



OTTAUQUECHEE
HEALTH
FOUNDATION

Annual Report FY2021

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A Message from the Executive Director and Board President

Dear Friends of OHF,

Martin Luther King, Jr., once said, "Out of the mountain of despair, a stone of hope." For many, 2021 will be remembered mostly by the continuation of the COVID-19 pandemic. Yet during this year, individuals and communities in our area, transcended our mountain of despair and provided hope and resources for those struggling to meet their health and wellness needs.

With \$212,000 in financial assistance granted to applicants in need during 2021, the need for the Foundation's resources continues to grow—along with our vision of hope for our communities' future. A future where all people who call our area their home are happy, healthy, and thriving. A future where healthy aging is easier, every child has what they need to grow to be their best self, and where geography and circumstances do not define our well-being. A future of hopeful possibilities.

As a prominent and successful advocate for health, the Foundation's ability to raise awareness and provide assistance around pressing issues—the high cost of healthcare, the challenges of aging in place, the social-emotional well-being of our children, the lack of access to mental health and dental care, and the overall health of our neighbors and communities—has been more important than ever. There is no other organization in this area providing what the Ottauquechee Health Foundation provides for our communities.

As we continue to work together toward a better—and healthier—future for all, we hope you find hope and inspiration through the information and stories included in this Annual Report, and feel your own power and influence on the positive effect you have on those that we serve.

Our mission depends on strong donor support like yours, year after year. We are proud to say that 100% of your gifts benefit the programs and services you choose to support. The Foundation would not be what it is today without the generosity and compassion of our donors, Board, Members, and volunteers who put the Foundation front and center as a resource for our communities.

On behalf of the staff and Board of OHF, we thank you for your support and invite you to join us as we confidently face the future. A future of hope and possibilities.

Sincerely,



Tayo Kirchof
Executive Director



Mary Young-Breuleux
Board President

Meet Jessa



Community means a lot to Jessa and her family, and the Ottauquechee Health Foundation has been a significant local source of help in a time of need.

Jessa has Sotos syndrome, meaning her body develops twice as fast as usual, leading to the need for significant dental procedures. Jessa's family used to be able to cover those costs with insurance, but when a family member passed, and Jessa turned 21 that insurance was lost.

With Jessa's mother on a limited income, the family needed to seek further assistance. Jessa's mother had heard about OHF and applied for and received a grant through the Foundation, which covered Jessa's extensive dental work. It also took away the financial strain of the family having to bear the full cost.

"It would have been a financial hardship," Jessa's mother said, adding that other bills would have been tougher to afford. "Prices go up, and I don't have the ability to pay for as much stuff right away."

OHF guided the family through the grant process. That guidance was hugely crucial for Jessa's mom, who was now a single mother with three children.

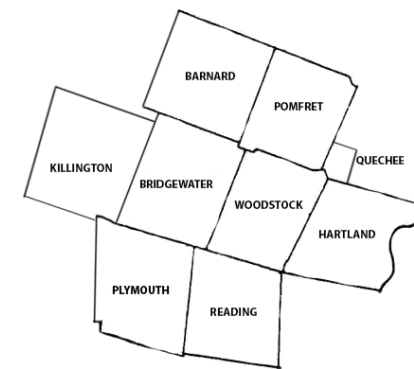
"I'm used to a lot of other paperwork, but I'd never done (this grant process), never knew how to do it, how to set things up, and then on top of that, COVID," Jessa's mother said, adding that grants coordinator Beth Robinson helped them complete the application and took it before the grants committee.

In addition to the OHF grant, the Foundation also guided the family to other sources of assistance available in the community. "I knew about things that were available, but they guided me through the process," Jessa's mother said of OHF. "We were able to get done what needed to get done."

OHF provides financial assistance to help community members like Jessa improve their quality of life.

OHF believes everyone should have access to the health and wellness services they need. You can help! Visit www.ohfvt.org/donate to learn more.

If you're in need of assistance, we can help. Call or email us: 802.457.4188 or info@ohfvt.org



Contact Us:

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The Ottauquechee Health Foundation strives to improve the health and well-being of people in need who live in the towns we serve.

We do this through financial assistance, community partnerships, education opportunities, and support of wellness initiatives.

Our Service Towns: Barnard, Bridgewater, Hartland, Killington, Plymouth, Pomfret, Quechee, Reading, and Woodstock.

Thanks to our dedicated partners and providers, \$212,000 in OHF grants enabled access to over \$305,000 in health and wellness services in 2021.

What We Do



Financial Assistance

OHF provides financial assistance on behalf of individuals who are unable to pay for the high costs of health and wellness services. Our **Good Neighbor Grants** support needs ranging from medical and dental care to medical equipment, hearing aids, mental health, and other health and wellness gaps.

For those who need a caregiver, our **Homecare Grants** are available to meet short-term needs.

OHF also supplies financial assistance to area nonprofit organizations. Community Grants provide assistance provide assistance to other organizations that support the health and wellness of our communities.

Scholarships are also available for students entering the health fields.

In 2021, OHF supplied \$212,000 in financial assistance.



Education & Initiatives

In 2021, OHF offered multiple educational programs that were open to the public, including two **insurance education** workshops, **mental health awareness** through film screenings, and **community connection opportunities** through multiple programs and initiatives.

The Windsor Central Wellness Initiative (WCWI), currently implemented in the local school district, supplies **mental health support** to students, teachers, and administration. The 2021 Community Health Needs Assessment identified Mental Health service access as one of the major barriers to care. The WCWI helps to address this.

OHF is also an active participant in multiple area committees, work groups, and task forces focused on improving the health of our communities through hands-on, proactive approaches.



Community Resources

OHF works in partnership with area health providers and organizations to provide care coordination and support.

In addition, local health providers discount their services, to allow our neighbors to access health and wellness services at a more affordable rate. **In 2021, \$212,000 in approved grant requests enabled access to almost \$305,000 in health and wellness services.**

OHF staff spent 35% of its time in 2021 **helping community members gain access to the resources they need to be healthy.** This includes connecting them with Community Care Coordinators, community resources, case workers and other external support systems and aid organizations.

OHF can help navigate beyond health needs.

Partnership Highlight - The HUB

OHF is a proud and active partner, along with Woodstock Community Trust, to create **The HUB**, an important new initiative to build a collaborative community-wide system to support neighbors in need. The HUB will marshal and coordinate resources of multiple funding and service organizations to provide the best response to those who experience a serious disruption or challenge in their daily life. The HUB will reduce the barriers and stigma of seeking and receiving help. It will strengthen community and individual health, resilience, and caring.

HUB stakeholders will launch the new system in 2022. When the HUB is up and running, neighbors will more easily access the full range of public and private resources available.

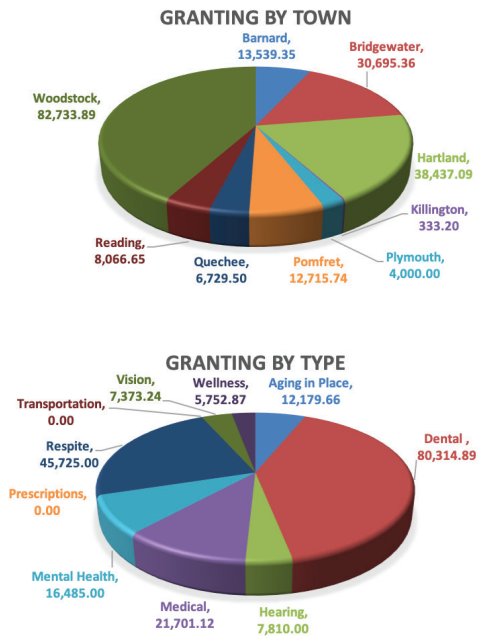
Stewardship

Good Neighbor Grants (GNGs), Homecare Grants & Community Grants

	2019	2020	2021
Approved	\$160,000	\$199,000	\$212,000
# of Grants	245	230	223
# People/Orgs Served	148	138	153
Average Grant \$	\$555	\$869	\$950

Breakdown of 2021 Granting by Program

	# of Grants	Amount
GNGs	202	\$151,400
Homecare Grant	15	\$45,700
Community Grants	6	\$14,900
Totals	223	\$212,000



Financial Statement - Investments

	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021
Total Assets	\$3,872,386	\$3,931,563	\$4,176,902	\$4,477,989

OHF is proud to provide invaluable resources to those in need of financial assistance and support.

2021 By the Numbers



The BIG Value in Small Grants

OHF utilizes the Federal Poverty Guidelines to gauge financial eligibility. Based on those guidelines, the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) for a household of two is \$17,420 per year.

An average Good Neighbor Grant amount was \$950. Though not large, it is a substantial contribution to those struggling financially. Without these grants, important health services might not otherwise be available to those needing them the most. In 2021, 83% of OHF financial assistance was provided to households living under 200% of the FPL.

Our Supporters

THANK YOU! We extend our deepest gratitude to all the donors and supporters who make our work possible. We apologize for any names or organizations that may have been inadvertently omitted and appreciate notice of corrections or errors. Supporters from November 1, 2020 - December 31, 2021.

A special thanks to our partners and providers for their discounted services and ongoing support.

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2022-2027 Strategic Plan

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Our Vision for the Future

OHF's 2022-2027 Strategic Plan is the result of a multi-year process. The goals for this 5-year plan are based on critical issues and strategies discussed during strategic planning sessions.

Strategic Goals:

Goal One: Build a solid infrastructure to support and maintain a highly functioning organization.

Goal Two: Ensure adequate financial resources for long-term sustainability and future growth.

Goal Three: Support, maintain, and/or expand effective programs and services.

Goal Four: Implement effective marketing and public relations strategies to increase awareness and outreach.

Evaluation and management must go together with the implementation of the OHF Strategic Plan. Ongoing assessment is vital for several basic reasons: accountability, quality improvement, and predicting future needs and resources. Evaluation and management of the strategic plan will help to provide a clear understanding of the strengths and effectiveness of the organization's management and programmatic strategies and will help identify areas that need addressing.

Your donations change lives by suppling access to health and wellness funding & resources.



I can't tell you how amazing it is to have these concerns handled after years of anxiety. You helped when I did not know where to turn.



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Find us on Facebook and Instagram

A few words from the people we serve.



It is nice to know there is help out there when the going gets tough.



Thank you for granting my hearing aids...I am amazed at what I was missing! The rustle of leaves, crickets, bird calls - so much of the world has come back into my life. There are no words to express my gratitude.



Having financial support from OHF has given us the capacity to access the type of care my daughter needs now, otherwise we may not have been able to...You have lightened our load considerably.

Serving Barnard, Bridgewater, Hartland, Killington, Plymouth, Pomfret, Quechee, Reading, and Woodstock.