

# ONYA News

March 2023



## A Letter from the ONYA President

This past year has been a banner year for ONYA thanks to the generosity of our donors. Bud to Bloom started off the year in a new venue and with a new fund-raising event. The weather was beautiful, the venue very accommodating, our honorary co-chairs, Anna and Ellen Polimeni and guest speaker, Kathy Hendrix were very inspiring, and the generosity of our local artists provided beautiful art for our silent auction. All these things and your generosity made this year's event our most successful event ever.

We were able to provide grants to five organizations that help the women and girls of Ontario and Yates counties. These grants ranged from \$3,000-\$7,000. Those organizations were: Big Brothers/Big Sisters, Habitat for Humanity (2 grants), The Living Well Mission, and Family Hope Center. We were also able to provide seven mini-grants ranging for \$500-\$1,000 to Cornell Cooperative Extension, Safe Harbors, Child & Family Resources, The Living Well Mission, Mozaic Chapter NYSARC, and two programs at the St. Vincent DePaul Society.

Our Fall Barbecue had people popping balloons to reveal prizes generously donated by our local merchants. The food was great and everyone in attendance had a fun time. Unfortunately, we could have used more participants.

Without the support and generosity of our donors and the arduous work put in by our Board, we would not be able to accomplish our mission. Because of you, over the last 22 years, we have been able to help the women and girls of Ontario and Yates counties find their voices. Thank you aren't big enough words to express what you have helped us accomplish. May 2023 see us expand our reach and continue our programs.

*Sue Raymond, President*

## Save the Date!

June 3, 2023

Bud to Bloom Luncheon



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## ONYA Fall Barbeque

Our annual Fall BBQ fund raiser is always a family-fun way to support ONYA! In 2022, our celebration was held at the Canandaigua Yacht Club's Newmark Room on October 2<sup>nd</sup>. All were treated to a wonderful meal prepared by the Yacht Club's chef and staff, while enjoying the beautiful lake view setting.

A new and well-received addition this year was our surprise raffle balloons! For a \$20 donation, each received a pink or purple balloon—to be popped to discover noted inside their special "prize", all donated by our gracious community business supporters.

Prizes included a new 32" TV, a 3-month membership at the YMCA, and a cooking experience for 10 at Simply Crepes, among many other fantastic prizes. WOW!!

It was a great scene—including the added attraction of watching winners exchange prizes!!

### ONYA wishes to thank the following community donors:

AMC  
APPLEBEE'S  
ARTWORK BY ONTARIO AND YATES WOMEN ARTISTS  
CANANDAIGUA RECORD EXCHANGE  
CANANDAIGUA SAILBOARD  
CANANDAIGUA LAKE WATERSHED ASSOCIATION  
CHESHIRE FARM CREAMERY  
CONSTELLATIONS  
CROWN JEWELRY  
DUNKIN DONUTS  
ENCAUSTIC WAX PAINTING BY ARTIST JEANNE BECK  
FLUFFY'S QUILT PATCH PLUS  
JFS FOOD DISTRIBUTORS  
THE LAKE HOUSE  
LINDSEY'S NAIL SALON  
LOWE'S  
NEON WAVE  
NOLAN'S  
THE PAPERBACK PLACE  
ROCKCASTLE FLORIST  
RYAN'S WINE AND SPIRITS  
SALVATORE'S OLD-FASHIONED PIZZERIA  
SAKURA JAPANESE STEAK HOUSE & SUSHI BAR  
SIGHTS & SHADES  
SIMPLY CREPES  
STARBUCKS  
STAPLES  
SWEET EXPRESSIONS  
SWEET SOLUTIONS  
STATIONERY PACK BY ARTIST JEANNE BECK

## 2023 GRANT PROGRAM NEWS

ONYA was able to award grants to five non-profit organizations for programs that will run in 2023 and help to foster personal growth and economic self-sufficiency among women and girls through-out Ontario and Yates Counties.



### Child & Family Resources, Inc

#### "Mother and Child Emergency Need & Personal Growth Project"

This grant will allow for emergency need purchases, such as a phone card or gas card to assist families with daily needs. The funds may also cover larger high impact needs such as a college class for a Mom completing her degree, a car repair to enable transportation to work and for needed appointments for the children, a security deposit to secure a safe home.



**DRESS FOR SUCCESS®**  
ROCHESTER

### Dress for Success Rochester

#### "Mobile Career Center Programming: DFS Express Ontario & Yates Expansion"

This grant will expand Dress for Success Rochester by helping to cover the costs of Mobile Career Center Programming at two locations in Ontario and Yates counties. The funded program offers employment and interview coaching, professional attire and styling points, soft skills, digital skills and employment retention support.



### Family Hope Center

#### "Courageous Beauty"

This funded program is targeted and designed for girls 11-18 years of age and it addresses the concepts and topics that contribute to developing heightened self-esteem. Plans are to host 46 group meetings in which activities and lessons will lead to conversations about healthy relationships, sexual avoidance, and self-worth.

## International Women's Day March 8th

International Women's Day is a global day celebrating the social, economic, cultural and political achievements of women. The day also marks a call to action for accelerating gender parity. Significant activity is witnessed worldwide as groups come together to celebrate women's achievements or rally for women's equality.

Marked annually on **March 8th**, International Women's Day (IWD) is one of the most important days of the year to:

- celebrate women's achievements
- educate and raise awareness for women's equality
- call for positive change to advance women
- lobby for accelerated gender parity
- fundraise for **female-focused charities**

IWD has occurred for well over a century, with the first IWD gathering in 1911 supported by over a million people. Today, IWD belongs to all groups collectively everywhere. IWD is not country, group or organization specific.



## 2023 GRANT PROGRAM NEWS



### Safe Harbors of the Finger Lakes

#### "Circle Activities"

This funded program will provide the supplies needed to run school empowerment groups and girls' circle groups which target at-risk youth in an effort to build resiliency and self-advocacy. The program expects to reach over 300 women and girls during the grant cycle.



### Wood Library

#### "Beginner Yoga Classes for Women and Girls"

This grant will cover class instruction and equipment for participants for two six-week series of beginner yoga classes for women and girls who cannot afford classes. The two groups will be divided into a morning class for women 55+ and an evening class for women and girls ages 16-54 and are planned for Winter 2023.

### A Big Thank-You and Recognition for ONYA 2022 Donors!

The following individuals graciously donated to ONYA in 2022:

Jeffrey Adams; Lynn Anania; Cheryl Angelidis; Maggie Atkins; Jeanne Beck; Barb Behelfer; MJ Bell; Laurie Bittner; Ann Borgstrom; Kelly Bradley; Mary Brady; Maggie Bringewatt; Joanne Budynas; Sue Butler; Elizabeth Campbell; Judith Cermak; Linda Cimino; Sally Clancy; Joan Constanzer; Linda Coons; Jan Corning; Deidre Crofton; Kathleen Crosby; Julia Cummins; Mariana Davis; Paula Davis; Sharleen Deisenroth; Kristyn DiDominick; Carolyn Diduro; Kathleen Duserick; Laura Lee Edwards; Robin Evans; Jody Farnsworth; Elizabeth Fladd; Gail Flugel; Gail Fowler; Elaine Frank; Betty Freese; Bill Fuge; Edythe Gansz; Lorena Garmezy; Gail Gilbert; Anna Gorbald; Sharon Gullo; Sally Gulvin; Tally Gwynn; Susan Haller; Barbara Hamlin; Sarah Hamlin; Mary Martha Harvey; Ellen Hemming; Joyce Jacobsen; Kay James; Amy Kane; Adrienne Kantz; Anne Kennedy; Margaret Kerlan; Gretchen Kesel; Joan Kurtz; Cathy Laneri; Dianne Lazenby; Janet Lehmann; Donna Lumb; Mary Maida; Janet Mamula; Veronica McCaffrey; Sandy McGavern; Mary Lou Mees; Katherine Meisch; Kathie Meredith; Gloria Ann Miles; Catherine Moore; Karen Mount; Sally Mueller; Kathleen Mullin Hoar; Frieda O'Hanlon; Sharon Peck; Sandra Perl; Diana Perry; Anna Polimeni; Ellen Polimeni; Mary Prince; Tamara Prull; Becky Raguso Snyder; Sue Raymond; Meg Ewing Reed; Barbara Risser; Sandie Rogers; Elizabeth Russell; Dawn Santiago Marullo; Linda Schnitzler; Jacqueline Sherry; Tarry Shipley; Jody Stolt; Nancy Taylor; Janet Tenreiro; Pamela Tomes; Bessie Tyrrell; Ellen Uebbing; Martha Unrath; Linda Werts; Suzanne Winslow; Kathy Wishman; Kim Yourch; Carol Zimmerman; Nicholette Zimmerman.

2022 Corporate Donation: Canandaigua National Bank & Trust

# About ONYA



### What Does ONYA Do?

ONYA is a non-profit organization dedicated to raising funds for programs that align with our mission: to foster personal growth and economic self-sufficiency among women and girls throughout Ontario and Yates Counties.

### How Does ONYA Do This?

- We strive to continue to build an endowment, funded by donors, from which we award grants to organizations committed to helping women and girls become independent and economically self-sufficient.
- Our annual grants support programs offered by organizations serving these communities which address education, intervention, legal assistance and other relevant solutions.
- We create awareness about the need to assist those at-risk in this segment of our community, and the rewards in doing so, through specific programs within the communities we serve.

### How Can You Help?

- Donate to ONYA today!
- Join one of ONYA's committees: you will find flexible hours and a warm welcome!
  - Donations & Fundraising Committee
  - Communications & Marketing Committee
  - Grants Committee



At ONYA, Ontario/Yates Fund for Women and Girls, we are committed to help women and girls become independent and economically self-sufficient. In doing so, we strive to understand what obstacles they must overcome and look to provide solutions to help.

Explore our website to learn more about all that we're doing to make a change. We are a private, non-profit organization dedicated to raising funds for programs that meet this mission. [www.ONYA-ny.org](http://www.ONYA-ny.org)

The Ontario/Yates Fund for Women and Girls (ONYA) is a Donor Advised Fund of the Finger Lakes Area Community Endowment (FLACE). a 501(c)(3) foundation.

### Donation to Community Clothing Room

On December 12th, ONYA hosted their annual Christmas party for past and present Board Members and ONYA volunteers at the Granger Homestead. As is customary, there was a charity chosen prior with specific requests for items and each attendee was asked to accommodate by bringing an item requested.

This year, the chosen charity was the St. Vincent DePaul Clothing Room. Their requested items were new socks and new towels of all sizes. We are so proud to report that, because of the generosity of our party participants, we were able to deliver multiple bags to their Clothing Room. At the holiday time, it is especially meaningful to know that we were able to help even in this small way, to positively affect the lives of others in our community.



### ONYA Board Members

President: *Sue Raymond*

Vice President: *Diane Olivet*

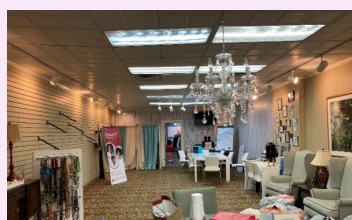
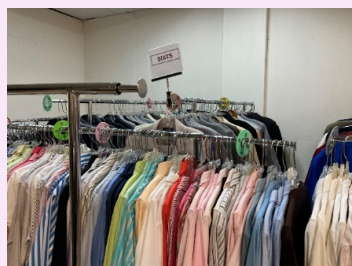
Secretary: *Martha Herbig*

Treasurer: *Amy Pauley*

Board Members: *Cheryl Angelidis, Cindy Hamann, Diana Perry*



Pictures showing the variety and completeness of their operation!



## ONYA 2023 GRANT SPOTLIGHT

### Dress For Success Rochester

Dress For Success was a successful ONYA grant recipient in 2022, and, in 2023, Dress For Success Mobile Unit, was awarded a grant to fund the program that will “come to us”. Yes, this program will come into Ontario and Yates Counties to meet with our own local candidates who apply for access to their services.

So, what about *Dress For Success*?

Bivette Stodghill, Executive Director, Dress For Success Rochester, has some thoughts to share:

*In 2015 a few good women opened the doors of Dress for Success Rochester at our downtown boutique. Fueled by the commitment of several local organizations, in under a decade, we have served more than 1000 women, providing professional attire, coaching, and computer skills.*

*Now more than ever, we believe every woman should have the tools and the opportunity to achieve financial independence and be successful in work and life. Several dozen community agencies partner with DFS Rochester to refer women to our customized services that address every phase of their careers. Women go from being unemployed and searching, to newly employed and adjusting to gainful employment, stability, and new directions.*

*I invite you to join us on our mission to inspire even more life changing transformations.*

This organization certainly fits our grant criteria: to fund programs that give hands-on teaching and support to those who want to lift themselves out of their current situation and work towards a better tomorrow for themselves and their children.

As is customary, one of ONYA's volunteers recently made an onsite visit to this grant recipient. What follows are snippets of her experience:

*When I arrived, I was met by Annette B., a volunteer coach, who explained their mission and how Dress for Success Rochester (DFSR) meets the needs of so many women.*

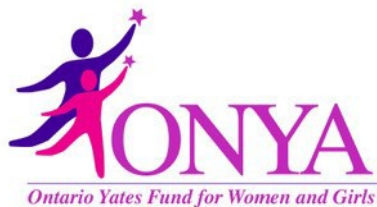
*Women are screened by an employment agency and bring their resume to DFSR. They then receive an interview outfit, including undergarments, jewelry to go with the clothing, makeup and hair updates.*

*While I was there, DFSR's new intern arrived for her first day of work. I was privileged to see Dress for Success Rochester in action. While she was in the dressing room, Annette went to the back room and brought her several tops and bottoms and dresses to try on.*

*Bivette and I watched as she came out of the dressing room, exclaiming how she liked the style and color of the new outfit. Bivette said, “That’s what we call the ‘aha’ moment!” It was so exciting to see this young woman in new clothes which flattered her.*

*While providing clothes, Annette offered advice about the different pieces. While struggling with one of the outfits, Annette and Bivette both commented that her long fingernails would be a problem when working with future clients. These comments underscore how well DFSR works with all aspects of a woman's appearance with customers and future colleagues on the job.*

ONYA is looking forward to the Dress for Success Rochester's Mobile Unit arrival in Ontario and Yates Counties and the support they will bring to our local women!



*23 years of helping  
women and girls find their voices*

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## Stay in the know! Sign up to Receive the ONYA Newsletter!

Please help keep our operating expenses down and allow us to direct more money to the grants that serve the women and girls in need! **We ask that you accept our newsletter by email.** Please share your email with us—your privacy will be respected; we will not share it!!

(Please note, if you still prefer to receive the newsletter via US Mail, we will accommodate.)



Use this QR code to send us your email. Thank-you!

