

# STRATTON COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

EVERY CHILD DESERVES A STRONG FOUNDATION

## TRANSFORMATION from the Foundation Up





Dear Friends,

I hope everyone had a wonderful summer. It was great to see many of you at the Golf Outing, and I look forward to making additional connections this winter. This is a year of fresh faces and continued dedication at the Stratton Community Foundation. As I begin my first year as Board President, I am honored to carry the baton from **Steve Kerstein**. Steve's steady leadership and generous heart helped shape the Foundation we know and love. I also want to recognize **Tammy Mosher** for years of devoted service that continue to benefit our community. We are standing on strong ground because of them. Please join me in welcoming Meredith Morin, our new Executive Director, who has already hit the ground running (and running, and running!).

When I look at our organization, I see the full arc of our work. I see the energy in our committees, the pride at our events, the partnership in our schools and nonprofits, and the outcomes that improve lives. This year is off to a banner start in spirit and in scale. From that vantage point, three themes stand out.

**First**, the character of this community is special. Donors, sponsors, and volunteers keep showing up. **Golf Outing, Snowlight, 24 Hours of Stratton, and #Shred4Nate** are more than events. They are expressions of who we are and why we give. That generosity fuels the help that arrives at the right time for families.

**Second**, the results are real. Children walk into school with what they need. Students find momentum through enrichment, college support, and trade pathways. Partners tell us that our help meets them where they are and moves their work forward. That is the kind of impact that lasts.

**Third**, the circle is widening. More supporters are raising their hands. Additional partners are joining the table. Our dedicated Board of Directors has welcomed new members who pair fresh ideas with a deep commitment to this community. The story of Stratton Community Foundation is reaching people who did not know us before, and they want in. That gives me confidence about the future we can build together.

All of this points to a clear path forward. Our vision is simple. Keep kids at the center. Lift through partnership. Welcome more neighbors into the circle of giving. Measure what matters and share it with you. Be a trusted place where donor intent and community insight meet.

**Thank you** for the trust you place in us. Thank you for your time, your resources, and your belief in what is possible for children and families in Southern Vermont. With your partnership, and with Meredith's leadership, the Stratton Community Foundation is ready for what comes next.

With gratitude,  
Christopher Amery  
President, Board of Directors  
Stratton Community Foundation



**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Christopher Amery**  
*President*

**Parker Rice**  
*Vice President*

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**Tami Blanchard**  
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**Jeff Cavagnino**  
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**Mary Beth Adelson**

**Scott Bieler**

**Loralee Bodo**

**Jill Graham**

**Matt Jones**

**Hilary LaForge**

**Thank You for Your  
Years of Service (Since)**

Abbe Haber (2019)

Steve Kerstein (2012)

Jonathan Klein (2014)

Amy McHugh (2022)

Tammy Mosher (2011)

**Mental Health Advisory  
Expert: Karen Carreira**

**STAFF**

**Meredith Morin**  
*Executive Director (2025)*

**Katie Cyr**  
*Events Coordinator and  
Administrative Assistant*

**Lisa Jager**  
*Database and Project  
Management*

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Dear Friends,

As I finish my first few months as Executive Director of the Stratton Community Foundation, I want to share how grateful I am to be part of this community. These early weeks have been spent meeting, listening, and learning. I've had

the privilege of making this community my home for many years, and I've seen the deep needs and profound strengths of our region. Now, I have the honor of witnessing firsthand how you lift one another up, always with purpose, generosity, and love.

I want to express my deep appreciation to those who have helped shape the Foundation into what it is today. My heartfelt thanks go to **Tammy Mosher**, whose thoughtful leadership and careful stewardship professionalized the Foundation, grew its reach, and set it on a path for future success. I am also grateful to **Steve Kerstein**, our longtime Board President, whose dedication and vision has left a lasting impact. Their contributions have made it possible for the Foundation to be as strong as it is today. I am excited to partner with **Chris Amery**, who has generously stepped into the role of Board President. His leadership, along with the commitment of our Board and community, will help guide us into this next chapter for the Foundation.

The start of the school year has been a powerful reminder of how important this work is. I've seen our volunteers generously pitch in to prepare our space for Head-to-Toe winter essentials distribution. I've met with school representatives who jump in to help the most vulnerable among our students get what they need. And, I've met with donors who quickly commit to helping in profound and life-changing ways. Because of you, we are able to meet the needs of our community's children and families. Your action is what makes it possible for us to ensure that every child has a strong foundation.

Thank you for welcoming me so warmly and trusting me with this work. I look forward to building on the Foundation's legacy with you and continuing our work together for our children, families, and neighbors.

Thank you,  
Meredith Morin  
Executive Director



**THE STRATTON COMMUNITY FOUNDATION** cares about the well-being of children and families in southern Vermont.

**Our mission** is to address the challenges that stand between a child in need and the opportunity to be healthy, safe and prepared to learn. **Our vision** is to help children focus on their education and set them on a path to success and economic independence. **Our focus** is hunger, basic necessities, oral health, mental health and education. **Our role** in the community is to be nimble and respond to the needs that arise as a result of economic challenges and crises that impact the quality of life and future of children.

# You are Building the Pillars of Human Dignity and Empowerment that Transforms Lives.

Together we...

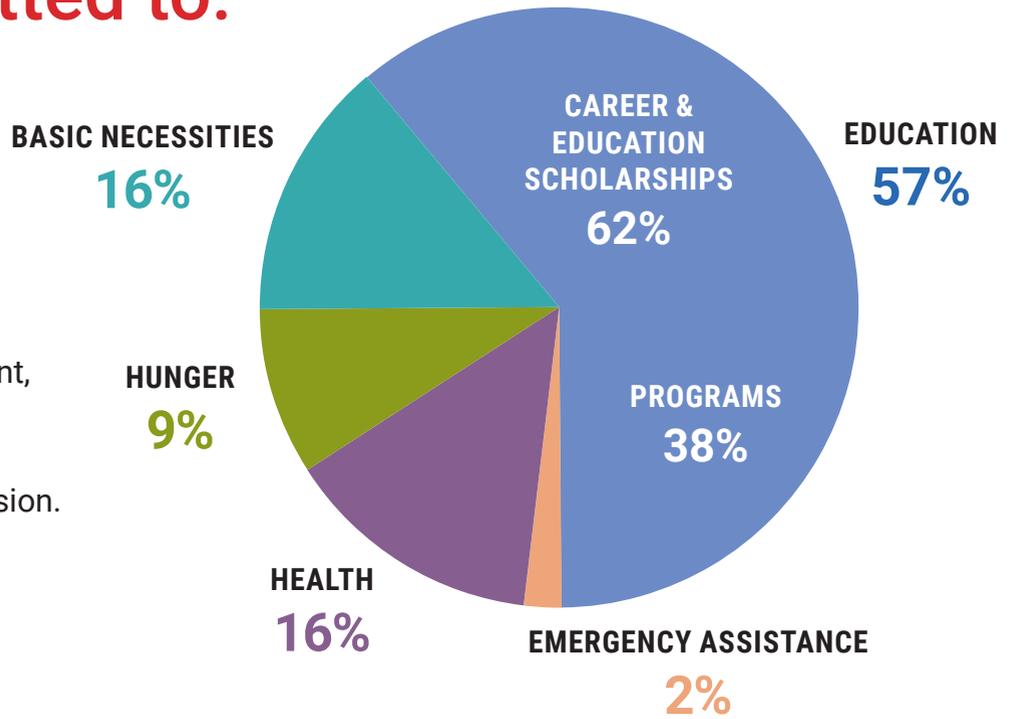


These pillars form the blueprint for brighter childhoods, unleashing limitless possibility, and accelerating a successful path forward.

# Stratton Community Foundation is Committed to:

**Responding to** the immediate needs of our community *and*

**Proactively Leading** the design, development, and implementation of innovative programs that align with our mission. By combining these approaches, we strive to create a lasting impact on the lives of those we serve.



The pie chart above is exclusive of Flood Relief.

## STRATTON COMMUNITY FOUNDATION GEOGRAPHIC FOOTPRINT & SERVICE AREA

Our rural and remote footprint spans 20 towns and touches three counties, made up of approximately 25,750 individuals and 5,580 children under 18.

REFERENCE: World Population Review (2025).



# Challenges Facing Vermont's Children and Families

- **Geographic Isolation and Limited Access to Services:**

Many Vermont families live in isolated, rural areas with limited access to essential services. Without public transportation, a reliable car and the ability to afford gas, families struggle to access grocery stores, food assistance, medical care, and schools.

- **Threats to the Social Safety Net:** Proposed cuts to essential social safety net programs pose a significant threat to low-income Vermonters. Reductions in federal and state funding for programs like LIHEAP (home heating assistance) and Medicaid make it harder to afford basic necessities.

- **A Youth Mental Health Crisis:** Youth mental health issues are a growing crisis in Vermont. Suicide is a leading cause of death, especially for younger age groups who struggle with persistent feelings of hopelessness and isolation. Windham County continues to have statistically higher rates of suicide compared to Vermont overall.

- **Food Insecurity and its Impact on Education:** Free and reduced-price school meals are a critical indicator of poverty. For the 2024-2025 school year, a hardworking family of four must earn between \$41,795 and \$59,478 annually to qualify. Currently, 1 in 7 children in Vermont faces hunger.

- **Vermont's Literacy Crisis:** According to the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), the U.S. is facing a national literacy crisis, with only 31% of fourth-graders reading at a proficient level. The situation is particularly concerning in Vermont, which saw the nation's second-highest drop in proficiency since the pandemic. 57% of Vermont's fourth-graders now read below proficiency—a direct impact of the interruption to education caused by COVID.

- **The Urgency of Financial Literacy:** Vermont currently ranks 25th in the nation for high school financial literacy education. According to Next Gen Personal Finance (NGPF), the majority of students lack comprehensive coursework: only 12.06% have access to the "Gold Standard" of mandatory, full-semester financial education, and 40.03% receive financial literacy content integrated into another course. Despite benchmarks being set for K-12 education, only 11 of Vermont's 55 high schools require the subject for graduation, and 28 offer it merely as an elective. This lack of vital education is a major barrier to future economic independence, as its absence can perpetuate the cycle of poverty; conversely, its presence creates pathways toward economic stability by encouraging responsible decisions.

**STUDENT MEAL ASSISTANCE DATA** reveals a dramatic rise in regional poverty. The average poverty rates within our footprint have risen from 39% to 64% over the last 6 years, consistent with 61.4% of students across the state having been approved for free/reduced lunches.

### A Snapshot of Increasing School Poverty Rates

	2022-2023 Low Income	→	2023-2024 Low Income	→	2024-2025 Low Income
Arlington	56%	→	66%	→	<b>70%</b>
Danby	75%	→	75%	→	<b>97%</b>
Dorset	15%	→	32%	→	<b>45%</b>
Londonderry	13%	→	42%	→	<b>58%</b>
Manchester	34%	→	51%	→	<b>55%</b>
Newfane/Newbrook	37%	→	46%	→	<b>69%</b>
Sunderland	28%	→	43%	→	<b>54%</b>
Townshend	32%	→	55%	→	<b>77%</b>
Wardsboro	37%	→	40%	→	<b>46%</b>

Percentages for some towns are based on the average among high school, middle school, and elementary schools located within the same town. Towns without a school or those that are independent or town academies are not included.

All data from the *Vermont Education Nutrition 2020-2025 Free and Reduced Reports*

# Community Voices Are Our Compass

In Southern Vermont, a powerful story of transformation is unfolding.

While the uncertainty of state and federal funding presents new challenges, it also highlights the indispensable role of the Stratton Community Foundation in nurturing resilience and fostering brighter futures within our local communities.

During the fiscal year 2025, the Foundation channeled over **\$725,000** into the region, a testament to the generosity of our donors, the wisdom of advisory members, and the consensus of board members. We continue to see profound changes in the lives of children and families who are the very fabric of this area. From providing a grocery card to a family in crisis to fostering a child's long-term dreams through an enrichment experience, the Stratton Community Foundation offers a lifeline of support. We are there in times of need, access, and opportunity, working to break the cycle of poverty.



Our work is fundamentally driven by listening and responding to the voices of those we serve. We know that the needs on the ground are not static; what was a priority last year may shift dramatically in the next. This grassroots approach is essential. By listening to our partners, identifying trends, and observing the evolving landscape, we remain nimble and ensure our funding is always on the right path—tackling what is most urgent and making the most impactful changes. It is this informed, local perspective that allows us to respond to the real, day-to-day challenges facing our neighbors.

We believe every child deserves a personal "building plan" for life, composed of the essential components of survival, safety, and security. We hear immense gratitude from those we serve, like the student who shared this heart-breakingly honest quote questioning his value:

**"I hope I've been worth it."** This is what drives us—to ensure every child knows they are not only "worth it" but deserving of a future filled with possibility.

The escalating demand for scholarships, which allow children to access crucial activities and education, demonstrates the transformative impact of our support. Our grants increasingly serve as a bedrock upon which life-changing opportunities are built. This work is about more than just funding a field trip or an after-school program; it's about opening doors to catalytic developmental experiences.

The evolving funding landscape underscores the exclusive role of local philanthropy. When a federal grant for a partnership between a state-wide organization and local high schools was recently rescinded, it highlighted how vital our support can be. Our grants ensured that life-shaping opportunities for low-income students were not lost due to external funding changes.

Our proactive approach to supporting summer food programs, even stepping in to supplement federal efforts, showcases our commitment to ensuring basic needs are met. This past summer, seven schools in our region provided breakfast and lunch per child throughout July and August—a powerful example of community collaboration driven by a shared vision.

The collective success of the diverse initiatives we have led and supported paints a powerful picture of change. We see healthier, more confident children full of optimism and purpose; families experiencing less stress and a greater sense of dignity and hope; improved academic engagement with a motivation to persevere;



and the development of essential life skills that will serve individuals and our community for years to come. One student summed up our mission with a simple yet profound statement: **"Your work made a difference in my life."** The Foundation's focus is not simply on funding programs; it is on actively cultivating a stronger, more equitable Southern Vermont where cycles of poverty can be broken and brighter futures are within reach.

As we look ahead, we remain committed to being a mechanism for change and trusted stewards of your generosity.

**Together, we are creating pathways for success and opportunity, guiding individuals on a journey of growth and empowerment that will shape our community for generations.**

We share in the marvel of watching these children transform, their journeys are illuminated by your invaluable support.

DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS

**65% Signature Programs to Drive Our Mission + 35% Community Grants Aligned with Our Mission**

**HUNGER**  
*1,550 Children*

Food security is an essential foundation for a child's well-being. The impact of our programs is seen in the tangible relief they provide and the long-term stability they create.

Your help guarantees that families can consistently provide nutritious meals for their children. The 'Feed the Community' Grocery Cards' have been a lifeline, alleviating financial pressure and restoring dignity. This simple act can be the difference between a child attending school focused and ready to learn, and a family celebrating joy during the holidays. We safeguard that children have consistent, nutritious food even when school is not in session, providing a vital sense of stability.

Our work also fosters a culture of health and food independence through initiatives that engage students in hands-on learning, deepening their understanding of where food comes from and helping them to broaden their palette. We are alleviating the pressure of impossible choices, cultivating a sense of hope and security that extends far beyond the dinner table.



**\$67,600 Grants Awarded**

**Signature Program: 'Feed the Community Grocery Cards'**

Arlington Childcare 'Holiday Meals'

Federated Church of East Arlington  
'Kids Summer Lunch'

Flood Brook Union School  
'Community Garden'

Food Connects 'Farm to School Coaching'

Windham Central Supervisory Union  
'Fueling Families'

*"Thank you for providing grocery cards for 10 families in our district to enjoy food over the holidays. We are so grateful."*

- Breanna Madison  
Windham Central Supervisory Union

*"I'm filled with gratitude for your generous gifts of winter boots and clothing, as well as the grocery cards. Some families struggle even in the best of times. Thank you for caring."*

- Beth Eyre, BRSU

# HEALTH

## 3,590 Children Served

HEALTH is built on a holistic vision: that true well-being is the bedrock for a child's success. Health is not just the absence of illness, but a state of complete physical, mental, and social wellness.

Our signature events and community grants directly address the urgent mental health crisis facing youth today. Through the Nathan M. Carreira Endowment Fund, **'Nate's Corner'** at Burr & Burton Academy, modeled after the Wellness Center at Los Gatos High School in California, is already showing remarkable success. This on-campus space serves as a vital first-touch point where students can get a "mental reset" and build the confidence to seek formal counseling. In just one year, an estimated 20-25% of the student population—approximately 150 students—visited Nate's Corner during the school year. It is also a safe place for students to self-regulate and learn valuable coping skills to deal with unhealthy relationships, eating disorders, stressful home life, or even when experiencing a panic attack, allowing them to return to class, focused and ready to learn.



The power of connection is also at the heart of our work. Unique **Success Mentorship** and BBBSVT Mentorship programs, create vital one-on-one relationships between caring teens and young people, that have been transformative. "My mentor helped me reframe my perception of myself." These relationships improve school attendance, better choices, and a sense of belonging that builds confidence and hope for children navigating challenging circumstances like emotional despair or grief.

*"We are thrilled that we can be a small part of this important program for the students in southern Vermont!"*

- Sandy & William Wheeler,  
funding family of 'Nate's Corner'



BBBSVT Kimberley Diemond, Director of Operations presents Karen Carreira & Tammy Mosher with the prestigious **PARTNER OF THE YEAR AWARD**, recognizing the foundation's unwavering dedication and outstanding ongoing support to youth and families in Southern Vermont. As Community Partner of the Year, the Stratton Community Foundation exemplifies the core values of collaboration, support, leadership, and impact. The award highlights the remarkable ways in which Stratton Community Foundation has partnered with BBBSVT to achieve shared goals, create positive changes, and make a lasting difference in the community.



We also tackle the often-overlooked issue of oral health through our **In-School Dental** advocacy and distribution of thousands of dental kits. By bringing education and services directly to children in need as a Vermont 802 Smiles Network Partner and member of the Southern Vermont AHEC Oral Health Coalition, we're making an immediate impact on children's dental emergencies, and a long-term investment in reducing preventable chronic health issues caused by poor oral health.

**\$116,290 Grants Awarded**  
**Signature Programs: In-School Dental Hygiene • Nathan M. Carreira Endowment Fund "Nate's Corner" • Success Mentorship**

Arlington Childcare 'Healthy Smiles, Healthy Summers'

Arlington Childcare 'Nurturing Resilience'

Bennington Rutland Supervisory Union Anchor Program 'Family Together & Trauma Education'

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Vermont Mentorship



The Collaborative 'Direct Services to Youth'

## BASIC NECESSITIES

1,820 Children and Families Served

Meeting basic human needs is the first step toward building a stable life. Our powerful efforts and resources provide more than just material goods; they offer a sense of dignity, security, and hope. By addressing critical gaps, we empower families and give children the foundation they need to succeed.



Our signature **Head-to-Toe** program is

a cornerstone of basic necessities, directly addressing the needs of children living in poverty. By providing new winter coats, snow pants, hats, mittens, boots, sneakers, socks, dental kits, backpacks, and school supplies, this initiative instills a sense of belonging that profoundly impacts a child's academic and social life. The program removes barriers to education and helps children feel confident and secure, especially during Vermont's long cold winters. Many schools report that too many children arrive cold and unprepared because families cannot afford to buy clothing and proper fitting footwear as their children grow.

*"Thank you so much for your continued generosity that you've shown my kids. As a single mom with 3 kids, it gets so expensive but the generous donations you've made ease things for me and make me proud to be a part of this community."* - Local Mom

**Moving Mountains** grants are a feature of the Head-to-Toe program, allowing school staff to react swiftly to crisis situations. These mini-grants are often life-saving and time-sensitive, providing immediate help when and where it's needed most, usually for food, clothing, gas, undergarments, basic hygiene products, medical emergencies, and more.

**"Pass It On"** complements this effort by accepting lightly worn winter clothing and distributing it into the community, ensuring families are prepared for winter. This initiative sometimes extends to the donation of appliances like washers and dryers, further alleviating the burden on low-income households.

Our funding is often the only source of support for necessities that are overlooked by standard assistance programs. We've ensured local food pantries can provide personal hygiene products like shampoo, soap, and cleaning supplies, a request denied by the Vermont Foodbank, to offer tangible relief for struggling families.



Our grants tackle the "invisible parts of poverty" by providing essential items not covered by most government programs, supporting the need for diapers in an area deemed a "diaper-bank desert." The availability of diapers helps prevent newborn-related health issues and allows new parents to become more integrated and engaged members of their community.

**\$113,000 Grants Awarded**  
**Signature Program: Head-to-Toe • Moving Mountains • Pass It On**

Caleb's Cherubs

Felicia's Diapers

2nd Congregational Church of Londonderry  
'Personal Hygiene'

*"I feel happy with my new shoes."*

- Local Student

## EDUCATION

2,756 Children Served

We believe education is the most powerful tool for breaking the cycle of poverty. Our support is a launching pad designed to tear down the financial and logistical barriers that prevent students across this rural area from accessing high-quality learning experiences and reaching their full potential.



Literacy is the keystone of all academic success. Our funding ensures every child has a solid foundation, starting with programs like the

**Dolly Parton Imagination Library for Windham County**, which mails a free book every month to children from birth to age five. This program not only fosters a love for reading, it teaches new parents how to read with their children, ensuring they are prepared for success in school and beyond.



*"Your scholarship is really helping a child with a dream, with dedication, with a desire to help others. As a single mom, I thank you from the bottom of my heart for helping my child and us as a little family of two."*

- 2025 Todd Richter Scholarship Recipient Parent



We're dedicated to funding diverse pathways to success for students. Our signature scholarship programs provide crucial support during and beyond high school. The **Zion Opportunity Scholarships** give rising sophomores and juniors the chance to make their summers meaningful by exploring careers, internships, and certifications to reach career aspirations. We also offer **Career-Trade Scholarships** to demystify vocational options and provide support to graduating seniors who are not on a traditional four-year college track. For those who are, our **Donor-Pledged College Scholarships** help make higher education accessible when out-of-pocket expenses are a primary deterrent for low-income students to pursue a secondary education.

Through a long-standing partnership with the Charles S. & Millicent P. Brown Foundation, we continue to drive innovation in education with seed funding that addresses barriers to economic independence. This support advances two key initiatives: strengthening financial literacy as a lifelong skill and building a pathway to skilled trades for students not pursuing college. Although temporary challenges have delayed new 7th- and 8th-grade financial literacy electives, we remain a catalyst in aligning math education with Vermont's Portrait of a Graduate goals. At the same time, our trades pathway closes opportunity gaps through hands-on experience, mentorship, and professional development for lasting stability and success.

While the beauty of the Green Mountains is the place we call home, our grants expose kids to a world beyond our rural, isolated region and the walls of our small community schools. This includes support for immersive, eye-opening experiences that broaden horizons through hands-on exploration. By ensuring that financial and logistical barriers are removed, we foster a vibrant culture of learning and empowerment where every child can envision and achieve a future filled with possibility.

## \$436,895 Grants Awarded

### Signature Programs:

Career-Trade Scholarships

Donor-Pledged College Scholarships

Zion Summer Opportunity Scholarships

In-School Financial Literacy

Dolly Parton Imagination Library for Windham County

Burr & Burton Academy Student Success

GNAT-TV 'Media Education Summer Camps Scholarships'

Leland & Gray Union High School 'Travel Intensives'

Library Collaboration of Winhall, Jamaica, and South Londonderry '1000 Books Before Kindergarten'

Maple Street School 'Doors through Literacy'

Mountain School of Winhall 'Scholarships: After School, Field Trips, Lunch, and Tuition for Students in Need'

River Gallery School of Art 'Art in Schools'

Southern Vermont Art Center 'Doubling Youth Visits'

West River Education District 'Rebel Quest Career Exploration'

West River Education District 'Rebel Quest - Out Of & After-School'

Winhall Community Library 'Little Free Library'

## In 2025, the Stratton Community Foundation Board proudly established the Tammy Mosher Scholarship,

a four-year college award created to honor retiring Executive Director Tammy Mosher. The scholarship reflects Tammy's decades of dedication to strengthening our community and supporting its children. At a presentation event last winter, the Foundation Board praised Tammy's steadfast leadership and deep compassion, noting that this scholarship ensures her legacy will live on.

The first of this scholarship award was presented to first-generation college-bound Colby Sawyer, Moriah Heberts (BBA '25)



Our service to children directly targets the root causes of poverty.

Your gifts are paramount to ensuring that opportunity, not hardship, defines a child's future.



1000  
BOOKS  
Before  
KINDERGARTEN



# A COMMUNITY OF GIVERS: Our Home at Stratton

AT THE STRATTON COMMUNITY FOUNDATION, we know that the spirit of community lives in every guest and family who has made Stratton their home, generation after generation. It is a bond strengthened with every visit, every shared memory on the mountain, and every moment spent with neighbors who have become like family. By choosing to support the Stratton Community Foundation, you're helping us preserve the sense of home that matters to us all.



**STRATTON  
COMMUNITY  
FOUNDATION**

EVERY CHILD DESERVES A STRONG FOUNDATION

Your support builds a vital bridge between this cherished place and the local communities. We are dedicated to nurturing children and families in the region you love, one that invests in the future and builds a lasting legacy.



**This vision has also influenced the Stratton Community Foundation to expand in offering more career and trade scholarships, making dreams a reality.**

**We are honored to celebrate decades of giving by Todd Richter, an individual whose generosity and vision have transformed the lives of countless young people.**

Mr. Richter's journey began with Stratton Community Foundation in 2006 with an initial gift that established a pioneer endowment in education. This seed funding marked the beginning of a partnership that would grow into a remarkable signature scholarship program we are incredibly proud of. Recognizing the unique challenges faced by students with limited financial resources, Todd embraced the idea of creating a scholarship specifically designed to support these aspiring young minds. Since 2014, he has generously funded

four-year scholarships for 22 worthy local high school seniors, empowering them to pursue their dreams of higher education by helping to overcome the barriers of out-of-pocket expenses, a leading reason why low-income students choose not to go to college. Today, the scholarship program supports **72 active college scholarships, with 12-15 new donor-family scholarships added annually.**

We view this as a long-term investment in long-term results, going beyond financial assistance to develop a genuine relationship with each recipient. By fostering a sense of encouragement, inspiration, pride, and accountability, we give every student the support they need. Todd's unwavering commitment to education has not only eased the burden of tuition but has also instilled a sense of hope and possibility.



Justin Sweeney (2019 Richter Scholarship Recipient and UVM '23) and HWPO community donate \$5,000 as a way of paying his gratitude forward.



Todd Richter's philanthropy is one of genuine compassion, a belief in the power of education, and unyielding trust in the foundation to carry that legacy forward. His contributions have not only changed the lives of countless individuals

Legacy Gifts and Endowments are the ultimate expression of an enduring commitment to our community. They provide the stability and resources needed to sustain vital services that enrich Southern Vermont for generations to come.

In leaving a legacy, donors ensure their generosity creates lasting change, propelling the Foundation's mission forward.

but have also inspired his college graduates to give back to their community.

**His enduring legacy will compel future generations to achieve greatness.**

## Healing Through Mental Health Initiatives: In Loving Memory of Nathan

We are honored to celebrate Karen Carreira, an individual who has transformed her personal journey into a powerful movement for change. After the devastating loss by suicide of her son, Nathan, in 2018, Karen and her family channeled their grief into a mission to support the mental health of youth.

Nathan, an exceptional ski racer whose favorite place was on the snow at Stratton Mountain, left us at just 15 years old. The **Nathan M. Carreira Endowment Fund** was established to honor his memory, with an outpouring of love from family and friends who wanted to support the community that Nathan loved so dearly. Its mission is to support the mental health and wellness of youth, their families, schools, and communities across Southern Vermont.



Karen has championed the annual **#Shred4Nate** alpine race at Stratton, a powerful event that has not only raised critical funds but has also heightened the Foundation's direct impact on mental health challenges in the region. She shares her personal story of loss, but more importantly, of finding purpose and healing. Karen tells us, "Losing a child is soul crushing.

## A Community of Givers: Our Home at Stratton



I found that searching endlessly for an answer to the question of 'why' kept my grief energy stagnant. But a sense of hope shifted everything. Once I switched from asking, 'Why did this happen?' to, 'What can I learn?' I found a new sense of acceptance and freedom. I gave myself permission to keep living. My sorrow evolved." This transformative journey of healing led Karen to a path of advocacy. She has supported state advocacy efforts, providing powerful testimony in support of a bill that would mandate the inclusion of the **988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline** on student ID cards in colleges and middle and high schools, signed into law October 17, 2020.

As an expert on mental health, Karen serves on the Stratton Community Foundation's Advisory Board, where her insight has been invaluable. She has taught Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) to our schools and staff and has been a driving force behind mental health education.

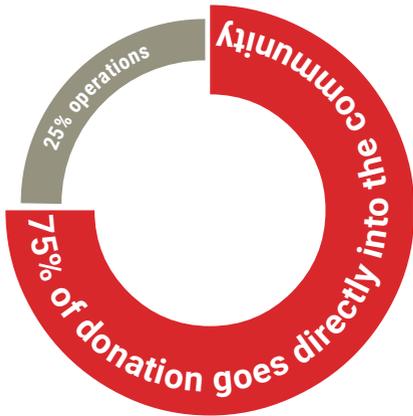


Today, the Nathan M. Carreira Endowment Fund provides critical services and education, from funding mental health and substance abuse interventions to executing goodwill activities with youth leadership. Karen's insight has taught us that all of our work impacts a child's overall well-being in countless ways—a mentor relationship can foster a sense of belonging, a new pair of sneakers can build dignity, and a funded experience can inspire confidence and hope. By openly addressing mental health, her work embodies the spirit of the Stratton Community Foundation, helping us create a more compassionate and supportive place where every child has the opportunity to thrive.

**Join us in celebrating Karen's extraordinary impact and express our sincere gratitude for her unwavering commitment. May her courage continue to inspire us all.**



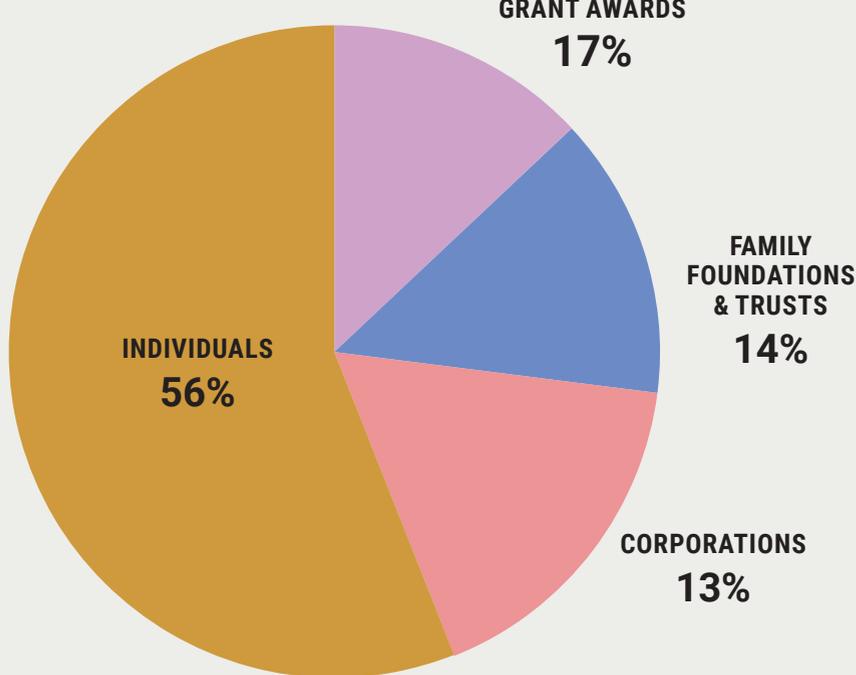
# How do we do it?



Transparency and Impact are important to us.

**75%** of your donation goes directly to our community programs, while the remaining **25%** supports the essential operations that make these programs possible.

## FUNDING SOURCES



The Foundation's success relies on the generous support of its members, including individuals, corporations, local businesses, service organizations, event sponsors, and program partners.

## THE CAMPAIGN FOR KIDS

**\$100,238.39**

**The annual fund that bridges donors to the needs of the community.**

Through your trust and our stewardship, and our deep and close relationship with the community, your donations empower us to help where it's needed most.

MAJOR PROGRAM AWARD PARTNERS



Thompson Family Foundation



William R. & Sandra L. Wheeler Charitable Foundation

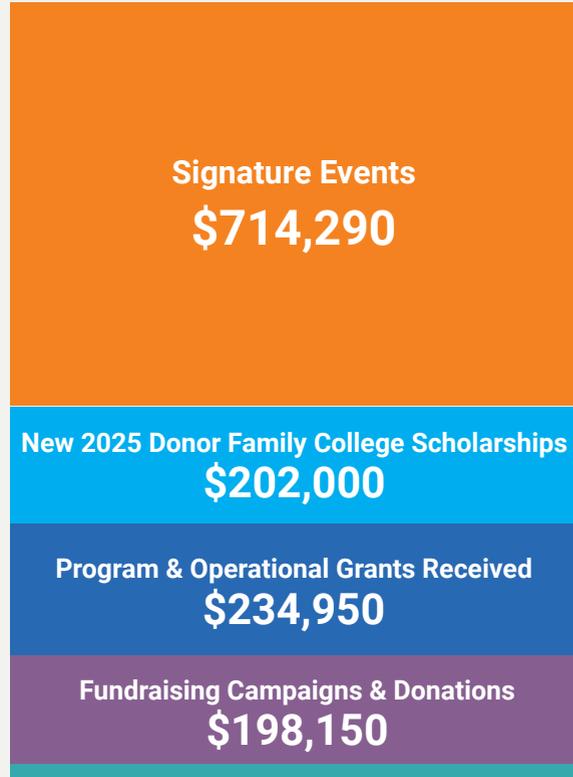


SINCE 1996

# 28 YEARS OF SERVICE

FY25 Gross Revenue Streams

**\$1,375,950**



Corporate Matching Gifts \$26,560

DEDICATED ENDOWMENTS

**Todd B. Richter Endowment Fund\***

First-generation college scholarships

**Nathan M. Carreira Endowment Fund**

Mental health support and programs

**Ravenwood Endowment Fund**

Experience scholarships for low-income children to ski at Stratton

**Stratton Community Foundation Sustainability Fund**

EARNING YOUR CONFIDENCE AND TRUST



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Grants, Gifts and Pledges received between July 1 2024 - June 30, 2025

\* Indicates # of active college scholarships

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Generosity of Bruce S. Gelb and late  
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In honor of Gloria Gilbert Stoga  
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**JUNIOR AMBASSADORS**

Henry Adelson  
Charlie Cyr  
Emily Faucher  
Sophia Giuliatti  
Lexi Lettieri  
Alexa Paley  
Leah Paley  
Bryce Pergament  
Matthew Read  
Maddie Stevenson  
Bryce Taylor  
Levi Taylor  
Emma Zinberg



**THANKS TO ALL WHO**

Bestowed a gift in memory or honor of a loved one  
Donated lightly worn clothing or furniture  
Gave but wish to remain anonymous  
Raffle ticket purchasers  
Shared the philanthropy for Vermont with others  
Supported a participant in the 24 Hours of Stratton  
Purchased items on our Amazon Wish List  
Volunteered time and dedication to the Stratton Community Foundation  
Are on the ground, working at our schools to support our children and families

**Photo Credit & Usage:** The featured photos in this magazine showcase genuine programs and events supported by the Stratton Community Foundation and are used with permission from our community partners and participants.

# YEAR OF SIGNATURE EVENTS

## Bringing Community Together



The annual *Golf Outing*, presented by Wylie Construction, was held on Friday, August 30, 2024 is the foundation's yearly kick-off to fund-raising, with all proceeds dedicated to the **Head-to-Toe** program. This initiative provides 600 local children with essential items their families may struggle to afford, including school supplies, winter gear, and new sneakers.



**RAISED \$59,280**



### GOLF SPONSORS

#### PRESENTING

Wylie Construction/  
Healy Management,  
Inc,

#### DRIVER

Berkshire Hathaaway  
Home services /  
Stratton Home  
Casella Waste Systems  
Steve & Diane Kerstein  
Stratton Real Estate  
TÖST Beverages LLC  
WW Building Supply

#### IRON

Brian & Arlene Amery  
Christopher & Lindsey  
Amery  
David Chaves  
Excavation Inc.  
Evergreen Builders  
& Property  
Management  
Farrell Distributing  
Four Seasons  
Sotheby's  
International Realty

Jonathan Klein &  
Jill Graham  
Ron & Valerie Kazel  
Kevin Duffy &  
Hillary LaForge  
Stratton Luxury Rentals -  
Wohler Realty Group  
Stratton Mountain Resort  
Mark Taylor  
Wohler Realty Group

#### PUTTER

Todd Beyer  
Hans Bosch  
Jim Bova  
Zach Bova  
Champlain Valley  
Equipment  
Marianne Kay

#### CLOSEST TO PIN

Blanc & Bailey  
Construction  
Home Maintenance  
Associates  
Mathew Strathearn  
Longest Drive  
Pinnacle Roofing Inc.  
UBS Park View Partners

#### TEE SIGNS

Big Butterfly Promotions  
Black Magic Chimney  
Sweeps  
Calvary Custom Builders  
Coleman's Auto Repair  
Express Copy  
Family Footwear Center  
GNAT TV  
Grace Cottage Family  
Health & Hospital  
John J. Read  
Construction Corp.  
Peter & Patricia Klestadt  
Luxbrush Painting  
Company Inc.  
Meulemans' Craft  
Draughts  
John & Trish Patti  
River Bend Farm Market  
Gary & Sara Simpson  
Stratton Mountain  
School  
Brian & Diane Whatley



## Snowlight in Vermont

*Snowlight in Vermont*, sponsored by Stratton Real Estate is a heartfelt celebration that embodies a sense of warmth, comfort, and belonging. *Snowlight* is a homecoming that marks a return to a place rich with history and memories. 110 trees are beautifully adorned with twinkling lights, dedicated to celebrate loved ones, the season, and this place we call home, serving as beacons of hope and symbolizing the power of human kindness. This tradition, with its focus on family memories and reuniting with friends and neighbors, is what gives Stratton its unique and special heartbeat.

**RAISED \$86,600**



# Snow Much of a Good Thing!



## 24H AWARDS PRESENTED TO:

### KINGS & QUEENS OF THE MOUNTAIN

Team Skiderhoffer

### COBB TROPHY PRESENTED TO

#### TOP FUNDRAISING TEAM

Ravenwood: \$131,427  
(raising \$412,266 since 2018)

### HONORABLE FUNDRAISING TEAMS

Skiderhoffer: \$48,672  
Magic Mountain Freedoggers: \$31,017  
Strat-TON-of-Fun: \$16,000  
Stratton 50 Plus: \$13,138

### #1 MOST POINTS ON THE MOUNTAIN

Bromley Mighty Moose

### HONORABLE FUNDRAISING INDIVIDUALS

Roy Niederhoffer: \$37,849  
Arlene Amery: \$28,000  
Evan Grossman: \$25,397  
Daniel Peek: \$25,000  
Erin Peek: \$25,000  
Brian Amery: \$22,200  
Jessie Drury: \$12,875  
Christopher Amery: \$7,550  
Phil Tartaglione: \$7,500

### AMONG THE LOCALS

121 students, parents and staff participated on teams representing 10 local schools.

Long Trail School skied the most vertical feet in our friendly school competition, racking up 865,088 vf.

Burr & Burton Academy nailed the fundraising, offering \$18,807 to the event's success.



The annual 24 Hours of Stratton, co-presented by Wohler Realty Group and Klingman & Associates, was a tremendous success, setting new records for participation and fundraising. Held on March 15-16, 2025, the event drew 793 participants who came from across New England to enjoy the only chance to ski Stratton at night under starry skies into sunrise. This high turnout, combined with the support of 2,500 donors and numerous sponsors **RAISED \$540,000**

**Over a 13-year history, 24 Hours of Stratton raised \$3,662,000**

Skiers and snowboarders of all ages, skied over 20 million vertical feet and enjoyed a wide range of activities, from a glow-in-the-dark dance party to fireworks, team trivia, and overnight camaraderie in the base lodge. The success of the event highlights the strong sense of community among Stratton homeowners, guests, and locals - united for one night, and one cause.



*It has been my privilege to join the Stratton Community Foundation Board, gaining ever greater appreciation for the dedication and generosity that has made such an impact on the well-being of our neighbors and the future of our youth.*

*I am excited for what the future holds as our team continues to help drive the mission. We all look forward to helping make the next 24Hours of Stratton the best one yet, and to seeing you there.* - Matt Jones, President and COO of Stratton Mountain Resort

# SAVE THE DATE FOR NEXT YEAR'S EVENT

## MARCH 14-15, 2026

### 24H TEAMS

24ducksandfriends  
 Aliens  
 Après All Day  
 Back Country Chickens  
 Barrington North  
 Bart Adaptive  
 Bear with me  
 Birch Hill Bombers  
 Boot Lasagna  
 Brew-Skis  
 Bromley Alpha Moose  
 Bromley Mighty Moose  
 Bulldog Pride  
 Bulldogs  
 Burr and Burton Bulldogs  
 Casella  
 Chairlift Chums for Children  
 Chilly Con Carnival  
 Crispy Crew  
 DLA Daredevils  
 Dot dot dot  
 East Coast Kids  
 Fairway Meadow Parks Dept.  
 Future Mountain Lions  
 Good Vibes Only  
 Goon Squad  
 Hawaiian Snow  
 HERC Rentals Inc.  
 Holliston Happy  
 Icebreakers  
 Ikon'not Stop  
 Jacks eagles  
 Joehawk  
 Kids4Kids  
 Klingman and Associates  
 Larry Barbara  
 Limozen  
 Lone Wolf Ryder  
 Lost park crew  
 Lost park crew\*  
 Lunar Snow Leopards  
 M&T Bank  
 Magic Mountain Freedoggers  
 Mario's Maniacs  
 Monarch  
 Mountain Bears  
 O'Hanlon's Snow Patrol  
 OKC in South VT

Orecchio Ski Family  
 Powder Hounds  
 Ravenwood  
 Ravenwood Kids  
 Robert's 40th  
 Ronaldo  
 Rowayton Rippers  
 S.W.A  
 Sherman's Shredders!  
 Ski Butlers  
 Ski Ya Later!  
 Skiderhoffer  
 Snow Junkies  
 Strat-TON-of-Fun  
 Stratto-sphere  
 Stratton 50 Plus Club  
 Stratton Community Foundation  
 Stratton HOA I  
 Stratton HOA II  
 Stratton Mountain Club  
 Stratton Mtn SnoMo's  
 Stratton Shredders  
 Stratton Sigmas  
 Taylor Ham's  
 Team Phil Tartaglione & Friends  
 Team Red Fox  
 Team Shazbot  
 The Chilly Willies  
 The Girlies  
 The Girls  
 The Mountain School at Winhall  
 The Wardens  
 The Yak Pack  
 The Yellow Tulip Project  
 The Yetis  
 TIPS24!  
 Tree Huggers  
 UBS 1  
 UBS 2  
 Winthrop Wealth  
 Wohler Realty Group



The annual #Shred4Nate Dual Panel Slalom Alpine Race, **co-presented by Wohler Realty Group and Klingman & Associates**, was a remarkable success on Saturday, March 15th. The race, combined with donations, raffle, and sponsorships raised a total of **\$48,000** for the Nathan M. Carreira Endowment Fund (NCEF). A record 270 racers participated, demonstrating strong community support for the cause in memory of Nathan M. Carreira.

The NCEF is a crucial component of the Stratton Community Foundation's work, providing long-term support for mental health and wellness programs for youth, families, and schools throughout Southern Vermont.

**RAISED \$48,000**

Sponsored and  
 Officiated by



### 180 RACERS • U8 TO MASTERS DUAL PANEL SLALOM • MARCH 16, 2025

		TOP WOMEN	TOP MEN
OVERALL	1st	Chloe Lathrop	Nicholas Jacobs
	2nd	Eliza Sullivan	Asher Baron
	3rd	Madeline Semet	Patrick McNamara
SENIOR	1st	Chloe Lathrop	Nicholas Jacobs
	2nd	Madeline Semet	Patrick McNamara
	3rd	Jodi Emmott	Griffin Smith
U21	1st	Eliza Sullivan	Benjamin Morin
	2nd	Lauren Jacobs	
U18	1st	Katherine Dempsey	Asher Baron
	2nd	Oria Mauro DeLaCruz	Benjamin Zwick
	3rd	Heike Moses	Mauro Guijarro Catalan
U16	1st	Meghan Love	Quinn Schwab
	2nd	Annamae Oakley	Benjamin Weinberger
	3rd	Sydney Stepanski	John Gargiulo
U14	1st	Laina Bodo	Luc Pedersen Holm
	2nd	Beatrice Curran	Edward Faber
	3rd	Ciara Pollen	Nemanja Hughes
U12	1st	Annie Reilly	Griffin Brown
	2nd	Louisa White	Luke Jia
	3rd	Violet Brahlin	Tiago Del Rio
U10	1st	Charlotte Holden	Dominic Saindon
	2nd	Vail Cherosnick	Brody O'Connell
	3rd	Ella Lenseth	Matias Del Rio
U8	1st	Julia Emmott	Miles Weinberger
	2nd	Elizabeth Sarti	Bobby Saunders
	3rd	Arden Stevens	Alexander Chung



**STRATTON  
COMMUNITY  
FOUNDATION**

PO Box 523

Stratton Mountain, VT 05155

**Your Support Empowers Change that Lasts a Lifetime**



## **Ways to GIVE**

**Donate • Participate • Sponsor • FundRaise • Corporate Matching  
Stocks and Bonds • Amazon WishList • Volunteer**

**[strattonfoundation.org](http://strattonfoundation.org) | 802.297.2096**

The Stratton Community Foundation is a 501C3 Non-Profit Organization - #04-3343551

