

# Strengthening Niagara County Together



**Niagara Area Foundation**

*A division of the Community Foundation  
for Greater Buffalo*

OUR WORK BEGINS WITH A STRONG

# Community Focus

For more than 25 years, the Niagara Area Foundation has been committed to improving lives in Niagara County through the generosity of individuals and families who care deeply about their community.



## BY THE NUMBERS

**36** INDIVIDUAL FUNDS

OVER  
**\$10.5 Million**  
IN TOTAL ASSETS

OVER  
**\$5.9 Million**  
AWARDED IN GRANTS  
AND SCHOLARSHIPS  
since inception

**65 Leaders**  
HAVE SERVED  
ON THE COUNCIL



Niagara Area Foundation Council, 2025

Led by a Council of dedicated and knowledgeable local residents, the Niagara Area Foundation supports county-wide philanthropic efforts. This, along with its commitment to collaboration, has helped the Niagara Area Foundation build partnerships that bring people together to drive positive change in Niagara County.



Founding Members of the Niagara Area Foundation, 2000

As a geographic affiliate of the Community Foundation for Greater Buffalo, the Niagara Area Foundation has access to its resources, deep local knowledge and strong investment performance.

TOGETHER WE ARE CREATING

# Transformative Impact

The Niagara Area Foundation brings people together to address Niagara County's most pressing needs, creating lasting change where it matters most. With a focus on youth enrichment and stewarding the environment, its work and grantmaking spark opportunity and build a stronger future for all.

Grants awarded in 2016 and 2021 supported Community Missions Inc.'s Girls Circle program, which helps girls build their self-esteem and create friendships. During each of its three cycles throughout the year, the program serves about 40 girls in nine schools across the Niagara Falls school district.

A 2024 grant allowed Arts for Learning WNY to bring high-quality, free arts programming directly to youth in Niagara Falls through its Arts After School initiative at the Packard Court Community Center. Over 600 children participated in hands-on workshops in visual arts, poetry and pottery.



The Royalton-Hartland Agriculture Foundation, whose mission is to increase investment in agriculture programs and opportunities for students, was awarded a 2024 grant for its Visiting Farm Animal Program.

A 2023 Niagara Area Foundation grant was awarded to the Kenan Center for its Kenan ACRES (arts, culture, recreation, education, sports) state-of-the-art computer lab, serving Lockport students, many of whom don't have access to technology.

To learn more about the Niagara Area Foundation's competitive grant process, visit [www.TheNiagaraAreaFoundation.org](http://www.TheNiagaraAreaFoundation.org)

WE ARE HONORED TO BE YOUR

# Trusted Partner

The Niagara Area Foundation is a trusted philanthropic partner, offering a personalized approach to help individuals and families support meaningful causes now and for generations to come.

## HOW WE WORK WITH INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES

Establishing a charitable fund at the Niagara Area Foundation enables individuals and families to support organizations of their choice — in our region and across the globe — during or after their lifetimes.

**Leaving a Legacy** ▶ Thelma and Milfred Beck were long-time residents of Lockport who were interested in giving back to the community. Upon their passing, a fund was established to benefit the changing needs of the community over time. Managing the charitable legacies of generous individuals is central to the work of the Niagara Area Foundation.



## Making a Difference Today ▶

Jerry and Liz Canada established a donor-advised fund to support Niagara County and beyond.

*"We rely on the Foundation to educate us as to where the needs are so we can truly make a difference."*  
- Jerry and Liz Canada



## HOW WE WORK WITH NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS

**Supporting Your Mission** ▶ For those organizations committed to providing services over a long period of time — and require a sustainable source of funding to do so — the Niagara Area Foundation provides an excellent option for endowment management.



*"One of the great benefits that the Niagara Area Foundation brings to bear for non-profits in our region is its investment capabilities and thus its ability to grow the charitable capital of our community."*  
- Kathy Granchelli, Former CEO of YWCA (pictured right)

## HOW WE PARTNER WITH PROFESSIONAL ADVISORS

**Collaborating Together** ▶ Working closely with advisors and their clients, the Niagara Area Foundation can be a philanthropic partner to make the process of giving easier, more efficient and impactful.

*"My clients appreciate the flexibility of the different ways that their charitable gifts can be used to promote their particular goals."*  
- Marianne Koenig, George & Koenig, PLLC

By naming the Foundation as a beneficiary of an estate, retirement plan, or life insurance policy, your giving can be structured in a way that reflects your values and creates lasting impact.

**OUR MISSION IS IMPACTFUL**

# **Connecting people, ideas and resources to improve lives in Niagara County**

To learn more about the Niagara Area Foundation and  
how you can make a difference in Niagara County, visit  
**[www.TheNiagaraAreaFoundation.org](http://www.TheNiagaraAreaFoundation.org)**