

# Growing Stronger



Unity House  
Empowering Lives. Securing Futures.

2025 ANNUAL REPORT



## Mission

To empower and enrich the lives of people in recovery, coping with a mental illness, and/or diagnosed with a developmental disability. This is accomplished by offering services and supports in an inclusive, person-centered environment.

## Vision

All individuals are respected and lead lives of personal fulfillment and acceptance within our community.

## Core Values

Honesty, Integrity, Respect

## 2025 Board of Directors

Kenneth Knight – *President*

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Richard Slagle – *Secretary*

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Whitney Kummerow

Joseph Manning

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## 2025 Administration

Elizabeth Smith

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Darlene Podolak

*Chief Operating Officer*

Amber Amidon

*Chief Compliance Officer*

Sara Bilinski

*Chief People Officer*

Chris Iven

*Chief Advancement Officer*

Joanna Viggiano

*Chief Financial Officer*

# You Power Stories of Hope

Dear Friends,

Delivering on our mission requires people – employees, partners and donors. That’s why we’re so grateful for you. Your dedication brought hope to each of the 706 people Unity House supported in 2025. **Because of you, Unity House’s mission grew stronger.**

More people made charitable contributions to Unity House in 2025 than ever before. Your gifts and your advocacy with state leaders strengthened our workforce. We were able to provide significant raises to our Direct Support Professionals, and we helped more DSPs earn national credentials. Employee retention and satisfaction are up and our job vacancy rate dropped to 17%, the lowest since the pandemic.

**With more donors and employees, we’ve been able to do more to empower people with disabilities.** We expanded our Employment Services program to Tompkins County. We began a pilot program to explore how technology can provide more autonomy for the people we support. We accepted a request from state regulators to take over and improve three group homes in Auburn.

**In 2026, we’re ready to go deeper in our mission** by investing in our people, our places and our programs. We are:

- doing more to intentionally develop our staff.
- improving accessibility at our group homes so that residents can age in place.
- evaluating new opportunities to address homelessness among people with mental illness and to help more mothers in recovery who have young children.

But we can’t do it without you. **We need your advocacy and your donations to empower more people with disabilities.** We need your ideas to fill more gaps in service. Together, we’ll help more people create stories of hope.

**Your ongoing support helps us grow stronger. Thank you.**



*Darlene Podolak*  
**Darlene Podolak**  
*Chief Executive Officer*



*Kenneth Knight*  
**Kenneth Knight**  
*Board President*

On the cover:

Martin Kasey, a mental health peer specialist at Unity House’s PROSPerity Program, stands with participants Nate (left) and Lillie. Once a participant himself, Martin now uses his lived experience to help others overcome mental health challenges. Read Martin’s story on page 2.

## Empowered to Help Others

Three years ago, Martin Kasey was in a hospital, recovering from a suicide attempt.

Two years ago, he was a participant in Unity House's PROSPerity Program, attending group classes with others recovering from mental illness. With help from a PROS practitioner, he was working on his goals: earning his peer certification and applying to graduate school.

Today, he's a credentialed peer specialist working five days a week at PROS. He uses his experience to help others overcome their mental health challenges.

"I'm still focused on my own recovery," Martin said. "I'm still learning from the groups here, even though I'm the one leading them. They are also my peers."

Program participants say Martin is able to help them in ways clinicians sometimes can't.

"If I can talk to somebody and learn how they're getting through, it helps," said Daryl, a program participant for several years. "He's speaking up for himself now, and I'm doing that more, too. He's a role model."

Martin's genuine care for others sets him apart, said PROS Director Taylor Casamassima. "He's eager to help wherever he is needed, whether it's taking someone to the food pantry, helping them find clothing or housing, or just taking the time to offer emotional support."

Lillie, a PROS participant since 2024, said Martin sometimes challenges her assumptions, giving her a "good push" toward



*Martin Kasey (left) and PROS participants play Codenames as part of a therapeutic group activity centered on interpretation and perspective-shifting. Players practice self-expression, communication and trust in a supportive environment.*

better mental health. She hopes to follow in Martin's footsteps by graduating from PROS soon.

"Seeing him accomplish stuff – that's inspiring," Lillie said. "If he can do it, I can do it."

Martin said he wants to become a therapist so he can help people on a deeper level. He was recently accepted into the Master of Social Work program at the University at Buffalo. He'll start taking classes this fall, and since they'll be online only, Martin will be able to continue working at PROS.

"I'm really excited about what's next," Martin said. "I'm realizing that there's a really fulfilling career out there for me and that I'm already in the early stages of it."

*We first shared Robert's and Martin's stories more than a year ago. To see the originals, as well as more Stories of Hope, visit our website or scan this QR code:*



## An Important Part of the Team

Robert Youngs recently relocated to be closer to the job he loves.

"I don't have to wait for the bus anymore," Robert said, smiling. "I can walk to work now. It's easier."

Robert has intellectual disabilities and struggles with communication. But after completing a 12-week training course through Unity House's Employment Services (UES) program, he earned a subsidized internship at Mamma Maria New York Pizzeria in Auburn in 2024.

Since then, Robert has transitioned to a job fully paid by his employer. With weekly on-site support from his Unity House job coach, he has been able to take on new duties.

"I know how to make sauce and roll dough now," Robert said.

His co-worker, Barbara, said Robert has learned a lot and is now an important part of the team:

"Robert is flexible. He really does everything on the back end."



*Robert (left) and coworkers Barbara, Matthew and Zahara create and serve pizza, wings and dessert at his UES job in Auburn.*

# FINANCIAL REPORT 2025 (unaudited)

For the year ending December 31, 2025, Unity House's revenue increased to \$30.7 million (from \$27.8 million in 2024). Expenses were \$29.7 million.

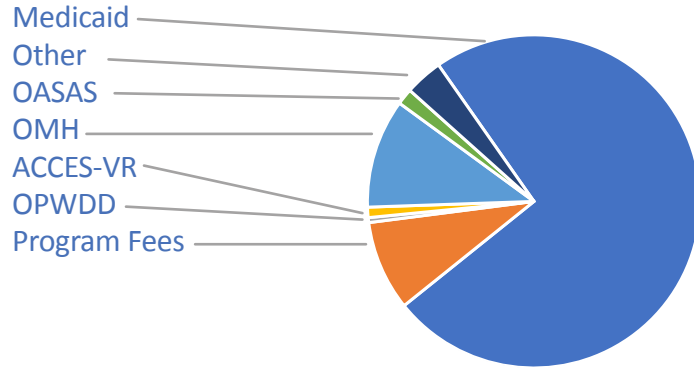
The 11% growth in revenue was driven by increases in Medicaid rates; billing units of service; OMH contracts in Cayuga, Tompkins, and Wayne counties; and income from our investment and endowment accounts.

Organizational expenses grew by 14% in 2025. This rise can be attributed mostly to salary and benefits, as we have hired and retained our staff by providing competitive wages. In addition, program costs were higher due to outsourced temporary staffing utilized by our IRAs. As of December 31, we had 77 open positions.

**Joanna Viggiano, Chief Financial Officer**

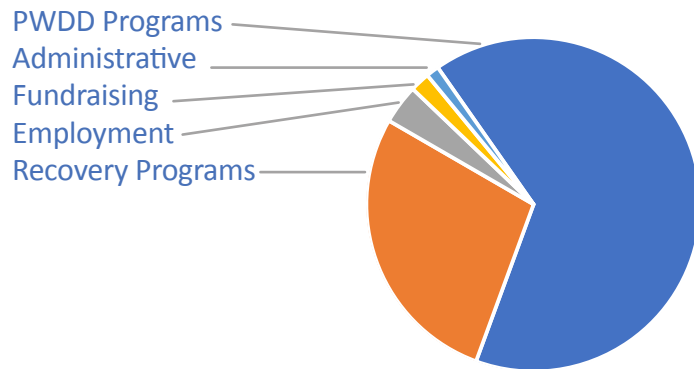
## REVENUE

Medicaid	\$23,940,786	77.9%
OMH	\$2,395,322	7.8%
Program Fees	\$2,259,575	7.4%
OASAS	\$197,122	.6%
ACCES-VR	\$189,852	.6%
Other	\$1,696,425	5.5%
OPWDD	\$61,916	.2%
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$30,740,998</b>	



## EXPENSES

PWDD Programs	\$22,333,039	75.3%
Recovery Programs	\$5,419,839	18.3%
Employment	\$1,010,915	3.4%
Fundraising	\$530,011	1.8%
Administrative	\$465,375	1.2%
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$29,759,179</b>	



## Beardsley Architects + Engineers Golf Tournament Sponsors

For the third year in a row, Beardsley Architects + Engineers selected Unity House to be the beneficiary of its annual golf tournament. Nineteen foursomes gathered at Highland Park Golf Club on August 18 for a sunny round of golf. Many thanks to Beardsley, all the golfers, and the following sponsors who helped raise nearly \$12,000 to support people with disabilities:

- |                                      |                                |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Auburn Community Hospital            | NUCOR Steel                    |
| Beardsley Architects + Engineers     | Pinnacle Building & Remodeling |
| Boyle & Anderson P.C.                | Pinnacle Investments, LLC      |
| Building Envelope Technologies, Inc. | Plan & Print Systems, Inc.     |
| Bush Crane, Inc.                     | The Printery                   |
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| Lyons National Bank                  | Construction                   |
| Markert USA Group                    | Tompkins Community Bank        |
| Mutual of America                    | RG Wright Agency, Inc.         |



# 2025 HIGHLIGHTS

## FEBRUARY

Unity House employees across multiple residential sites and programs proudly participated in National Wear Red Day to raise awareness about women's heart health. With more than 70% of our dedicated workforce comprised of women, this cause is especially meaningful to our organization.



## MARCH

The Unity House Plungers braved the icy waters of Cayuga Lake at Taughannock Falls State Park in support of Special Olympics New York. Staff have proudly participated in the Ithaca Polar Plunge since its inception in 2014. More than 20 brave jumpers raised \$4,095 to benefit athletes with disabilities.

## JUNE

Every year, Unity House takes part in the Syracuse Workforce Run, a 5k event that brings together local businesses and nonprofits to promote health, wellness, and team building. Twenty-eight Unity House employees joined more than 2,200 others at Onondaga Lake Park in Liverpool for the event. Their participation reflects Unity House's continued commitment to employee well-being.



## JULY

Ithaca Day Services' summer talent show at Myers Park in Lansing was a success, drawing more than 70 attendees. The event highlighted the creativity and joy of our performers in a supportive community setting.



## AUGUST

Two teams of Unity House administrative staff participated in the United Way of Cayuga County's Day of Caring, volunteering at Mozaic in Auburn and the Frontenac Historical Society in Union Springs. Team members assisted with weeding, brush removal and landscaping. Unity House always seeks to give back in the community and make a positive impact.



## SEPTEMBER

Employees took part in month-long staff appreciation festivities featuring a scavenger hunt, talent showcases, appetizer cookoffs, massage therapy, and more. The celebration concluded at Fillmore Glen State Park in Moravia, where staff enjoyed lunch and cheered on colleagues during a live "Family Feud" event. Trophies and medals were awarded, with the Auburn Day Hab team earning overall first place. Congratulations, Alpha Squad!



## NOVEMBER

The week of Thanksgiving, Ithaca Day Hab played a meaningful role in supporting our community by helping deliver free holiday meals across Tompkins County. They joined with Beacon Events & Catering, which prepared more than 1,300 meals for families in need. Our program participants went door-to-door distributing food to their neighbors.



# PROGRAM UPDATES 2025

## PWDD Day Services

*for people with developmental and intellectual disabilities*



Our Day Habilitation program is partnering with more community members to provide enriching activities for the people we support. Kathleen Ganley (in the background, left) is especially popular. A licensed physical therapist, she helps improve balance among both Ithaca and Auburn Day Hab participants.

“Everybody loves her,” said Program Director Aaron Brozon. “Participants are eager to join in.”

Day Services is also offering more programming on evenings and weekends. Sunday viewing parties for NFL games and WWE matches are popular, as are musical performances at the Finger Lakes Mall, Aaron said.

The Self Direction Program continues to grow rapidly. It now supports 125 people – the most our state contract allows. Aaron said he plans to ask the state to increase the capacity when the current contract expires in 2027.



## MH Residential Services

*for people diagnosed with mental illness*

With homelessness at a crisis level locally, our Certified Treatment Apartments program is innovating to support more people in need. The program’s experienced staff reconfigured their case load and brought in more clinical help, said Ashley Manning, director of Mental Health Residential Services.

“They’re very, very committed to working the complex cases,” Ashley said of her team. “They’re identifying the barriers each person has and then helping them overcome those barriers.”

The program now supports 39 people with serious mental illness, up 18% from early 2025. Residents are also “graduating” more rapidly to our Supportive Apartments Program when they no longer need as much support. That program housed 143 people in 2025, Ashley said.

With the addition of a new wellness and recovery specialist position, the programs are poised to keep growing in 2026, Ashley said.

## PWDD Residential Services

*for people with developmental and intellectual disabilities*

When you’re good at what you do, you’re often rewarded with more work. That’s what happened to Unity House’s PWDD Residential Services program in 2025.

The program won two state grants: \$647,000 to replace our oldest, least accessible IRA (group home) and \$135,000 to improve accessibility at several IRAs in Tompkins County. State regulators also chose the program to take over operations of three Auburn IRAs that needed improvement to better meet the needs of their residents. It was also one of four programs statewide selected to pilot the use of technology to provide greater autonomy for residents.

“We’re being awarded these things because we don’t stand still,” said Program Director Amy Santobianco. “We’re continually looking for ways to keep our people safe, healthy, engaged, together, and as independent as possible.”



## Unity Employment Services (UES)

*for people with disabilities who want to work*

For people Unity House supports, lack of transportation is one of the biggest barriers to employment. In 2024, more than a dozen people in our employment services program were unable to work because they did not have reliable rides. In 2025, we purchased a small SUV using grants from four local foundations and hired a part-time driver. Our new transport service is open to Unity House participants who receive employment support. Most pay just \$1 per commute.

“This transportation helps me because I cannot drive because of my disability,” said program participant Tiffinny Chapman (right, with UES driver Sarah Schott). “It would cost me much more to use taxis and Ubers to get to work.”



Also in 2025, Unity House began offering employment services in Tompkins County. The program has helped eight people so far, with plans to aid many more in 2026, said Program Director Amanda McManus.

## Grace House & Supportive Apartments

*for people recovering from substance use disorders*

Kelli Barker is proof that helping one person overcome addiction can improve the lives of many others. With support from Unity House’s Supportive Apartment program, Kelli grew stronger, began rebuilding her family and got the training she needed to start a new career. Today, as a full-time Certified Recovery Peer Advocate, she helps parents get the help they need to fight addiction.

“It feels really good,” Kelli said. “I’m able to help clients get through it because I’ve been there myself.”

Thanks to Unity House’s Mental Health Housing program, Kelli has an apartment. Her kids are either in childcare or are doing well in school, and Kelli is working toward a future as a Credentialed Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Counselor (CASAC) – a clinician who can provide direct care.

Kelli is one of many people the Supportive Apartments program helped in 2025, said Program Director Dorothy Radcliff.



## Personalized Recovery-Oriented Services (PROS)

*for people diagnosed with mental illness*

The holidays can be especially difficult for people suffering from mental illness.

“A lot of our participants don’t have family to go to, so they sit at home,” said PROS Program Director Taylor Casamassima. “That’s not good for their mental health.”

Compounding the problem in late 2025 was the government shutdown, which threatened and then halted federal SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) benefits. To address both problems – loneliness and food insecurity – PROS staff got creative.

“We did a lot of parties over the holidays: Halloween, Thanksgiving, Christmas,” Taylor said. “We had lots of fun and we made sure we had plenty of food.” Participants were encouraged to fill to-go containers with leftovers so that they had an easy meal the next day.



# 2025 – 2027 Strategic Plan

Unity House kicked off its new three-year strategic plan in 2025, outlined below. Many initiatives are already underway.

## PRIORITY #1 STAFFING

*Unity House is an employer of choice in the communities we serve*

- Improve staff recruitment
- Improve staff retention
- Achieve and maintain high employee satisfaction rates

## PRIORITY #2 PROGRAMMING

*Maintain and expand high quality services to meet community needs*

- Introduce new recovery services for women with their children
- Enhance housing accessibility features to foster greater independence
- Offer more housing options

## PRIORITY #3 RELATIONSHIP BUILDING

*Raise the profile of Unity House as a partner and charity of choice*

- Create greater awareness of Unity House, particularly in Tompkins County
- Increase familiarity with Unity House's full menu of services
- Expand donor base

## PRIORITY #4 DIVERSITY, EQUITY & INCLUSION PART 1

*Empower organizational leadership through Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Belonging, Justice, Acceptance (DEIBJA) trainings*

- Provide foundational training for supervisors and the board to deepen their understanding of DEIBJA principles and their critical role in fostering an inclusive culture
- Ensure that supervisors and the board hold themselves and others accountable for embodying the organization's DEIBJA values and driving inclusive change at all levels
- Regularly assess the effectiveness of DEIBJA and crucial conversation training and its impact on leadership and organization culture

## PRIORITY #4 DIVERSITY, EQUITY & INCLUSION PART 2

*Develop a culture of inclusion through open and transparent communication across the organization*

- Provide ongoing training to employees at all levels on how to practice cultural responsiveness
- Identify opportunities to address unconscious biases, micro-aggressions and other DEIBJA topics
- Implement mechanisms to ensure regular and structured feedback from employees to leadership, enabling a loop of continuous improvements in communication and inclusivity
- Encourage collaboration across different departments and levels of the organization to break down silos and foster inclusive teamwork

# Decades of Dedication

After 30 years at Unity House, Liz Smith retired as its CEO on December 31. She was the chief executive for more than 15 years, capping a career dedicated to empowering people with disabilities.

Liz started in 1987 as a job coach in Unity House's employment program. After taking time to have children, earn a college degree and work five years for another nonprofit, she returned to Unity House in 1995 as a case manager. Within three years, Liz became Unity House's first director of quality assurance, and in 1999, was named deputy executive director. She was promoted to executive director in 2009.

In December, dozens of family members and friends gathered at the Springside Inn to celebrate Liz's legacy with gratitude and humor. At her request, the event was a roast, so attendees shared funny stories and pictures. Liz laughed more than any of the guests, and said the evening was "exactly what I had hoped for."

After a year-long planned transition, former COO Darlene Podolak took the reins as CEO on January 1.

*More than 40 people have made charitable gifts to Unity House to honor Liz's legacy. Make yours here:*



## A Legacy of Hope and Healing

Teresa Motz brought people together through laughter, friendship, food, music and dance. Hard-working and joyfully unconventional, she believed every person deserves dignity and respect.

Due to a series of serious accidents, Teresa lived with chronic pain, said Unity House CEO Darlene Podolak, who met Teresa through her church.

"She knew from lived experience how support, encouragement, and having a partner alongside you could make a big difference," Darlene said. "She saw that Unity House provides that support to many people who are struggling."

Teresa passed away in 2024 at age 65, but her values live on. Through her estate plan, Teresa directed \$100,000 to Unity House for "programs that empower support through hope and healing for individuals recovering from traumatic life events."



Teresa Motz

The gift to Unity House was part of a \$1.8 million bequest Teresa made to the Central New York Community Foundation to establish the Hope and Healing Through Empowering Support (HAHTES) Fund. The Foundation will use the fund to provide grants to Cayuga County nonprofit organizations that serve people facing physical or psychological challenges as they rebuild their lives.

*Unity House's Legacy Circle honors Teresa Motz and others who have included Unity House as a beneficiary at any level in their estate plans. To learn more, please contact Chris Iven at [chris.iven@unityhouse.org](mailto:chris.iven@unityhouse.org) or 315-253-6227, ext. 360 or scan here:*



# HONOR ROLL OF DONORS 2025

Unity House's mission-driven work is powered by people like you. In 2025, more people and organizations made charitable gifts and grants to Unity House than ever before. Thanks to their generosity, Unity House was able to direct more than \$1 million to meet the critical needs of people facing major life challenges. We are deeply grateful to each of our dedicated friends listed below.

Chris Iven, *Chief Advancement Officer*

## Giving Circles

To celebrate the dedication of Unity House's most loyal supporters, we created four giving circles in 2025.

### 1977 Society

Commemorating the year of Unity House's founding, the 1977 Society honors leadership donors who gave \$1,000 or more to advance our mission in 2025 (●).

### Legacy Circle

The Legacy Circle celebrates those who have made a lasting commitment by including Unity House in their estate plan (●).

Thomas and Karen Akins ●

Maxine Alberici 5 ●

Thomas and Donna Ambrose ●

Amber Amidon^ ● 15

Anonymous 5

Anonymous ● ● 10

Michael\* and Brittany Antonacci ● ●

Neil and Maggie Atkins 15

Auburn Community Hospital ●

E. Jeannette Baird 15

Beardsley Architects + Engineers ●

Helga Beck ●

Cathy Becker 15

Judi Bilinski 10

Sara Bilinski^ ● 5

Leslie and Rick Bishop 5

Bonadio Group ● 5

David and Beth Bowman 10

Laurie Briggs 5

Kelly Buck^ ● 15

Pam Burgess 5

Roberta Burling 5

Trudy Buxenbaum 5

Dale Campbell 15

Tim Carr 5

Jo Ann Clune ●

Jim Crenner 10

Jim Currier 10

Currier Plastics 10

Jean DeJoy 5

Robert and Michelle Delaney 5

Kerry Demarest ●

Scott Diego ●

Gerald Dygert 10

Christine Edge-Christensen 5

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Matthew Fletcher ●

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Chris^ and Emily Iven ● ●

Jessica Janssen\* ●

Stephen Januseski ●

Jonathan's Furniture ● 5

Gail Keenen ● 5

KeyBank ● 10

Ken\* and Joan Knight ● 10

Diane Koester and Ken Larson 5

Jeff and Wendy LaDuca ●

Susan and Tim Larkin ● 5

Kurt and Marilyn Lavin ●

Heather Lawrence^ ●

Alexis Liberatore-Herrick 5

Lynch Furniture ● 10

Michael Mancini 5

Joseph Manning\* 10

MEDENT/Community Computer 10

Hsien-Ann Meng 5

Karen Merritt 5

Thomas and Elaine Meyers ●

MG Architects ● 5

Victoria Miner^ ● 5

Helen Miskell ● 15

Ashley Moench 10

Teresa Motz HAHTES Fund ●

Bob Neigh and Jennifer Micale ● ● 5

Nucor Steel ●

Cynthia O'Connor 5

Michiyo Pestrige^ ● 5

Sue Phillips-Coe 10

Darlene^ and Chris Podolak ● 10

Jim and Linda Podolak ●

### Evergreen Society

Evergreen Society members provide steady support year-round through monthly or other regularly scheduled contributions (●).

### Loyalty Circle

The Loyalty Circle recognizes donors whose sustained generosity has powered our work for at least 5, 10 or 15 consecutive years.

Ron and Sara Jo Podolak 10

Barbara Power ● 10

Mary K Poz^ ●

The Printery 15

Dorothy Radcliff^ ●

James P Reagan Agency ● 10

Mary K Redmond 10

Thomas Reiley 5

Christopher Ryan\* 10

Amy Santobianco^ ● 10

Bruno Schickel ●

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Margaret Shaw\* ● ●

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Elizabeth Smith^ ● ● 15

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Xylem, Inc. 5

Hannah Young^ 5

\* = Unity House board member  
^ = Unity House employee

# HONOR ROLL OF DONORS 2025 *continued*

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Meghan Eddy^	Valerie Longley^		
Mark and Jill Fandrich			

\* = Unity House board member  
^ = Unity House employee

# HONOR ROLL OF DONORS 2025 *continued*

Columbian Foundation  
Dormitory Authority State of NY  
French Foundation

Wendi Allen  
*in memory of Kelly Piskacek*  
Anonymous  
*in honor of Cynthia O'Connor*

Anonymous  
*in honor of Elspeth Peterson*  
Anonymous  
*in honor of James Beaumont*

Anonymous  
*in memory of Marian Prockup*  
Anonymous  
*in memory of Nancy Smith*

E. Jeannette Baird  
*in memory of Catherine J. Leonard*  
Dawn Barnes  
*in memory of Kelly Piskacek*

Steven Berian  
*in honor of Elizabeth "Lisa" Berian*  
Leslie Bishop  
*in honor of Nick Reiter*

Pam Burgess  
*in honor of Mark Freelove*  
Roberta Burling  
*in honor of Kevin Burling*

Dale Campbell  
*in honor of Gale Campbell*  
Lucille Cannata  
*in honor of Elizabeth Clune*

Maureen Cheney  
*in memory of John "Jack" Gagan*  
Audrey Clark  
*in memory of Marian Prockup*

Sharon Detzer  
*in memory of Nancy Smith*  
John and Jacquilyn Dmytrenko  
*in memory of Mary Dmytrenko*

Gerald Dygert  
*in memory of Chris Dygert*  
FC Capital Management LLC  
*in honor of Morgan Coriale*

Betty Festa  
*in honor of Matthew Soden*  
Marilyn Fuller  
*in honor of Shawna Underwood*

George Gagne  
*in honor of Mike Sellester*  
Gary Gould  
*in honor of Bonnie Gould*

Carl Harder  
*in honor of Jim Burlingame*

## FOUNDATIONS & GRANTMAKING ORGANIZATIONS

Friends of Tompkins County  
Public Library  
Foundation for Jewish  
Philanthropies

Jacqueline Hawley  
*in memory of Jennifer Poz*  
Annelie Hogan  
*in memory of Kelly Piskacek*

Maury and Beth Josephson  
*in honor of Ian Josephson*  
Michael Katz  
*in honor of Kelly Buck*

Kinanco - Finger Lakes Press  
*in memory of Gerry Mirabito*  
Diane Koester and Ken Larson  
*in honor of Benjamin Larson-Koester*

Joyce Kreydatus  
*in honor of Matthew Soden*  
Margaret Lepak  
*in memory of Mike O'Hora*

Barbara Logan  
*in honor of Brandy Nielsen*  
Michael Mancini  
*in memory of Catherine Mancini*

Helen Miskell  
*in memory of Allan and Peter Miskell*  
Robert Neigh  
*in memory of Earl and Carol Neigh*

Sue Phillips-Coe  
*in honor of Patti Festa*  
Mary Pisano  
*in honor of Grace Swientonioski*

Kim Piskacek  
*in memory of Kelly Piskacek*  
Sara Jo Podolak  
*in honor of Manager and Staff at  
62 South St IRA*

Barbara Power  
*in honor of Nick Reiter*  
Elizabeth Fallon Quilter  
*in honor of members of the Women's  
Recovery Working Group*

Lisa and Mike Rongo  
*in honor of Matthew Rongo*  
Maria Rudolph  
*in memory of George Allhusen*  
Claire Rusin  
*in honor of Grace Swientonioski*

Gregg Ryan  
*in memory of Kelly Piskacek*  
Ginger Sheffey  
*in memory of Nancy Smith*

Nancy Sheffield  
*in memory of Betty Goodrich*

Assemblymember Anna Kelles,  
District 125  
J.M. McDonald Foundation  
Metcalf Foundation

Nancy Sheffield  
*in honor of Heather Gansert*  
Jim and Linda Soychak  
*in honor of Robyn and Tina Ward*  
Alice Stoyell  
*in memory of David Greene*

### ***The following gave in honor of Unity House CEO Liz Smith's retirement:***

Amber Amidon^  
Michael Antonacci\*  
Sharon Baroni  
Cathy Becker  
Claire Berian  
Sara Bilinski^  
Kelly Buck^  
Douglas Cooper  
Johnya Cousineau  
Jeanne and James Daly  
Ashley de Zegher  
Cris Donovan  
Amy Durkin^  
Gary and Shannon Fellows  
Patricia Festa\*  
Ed and Marybeth Galka  
Liz Golembeski  
Chris Iven^  
Jessica Janssen\*  
Ronaee King^

### ***The following gave in memory of Harmony Hill Haines:***

Constance Brown  
Sharon Comfort  
Juanita Converse  
Sherida Dans  
Juanita Griffin  
Deena Haines  
Wanda Hendrix

### ***The following gave in memory of Owen Redmond:***

Carol Baxter  
Linda Bruno  
James Dunne  
Mark and Jeannine Julian

### ***The following gave in memory of Jamie Vivenzio:***

Cheryl Bryant  
Judith Campanella  
Michael Connery  
Jean DeJoy  
Jeanne Del Favero  
Deborah and John Empie  
Tanna Fiduccia  
Rick and Lee Gaylo  
Sonia Johnson  
Annette Koziol  
Anne Malvaso  
Douglas Michael  
Carolyn Moore

Polisseni Foundation  
Triad Foundation

Sandra Tonzi  
*in memory of Nancy Smith*  
Catherine Van Iderstine  
*in memory of Sean Van Iderstine*  
Catherine Van Iderstine  
*in honor of Stephen Van Iderstine*

Ken Knight\*  
Rachel May  
Ross Mitchell  
Sara Moon  
Cynthia O'Connor  
Darlene Podolak^  
Elizabeth Fallon Quilter  
Dorothy Radcliff^  
Amy Santobianco^  
Candi Saxman^  
Margaret Shaw\*  
Emil Slane  
Pat Smith  
Joanna Viggiano^  
John Warren  
Shari Weiss\*  
Haley Werner  
Corey Werner  
Jeffrey Werner  
Hannah Young^

Linsey Larson  
Kathy and Tom Lawyer  
Nicole Lener  
Janice Russell  
Elizabeth Snyder  
West Groton Bible Church

Dolores Pope  
Jean Smyth  
Suzanne Watson

Bernard and Mary Ann Oliver  
Paul and Debbie Pinckney  
Kara Primrose  
William and Linda Prosser  
Rick and Lorraine Quinn  
Claire Rusin  
Grace Salva  
Emily Shaughnessy  
Robert and Patricia Vivenzio  
David and Kathleen Waby  
Sandy Wells  
Julie Whitten



217 Genesee Street • Auburn, NY 13021  
[www.unityhouse.org](http://www.unityhouse.org)

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**2025**  
by the numbers:

**356**  
employees provided

**708,479**  
hours of support to

**706**  
people, thanks to

**475**  
donors dedicated to

**1**  
cause: empowering people  
with disabilities

# 2025 ANNUAL REPORT