because collaboration is key to the success of any community or initiative, we started the process by listening. Over the course of several months, the task force committee sat down with members of local government, nonprofits and agencies to gauge our community and organization's strengths, weaknesses, needs and opportunities.

After nearly a year of reflection and planning, NECF is happy to release our new strategic direction. You may view the document on our website at [www.necommunityfoundation.org](http://www.necommunityfoundation.org), but here are a few highlights:

Our mission is to improve the quality of life in and around North East by identifying, evaluating and addressing community issues, building charitable endowments and by promoting philanthropic and community leadership.

#### Additionally our vision includes:

- To be recognized as a valued stakeholder in the future of North East
- To be a trusted custodian of resources to fulfill the philanthropic intent of our donors
- To create transformational grants in support of our non-profits
- To actively promote community leadership, civic awareness and public engagement

Please don't hesitate to reach out to the members of our board with questions you have about our new strategic direction, The North East Community Foundation or how you can join in our efforts.

It is an honor to partner with donors and the community to make North East better for our residents today – and well into the future.

Sincerely,

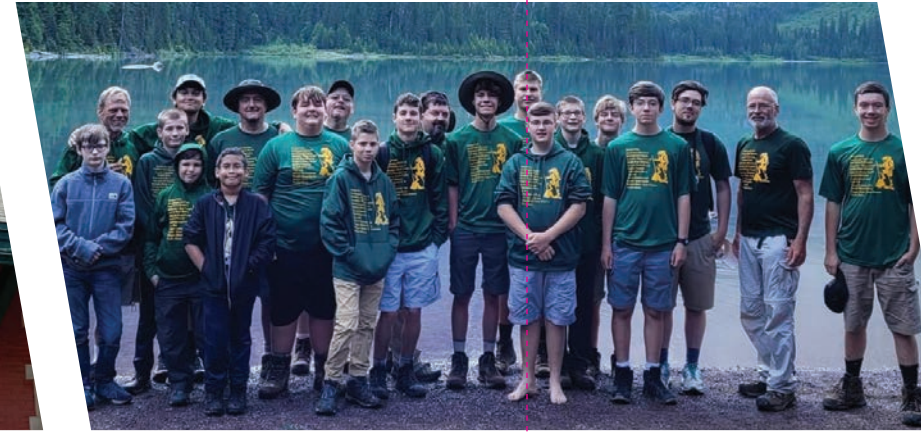
**Billy Lewis, Chairman**  
**Vernon Frye, Vice Chairman**  
**Robert Jeffery Esq., Treasurer**  
**Sonia Fails, Secretary**  
**Melissa Fisher, Executive Asst.**

**Dan Adamus**     **David Meehl**  
**Joseph Cancilla**     **Deborah Phillips**  
**Jim Gorzynski**     **Jennifer Smith**  
**Chris Miller**



*We now have the funds to make meaningful and transformational change.*

## Highlights from grants given by NECF in 2021



In 2021, with the help of our donors, NECF was able to grant nearly \$285,000 including:

### More than \$78,000 to education

– Supporting libraries and schools, providing college scholarships and funds for summer camp experiences in the arts and nature

### More than \$92,000 to basic health and safety needs

– Firefighters and first responders, nursing and hospice care, food, clothing and other essentials. In 2021, a new need was addressed: to meet basic food and hygiene needs of students in the North East School District by partnering with the school and Second Harvest Food Bank to offer backpacks to bridge the gap when kids get hungry over the weekend. Another partnership with Project Love Inc. provided basic hygiene supplies.

### More than \$70,000 to enrich our community and preserve our unique history and downtown

– Offering arts and culture, and family fun through free outdoor concerts by the Erie Philharmonic in Gibson Park, entertainment for Picnic in the Park and the Saturday Open Market, July 4 fireworks and an expanded annual holiday light up celebration. Funds provided to North East in Bloom brought new planters and flowers to beautify downtown, along with a new mural.



*Improving the quality of life for North East residents can take many forms.*

### In 2021, The North East Community Foundation was honored to fund \$284,110.16 in grants, scholarships, specified gifts and Erie Gives matches to the following:

4 N.I.N.E. Place  
Advance North East  
Allegheny College  
Boy Scout Troop #82  
Boy Scout Pack #82  
Campbell University  
Community Nursing Services of North East  
Crescent Hose Co.  
Cub Scout Pack #57  
Cub Scout Pack #82  
Door Student Services, Inc  
Downtown North East, Inc.  
Edinboro University  
Episcopal Church of the Holy Cross  
First Baptist Church of North East

First Presbyterian Church of North East  
Fuller Hose Company  
Gannon University  
Lake Shore Railway Historical Society Inc.  
Livermore Valley Performing Arts Center  
Lock Haven University  
McCord Memorial Library  
North East Arts Council  
North East Band Boosters  
North East Food Pantry  
North East Historical Society  
North East in Bloom  
North East Little League  
North East School District Foundation

North East School Scholarship Fund  
Orchard Beach Assembly  
Park United Methodist Church  
Penn State Erie, The Behrend College  
Penn State University  
Powerful Pink Warriors  
Project Love, Inc.  
St. Gregory School  
United Neighborhood Facilities Health Care Co  
United Way of Erie County

