

Fund for Williamstown

a fund of

Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation

Founded in 2006, the Fund for Williamstown supports new and innovative ideas, projects and collaborations to create a more vibrant town that is responsive to a diversity of needs and voices in our community. The fund continues Williamstown's strong history of community improvement and welcomes grant applications from individuals and nonprofit organizations. The Fund for Williamstown is one of Berkshire Taconic's eleven Area Funds. [For more information about the Fund for Williamstown, visit \[www.berkshiretaconic.org/williamstown\]\(http://www.berkshiretaconic.org/williamstown\)](http://www.berkshiretaconic.org/williamstown)

Help Us...

Create a strong sense of community • Encourage generosity & diversity • Extend Williamstown's rich cultural offerings to all our residents • Engage our youth • Provide needed resources & services • Integrate our senior citizens into town life • Address large issues in the future of our town

It's Easy to Give

You can make a gift using a credit card, cash, stock, retirement or life insurance policies or other assets. Your donation can be structured as an outright gift, a bequest or charitable trust. To donate, visit www.berkshiretaconic.org/makeadonation or call 413.229.0370.

Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation

Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation builds stronger communities and improves the quality of life for all residents of Berkshire County, MA; northwest Litchfield County, CT; and Columbia County and northeast Dutchess County, NY, acting as an agent for positive change in the region. Since 1987, Berkshire Taconic has managed a growing collection of charitable funds created by individuals, families and businesses. Each year, the foundation distributes over \$7 million through grants and scholarships for programs in the arts and education, health and human services and environmental protection, helping thousands of donors achieve their philanthropic goals and hundreds of nonprofits carry on their good work. Berkshire Taconic is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit public charity. The Fund for Williamstown is an endowment of Berkshire Taconic.

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Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation is certified in compliance with the national standards of excellence established by the Council on Foundations.

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Get regular updates on grants, application deadlines and community events on facebook.com/berkshiretaconic

Enriching our community...
one grant at a time

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Berkshire Taconic
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION



A Unique Resource Dedicated to Our Town

The Fund for Williamstown is about making our community a better, more vibrant place to live. The fund supports proposals from both nonprofit organizations and individuals that will strengthen, enliven and enhance Williamstown. With an eye toward meeting the needs of a wide spectrum of residents, the fund awards grants for health and human services, cultural and educational programs and environmental protection. The fund is a catalyst for dynamic thinking about our community and its needs.

The Fund for Williamstown is led by an advisory committee of area residents who have a deep understanding and commitment to Williamstown. Committee members review and evaluate all applications based on published criteria. Intentionally broad in scope, these criteria encourage innovation, compassion and collaboration.



Family Flicks Under the Stars, supported by the fund.



COVER PHOTO Dance performance during Sundays@Six, a series of community building events aimed at enlivening downtown Williamstown, supported by the fund. PHOTO BY ROMAN IWASIWKA



The Fund for Williamstown supported two Habitat for Humanity building projects providing affordable housing for local families.

“Habitat may build houses, but we are building more than a shelter. We are building families and strengthening the community, just like the Fund for Williamstown.”

—Paul Austin, President
Northern Berkshire Habitat for Humanity

Every day you can see the impact of the Fund for Williamstown



Affordable housing units constructed through Church Corners Association

Local farmers and artisans promoted at the Williamstown farmers' market

Classical music performances brought to local audiences

Children experiencing their first canoe trip on the Hoosic River

15,000 Meals on Wheels served to Williamstown's elderly

The fund provided sound and lighting equipment for Javajive, a teen coffee house run by and for local youth.
PHOTO BY ROMAN IWASIWKA

The Fund for Williamstown provided a grant to the Williamstown Garden Club to plant 8000 daffodils throughout our town.



The Need is Real

Surrounded by the natural beauty and cultural activities of Williamstown, it's easy to forget that the needs of our community are pressing and resources are limited. Many of us are unaware of our neighbors who live in poverty. The fund supports local nonprofits and individual initiatives that address some of our town's families in need.

The Fund for Williamstown also supports the Neighbor-to-Neighbor program by partnering with the Williamstown Food Pantry to provide emergency assistance for local residents who are in economic distress. Small grants (generally around \$500) go to help those with overdue utilities, medical bills, short-term housing costs and transportation problems.

The Possibilities are Endless

Since it was created in 2006, the Fund for Williamstown has awarded over \$96,000 in grants to 20 nonprofits and a number of projects proposed by individuals. The fund assists people and programs that enrich, inspire and build community in Williamstown.

However, each year requests for grants far exceed what the fund can give. Your contribution helps ensure that more worthy causes get the support they deserve.

You Can Make a Difference

When you contribute to the Fund for Williamstown, you join other generous community members to make our town stronger and more vibrant. By combining resources, donors are creating a permanent charitable base to respond to community

needs—whatever they may be—now and long into the future. You can make a one-time gift or pledge over a period of years. All gifts are tax deductible.

Here Today, Here Forever

The Fund for Williamstown is an endowment of Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation. It will continue to serve as a charitable resource for our town now and for years to come.

“I don't know where we would have been this winter if it wasn't for Neighbor-to-Neighbor. It's the biggest blessing we've had in years.”

—Neighbor-to-Neighbor grant recipient



Girls' softball thrives in Williamstown on a completely renovated BroadBrook Field, thanks to a grant from the fund.