



Community Foundation of Tompkins County

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THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION WELCOMES FOUR NEW FUNDS

Ithaca, NY - The Community Foundation of Tompkins County is pleased to announce the addition of four new funds to the growing family of Directed Funds and Special Funds: *The DeWitt Historical Society of Tompkins County Fund*, *the Discovery Trail Partnership Fund*, *the Ithaca Public Education Initiative (IPEI) Fund*, and *the Village Camp Program Funds*. Directed Funds and Special Funds operate independently of the Community Foundation to support projects that are consistent with the missions and goals defined by the organization's Fund Advisory Groups.

By partnering with the Community Foundation, each organization benefits from the Foundation's role as fiscal home for their fund. Through the Foundation the groups also broaden their opportunities for heightening public awareness of their respective missions and activities. The Community Foundation is proud to support joint commitments to improving the quality of life for those who live and work in Tompkins County.

The DeWitt Historical Society of Tompkins County Fund

The DeWitt Historical Society is the center for history learning in Tompkins County and serves as the steward of Tompkins County's historical resources. By providing public access to well preserved collections, the DeWitt Historical Society opens the door for individuals and the community to shape their future by examining the past.

The Discovery Trail Partnership Fund

The Discovery Trail Partnership, a group of organizations engaged in informal education in Tompkins County, New York, promotes public awareness and understanding of the connections among art, history, literature, science, and the natural world. *Discovery Trail Partnership members include: Cayuga Nature Center, Cornell Lab of Ornithology, Cornell Plantations, Johnson Museum of Art, PRI's Museum of the Earth, Sciencenter, Tompkins County Museum, and the Tompkins County Public Library.*

The Ithaca Public Education Initiative (IPEI) Fund

The Ithaca Public Education Initiative is committed to strengthening Ithaca's public schools by encouraging community partnerships and collaboration. IPEI makes grants to teachers and student groups, and is the convener of the IPEI Roundtable, which provides an organizational home for community education groups working to support Ithaca's public schools. IPEI, a 501(c)3 organization, is an advocate for the importance of excellence in public education for every student.

Village Camp Program Funds

The Village Camp Funds will be used to generate scholarships for children with limited financial resources to attend Village Camp and other Earth Connections Programs. Village Camp and Earth Connections Programs are designed to *re-connect* children to the earth through hands-on outdoor living and survival skills, and earth exploration activities. Scholarships may be distributed through organizations such as (but not limited to) the Greater Ithaca Activities Center, Southside Community Center, and Ithaca Community Recovery.

