

United Way of Tompkins County

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Photos: https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1_CpgrEn8RqSqWWGYfl4tuQUc8-19809M?usp=sharing
Interviews available upon request

United Way Announces Annual Awards & United Tompkins Impact Fund Grants

Ithaca, NY- Community members gathered for United Way of Tompkins County's (UWTC) annual Celebration of its collective impact and community campaign on Tuesday, June 17. With over 100 guests in attendance, several recognition awards were presented for organizations and individuals that made a difference in Tompkins County throughout the past year.

The following were recognized for their service to the community through United Way of Tompkins County activities and collaborations:

- Lynnette Scofield Key Contributor Award: Dryden Mutual Insurance Company
- Pat Stage Volunteer of the Year: Vicki Davis (Cornell University)
- Jeannie Barnaba Unsung Hero Award: Beth Kunz (Cornell University)
- 2024-25 Community Campaign Chairs: Sherri Koski (Ithaca Community Childcare Center) & Alex Adelewitz (Wegmans of Ithaca)
- 2023-25 Board Chair: Michael Pehinec (Coughlin & Gerhart)

With a theme of the hope we can all enjoy when we work together to make a difference, UWTC also shared success stories and data on its objectives of addressing human needs today while also working to create a community where all can thrive. The impact priorities this year and next are access to safe, affordable housing; childhood and youth success; flourishing of marginalized communities; food security; transportation to access services, work, and/or learning opportunities; and whole health and well-being. As outgoing board chair Michael Pehinec shared at the event, "Taking the time to make a difference is the best part of what I do in my life. I encourage everyone to get involved in some way that means something to them and give back. It will make all the difference in your life as well."

The event also recognized several local businesses and organizations for their holding successful workplace campaigns, giving their employees the opportunity to give in ways significant to them. The top five workplace campaigns were: BorgWarner, Cornell University, Dryden Mutual Insurance Company, Tompkins Community Bank, and Wegmans of Ithaca.

UWTC strengthens our community and lives in collaboration with a deeply connected network of mission driven organizations. A major component of this work is by funding organizations and programs through the United Tompkins Impact Fund (UTIF). UWTC is pleased to announce that \$414,600 has been allocated through UTIF for the period of July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026. A complete list of United Tompkins Impact Fund awardees can be viewed at:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1FTQadND0PXhKPIVFknSUybYvOHTDcGWGyHgkvwb8AJQ/edit?usp=sharing>

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