

Livingston County CARES, Inc.'s mission is to help communities and individuals locally, regionally, statewide, nationwide and globally in humanitarian projects including disaster relief and recovery efforts. CARES also provides a resource and information repository for individuals and organizations wishing to contribute to disaster recovery efforts.









Livingston County CARES, Inc. ANNUAL REPORT 2022

Table of Contents

President's Letter to Members, Volunteers, and Donors	1
Mission and History of Livingston CARES	2
Home Away From Home Respite Center Report	9
Food Security Advocates, Campus Pantry, Community Garden Coalition Report	11
Gumbo to Go Update	14
Geneseo Goes to Town Report.	15
Linking Hands for Learning Report	16
Contributors to Nicaragua Schools Project	17
Contributors to Millie Pitcher Memorial Fund	20
Contributors to Front Line Workers Projet Fund	20
Contributors to Healthcare Workers Appreciation Fund	21
Contributors to Haiti Relief Fund	21
Contributors to Hurricane Sandy Relief Fund	22
Contributors to the Hurricane Recovery Fund	22
Contributors to Puerto Rico Recovery Fund	23
Contributors to Kentucky Tornadoes Fund	23
Contributors to Covid-19 Relief Fund	23
Contributors to Home Away From Home Respite Program	24
Contributors to Food Security Advocates	24
Contributors to the Pantry at SUNY Geneseo (Campus Pantry)	24
Individual Contributors to Livingston CARES	24
Business, Community and Student Organization Contributors to Livingston CARES	25
Board of Directors 2021-2022	26
Livingston CARES Trip History	27
Kudos and Thanks	35



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Dear Livingston CARES Members, Volunteers and Donors:

Thank you for your support and involvement in Livingston CARES programs and services. Each year in April, we prepare the **Livingston CARES Annual Community Report** to share the highlights of our events and programs.

Livingston CARES scheduled five service trips to Puerto Rico and Sulfur, Louisiana and started the trip registration process in October 2021. Unfortunately, the pandemic continued and we made the decision to postpone the 2022 January, March, and May trips to the spring semester of 2023.

During the fall semester of 2021, Livingston CARES raised funds to assist with recovery work from Hurricane Ida in Louisiana and we donated funds to the Fuller Center Disaster Rebuilders in Sulfur, Louisiana that housed our May 21 service team. We also raised funds for the recovery efforts from the December tornadoes in Kentucky and donated funds to both Hope Force International and the Kentucky Fund. Most recently in March, we posted a short list of credible non-profit public charities helping with the humanitarian crisis in Ukraine and donated disaster recovery funds to assist AirBnB and the World Central Kitchen with their work with families in Ukraine.

In addition to collecting and distributing contributions for special disaster recovery projects, Livingston CARES supports multiple local programs. We accepted donations for the Home Away from Home Respite Program for individuals with Alzheimer's and memory-related diseases and donations to the Linking Hands for Learning project that builds schools in Nicaragua. We also supported programs managed by the Office of Student Volunteerism and Community Engagement including Food Security Advocates, the Pantry at Geneseo, HEROES, and the annual Geneseo Goes to Town service day in April.

Again, thank you to our members, volunteers and donors for your support and engagement in Livingston CARES programs and projects. If you would like more information on the history and current activities of the organization, please go to our website at: https://www.geneseo.edu/livingston-cares and read our monthly electronic newsletter for information on current events and programs

Sincerely,

Tom Matthews

President, Livingston County CARES

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Mission and History of Livingston CARES

Mission

The mission of Livingston County CARES is to help communities and individuals locally, regionally, statewide, nationwide, and globally in humanitarian projects, including disaster relief and recovery efforts. Livingston County CARES provides a central repository for resources and information for individuals and organizations wishing to contribute to disaster relief efforts.

A Brief History of Livingston CARES

Livingston County CARES, Inc. is a collaborative effort among groups and organizations at SUNY Geneseo and in the Geneseo and Livingston County community that started in September 2005 to focus on relief and recovery efforts by helping people in Harrison County, Mississippi. The initial groups were members of SUNY Geneseo students, faculty, and staff, the Livingston County Administrator, the Livingston County Chamber of Commerce. the Town of Geneseo, the Village of Geneseo, and the Livingston County Coalition of Churches. Individuals, organizations, schools, local municipalities, and interested citizens were invited to participate in Livingston County CARES' projects and programs. Livingston County CARES, Inc. was incorporated and registered as a New York State non-profit organization in 2006. In March 2007, the IRS granted CARES tax exempt status under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Service Code. Gifts and donations to CARES are tax deductible. Donations may be given as restricted gifts for specific projects or the general fund. Livingston CARES board members are volunteers and there are no employees and very minimal administrative overhead. The headquarters for Livingston CARES is in the Center for Community and the Division of Student & Campus Life at SUNY Geneseo. The Center for Community supports CARES through its commitment to volunteer work, leadership development, civic engagement of students, and outreach to community organizations. Organizations and individuals interested in volunteering or making contributions should

contact Tom Matthews at 585-245-5857 or by email at matthews@geneseo.edu or Garth Freeman at 585-245-5893 or email freemang@geneseo.edu.

Investing Livingston CARES Volunteers Time and Resources in Disaster Recovery Efforts

The most recent estimates from the Independent Section suggests the total value of our volunteer efforts at \$2,311,941. This is calculated through estimating a wage of \$29.19 per hour for 1,491 volunteers on 90 Livingston CARES week-long service trips to Biloxi, Long Island/Staten Island/Brooklyn, Detroit, Stony Point, Texas, Puerto Rico, Florida Keys, Florida Panhandle and Orlando (Give Kids the World). In addition to their time, volunteers paid trip fees of \$59,640.00 to participate in the 90 service trips. Livingston CARES has also received gifts and donations to assist volunteers with travel expenses and for projects in Harrison County and the New York metropolitan area. Since CARES was established in 2005, Livingston CARES has received \$66,220.00 in unrestricted gifts and donations from individuals and organizations and has raised \$51.846.00 from events such as the Get Celebrities (faculty) Out of Jail and the fall and spring Gumbo to Go Dinners. In 2006, the Division of Student & Campus Life contributed \$12,250.00 to help pay for transportation and to assist students with expenses on the January and March trips. We also received \$20,000.00 in grants from the New York State Legislature (Senator Dale Volker) to assist with funding trips to Mississippi. More recently, the Student Association has been contributing funds to assist students with travel expenses. In 2013, the SUNY Geneseo Student Association allocated \$2,900.00 and Phi Eta Sigma Honorary donated \$2,500.00 to assist students with travel expenses and help provide scholarships for the 2014 trips. Since 2014, the Student Association allocated \$3,000.00 each year to assist students with grants for travel expenses. In 2020, the Student Association increased the allocation to \$7,000.00. The Geneseo Chapter of United University Professions (UUP) has also provided financial

assistance to members of the faculty and staff participating in service trips. The Center for Community also provides in-kind support and supplies to assist student volunteer and service activities. CARES funds have been used to assist student volunteers with travel expenses.

Volunteer Service Trips to Harrison County, Mississippi

Livingston CARES recruited volunteers to work on the rehabilitation and reconstruction of homes for the victims of Hurricane Katrina in Mississippi from 2006 through 2019. Livingston County CARES sent 973 volunteers on forty service trips beginning with the first trip in January 2006 and ending with the March 2019 trip.

Harrison County Mississippi Projects Related to Hurricane Katrina

Livingston CARES donated funds to support various projects in Harrison County, Mississippi. Including the six projects described below:

Livingston County Coalition of Churches Tools for Katrina Project

In the spring of 2006, the Livingston County Coalition of Churches, as a Livingston CARES project, organized the Tools for Katrina Project. Tools were collected at local churches and donated by local contractors and delivered to two recovery centers in Biloxi: Hands on Gulf Coast and Volunteers on Gulf Coast. Some church related items were delivered to the Biloxi Methodist Church.

Woolmarket Youth Football League
Harrison County Board of Supervisors
President, Connie Rockco, identified the
Woolmarket Youth Football League as an
organization that needed assistance. CARES
donated \$660.00 to purchase uniforms for five
students in the program whose equipment had
been destroyed by the hurricane.

ARC Connections to the Gulf Coast

Livingston CARES board member Lyle Lehman made connections between the Livingston-Wyoming ARC and the ARC in Harrison County. Lehman met with board members of the ARC of the Gulf Coast on two trips to Mississippi and was instrumental in

securing a \$4,000.00 donation from the local ARC Foundation to Livingston CARES to forward to the ARC of the Gulf Coast to assist the Harrison County ARC programs and projects.

Woolmarket Youth Recreation Complex Project

Supervisor Connie Rockco requested our assistance with the restoration of the youth recreation complex in her district north of Biloxi. CARES donated \$2,000.00 for the purchase and installation of a flagpole. A plaque on the pole recognizes the gift from the people of Livingston County, New York. A flag raising ceremony held on January 7, 2009 included the presentation of New York State and Livingston County flags to Harrison County. Nick Mazza, Livingston County Administrator, and Cynthia Oswald, President of Livingston County Chamber of Commerce, participated in this ceremony.

Moore Community House

Prior to Katrina, Moore Community House in East Biloxi was the only center serving low-income families with day care and other preschool programs such as Head Start. Katrina destroyed all but one of the buildings in the complex. After hearing the history from the director, Carol Burnett, and learning about the critical services provided by Moore Community House, the CARES Board approved the donation of funds contributed by the Geneseo Central Presbyterian Church to CARES. A donation of \$2,000.00 was made and the funds were used to purchase equipment for the classrooms in the renovated facilities.

Garden Clubs Donations

The Geneseo Garden Club and Livonia Garden Club contributed funds to help with the recovery efforts. On the May 2009 trip visit to the Katrina Memorial Park in Biloxi, volunteers noticed a southern live oak had died and inquired about replacing the tree. The city and county officials agreed to accept a new tree as a gift to the City of Biloxi. In January 2010, we helped plant a new live oak and dedicated a permanent plaque in the park honoring our volunteers and the friendships that have developed between

Livingston County and Harrison County.

Katrina Story Fades But Recovery Work Continues

Livingston CARES made a commitment to continue working in Harrison County, Mississippi long after the stories faded from the media. Participants in all the service trips have learned about the destruction caused by Katrina and how important volunteer assistance to families and communities has been since the hurricane in 2005. Our initial commitment made in the fall of 2005 was to continue our work for ten years. After celebrating ten years of work on the Gulf Coast of Mississippi in 2016, Livingston CARES extended our volunteer efforts through a partnership with the Biloxi Back Bay Mission that incorporated work in a homeless day shelter, food pantry and soup kitchen as well as construction projects serving homeless and low income families. Although our board was interested in continuing our work on the Gulf Coast, we suspended service trips to the area after our 40th trip in May 2019 to Back Bay Mission in Biloxi.

Grants to Recovery Agencies in Puerto Rico, Florida and Texas

Livingston CARES invited the campus community to donate funds for recovery efforts after the 2017 Hurricanes (Harvey, Irma and Maria), in 2018 after Hurricane Michael, in 2019 after Hurricane Dorian, and in 2020 after Hurricanes Laurel and Delta.. The funds (except for Puerto Rico) were combined and are reported under the General Hurricane Fund in the 2021 Annual Report to the Community that will be published in July 2021. Donors have the option to identify which hurricane or area where they would like their donations to be directed. To date, funds have been used to fund critical needs of our host sites in Puerto Rico, Florida and Texas. We purchased a portable generator (\$500.00) to be used by volunteers at recovery centers in Texas; an electric sheetrock sander (\$459.00) for the recovery center in Big Pine Key, Florida; and a kitchen commercial refrigerator (\$886.43) for use in preparing meals for the volunteers at the Campamento de Mujeres de Patillas Camp in Puerto Rico. We

will continue to work with our host sites to identify projects for possible funding from the Marge Harding Memorial Fund and the matching donations to the Puerto Rico Fund.

Focus on Projects in Livingston County

In 2009, the Livingston CARES Board agreed to look for ways to focus some of our volunteer efforts on Livingston County. A new volunteer effort was initiated in the spring of 2010, which involved seven groups of SUNY Geneseo students, who worked on seven projects in various locations throughout Livingston County, as a part of the new "Geneseo Goes to Town" volunteer day. This project was developed through the civic engagement initiatives of the GOLD leadership program. In 2011, the program was expanded and included 17 student groups that worked on different projects in almost every town in the county. Each year, the goal is to engage students in every town and village in Livingston County. In 2019, Livingston CARES, the Center for Community and Alpha Phi Omega sent teams to several towns in Livingston County. Connecting students to people and organizations throughout the county will expand opportunities for volunteer work and service. We will continue our efforts to develop collaborative programs with other local agencies to help people within the county. Due to COVID-19 and the closing of the campus and social distancing requirements, the 2020 event on Saturday, April 18 was modified and rebranded as Geneseo Cares. The 2021 event also focused on four local projects due to COVID-19 restrictions. See details in the Geneseo Goes to Town Service Day Report.

Haiti Relief and Recovery

In January 2010, the CARES board established a Haiti Relief Fund to assist in recovery efforts. Numerous college organizations and individuals from the campus and community donated monies to this fund. In November 2010, the CARES board also approved a special appeal for more contributions to purchase water purification kits to help stop the cholera epidemic. Donations totaling \$8,255.30 were received and the funds were given to the HOPE Foundation headed by the late Emeriti Professor Rose-Marie Chierici for targeted projects in

Borgne, Haiti. The projects included resettlement of two families in Port au Prince, the purchase of three teacher boxes for use in Haiti, the establishment of a nursery to grow trees for reforestation, and the purchase of over forty water purification kits. Livingston CARES sent funds to the HOPE Foundation to create water storage units at natural springs in the Borgne area of Haiti. In 2019, the Haiti Fund balance of \$707.75 was donated to the HOPE Foundation to use for emergency room supplies at the hospital in Borgne, Haiti.

Project Holding Accounts

In May 2009, the CARES board approved policies and procedures to permit student civic engagement projects to deposit funds with Livingston CARES. One major project, the Ghana Project, was approved to help with education projects in Ghana. The Ghana Project later became recognized as a student organization. In the spring of 2013, \$1500.00 was sent to assist in the building of a school in Besease, Ghana. In March 2013, \$1500.00 was donated from the Ghana fund to build a kindergarten classroom that is attached to a new grade 1-6 building. The new classroom was built for the teacher who originally donated his time to start the school in the village. The Ghana Project students also purchased school supplies to donate to the new classroom. In 2016, \$156.37 worth of school supplies were sent with two group members traveling to Ghana. The remaining balance in the Ghana Project fund was donated in April 2014 to assist the Agogo Presbyterian Hospital in Accra, Ghana with a classroom to educate area families on disease prevention. Several academic departments and the Study Abroad Office at SUNY Geneseo are involved in the Ghana project. In 2011, a second major project was established to assist with the El Sauce, Nicaragua programs that include building schools and microfinance projects. The Las Minita School was built in January of 2012 and the La Flor School was built in 2013. A microfinance project was also created to help women and businesses with loans to establish business projects in the El Sauce area. A current status report on the latest school projects is included in this Annual Report to the Community. A third project was established in

April of 2010 to provide students in the H.E.R.O.S. mentoring program with a depository for fundraising income and expenses associated with the program. Funds raised by the H.E.R.O.S. volunteers are used to support gas reimbursements to volunteers for the trips to the schools. In the fall of 2020, the board approved a project account for the Food Security Advocates that work on food security issues under the direction of Garth Freeman in the Center for Community. The group raised \$450.00 for the Geneseo/Groveland Food Pantry and \$20.00 for the US Fund for UNICEF.

Tornado Relief Fund

In the winter and spring of 2011, the United States experienced a series of violent storms and tornadoes that destroyed entire towns and villages including Joplin, Missouri. Although we made a fundraising appeal to the campus community, only a few contributors responded with donations totaling \$533.00. The CARES board voted to transfer the funds to the Hurricane Sandy Relief fund.

Flood Relief Fund

In early September of 2011, Tropical Storms Irene and Lee devastated several areas of New York State. We established a fund to help student groups with travel expenses on two Saturday trips to the Binghamton and Owego areas. We worked with Sean Phillips (Intervarsity Christian Fellowship), Denice Szafran (Anthropology), Amy Sheldon (Geology), and Brian Sheldon (Livonia Central School) to sponsor a bus work trip on October 15, 2011. Twenty-six students and two faculty members participated in the trip. The expenses for the trip were \$643.79.

Hurricane Sandy Relief Fund

In November 2012, the CARES board established a Hurricane Sandy Relief Fund in response to the devastation of the superstorm in the New York metropolitan area. The college collected \$1675.00 through the Geneseo Foundation to assist with the Livingston CARES Hurricane Sandy Relief efforts. CARES has deposited a total of \$10,282.25 in the fund. Monies have been used to support the volunteer

work trips and to assist agencies that support the recovery efforts. Livingston CARES donated \$1,700.00 to the Bethel United Methodist Church on Staten Island to purchase cots and supplies for housing volunteers, \$1,850.00 to Community United Methodist Church Disaster Relief Center in Massapequa for supplies to assist with housing of volunteers, and \$2,500.00 to the New York Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church for the purchase of construction equipment and supplies for the recovery efforts on the south shore of Long Island. Most recently, Livingston CARES donated \$1,400.00 to St. Bernard's Project to purchase a table saw for use in reconstruction projects. In May 2013, nineteen volunteers worked on Staten Island and in March 2013, sixteen volunteers worked on the south shore of Long Island. The following May, a third work trip with fourteen volunteers worked on Staten Island. In January 2014, seven volunteers worked on Staten Island and in March 2014 fourteen volunteers worked at two locations on Long Island. Seven volunteers also worked on houses on Staten Island in May. In 2015, seven volunteers worked on Staten Island in January. seven volunteers worked on Long Island in March and seven volunteers worked on Staten Island in May. CARES collaborated with the New York Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church on the fourteen work trips to Staten Island/Long Island. In 2016, seven volunteers worked on a home in Brooklyn in January and seven volunteers worked on the same house in March. Six volunteers also worked on two houses in May and all three groups worked under the supervision of Rebuilding Together NYC in collaboration with the New York Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church. In March and May of 2017, six volunteers on each of the two service trips worked under the supervision of St. Bernard's Project (SBP). In March of 2018 and March of 2019, our two teams of six volunteers again worked with SBP on projects related to recovery from Hurricane Sandy. The 2018 and 2019 teams were housed at the Geneseo Red Hook apartment in Brooklyn. In 2020, SBP suspended service projects in New York, but continued to serve families in New Jersey recovering from Hurricane Sandy. Our January 2020 service team of 5 students led by community volunteer Tim Lowmaster stayed at Camp Evans in Wall, NJ and worked with SPB in Ocean County, New Jersey on a house rehabilitation project. Since there are no service agencies working on Sandy projects, the remaining funds will be transferred to our general hurricane recovery fund.

Hurricane Fund

In September of 2017, three major hurricanes devastated large areas of Texas, Florida, the Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico. Livingston CARES responded by creating the 2017 Hurricane Recovery Fund. Announcements to the campus community were made immediately after Henry, Irma and Maria occurred in September. During the period from September 2017 through March 2018, 21 individuals and organizations have contributed \$2,740.52 to the fund. At the Avon Elementary School, Hailey Smith, a fourth grade student, took the initiative to organize a special appeal to help raise money for the recovery efforts and Hailey and the Avon Parent Teacher Association presented a check for \$1,043.41 to the Livingston CARES 2017 Hurricane Fund. These funds have been used to support equipment needed by our host agencies in Texas, Florida, and Puerto Rico, In 2019. Hurricane Dorian devastated the islands of Abaco and Grand Bahama in the Bahamas. We sent an appeal to the campus community for donations and received two from members of the professional staff. We donated \$200.00 to the SBP Dorian Recovery Fund that supports recovery work in the Bahamas. We explored a possible service trip to Abaco Island but decided the trip fees of \$800.00 plus travel wss too expensive for our volunteers. In the fall of 2020. the Lake Charles area of Louisiana was devastated by the Laura and the Delta hurricanes. Livingston CARES created a recovery fund and collected \$530.00 from 13 donors. These funds were donated to the Methodist Louisiana Annual Conference specifically for use in the recovery efforts from Laura and Delta. In May of 2021, four community residents are scheduled to travel on a Livingston CARES service trip to Sulfur, Louisiana to work with the Fuller Center Disaster Rebuilders on homes of low-income families in the area.

Geneseo/Groveland Food Pantry

In the summer of 2017, the Geneseo / Groveland Food Pantry (The Pantry) lost its sponsoring agency when the Livingston County Coalition of Churches ceased operations. The Pantry asked Livingston CARES to become the 501 (c) 3 non-profit parent organization and the board approved a formal agreement between the two organizations. The Pantry maintained its own bank account and financial records. The agreement permitted The Pantry to seek grant funding under the auspices of the tax exempt status of Livingston CARES. In 2019, The Pantry hired a part-time manager to supervise the operations. President Tom Matthews and Treasurer Karen Bailey worked with The Pantry board to engage the services of Direct Payroll for processing the monthly payroll and billing to The Pantry for its services. Livingston CARES is technically the employer and our 2019 tax filing included the Pantry income and expenses. In the fall of 2020, the Pantry board filed the paperwork to become a separate 501 (c) 3 non-profit public charity. The IRS letter granting the tax-exempt status was received in March of 2021. Livingston CARES and the Pantry will file separate tax documents for the 2020 fiscal year. See Deb MacLean's report included on the Pantry in this annual report.

Home Away From Home Respite Program

The Home Away From Home Respite Program (HAFH) serves senior citizens and families with dementia and memory issues at the Geneseo Interfaith Center. HAFH was originally a VISTA project in the Center for Community. In 2017. HAFH needed a sponsoring agency in order to continue operations. Livingston CARES agreed to support the program and assume responsibility for seeking grants and funding for the program. Livingston CARES received a large grant from the Mueller Foundation and smaller, but significant, gifts from the Central Presbyterian Church and an anonymous donor. In August 2018, we conducted a search for a director and hired Sharon Leary to run the program. In 2020, Leary's responsibilities for (HAFH) were transferred to the Center for Community and the HAFH duties, salary and benefits are covered as a part-time state

employee. The Livingston CARES project line for HAFH remains available to provide general funding of the program. A second HAFH project line was established in the summer of 2020 to accept donations to the program as a Millie Pitcher Memorial Fund. Fifteen family and friends of Millie Pitcher, who was one of the original participants in the program, contributed \$1,365.00 to the fund. See more details about the program in Sharon Leary's report included in this annual report..

Livingston CARES COVID-19 Front Line Workers Appreciation Project

In April 2020, the board of directors approved a project to thank front line workers in Livingston County for their service during the unfolding pandemic. Donations from board members and a grant from Wegmans were used to purchase apples, oranges, Hershey's Candy Kisses, Life Savers, individual cheese packets, pizzas, and gift bags. Between April 15 and May 15, volunteers distributed the gifts with Livingston CARES stickers and postcards thanking workers throughout the county to healthcare workers. nursing homes, fire departments, ambulance and police departments, truck drivers and multiple county service agencies. The COVID-19 fund received donations from 23 donors of \$1,143.98 and \$102.10 in food items. We also received a grant (gift card) of \$249.00 from Wegmans. Expenditures from the fund for supplies and good items were \$1,122.43 leaving a balance of \$21.55 in the account. Please see page for the full report.

Livingston CARES Statement of Solidarity with the Black Community

On June 8, 2020, the Board of Directors created and adopted a statment of solidarity with the Black community in repsonse to the murder of Mr. George Floyd and other acts of violence against people of color in America. An excerpt from the Statement says, "As America and the world processes the tragic murder of Mr. George Floyd, and the countless other people of color who have experienced unwarranted violent policing and systemic racism, the board of directors of Livingston CARES is voicing its solidarity with the Black community. We are

moved to speak out and pledge ourselves to action that will help our communities heal through meaningful and systemic change for a more just and equitable society. The statement and action plan is on the home webpage at: http://geneseo.edu/livingston-cares and is included in this report on page

Livingston County Cares for Our Healthcare Workers Thank You Project

As the pandemic continued into December of 2020, the board of directors decided to continue our efforts to thank service workers in healthcare by giving gourmet cookies with a special sticker and thank you note. The original estimate of workers in the county was approximately 800 but research uncovered 2,600 people working at 118 sites throughout the county. Two commercial kitchens agreed to bake the cookies and on March 25-26, 17 volunteer drivers distributed cookies to all the sites throughout the county. A fundraising effort in February generated \$2,965.00 in cash and checks from 28 donors and 7 organizations and businesses and an additional \$593.39 in cookie dough donations.for a total of \$3,560.39. Expenses for cookie dough, stickers for cookies, gift bags, and thank you ads in the Pennysaver and on the Livingston County News Facebook pages totaled \$3,104.21 leaving a positive net balance for the project of \$456.18. Please see page 20 for the full report.



Home Away From Home Respite Center Sharon Leary, Program Coordinator

Report on Activities – 2021-2022

Home Away from Home Respite Center is a respite care program that serves the needs of caregivers and their loved ones dealing with mild to moderate memory loss due to cognitive diseases. The program is primarily run by trained SUNY Geneseo student volunteers and focuses on three components: relieving caregiver stress, enhancing the lives of individuals living with memory-related diseases, and promoting intergenerational contact between local senior citizens and college-aged students to enrich the lives of both generations.



Home Away From Home was very successful during the 2021-2022 program year. Serving approximately ten families from Livingston County with a staff consisting of one Program Coordinator, three student interns, and 28 student volunteers. In addition to the usual INTD Internships, we have teamed up with faculty in both the Psychology and Neuroscience departments to offer opportunities for their students to gain practical experience in our program while taking classes pertaining to cognitive diseases. Six students are currently taking part in these partnerships.

Our biweekly programs during the academic year provide our clients with an intergenerational opportunity to interact with SUNY Geneseo students and engage in appropriate physical and mental activities while providing their caregivers an opportunity to rest from and recharge for the challenges of supporting their loved one with the memory-related diseases. Each meeting is under the supervision of the Program Coordinator and is staffed by a sufficient number of student volunteers so that every client is assured of individual attention and interaction. Our facility in the Interfaith Center, just off the SUNY Geneseo campus, is spacious and easily accessible for individuals of all abilities.

The Home Away from Home Respite Center is fortunate to have secured sufficient grant, in-kind, and participant support in the past to provide a stable financial base. This allows us to

provide our services to our client families on a pay-as-you-can basis. We ask that each family make a weekly contribution to offset our expenses, but we are proud that we never deny services to anyone based on their ability to contribute financially to the program. Seeking sufficient funds to maintain this level of financial security is an ongoing agenda for the Program Coordinator.

The support provided by Livingston County Cares, Inc. allows our respite program to offer our much needed quality services to the residents of Livingston County. Currently there are very few out-of-home respite programs in the county, so we provide a unique and needed service to our client base. Our intergenerational approach to providing respite care is effective for our clients and caregivers and is eye-opening for our volunteers. Everyone benefits and our model has a proven track record of providing excellent care in a financially sustainable manner.



Food Security Advocates Year-End Report 2021-22 Academic Year

Food Security Advocates

Food Security Advocates has shown consistent growth in its membership by 40% over the past 2021-2022 academic year. We have added a treasurer position to our eBoard and have expanded to serve as the umbrella organization for The Pantry at Geneseo and the Community Garden Coalition (listed below). In the Fall 2021 semester, we organized 11 events and engaged 40 volunteers. This Spring 2022 semester, we have hosted 3 events to date and engaged 17 volunteers with a large event quickly approaching at the end of April. We have prioritized our Backpack Lunches for Kids Program this year and have packed 414 bags total to distribute to 3 local primary and secondary schools. As a result, we have implemented a running inventory system to more efficiently allocate our donations.

In the Fall 2021 semester, we raised about \$600 in cash and Venmo donations through our fundraising activities and collaboration with Sisters Making A Change (SMAC) in addition to a \$300 grant from Genny Thrift over the 2022 Winter Intersession. The Spring 2022 semester had expenses for a logo sticker purchase of \$126 and the purchase of a \$100 gift card as the prize reward for the very successful Battle of the Greeks food drive competition, which brought in about 1,200 donations for our growing Backpack Lunches for Kids Program.

The Pantry at Geneseo

Students who chose to use The Pantry at Geneseo fill out an online form to receive a prepackaged bag of food once per month. The bags include nonperishables and students are able to indicate if they would like eggs, dairy, and / or meat. The student interns then email the students with a time, date, and unique identifier code that they use to pick up their bag of food from MacVittie College Union Room 114 at posted times throughout the week.

Throughout the 2021-2022 academic year, we had a total of 51 requests submitted through the online request form. Of those requests, 8 individuals (15.69%) utilized the service more than one time.

In the fall '21 semester, 23 requests were filled, with two individuals using the pantry more than one time. One student used the service three times and one used it twice.

In the spring '22 semester 28 students utilized the service, a 21% increase over the previous semester. Out of the 28 requests, five students utilized the service more than once. Three students used the pantry three times and two used the service twice

In order to ensure privacy and a sense of comfort, we ask patrons of the pantry if they are concerned with anonymity. This year 22 percent indicated that they were concerned with maintaining anonymity. Last

Fall 2021 semester, there were 30 GOLD Leader mentors and 30 Student Athlete mentors who helped facilitate pickups. This Spring 2022 semester, we have 33 GOLD Leader mentors and 39 Student Athlete mentors.

To finance this service, we partner with the Geneseo/Groveland Emergency Food Pantry on Center Street in Geneseo who provides us perishable and nonperishable products in addition to some produce from local farms and the campus's E-Garden. Additionally, we received a \$100 private donation in the Fall, a \$300 grant from Genny Thrift, and approximately 50 physical donations this Spring semester. Our primary expenditures are two refrigerator-freezer units that were covered by an earlier grant from SUNY, and our reusable bags which amounts to \$1,094 in total.

Community Garden Coalition

The Community Garden Coalition has two active interns: Maya Pellitteri, Junior Psychology major, and Holly Moore, Senior Communication major. We work alongside the Food Security Advocates and support their projects as well as other relevant projects and groups on campus.

On March 31st, the Community Garden Coalition hosted one event in collaboration with the Japanese Culture Club (Ramen Night). Over 100 students attended the event with 9 student volunteers from Food Security Advocates, AOP, Sustainability Office and the Japanese Culture Club. We received \$15 and a large amount of canned food donations from attendees. The funding came from the Geneseo Foundation through the Office of Student Volunteerism and Community Engagement. At this event we created a poster on Japanese nutrition and dietary education. We also offered compost buckets at the event and collected 8.7 kilograms of food waste.

The Community Garden Coalition increased outreach with several local farms. In the Fall semester, we received fresh donations from Merrimac Farms to go towards The Pantry on campus. Three farms (Fallbrook Farms, Blackheart Farms, True North Farms) have been in attendance of our general meetings, on Zoom, during both semesters. In the Spring, we reached out to Shannon Beatrice Chanler at Fallbrook Farms to indicate our interest in helping out with mushroom logging and trail building. We connected a bit too late in the semester to find it feasible to recruit volunteers and plan a visit, but there were many other groups on campus who took trips out to Fallbrook Farms. We also reached out to Katie Porter Metzler from Porter Farms who said they could use volunteers when it got warmer out for planting and transplanting. These connections have been established for future semesters and hopefully trips can be planned at the beginning of the semester.

Along with the connections we grew our Instagram following and publicity via the Lamron. On Instagram we now have 8 posts, 132 followers, and are following 167. We post events, food security and nutrition information, and promote other important clubs and events going on around campus. The Lamron wrote an article about the Community Garden Coalition and JCC collaboration for Ramen Night.

We tabled at the Volunteer Fair and received a decent amount of interest. From this we collected a list of interested individuals to start a mailing list. We got 26 people who signed the interest form. We plan on tabling on Earth Day in the Union with information about food resources on campus and facts about what we do, how to get involved, with some t-shirt giveaways.

We have helped out planning the Hunger Banquet this upcoming Sunday, April 25th with FSA. We helped plan, research, and promote the event.

Gumbo to Go Report 2021-2022

Prepared by Tom Matthews

During the 2021-2022 academic year, after a hiatus of two years, Livingston CARES again offered two Gumbo to Go Dinners. Board members were excited to get back in the kitchen and work with our new chef, George Hockenbrueckner, on both November 4, 2021 and again on April 7, 2022. Our November dinner income from 215 tickets and donations was \$1,2573.00 and our expense was \$1,077.69 leaving a positive balance of \$1,495.31 for the scholarship (grants) fund for assisting students with travel expenses for service trips.

Our April 7 dinner Gumbo, according to our gumbo consumers, was one of the most delicious, if not the best ever Gumbo. Thank you to George Hockenbrueckner for the Gumbo and to Donna Kennison for making the pralines. Thank you also to the board members who helped with both dinners: Brenda Donohue, Craig Bolesky (donations), Garth Freeman, Holly Harvey, Ken Kallio,



Eddie Lee, Tom Matthews, and Nick Palumbo, And thank you to dozens of student and community volunteers who helped prepare food and serve our consumers. The April 7 dinner income from 164 tickets and donations was \$1,963.00 and our expense was \$1,124.09 leaving a positive balance of \$838.99 for the scholarship (grants) fund for student service trip expenses. Although our ticket sales in April were down by 50 consumers, Livingston CARES is committed to continuing the fall and spring dinners in the future with more advertising and direct ticket sales to patrons and members of Livingston CARES.

Geneseo Goes to Town Report 2022

Prepared by Garth Freeman

On Saturday, April 23, 2021 over 100 students participated in the annual Geneseo Goes to Town, a Livingston CARES supported day of service that seeks to engage students from Geneseo in volunteerism across our region. With a healthy turnout and cooperating weather, our volunteers supported nine local organizations with activities that helped prepare for spring in Geneseo.

Some of the projects saw volunteers raking leaves and picking up sticks and debris at the historic Temple Hill Cemetery, picking up trash and beautifying the grounds at the Geneseo InterFaith Center, and painting the sculptured, metal poppies that are part of the Livingston County Veterans Service Agency monument on Route 63. A large contingent of athletes led by the men's soccer team took part in a clean up of the Court St. area in the Village. These hands-on activities provided opportunities for our students to engage with and learn about our community and the change leaders working to make Geneseo a vibrant

and inclusive place to live, work, and go to school.



Many thanks to the individual students who participated in the event as well as members of the men's soccer team, Student Senate, Phi Lambda Chi, Sigma Delta Tau- Gamma Chi, Phi Kappa Pi (Clio), and the Rotaract Club. Special thanks to Sarah McLean, Director of the Interfaith Center, Lee Ann Mumbach, caretaker at Temple Hill, Howard Stewart from Livingston County Habitat for Humanity, Jason Skinner from Livingston County Veterans Services, Tom Wilson from the Central Presbyterian Church, Ashley Comeau from Village of Avon Parks, Tess McKeel from Goodwill, and Carmen Rollinson from the Diocese of Rochester, and the Geneseo Department of Public Works. Without their commitment to our community this project would not have been possible.

We look forward to building on the success of this year's event for next year. We welcome interest from community members

who have ideas for projects in their neighborhood, can support CARES with planning, logistics, and site visits, or who want to volunteer themselves next year!

Linking Hands for Learning Report

Prepared by Robert Lupisella

Los Jobitos Opens New School

Linking Hands for Learning once again raised the necessary funds to construct an elementary school in a rural Nicaraguan village. The beneficiary this year was the community of Los Jobitos. The construction began in July of 2021, and this past Fall, they celebrated the completion of the construction, and the opening of their new school. A celebration was held which included special presentations, music, dancing, and a piñata. The community is located twenty kilometers from El Sauce, Nicaragua. Approximately thirty families live in this community, which has no electric energy or potable water. The construction of this school building added space for students, as there were already two structures on the site, serving grades 1-4. The previous space was not nearly enough for the students. Those children who attended in grades 5-6 were utilizing a tent (pictured below), which was neither comfortable or safe. Roughly seventy children go to school in Los Jobitos, many of which come from the surrounding communities of La Chocoya and La Orqueta. The cost to construct this new school building was \$16,624. Linking Hands for Learning thanks Livingston County Cares for their continued support and assistance with these efforts.









Linking Hands for Learning is appreciative of the support provided by Livingston County Cares as their financial partner in the United States. You can visit www.linkinghandsforlearning.com to learn more about life in the mountains of Nicaragua and what schools are like there.

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Wolf Family Dentistry

Livingston CARES Board of Directors 2021-2022

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Livingston CARES Trips History

Hurricane Katrina Service Trips				
Dates	Total Participants	Students	Community Members	Faculty/ Staff/ Alumni
January 4-10, 2006	33	14	15	4
March 10-18, 2006	55	51	0	4
May 21-27, 2006	8	5	2	1
January 7-13, 2007	20	13	4	3
February 18-24, 2007	23	0	23	0
March 10-17, 2007	49	44	1	4
May 16-23, 2007	16	10	0	6
January 5-12, 2008	25	19	3	3
February 16-23, 2008	10	0	9	1
March 14-22, 2008	55	51	0	4
May 18-24, 2008	15	8	5	2
January 3-10, 2009	25	13	6	6
February 15-21, 2009	11	0	11	0
March 14-21, 2009	55	52	0	3
May 17-23 2009	28	23	2	3
January 3-10, 2010	29	18	6	5
March 13-20, 2010	59	54	0	5
May 16-22, 2010	20	17	1	2
January 9-15, 2011	27	20	3	4

March 13-19, 2011	28	24	0	4
May 15-21, 2011	27	20	2	5
January 8-15, 2012	28	23	3	2
March 13-19, 2012	28	24	0	4
May 13-19, 2012	27	22	3	2
January 13-19, 2013	21	18	2	1
March 11-17. 2013	28	24	0	4
May 19-25, 2013	14	12	0	2
January 12-18,2014	20	18	0	2
March 16-22, 2014	21	18	1	2
May 19-24, 2014	13	11	1	1
January 11-17,2015	21	16	1	4
March 15-21, 2015	21	18	1	2
May 17-23, 2015	13	11	1	1
January 10-19,2016	22	17	1	4
March 13-19, 2016	21	18	0	3
May 15-21, 2016	13	11	1	1
January 8-14, 2017	20	17	1	2
March 11-18, 2017	14	12	0	2
May 14-20, 2017	5	4	1	0
March 16-23, 2019	5	4	1	0
40 Trips	973	754	111	108

Hurricane Relief and Recovery Trips Since 2018 Total Community Faculty/ Staff/ Dates Students **Participants** Members Alumni January 7-13, 2018 TX January 7-13, 2018 FL March 10-17, 2018 PR March 11-17, 2018 TX March 11-17, 2018 FL May 14-29, 2018 PR January 12-19, 2019 FL Keys January 12-19, 2019 PR January 12-19, 2019 TX March 16-23, 2019 FL Keys March 16-23, 2019 FL Panhandle March 16-23, 2019 PR May 18-25, 2019 FL Keys May 18-25, 2019 PR January 11-18, 2020 Tampa, FL

15 Trips

Hurricane Sandy Trips to Brooklyn, Staten Island & Long Island and New Jersey

Dates	Total Participants	Students	Community Members	Faculty/ Staff/ Alumni
January 13-19, 2013	19	12	2	5
March 12-17, 2013	16	8	6	2
May 19-25, 2013	7	5	1	1
January 12-18, 2014	7	6	1	0
March 16-22, 2014	14	7	6	1
May 18-24, 2014	7	6	0	1
January 11-17,2015	7	6	0	1
March 15-21, 2015	7	6	1	0
May 17-23, 2015	6	5	0	1
January 10-19, 2016	7	6	0	1
March 13-19, 2016	7	6	0	1
May 15-21, 2016	5	4	0	1
March 12-18, 2017	6	5	0	1
May 14-20, 2017	6	5	1	0
March 11-17 2018	6	5	1	0
March 16-23, 2019	5	4	1	0
January 12-18, 2020	6	5	1	0
17 Trips	138	101	21	16

Give Kids the World

Dates	Total Participants	Students	Community Members	Faculty/ Staff/ Alumni
January 10-16, 2010	13	12	0	1

January 10-16, 2011	14	12	1	1
March 11-17. 2012	14	13	0	1
March 11-17, 2013	14	13	0	1
March 16-22, 2014	14	13	0	1
March 14-21, 2015	14	13	0	1
March 13-19, 2016	14	13	0	1
March 12-18, 2017	14	13	0	1
March 10-17, 2018	14	13	0	1
March 16-23, 2019	14	13	0	1
10 Trips	139	128	1	10
Other Trips				
			_	
Dates	Total Participants	Students	Community Members	Faculty/ Staff/ Alumni
		Students 20		
	Participants		Members	Alumni
2008 March-Ohio River Outing Club Trip	Participants 20	20	Members 0	Alumni 0
2008 March-Ohio River Outing Club Trip 2012 Sept 21-Southern Tier Flood Relief	Participants 20 24	20	0 0	Alumni 0 2
2008 March-Ohio River Outing Club Trip 2012 Sept 21-Southern Tier Flood Relief 2014 Weekend of Service in Rochester	Participants 20 24 10	20 22 10	0 0 0	0 2 0
2008 March-Ohio River Outing Club Trip 2012 Sept 21-Southern Tier Flood Relief 2014 Weekend of Service in Rochester 2015 Mar 15-21 Stony Point, NY 2015 Feb 20-22-Weekend of Service in	20 24 10 5	20 22 10 5	0 0 0 0	0 2 0 0
2008 March-Ohio River Outing Club Trip 2012 Sept 21-Southern Tier Flood Relief 2014 Weekend of Service in Rochester 2015 Mar 15-21 Stony Point, NY 2015 Feb 20-22-Weekend of Service in Rochester 2016 Feb 19-21 Weekend of Service in	20 24 10 5	20 22 10 5	0 0 0 0 0 0	0 2 0 0 0
2008 March-Ohio River Outing Club Trip 2012 Sept 21-Southern Tier Flood Relief 2014 Weekend of Service in Rochester 2015 Mar 15-21 Stony Point, NY 2015 Feb 20-22-Weekend of Service in Rochester 2016 Feb 19-21 Weekend of Service in Rochester 2017 Feb 24-26 Weekend of Service in	20 24 10 5 7 8	20 22 10 5 7	0 0 0 0 0 0 0	0 2 0 0 0 0

Summary of All Livingston Cares Trips January, 2006 - May, 2020				
	Total Participants	Students	Community Members	Faculty/ Staff/ Alumni
TOTAL: 90 Trips	1,508	1,200	156	157

Kudos and Thanks

Livingston CARES wishes to thank the following individuals and organizations for their special contributions and assistance with the trips, projects, and programs.

- Karen Bailey for her continuing support and service as the Livingston CARES Treasurer, and her work with our new Quickbooks online accounting software.
- Nick Palumbo for his service as Vice-President of Livingston CARES and for his
 oversight, systemization, and coordination of the five Zoom reunions with alumni and
 past service trip volunteers, and for his continuing work in developing a culture of
 leadership and service for Livingston CARES..
- Garth Freeman for serving as Livingston CARES Secretary and for his numerous contributions to the effective running of meetings and events, for supervising the student interns, for his leadership and support of students goals of volunteering and service
- Jordan Moore and Grayson Dailey for their work as the Livingston CARES interns in the Office of Student Volunteerism and Community Engagement. Extra special thanks to Jordan for creating and sharing the monthly newsletters and for drafting the Community drafting the 2022 Annual Report
- ROC The Day contributors to our general fund: Anne Baldwin, Julie
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 and Tom & Nancy Wilson
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- President Denise Battles and the College for support of the Livingston CARES programs
- Michael Taberski, Vice President, Student and Campus Life for enabling Livingston
 CARES to do its work and for the support from the Division of Student and Campus Life
 Leonard Sancilio, Dean of Students and the Center for Community staff members for
 support and resources to help create and sustain Livingston CARES projects and
 programs

- Julie Matthews for her advice and preparation of our financial statements and tax documents
- Geneseo United Methodist Church for their annual donation to support Livingston CARES
- SUNY Geneseo and Livingston County and the surrounding communities for supporting our mission
- Individuals and community organizations for donating funds to support Livingston CARES programs and affiliated public charities
- Donna Kennison for making the pralines, board members, staff, faculty, and student volunteers, and patrons to our two Gumbo to Go Fundraisers
- All of our 1,508 volunteers, including 1,200 students, 156 community residents, and 157 faculty/staff/alumni and trip leaders who have participated in 90 Livingston CARES service trips