

# VIRTUAL Final Vote Event



21st Century Fund

*A fund of the Community Foundation  
for Greater Buffalo*

## Finalist Project Descriptions

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### BUFFALO AND ERIE COUNTY BOTANICAL GARDENS SOCIETY, INC.

**Project Name:** Botanical Gardens Expansion Project

**Project Description:** The Botanical Gardens opened to the public in 1900. It is the only Botanical Gardens in WNY. With exponential visitor growth (146,694 in 2019), increased demand for education programs (20,846 in 2019) and the need to address facility issues, the Gardens commissioned Toshiko Mori Architect to complete a master plan. The master plan calls for the demolition of 17,880sf of non-historic structures and adding 33,000sf including new classrooms, exhibits, a butterfly conservatory, visitor amenities and greenhouses. Audiences are expected to grow to 220,000 in 2025. The annual economic impact will grow from \$5.1M to \$9.1M affecting adjacent neighborhoods where average poverty rates are 24.3% compared to NYS poverty rate of 15.3% (2017). Expanded education space will serve approximately 32,000/yr. Funds from the 21st Century Fund will be used for the demolition of 7 non-historic structures, preparing the site for the new construction. The grant from the 21st Century Fund would also be used to announce the public phase of the Botanical Gardens' Capital Campaign inviting the whole community to participate.



### CRADLE BEACH CAMP

**Project Name:** Accessible Swimming Pool Renovation and Restoration

**Project Description:** Each summer, nearly 800 children with disabilities or economic challenges come to Cradle Beach and learn to swim and have fun in a fully-accessible swimming pool, equipped with ramps, lifts and other modifications that enable all kids with a wide range of physical abilities to have fun together. The current pool is approximately 25 years old and is impacted by the winter elements, acid washing each summer and the high use during summer months. This project will provide needed resurfacing, cleaning, repair and a safe seasonal covering for the pool, extending its viability and safety for many years. The pool renovation will have a direct impact on Cradle Beach's 800 summer campers, but also on hundreds of children and family members who come to the camp during off-season family camping excursions, respite care weekends, and other events hosted on the 66-acre campus on the shores of Lake Erie in Angola, NY.



## KEVIN GUEST HOUSE

**Project Name:** Building for our Future

**Project Description:** The Kevin Guest House has hosted 60,000+ patients' families seeking medical care in Buffalo since 1972. After adding a 4th guest house in 2018 on the Buffalo Niagara Medical Campus, KGH serves 2,000 guests annually. 90% reside in NY, most from the 8 WNY counties where specialized treatment is not available. KGH typically has 90% occupancy. Guest accommodations include a mix of 6 full apartments, 4 suites w/ private bathrooms, and the original house with 10 rooms, shared bathrooms and common spaces. During the pandemic, shared common spaces and bathrooms in the aging original properties revealed greater risks to immunocompromised guests, with old HVAC systems and decades old materials being difficult to thoroughly clean. This grant will allow the KGH to add private bathrooms in the main house, make durable upgrades in structure and safety and materials that are easier to clean and meet healthcare standards now requested to serve the most compromised patients and caregivers. The goal is to upgrade the original 3 buildings to the standard of the 2018 expansion for long-term health, safety and comfort of guests.

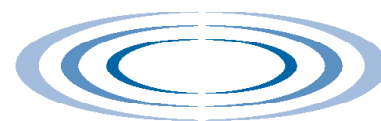


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## MERCY FLIGHT INC.

**Project Name:** Implementation of a Lifesaving Air Ambulance Enhancement in Rural WNY

**Project Description:** Mercy Flight plans to implement an Instrument Flight Rules (IFR) approach system across WNY. This enhancement will allow its helicopter air ambulances to provide lifesaving transportation even in inclement weather by relying on instrument readings rather than solely on visual cues, thereby decreasing travel time and increasing positive patient outcomes. This project will install IFR approach systems at four strategic locations – Wyoming County Community Hospital (Warsaw), Olean General Hospital (Olean), Bertrand Chaffee Hospital (Springville), and Medina Memorial Hospital (Medina). This placement will allow Mercy Flight to create intercept points so that if someone in a roughly 15-mile radius of each IFR approach location has a traumatic injury or illness, we'll be able to fly to them when weather conditions might previously have prevented it. This placement will create a service area that includes rural areas of Wyoming, Orleans, Cattaraugus, and Southern Erie Counties, serving over 500,000 residents.



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