

A NOTE FROM OUR CHAIR

Welcome to summer! On April 1, the Women's Fund started the third and final year of our Million Dollar Endowment campaign. We began in April 2011 with \$650,000, and I'm proud to say that as of March 31, 2013, we're at \$867,151. This growth reflects the generosity of you – our donor community – and the focus of our Fund Development committee. Thank you!

We still have to raise about \$140,000 to make this year's goal. That might seem daunting; but we've done it before. In 1999, before the Women's Fund had given out a single grant, 170 women with foresight each donated or pledged \$1,000. We were off and running with our first grant awards in 2001.

Today we have given out more than \$160,000 to benefit women and girls in Central New York. The effects of those grants have been positive and tangible. You can hear them in the voices of girls like Sley, a Fowler High School junior who participated in the Women's Fund-supported Zoo Fellows program at the Rosamond Gifford Zoo. At our spring event, Sley told us how she learned everything

from animal anatomy to scientific research techniques in her fellowship. She also gained a few personal mentors as guides.

Sley's experiences will last a lifetime. And so will the Women's Fund of CNY. Our endowment will be around in perpetuity to offer crucial funding and support to the women and girls of Central New York.

Since the 1848 Seneca Falls Convention, women in Central New York have been actively supporting one another. Help us continue this tradition and reach a \$1 million endowment. Together we can improve the lives of women and girls by serving as a voice and advocate, educating women about philanthropy, and engaging women in creating change through collective and targeted giving.

Give to the Women's Fund of CNY for a lifetime!



SPRING EVENT RECAP MISSION POSSIBLE: MAKING A DIFFERENCE FOR CNY WOMEN!

The Women's Fund of Central New York hosted an evening of hors d'oeuvres and honors on April 23rd at Drumlins Country Club to celebrate the 2013 Central New York Women's Fund grantees.

Each year grants are made available through the Women's Fund endowment which is supported by targeted giving from local individuals, organizations and businesses that share the Women's Fund of Central New York's vision to "empower and recognize the advancement and full participation of women and girls in Central New York."

There are nine programs that received this year's awards:

- SMART Girls – The Boys and Girls Clubs of Syracuse
- Moms Moving Forward/Early Childhood – CAP for Madison County
- Ready, Set, Apply – Catholic Charities
- Direct Selling – Women's Entrepreneurial Program – Cayuga Community College
- It's Your Business – Child Care Solutions

- Young Women Scientist Summer Camp – MOST
- Post-secondary and Career Advancement for Women – On Point for College
- Family Transitions in Cayuga County – Rescue Mission Alliance
- Teen Mom Time - Syracuse Northeast Community Center.

This year the Women's Fund distributed \$25,000 to local women-focused programs and organizations. Grant applications are accepted until November 30 each year and official grant awards are announced the following April.

Since 2001, the Women's Fund of Central New York has awarded more than \$160,000 to 49 area organizations and programs supporting women and girls, thanks to the generous support of our donors.



Sleyneisha "Sley" Mason, Pamela Hobbs, and Janet Agostini of the Rosamond Gifford Zoo enjoy the Spring Event.

Get rid of the paper!

Sign up now to receive The Women's Fund newsletter via email at www.womensfundofcny.org.

MINNA'S MISSION - TAKE ACTION & CREATE A LEGACY

No one exemplifies the remarkable achievements of the Women's Fund of Central New York better than Minna Buck. For more than 50 years, Buck has found myriad ways to give back to her community. Her latest generous gift is earmarking at least \$5,000 of the Aloha Fund, which she established with the CNY Community Foundation, for the Women's Fund.

Buck's parents modeled hard work, commitment to family and community, and the importance of education. Although Buck's parents held the traditional view that "a woman's place is in the home," they encouraged Minna to be prepared to make her own living, "just in case." In 1946, Buck was accepted into a program at the University of Chicago that let her earn an undergraduate degree in just two years.

She then went on to become one of only two women enrolled in the University of Chicago Law School, where she met her husband, Earle. Their first child was born just before she received her law degree. The couple had two more children in the next two years, and Buck made the decision to postpone her career to be a stay-at-home mom. In 1957 the family moved to Syracuse, Earle's hometown. Minna became an active community volunteer, and in the 1960s she began working with local anti-poverty programs.

Two decades after receiving her law degree, Buck passed the New York State bar exam and began her career. She helped organize and became the Executive Director of Onondaga Neighborhood Legal Services (now Legal Services of Central New York), a nonprofit law firm that offers free civil legal assistance to low-income families and individuals. She spent four years with ONLS and went on to work as an attorney for city, county and state governments. In 1982, Minna was elected a Family Court Judge for Onondaga County and held that position for 12 years.

Minna and Earle created the Aloha Foundation in 1989 to make sure some of their estate will directly benefit the local charities they support. Buck jokingly calls the foundation their "fourth child," ultimately to share equally with their three children the proceeds of their estate.

Throughout her career and now in her "retirement," Minna Buck has honored the principles her parents modeled. The Women's Fund is grateful to be included in the extensive list of professional and community organizations Buck has given back to—and to be a "member" of the Buck family.



Minna Buck (center) celebrates the 2013 grant awards with Shannon Gillen (left) and Peggy Liuzzi (right).