MONROE 2-ORLEANS Educational Foundation

ANNUAL REPORT

2020

Working to
Make All the
Difference
for students

The Monroe 2-Orleans Educational Foundation

supports students who have taken a non-traditional path through their K-12 schooling and who plan to continue on to college or pursue career training.

What does this mean?

Some students are best served by non-traditional or alternative educational programs, such as special education, career and technical education and high school equivalency or Test Assessing Secondary Completion (TASC™). These programs have offered unique supports for students in meeting requirements for graduation. There are not many scholarship opportunities for students graduating from such programs. The Foundation exists to support these students by providing financial assistance for tuition, continued specialized support and appropriate educational supplies.

2020 SCHOLARSHIP AND AWARD RECIPIENTS

Michaela B. (Brockport)

Make All the Difference Aramark Scholarship

Zachary C. (Hilton)

Make All the Difference Campus Construction Scholarship

Elizabeth D. (Greece)

Make All the Difference Scholarship

Luca D. (Churchville-Chili)

Make All the Difference Scholarship

Brianna D. (Kendall)

Make All the Difference Scholarship

Breanna F. (Greece)

Make All the Difference Scholarship

Shadia H. (Wheatland-Chili)

Make All the Difference Aramark Scholarship

Genesis K. (Spencerport)

Make All the Difference Scholarship

Rachel K. (Brockport)

Make All the Difference Scholarship

Sarah L. (Brockport)

Make All the Difference Scholarship Crystal L. (Greece)

Make All the Difference Harris Beach PLLC Scholarship

Geoffrey L. (Gates Chili)

Make All the Difference Scholarship

Ryan M. (Hilton)

Make All the Difference Award Recipient

Calvin M. (Brockport)

Make All the Difference Award Recipient

Angelina M. (Hilton)

Make All the Difference Scholarship

Jayden P. (Kendall)

Make All the Difference Award Recipient

Madison S. (Spencerport)

Make All the Difference LaBella Associates Scholarship

Gavin T. (Greece)

Make All the Difference Precision Properties Scholarship

Jesse T. (Gates Chili)

Make All the Difference Scholarship

Thomas W. (Gates Chili)

Make All the Difference Rochester West Central Kiwanis Scholarship

What does the Foundation do?

Created in 2002, the Foundation is a 501 (c) (3) nonprofit organization that provides funding for:

- Scholarships up to \$5,000 to help students in alternative programs to pursue college or career/ technical schooling
- Monetary awards of up to \$500 to support apprenticeships or related career training
- Research and development to improve educational opportunities and practices for these students

The Foundation's fiscal year is July 1 through June 30.

We work with, but are independent of, the Monroe 2–Orleans BOCES.

The Monroe 2–Orleans Educational Foundation serves students in nine school districts in Western Monroe and Eastern Orleans Counties.



















Dear Friend and Supporter,

It is with great pleasure to report another successful year for the Monroe-2 Orleans Educational Foundation. We are so thankful to this community for your generous support especially during this unprecedented pandemic.

As with every organization in the community, the pandemic challenged all aspects of our Foundation's functions and processes. Of course, we didn't know what to expect, and realized the potential for a very difficult year. Well, as it turns out, generosity and compassion won the day, leading to another banner year for our Foundation.

Let's start with the students. Last February, our scholarship applications increased 9% over the previous year. I am proud to announce that last



May, our Foundation Board awarded 17 \$5,000 Make All the Difference Scholarships and three \$500 Awards for a total of \$86,500. I want to thank our Scholarship Review Committee for the many hours reviewing the highly competitive applications, and for participating in a very successful virtual conference. Please enjoy our featured scholarship/ award recipient excerpts in this report. Next, our Board recognized the importance of acknowledging and celebrating our student recipients, even amid health precautions that

prevented our typical in-person spring-time reception. Due to a very creative Reception Committee and the outstanding efforts of BOCES 2 support staff, we conducted a wonderfully successful "Drive-Thru Reception" on June 15 at the BOCES 2 campus. Students received a gift basket, met our scholarship sponsors, were congratulated by their school district superintendent and had a commemorative photo taken.

Moving into fall, we faced our biggest hurdle. How to approach fundraising and sponsorships related to our Annual Celebration. We were concerned about the impact of financial and unemployment issues in the community. However, considering the importance of raising these funds, and the higher likelihood of financial burdens on our students and families, our Board decided to go to you our sponsors and donors, asking for whatever financial support you could give. In addition, our Celebration Committee under the leadership of Jo Anne Antonacci and Leigh Nenni launched our very first virtual auction held November 2-14. Suffice it to say, we were overwhelmed by the incredible response. Despite these difficult times, our Foundation yielded approximately \$50,000! On behalf of the Foundation Board and the students and families served by our Foundation, thank you to our generous and cherished sponsors, "Friends of the Foundation" donors and virtual auction participants! Your generosity as a caring community transcended the barriers and heartbreak of this pandemic.

Finally, our Foundation Board members have been a collective "rock," taking on these many challenges. They have been tireless in their efforts and remain an energetic, caring and dedicated Board. We would like to thank two departing Board members for their outstanding service, Rachel Magar and our long-time and very devoted Board Secretary Dee Alexander. I am very pleased to welcome two new Board members, Janelle Failing and Lori Roe. Our Board and our entire community were very saddened on the passing of Dr. William J Dadey on February 7, 2021. Dr. Dadey was a Founding member of the Monroe 2-Orleans Educational Foundation serving 18 years on the Board, still active up to his passing at the age of 80 years old. Bill was an outstanding educator and a kind and compassionate man; he will very much be missed. Please visit our written tribute to Bill within this report.

Thank you again to all of you in this great community for your ongoing support of the mission of the Monroe 2 — Orleans Educational Foundation. Please stay well.

Respectfully,

Joseph a. Kelly

Joe Kelly Board President

Meet Some of our 2020 **SCHOLARSHIP** Recipients

The following pages contain excerpts from scholarship recipients' essays submitted with their applications for the Make All the Difference Scholarships.

ZACHARY C. HILTON

The WEMOCO Carpentry Program has made a significant difference in my academic life by not only teaching me new skills, but giving me the chance to practice and use these skills regularly. The Carpentry Program has also made a difference in my life by allowing me to the opportunity to help build a house from start to finish at WEMOCO.



I have found great success in both

Carpentry I and Carpentry II. These programs have a strong focus on safety. They have taught me how to properly use many tools. The workshop has taught me the value of a clean and safe workplace. My participation in Carpentry I & II has also prepared me for my future as it has taught me the different systems of a house and the important steps in the process.

SHADIA H. WHEATLAND-CHILL

At Wheatland-Chili, I had support of a consultant teacher, resource room and counseling. My teachers and peers helped me focus on my goal of graduating. If I got frustrated, I used my counselor to talk to and get through the issue and get my focus back. The resource room was pretty much 1:1 and helped me to understand my work better, and they re-explained what the teacher said so I



could better understand it. My teachers and advisors made me realize I can achieve anything I work for. The time in high school prepared me to the future, I have all the tools I need to be on my own in the college world and to continue to grow and be a better person. I learned to advocate for myself, when I don't understand something or when I need extra assistance, I seek people out and get what I need. If I didn't have those supports, I probably would have to be in high school another year. People actually took the time to teach me instead of letting me fail.

Meet Some of our **2020 SCHOLARSHIP**Recipients

CRYSTAL L. GREECE

Laboratory Technology at Monroe 2-Orleans BOCES WEMOCO has made a significant difference in my life because it is where I achieved my greatest accomplishment: finding my passion and discovering my career goals. The class has also prepared me to achieve these goals. While working in the lab at WEMOCO, I realized that laboratory science is what I want to pursue in the future. In this class,



we learn phlebotomy, food science, microbiology, hematology, immunology and chemistry. I have been interested in all fields of science since 6th grade, although this class helped narrow my favorite sciences down to microbiology, immunology and chemistry. I specifically became invested in immunology because I have several family members with autoimmune disorders such as diabetes and pemphigus vulgaris. When I decided to do my own research, I found it fascinating that the immune system could attack healthy tissues and wanted to know the cause.

Laboratory Technology at WEMOCO is greatly helping to prepare me for the future. We have many educational trips to companies such as Vaccinex, Ortho Clinical Diagnostics, the Monroe County Crime Lab and Lidestri Food and Drink. I am very glad I decided to join Laboratory Technology at Monroe 2-Orleans BOCES.

SARAH L. BROCKPORT

The Early Childhood Development program at WEMOCO has been a challenging and rewarding class. I cannot express how much I have learned about childhood development, health, mindfulness and day-to-day caregiving. Our teacher, Mrs. Karns is a supportive and understanding teacher. She has the ability to teach through hands-on experiences. Going to WEMOCO the past two years



has been extremely helpful to me. I loved the Daycare Center Program the first year. Having the toddlers two days a week was what made me realize that I want to be an Early Childhood teacher. I cannot express how much the program has helped me to grow. I struggle with anxiety and my teacher understood my challenges and guided me in so many ways. I am not an individual who would get a lot out of tons of math and science classes. Going in the direction I went was what turned my high school experience around and has given me memories I will never forget.

Meet Some of our 2020 **SCHOLARSHIP** Recipients

GEOFFREY L. GATES CHILL

I have attended Westside Academy for the last five years. My choices had resulted in many suspensions during my first two years, but my behavior has improved and Westside has shaped me to be a better student - both academically and mentally. Westside saved me in every way possible. If I had stayed in regular school, I would probably not made it and became a dropout. But I made it to my senior year



and I'm looking forward to graduating. Without this program I wouldn't have been able to get through regular high school

Through these years, I have started to find who I want to become. I want to be someone who will have a huge impact on a small community. I've also been attending WEMOCO, and I am enjoying school more than ever. WEMOCO's Auto Technician Program was helped me gain skills that will help me out in the work force. I'm on my way to take the ASE certification test and I'm excited about the possibilities that can open.

MADISON S. SPENCERPORT

The Certified Nurse Assisting program has made a big impact on my life and I am very grateful to have joined it. I have learned so much through this program and not just medical stuff. I've learned about teamwork, communication, compassion, dedication, using different skills to get a task done, quick thinking, and how big of a difference you can make in someone's life. This program has also allowed me to meet



new people and make new friends from different schools. This program is allowing me to get a head start on my future as I will have a job right out of high school. It has prepared me for my future because it has taught me many things about nursing and the different types of careers you can have. When I'm at clinical I learn lots of new things and grow more as a CNA. I've really enjoyed my time in this class and at clinical, I've enjoyed the connection I make with the resident and the stories they tell. I feel like we can all learn from them. When I get out of high school I hope to go to nursing school and become an RN or PA. This program has taught me so much and has changed my perspective on a lot of things and I'm very grateful I joined it. I'm excited for the future I'll have thanks to this program.

2020 DONORS

Platinum Sponsors (\$5,000 and over)

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Gold Sponsors (\$2,500-\$4,999)

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2020 **DONORS**

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2020 CELEBRATION

Advantage Federal Credit Union Betsy Armes and Lisa Della Posta Karen Arnold Bentley Studios, Christin Bentley **Bodymind Float Center** Dr. Susan Brannen Breathe Yoga Greece, Lori Roe Lindsey Brugger

Ken Crist

Ginger Critchley Beth Curran

Cassandra DiPasquale

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Red Fedele's Brook House Restaurant

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Grandpa Sam's Italian Kitchen Restaurant

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Kelly and Bill Mutschler

Casey Olson

Melissa and Curtis Pound

Ridgemont Country Club, Jim Cucinelli

Susan Rizzo

Rochester West Central Kiwanis

So Sandi

Paul Salmin

Susan Sennett

Tantalo Portraits, Frank Tantalo

Tony D's

If you would like to become a sponsor, donate an auction item for the event or volunteer please email sdawe@monroe2boces.org or call (585) 349-9009.

CELEBRATING OUR **2020**

Scholarship and Award Recipients

The unprecedented challenges of 2020 required some creative solutions for the Monroe 2-Orleans Educational Foundation. The Monroe 2-Orleans Educational Foundation annual spring reception for scholarship recipients was canceled due to pandemic restrictions. But the Foundation Board saluted students nonetheless with a drive-thru parade on the BOCES 2 Big Ridge Road campus on Monday, June 15, 2020.

Seventeen of this year's scholarship and award recipients came through, cheered by applause and cowbell clanks from board members and sponsors. Board President Joe Kelly introduced the students and shared their achievements over a loudspeaker as they proceeded along the parade route to a quick stop for a photo with family members before heading back home.





It is our sincere hope that we can have an in-person celebration event in 2021. As soon as the Foundation Celebration Committee determines the best way to hold a safe fundraising event, we will communicate with you!

2020 **BOARD MEMBERS**



Joseph Kelly President



Michelle Erklenz-Watts, Ph.D. Vice President



Barbara Cutrona Secretary



Paul Salmin, CPA Treasurer



Keith Bock



Susan Brannen, Au.D.



Michael Crumb



Elisabeth Curran



C. Tod Eagle



Janelle Failing

2020 **BOARD MEMBERS**



Nancy Geraci



Matthew Huber



Casey Kosiorek, Ed. D.



Deborah Leh, Ed. D.



Leigh Nenni



Susan Rizzo



Lori Roe



Jo Anne Antonacci, Ex Officio

Remembering Dr. William Dadey

The Monroe 2-Orleans Educational Foundation Board would like to extend condolences to the family of Dr. William Dadey. Dr. Dadey was an ardent supporter of the Foundation since its inception and served on the Foundation Board from 2002 until his death on February 7, 2021.

Dr. Dadey was Gates Chili School Superintendent from 1977 until 2003. He was a dedicated advocate for students, a principled community leader and a loyal friend. The Foundation will miss his wisdom, enthusiasm and kind manner. Our thoughts and prayers continue to be with his wife Ann and the entire Dadey family.



Many Paths **TO GIVING**

The Monroe 2-Orleans Educational Foundation is a 501 (c) (3) nonprofit organization. Gifts to the Foundation are tax deductible. There are many ways to positively impact our students by donating to the Foundation:

Bequests, Life Insurance, Retirement Plans

These options allow donors to make gifts using assets upon their death. Bequests allow you to designate a specific amount, a percentage of your estate, or all of what remains after you consider others. Bequests will allow you to reduce estate taxes. The Foundation may also be named as the beneficiary of a life insurance policy, or be given a retirement plan principal or income.

Cash Gifts

Most donors make their gifts and pledge payments by check or cash. For tax purposes, the gift date is the postmark date on the envelope, or the date the check is hand-delivered.

Charitable Gift Annuities (Life Income)

Making a life income gift can allow you to maintain or increase your income. This income can be paid to you, and then to your spouse or another individual for his or her lifetime. You receive the immediate tax benefits, and the Foundation receives your gift when the life income payments are complete.

Commemorative Gifts

Contributions to the Foundation are a great way to recognize a special individual or commemorate a significant event. The Monroe 2-Orleans Educational Foundation gladly accepts gifts made in honor or memory of an individual. Special recognition giving cards are available.

Corporate Matching Gifts

You may be able to double or triple your gift if you work at or are retired from a company that has a matching gifts program. Please contact your employer's human resources office for forms and information.

THANK YOU for your support

Many paths **TO GIVING**

Gifts of Appreciated Securities (Stock Gifts)

Tax laws allow you to give appreciated securities and take a tax deduction for current value, and generally bypass capital gains taxes that would be due if you sold them, making it more cost-effective to contribute a gift.

Qualified Charitable IRA Distribution

A qualified charitable distribution is a charitable contribution from an IRA made directly to an eligible charity. The owner of the account isn't taxed on it which gives your donation added impact for the Foundation. Please contact your financial and/ or tax advisors for further guidance on this type of donation.

Real Estate

Your home, land and other real estate may be used to make an immediate or life income gift. As with appreciated securities, real estate gifts held more than a year can offer significant tax benefits. The value of your gift will need an appraisal, required by the IRS.

Gifts can be made via credit card by calling (585) 349-9009 or on the Foundation website at: www.makeallthedifference.org A donation or event sponsorship of \$2,500 entitles the donor the opportunity to name a scholarship awarded to one of our students.

The Monroe 2–Orleans Educational Foundation is proud to partner with the Rochester Area Community Foundation (RACF). RACF manages the Educational Foundation's assets, provides support services, and raises the Foundation's stature in the regional philanthropic community.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

(585) 349-9009 www.makeallthedifference.org

Monroe 2-Orleans Educational Foundation P.O. Box 495 Spencerport, NY 14559

Please send your contribution and the completed Giving Card to:

The Monroe 2–Orleans Educational Foundation P.O. Box 495
Spencerport, NY 14559

□ I have inc □ I would like The Monroe All gifts are t Please make For assistanc at (585) 349-	Please notify Name	□ I would like My giff is
□ I have included the Monroe 2–Orleans Educational Foundation in my will and other estate plans. □ I would like more information on how to include the Educational Foundation in my estate planning. The Monroe 2–Orleans Educational Foundation will acknowledge your gift and notify the person named above. All gifts are tax deductible. The exact amount of your gift will be kept confidential. Please make your checks payable to the Monroe 2–Orleans Educational Foundation. For assistance on making a gift using your credit card or more information, please call the Foundation office at (585) 349-9009. You can also donate online at www.makeallthedifference.org	ffy NameAddress CityStateZipPhone	□ I would like to designate my gift of \$to the Monroe 2–Orleans Educational Foundation. My gift is □ In memory of □ In tribute to



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who has passed away, please complete the information on

I will fulfill my pledge in quarterly installments; please send me reminders.

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Please check here for information about how to make a bequest	a bequest.

Foundation. Donations are tax deductible as charitable contributions. Please make check(s) payable to the Monroe 2–Orleans Educational BOCES employees selecting payroll deduction should contact the Payroll Office at (585) 352-2407.

If you are donating as a tribute to someone or in memory of someone For more details on giving levels and sponsorships, please call (585) 349-9009. *Donors of \$500 or more are entitled to be guests at the Annual Celebration. You can also donate online at www.makeallthedifference.org

