



STRATTON COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

EVERY CHILD DESERVES A STRONG FOUNDATION

Our Pillars of Strength

Vermont is still recovering from the pandemic. People are living on the edge, stuck in survival mode, and struggling to meet their daily needs.

More than 12,000 Vermont children are living in poverty. This is what drives us.



24 Hours of Stratton Supports All We Do

The 11th Annual 24 Hours of Stratton is on March 18 & 19 at Stratton Mountain Resort. This signature ski and snowboard event is not just *Snow Much of a Good Thing*, it's our most important

fundraiser of the year! Why? Because it supports *everything* we do: all our programs and initiatives benefit from this powerful weekend of fun & camaraderie. Our Mission is to address the challenges that stand between a child in need and the opportunity to be healthy, safe, and educated. Pick a team or pick an athlete and support the cause!

Support Our Overall Mission: Donate to the 24 Hours of Stratton

THANK YOU
to all our 2023
24 Hours of Stratton
Sponsors!



Oral Health
National Children's Dental

Mental Health
The Nathan M. Carreira

Health Month



Fisher Elementary students proudly displaying their dental kits

February is National Children's Dental Health Month and we have partnered with [802 Smiles](#), [North Star](#), and the [Southern Vermont Area Health Education Center](#) to provide in-school dental hygiene and prevention to 200 children in high poverty areas, and distribute 2,000 dental kits and educational materials to schools across our service area. The Stratton Community Foundation is in the powerful position to influence the overall well-being, academic performance, self-esteem and quality of life for the children of VT.



A hard-working volunteer helping to organize the distribution of 2,000 dental kits for 2023

[Learn More about All Our Programs & Initiatives](#)

Endowment Fund



Junior Ambassadors assembling Valentine's Day Candygrams to promote positive mental health

The Nathan M. Carreira Endowment Fund was established in loving memory of Nathan, who took his life when he was 15 years old (2003-2018). Proceeds from the annual [#shred4nate](#) alpine race, raffle, and donations to support youth mental health and suicide prevention are dedicated to the Fund, which provides Peer-to-Peer Mentorships, Mental Health First Aid Training, Early Substance Abuse Intervention, and more. We proudly work with partners like the [Center for Health and Learning](#).



Learn more about Nathan M. Carreira Endowment Fund by clicking on the image of Nate, above

[Enter the #Shred4Nate Raffle to Win Great Prizes!](#)

Hunger

Food & Grocery
Cards

Education

Experiential Learning
Grants

Basic Necessities

Head-to-Toe



2 out of every 5 Vermonters are experiencing hunger and food insecurity, which means we will continue to work with our many local partners like the **Community Food Cupboard of Manchester** and **Southwestern Vermont Medical Center** to make a significant change.

We are thrilled to announce that hundreds of grocery cards continue to reach those who are struggling to provide for their families facing difficult life decisions about whether to buy medicine, utilities or purchase necessities.

Grocery cards are helping families with children in hospitals and unable to afford for both food and gas; for single mothers living paycheck to paycheck. For the seniors raising their grandchildren, the struggle to pay bills is ever present.

After school meals, weekend backpacks and farm to school programs are critically necessary.



The 'opportunity gap' refers to how the circumstance in which people are born determines their opportunities in life and affects their chances to achieve the best of their potential. Children living in poverty tend to have fewer resources at home and at school, which is a major issue within our small, rural and isolated communities.

We recently awarded \$17,000 in Experiential Learning Grants to the **Jamaica Village School**, **Leland & Gray Middle-High School**, and the **Townshend School** for their students to have the opportunity for educational experiences, expanding the small world around them.

Field trips, residencies, artistic performances, and outdoor experiences are examples of the types of enrichment made possible through the Stratton Community Foundation.

We have given kids their first book, their first new pair of shoes, their first chance...thanks to you!



You can see the joy in this child's face- he is

having a blast in the snow, feeling safe and warm in his new winter gear, thanks to the many donations and the matching grant from the **Alterra Mountain Company Foundation**.

Head-to-Toe is a transformational program that has helped hundreds of children, providing the essentials they need to be warm, to learn, maintain healthy habits, and overcome the stigma of what their parents can't afford. Thanks to partners like **Operation Warm**, **Kamik**, **Smartwool**, **Bombas** and **Shoes That Fit**, we work to provide these essentials to families in need. We look forward to the next phase of the program with our spring sneaker distribution to 600 children.

"You continue to better the lives of our children and families. Thank you."

"Every Child Deserves a Strong Foundation"

A New Look & Presence at Stratton

We are sporting a new logo and we couldn't be happier to share it. Every day, we are inspired to be a strong foundation for children and



families in need, from birth to graduation, helping to shape the confidence they need to be happy, successful adults. The new logo represents our passion to support and empower children in our community as they grow.

One teen writes "Look how far I've come, because of you...thanks to you."

To that end, we are leading in forming partnerships so that critical services are provided in our community, building our foundation of support even stronger. We thank each and every partner mentioned in this newsletter, in our social media, and on our website.

Here's another exciting look...on wheels!

Please be sure to check out the NEW Stratton Community Foundation van at the Stratton Mountain Resort. It's in action now, shuttling between the Resort and the Black Bear Lodge for years to come.



You can see it in person and take a ride at one of our upcoming events in March, like [#shred4nate](#) (March 5) or [24 Hours of Stratton](#) (March 18 & 19), or any time you happen to be hitting the slopes. Thank you to the [Stratton Mountain Resort](#) for partnering with us on another great collaboration. See you on the Mountain!

To learn more,
please visit us at:

strattonfoundation.org



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