

PRESS RELEASE



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**Community Foundation and Assemblyman Robert Reilly to Announce  
2010 Grant Recipients from the Assemblyman Robert Reilly Salary Fund**

**Press Conference: Wednesday, February 17 at 10am;  
Room 130 of the Legislative Office Building**

Albany, NY (February 16, 2010) – Since he began his tenure in the New York State Assembly, Assemblyman Bob Reilly (D-Loudonville) has donated his salary to local charities, and 2010 is no exception. Assemblyman Reilly will hold a press conference tomorrow (Wednesday, February 17) at 10am in Room 130 of the Legislative Office Building to honor the recipients of the Assemblyman Robert Reilly Salary Fund, which has donated over \$335,000 to local organizations since 2005.

“Being able to help these organizations continue to provide valuable services to our community is my top priority,” Reilly said. “During these tough economic times our friends and neighbors are depending on service organizations and charitable groups more than ever. These programs do so much for the Capital District that we could never adequately repay them. The Salary Fund allows these organizations the ability to continue to help others.”

The 2010 recipients are:

**Albany County Opportunity, Inc.** – Colonie Head Start Center  
**Albany Institute of History & Art** – Hudson River Panorama  
**Alzheimer’s Association of Northeastern New York** – The AEC’s of Caregiving  
**American Red Cross of Northeastern New York** – Be Red Cross Ready  
**Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Capital Region** – Improving Children’s Lives Through Mentoring  
**Capital Region Action Against Breast Cancer** – LEAP for Wellness

**CAPTAIN Youth & Family Services, Inc.** – CAPTAIN Bike Works  
**Domestic Violence / Rape Crisis Services - Saratoga** – Housing and Employment Initiatives to Support Economic Self-Sufficiency  
**Ellis Hospital Foundation** – Sugar Free Gang Kids Kamp  
**Families Together in Albany County**  
**Family and Children’s Service of the Capital Region** – United Way 2-1-1 of Northeastern NY  
**Lake George Opera Festival Association** – Opera-to-Go Education Program  
**Legal Aid Society of Northeastern New York, Inc.** – Foreclosure Prevention Project  
**Peppertree Rescue, Inc.** – Assisting Pets and Owners in Crisis  
**Saratoga P.L.A.N.** – Zim Smith Trail Corridor Linkage  
**Senior Services of Albany** – Meals on Wheels  
**Shenendehowa Senior Citizens Center** – CareLinks Community Caregivers  
**Times Union Classroom Enrichment Program**

The Assemblyman Robert Reilly Salary Fund is a joint venture between the Community Foundation for the Greater Capital Region, a committee of local citizens, and Assemblyman Bob Reilly. They have been accepting applications over the past year for grants up to \$10,000 from local organizations in Colonie, Clifton Park and Halfmoon. Together, through a formal process, the Community Foundation and local committee determined the awardees and amounts. Assemblyman Reilly receives no tax benefits from his donations.

“I’ve learned that when you give back to local programs, everybody wins,” Reilly said. “Whether it’s enhancing volunteerism, helping to fund infrastructure or simply providing new sports equipment, these donations are able to help various organizations achieve their goals and in turn, better serve our community.”

**For quotes from some of this year’s grant recipients, please see pages 3 – 5.**

The Community Foundation for the Greater Capital Region.

The Community Foundation has a strong reputation for responsible management of the funds that are entrusted to it by donors. It manages nearly 340 charitable funds and helps individuals, families, businesses, and organizations fulfill their philanthropic intent. The funds are invested and their income is used to meet the changing needs of our community.

For four decades, the Community Foundation has matched people who care with the issues that matter to them. The Foundation has worked with donors to distribute over \$32 million in grants since its inception. By attracting charitable endowments both large and small, maximizing benefits to donors, making effective grants, and providing leadership to address community needs the Foundation has established itself as The Regional Center for Philanthropy and our community’s permanent endowment.

*For more information on The Community Foundation for the Greater Capital Region call 518-446-9638.*

*The Albany Institute of History & Art is thrilled and grateful to be named a recipient of a grant from the Community Foundation for the Greater Capital Region's Assemblyman Robert Reilly Salary Fund. The timing of this grant coincides perfectly with the Institute's recent decision to extend our extremely popular Quadricentennial exhibit, Hudson River Panorama: 400 Years of History, Art, and Culture, through the end of 2010. As a result of the grant, 200 students from throughout the Capital District will receive a distinctive cultural and educational experience based on our regional history, and their teachers will receive curriculum-development assistance and teaching resources designed to make the students' experience more meaningful.*

Steven Ricci  
Director of Public Relations and Marketing  
Albany Institute of History & Art

*We are grateful to Assemblyman Reilly and the committee that chose to award us this grant. The funds will help us strengthen our ability to serve the people who really need our support in the 109<sup>th</sup> Assembly district.*

David Gregoire  
Executive Director  
Alzheimer's Association of Northeastern New York

*This grant will help us provide free emergency preparedness training for more than 100 senior citizens through the 'Be Red Cross Ready' program. With the support we have received from Assemblyman Reilly's Salary Fund, we will teach our seniors how to stay informed, assemble emergency supply kits, and design plans of action to ensure their safety and security in case of a disaster.*

*Thanks so much for this generous grant!*

Kimmy Tavarez  
Development Assistant  
American Red Cross of Northeastern New York

*Our vital work is made possible through extensive collaboration and support from numerous community partners. Support from the Assemblyman Robert Reilly Salary Fund will help Big Brothers Big Sisters (BBBS) make a measurable impact in our community by helping children reach their potential. In 2009, 85% of children served by BBBS showed improved self-confidence; 79% improved their academic performance; 81% improved their relationships with their families; and 73% had a better sense of the future.*

Natasha Pernicka  
Chief Executive Officer  
Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Capital Region

*The Robert Reilly Salary Fund will help CAPTAIN Youth and Family Services provide new and refurbished bicycles, locks and helmets to youth from low-income families, giving them the means to get to a job, recreational and social opportunities and civic events. The goal of the program is to enable youth to become engaged in their community by helping them with access to needed services and core developmental life pursuits.*

Mr. Michael Daugherty  
Chief Executive Officer  
CAPTAIN Youth & Family Services, Inc.

*Thanks to this generous donation from Assemblyman Reilly, we will be able to provide teachers and students in both Colonie school districts and in Shenendehowa with newspapers and other learning tools. Teachers consistently tell us that having a newspaper in their classroom not only increases students' test scores, but also helps them become more active citizens as they get older.*

Greg Stapleton  
Director, Classroom Enrichment Program  
Times Union

*Far too often women remain in abusive homes because of simple economics.... they can't afford to leave. The funds from the Assemblyman Robert Reilly Fund will enable DVRC to teach women the skills they need to become financially self-sufficient and end abuse. Even more importantly, these funds will help us to launch a financial literacy program for teens, reducing the chance that they will ever feel trapped in an abusive relationship due to financial need.*

Maggie Fronk  
Executive Director  
Domestic Violence and Rape Crisis Services of Saratoga County

*Assemblyman's Reilly's investment will directly help hundreds of people maintain their housing, health and finances in the Greater Capital Region through provision of the 2-1-1 information and Referral Services.*

Keith Pickett  
Executive Director  
Family and Services of the Capital Region

*Families Together at the Colonie Outreach Center provides information, referral and advocacy for families facing challenges when confronted with mental health issues, substance abuse, economic stress and other problems. We are grateful to Assemblyman Reilly for supporting our mission to help the families of Colonie through the generosity of his grant.*

Susan Bredice  
Families Together in Albany

*Lake George Opera at Saratoga is honored to have received a grant from Assemblyman Reilly's Salary Fund. The funds will be used to assist in bringing the magical world of opera to regional elementary schools and allow the Company to perform free of charge at local public venues. Assemblyman Reilly has consistently demonstrated his commitment to the community and to educating the youth of tomorrow.*

Elizabeth Giblin  
Director of Development & Marketing  
Lake George Opera at Saratoga

*Peppertree Rescue's mission is to find homes for dogs of all breeds and ages who have a "Golden" temperament and who are in urgent need. Owners' financial pressures, loss of their homes, and military deployment are only some of the reasons we are contacted many times a week by desperate dog owners and overflowing shelters in the Capital District and beyond.*

*Thank you so much for this grant!*

MaryEllen Grimaldi  
Peppertree Rescue

*This grant will enable Saratoga P.L.A.N. to work with property owners and our partners to find the best solution for filling in the gaps of the Zim Smith Trail between Ballston Spa and Mechanicville. The Zim Smith Trail will offer over 11 miles of public access for recreation and transportation for hikers, bicyclists, horseback riders, snowmobilers, cross-country skiers, and other users through the towns of Ballston, Malta, and Halfmoon. We are very grateful for this boost from Assemblyman Robert Reilly."*

Maria Trabka  
Executive Director  
Saratoga P.L.A.N.

*Senior Services of Albany is proud to be a recipient of a grant from the Assemblyman Robert Reilly Salary Fund. These funds will allow us to continue to provide nutritious home-delivered meals to seniors throughout the capital region.*

Donna M. Vancavage  
Director of Development  
Senior Services of Albany

*Assemblyman Reilly's generous contribution to Care Links from his Salary Fund will enable us to recruit the volunteers we need to continue to make a difference in the lives of hundreds of older persons and their caregivers in Southern Saratoga County. It positions us to expand and link additional families and their caregivers in need with support from volunteers who care.*

Carole Silvera  
Program Director, Care Links  
Shenendehowa Senior Citizens Center