



Gateway Longview
protect • enrich • give hope

2020- 2021 COMMUNITY IMPACT REPORT



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President and CEO

President, New View Alliance

Message from our President & CEO, Carolyn DeFranco

Dear Friends of Gateway,

Before writing my message I always like to review a draft of our Community Impact Report for inspiration. This year there was plenty to inspire me: Kamar and Zaire, proudly showing off their graduation certificates; Austin holding up his birthday cake donated by For Goodness Cakes; Behavioral Health and Health Homes staff continuing to get advanced training to meet the emergent needs in our community. Each of these pictures is a true testament to the impact Gateway-Longview is having on the lives of our youth and the dedication of our staff. However, I want to highlight the article Foster Care Hosts Drive Through Banquet because it speaks directly to your support.

To clarify, items like meals for foster families fall under non-reimbursable costs, meaning the agency cannot use program funds to support these costs. Thus, we depend on donations to fund events like our foster parent appreciation dinner each year. Due to COVID, however, staff delivered pizza and made gift baskets in place of a banquet. For foster parents, they were grateful not having to think about dinner for one night. For staff, it was a tangible expression of gratitude to foster parents for their dedication. Their dedication was even greater during COVID as foster parents continued to accept children into their families despite the added health risk. This sacrifice was further compounded when the schools closed, and foster parents had to shoulder the burden of home-schooling the children. Many foster families used their vacation time from work and others depended on their extended family or friends for support. Of course, not all of us have the capacity or circumstances to become foster parents; however, we all can express our appreciation to those who do. And through your donations, you do.

Carolyn DeFranco



Gateway Longview Foundation Board of Directors

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President and CEO

President, New View Alliance

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Courtney Hunter, Vice Chair

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Message from our Foundation Board Chairman, Scott Dempsey

From its founding in 1890, Gateway-Longview has provided essential services to Western New York's neediest families and children. The professional staff of Gateway-Longview have shown incredible sacrifice, perseverance, and resolve to continue to serve our community in the most challenging of conditions.

The purpose of the Gateway-Longview Foundation is to ensure the Agency has the resources to continue this incredibly important role. We support the organization by i) providing resources to perform these essential services, especially when there are gaps in government or other-third party funding; ii) supervising the fundraising and grant writing teams to grow the organization; and iii) overseeing, protecting, and growing the organization's endowment.

Our Board is comprised of capable professionals including investment professionals (Courtney Hunter, Christine Collins-Schwinger, Evan Smith); social services providers (Meredith Duquin, Josh Pennel); and legal/accounting experts (Lydia Beebe Safulko, Esq., Mike Ervin, CPA). Together, we work with Gateway-Longview's capable and dedicated leadership team to support the Agency's ongoing operations – while also focusing on ensuring that Gateway-Longview can continue to provide services for generations to come.

In 2021, Adopt and Angel received donations from 110 donors to fulfill over 1,000 Wish Lists; the endowment added \$557,000 received through legacy gifts and trusts; and Gateway-Longview partnered with New Directions to raise over \$55,000 for the 2021 Virtual BBQ and Brews Fest. We hope to bring live fundraising events back in 2023.

On behalf of the Board and Gateway-Longview leadership, I want to express my heartfelt thanks to all of the partners that have generously supported the organization. We have been serving our community's neediest for over 130 years, and with your support, we will continue that mission. Thank you.



Leadership Team

Carolyn DeFranco

President and CEO
President, New View Alliance

Daniel LoCicero

Vice President of Human
Resources, New View Alliance

Kristy D'Angelo

COO of Behavioral Health &
Preventative Services

Michelle Federowicz Cope

COO of Foster Care &
Residential Services

Thomas Buczkowski

Vice President of
Educational Services

Mike Kelly

Chief Financial Officer and Vice
President of Finance

Gary J. Rouleau

Vice President of Foundation &
Organizational Advancement

Larry W. Perry

Vice President of Operations &
Security Officer

Sara Oche

Vice President of Corporate
Integrity, Privacy Officer

Mission

Working to protect, enrich, and
give hope to the lives of every
child and family we serve.

Core Values

Integrity, Safety, Empowerment,
Diversity, Collaboration.

Approach To Care

We are committed to an
approach to care that is trauma
informed.

Foster Care Hosts Drive Through Banquet



To celebrate their commitment to our program, the foster care team held a drive through pizza party for all of our foster families! In addition to the basket of goodies, a few of our outstanding families were recognized with awards for embodying our agency's core mission: protect, enrich, give hope.

*We are so grateful for all the work our families do. **Thank You!***

Foster Care Family Awards: Protect, Enrich & Give Hope

Enrich Award:

Sue exemplifies the 'Enrich' mission with all the children that are placed in her home by truly accepting them as part of her family and allowing them to experience, sometimes for the first time, what it feels like to be a part of a loving, safe, FUN, family system. She enriches the emotional lives of foster children and their birth families by being accepting, nonjudgmental, and absolutely supportive of them. Sue also lives this mission through the experiences she exposes foster youth to: sports, dancing, camping, etc. Regardless of how long foster children are placed with Susan, she enriches their lives on a daily basis, making them happy, successful kids who feel safe and loved while their families work on what they need to do.



Hope Award:

Maria Watkins became a foster parent with the hope of helping children and families whose lives have become involved in the foster care system. Her respect, understanding and ability to interact meaningfully with birth families gives them the hope that they can overcome the obstacles that led to their children being placed into foster care. Maria's soft spoken and gentle mannerisms put foster children and their families at ease. Her patience and warmth are wonderful in dealing with children who have increased behavioral challenges, showing them love even through the most difficult times. She gives children who have suffered trauma hope that they can work through the feelings and experiences they have had so that one day they will be emotionally strong and truly believe in their own self-worth.



Protect Award:

Harper and Jennifer have provided a loving and safe home environment for their foster children to grow and thrive in. They have gone above and beyond for the children in their home despite numerous challenges being thrown at them. The family remained open for a foster care placement in the spring of 2020 despite the risk of Covid-19 exposure, have promoted sibling and family contact, and have encouraged a fun and normative lifestyle. Jennifer and Harper were both able to take time off from work to spend with their foster children to support their adjustment into their new home. When it came time to explore alternative family resources, Jennifer and Harper worked tremendously well with their foster care team and took the extra steps in ensuring the wellbeing of the children in their home until they were able to transition to a family member. Jennifer and Harper have grown into amazing foster parents during their first year and they remain committed to providing every opportunity to any child who enters their home. Jennifer and Harper are a catalyst in a child's life that encourages change, growth, and foster's love and connection.

56

Parents attended foster parent orientation in the 2020-2021 year!

SUPERVISED INDEPENDENT LIVING PROGRAM

Outstanding Youth Shine Bright in SILP

Meet Kamar!

Kamar moved to Gateway Longview's Supervised Independent Living Program (SILP) in April 2019. Upon moving in, his main goal was to obtain a High School diploma, but due to some obstacles he dropped out in January 2020 and began working full time. Kamar explored his educational options and decided to enroll in a TASC program (Test Assessing Secondary Completion), through WNY Youth Build which he began in September 2020. In just three months, Kamar was able to take his TASC exam and passed on his first try. Kamar also completed the first part of his Hospitality Certification and has earned his certification which will allow him to gain stable employment upon completing the program.

Kamar has made excellent strides towards achieving his goals and has come so far in the last two years. Thank you to the Gateway Longview team that help continue our mission to Protect, Enrich and Give Hope to the children and families Gateway Longview serves. Great job Kamar!



Meet Zaire!

“Zaire is a hardworking 19 year old. Zaire worked part time at Franco's Pizzeria and was on the track team while finishing his senior year of high school at Emerson High School. Zaire loves to travel, hang out with friends, and buy cool sneakers.

Zaire is a sweetheart, hardworking, self-motivated and wants to continue on to college to become a nurse.” -Mykole Gates, SILP (Supervised Independent Living Program) Caseworker

Congratulations, Zaire! Best of luck in all your future endeavors. We are so proud of you!

Former Residential Youth Returns to Speak with Youth and Families



Gateway Longview held a “Family Night” for residential youth and family members to get together for dinner and to listen to a former residential youth discuss his experiences at Gateway Longview. Ryan Brandenburger who was a resident of Gateway Longview in the early 1990’s spoke to the youth and families about his experiences that led him to Gateway Longview services and how his time at Gateway Longview helped him learn valuable lessons that helped him

become a successful businessman. Ryan who now lives in Florida, recently expanded his CrossCountry Mortgage, LLC into the Buffalo and Western New York area market and wanted to share his experiences and connect to the youth.

Residential Care Does Restorative Justice

Gateway employees had the chance to attend Erie County Restorative Justice Coalition’s Restorative Practices and Circle Certificate Training. Over the span of the 2 days, the group had a powerful opportunity to learn more about the foundations of Restorative Practices, engage in interactive skill-building, and strengthen interpersonal connections.

“I left the [ECRJC] training feeling incredibly optimistic for a future that transcends punitive measures to repair harm, restore relationships, and build stronger communities. Restorative circles are a unique, evidence-based resource that can empower us to engage in courageous conversations around identity and lived experience in a way that grants every voice the opportunity to be heard. I’m excited to help facilitate the implementation of Restorative Practices at Gateway Longview and New Directions Youth and Family Services!” -New View Alliance’s Equity Officer, Natalia Rice

For those who may be unfamiliar with Restorative Practices and/or would like to learn more, you can check out Erie County Restorative Justice Coalition’s website and service offerings: ecrjc.org

Summertime Means Fun Fridays!

Our Residential Youth competed in Fun Fridays with their very own Olympics! Events included basketball, a relay race, hurdles, sprints, ‘Shot Put’, Javelin, ping pong, gymnastics and a very competitive game of foosball. The sportsmanship was high, and the medal count was too.

Learn more about our Residential and Respite services by visiting gateway-longview.org/residentialcareservices



Education Services Graduation Celebration

Our graduates were treated to a special celebratory lunch courtesy of Anchor Bar on Main Street. When owner Michael Mulé heard about how wonderful our seniors are he donated wings, fries, and pizza for them to enjoy! The seniors all wrote thank you notes in appreciation. Mr. Mulé once again showed his generosity by providing each graduate a \$25 gift card as a congratulatory gift!

Visit gateway-longview.org for more information on educational services!



13

2020 Graduates!

23

PreK-12 students taught at two locations this year

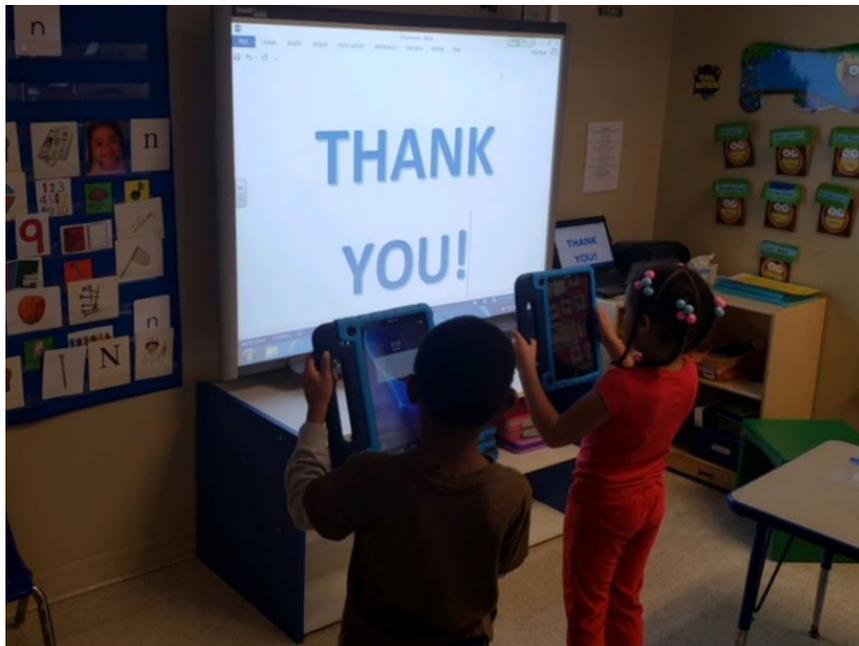
13

Districts referred students to our education programs

WNY COVID-19 Community Response Fund 2021

Gateway Longview is grateful to have been included as one of the organizations supported with funding from The WNY COVID-19 Community Response Fund 2021 (additional funds were received in 2020).

As a designated provider of essential services by New York State, funding helped support the critical needs of the youth and families served by Gateway Longview during the time of social distancing due to the COVID-19 Pandemic. The critically needed and mandated services for our youth and families continued to operate under these challenging times, utilizing technology upgrades to support tele-communication capacity for youth and families, to support family-based placements, family connection, family reunification, continued education, as well as distance learning for students unable to attend regular classes and whose families do not have access to the necessary technology, tele-therapy for mandated related services including speech, occupational therapy, physical therapy, counseling and parent counseling and training.



The COVID-19 Pandemic and the mandated work from home and social distancing put a tremendous stress financially on the agency having to quickly, without notice, change the way the agency operated to continue to serve our community to continue care while keeping youth and families safe.

Thank you to all of the organizations and individuals contributing to the WNY COVID-19 Community Response Fund for selecting Gateway Longview as one of the recipients of this important funding.

945

Children served 12 years old and younger

604

Youth served between 13 and 17 years old

23k

Clinical appointments provided by Behavioral Health Services

*2021 Calendar Year

Nearly 90 foundations and corporations and more than 1,900 individuals supported the WNY COVID-19 Community Response Fund contributing \$4.5 million to over 300 nonprofit organizations in our region, bringing the total grant amount from the Fund to \$13.1 million.

To see a full list of contributors, please visit www.WNYResponds.org.

To help support the Gateway Longview mission to Protect, Enrich and Give Hope, please donate here: www.gateway-longview.org/donate

Social Distance Fun Day!

Behavioral Health Clinic held its first ever Social Distance Fun Day! The day consisted of team-building exercises and activities for the Behavioral Health staff who conduct around 2000 therapy sessions every month.

Visit gateway-longview.org/bhc or call 716.783.3221 to learn more about our Behavioral Health Clinic.



Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing Training



Gateway Longview is constantly striving to improve the quality of services that we offer. Clinicians from both the Behavioral Health Clinic and the CFTSS (Children and Family Treatment and Support Services) program started working with representatives from the Trauma Institute & Child Trauma Institute to improve how we practice EMDR therapy!

EMDR stands for “Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing” and is known to be one of the most effective types of therapy for processing trauma. To learn more about the different types of therapy our services offer, visit our website!

Health Homes Professional Development



The Health Homes team participated in a virtual professional development training with Jodie Altman at Kids Escaping Drugs. They then went on a field trip to their residential campus on Harlem Road. They completed a tour and were able to learn more about their program. “We participate in these ‘community trainings’ so that our care managers have the resources at hand for their clients!” -Jessica Kline, Director of Health Home Management

10

Kinship families certified

17k

Children served

5

Successful discharges from the Kinship program

16

Families discharged!

Volunteering During the "New Normal"



Volunteer Highlight: Brennon Hall - Bridge Studios, NY

Through the transition of all the recent variations of normal, the ability to express the emotions that come with constant change has been a valuable coping technique for many youth. We started working with Brennon when a few youth expressed interest in rapping. Brennon immediately stepped up to welcome youth into his recording studio and teach them not only how to write a rap, but to create beats, record and collaborate with peers. He has been an example of how to take his passion and make it into a successful career. When approached with the idea of helping set up some recording equipment for youth on campus he didn't hesitate to jump into the project feet first, offering consulting, purchasing help and on site lessons for youth and staff. We very much look forward to Brennon being a lasting part of "normal" in the lives of youth moving forward.

Thank you Brennon for your dedication to the mission to protect, enrich & give hope to children and families!

Old normal: On average we would have about 25 volunteers on site each month working with youth and helping with projects.

COVID normal: We had months and months with 0 onsite volunteers, lots of notes back and forth and postponed plans, eventually opening to outdoor or off campus activities.

Emerging normal: Activities planned around individual youth and their engagement in personal interests and service projects in their home communities. Project groups welcomed back.

"While past data has reflected an impressive number of volunteers, I am content with the lower numbers produced during this season, knowing that they represent dedication through difficult times and a deeper sense of connection to the greater community. I am looking forward to seeing what kinds of connections are made and strengthened in this time of "emerging normal". I hope you will consider becoming a link in the connection."

- Amanda Snyder, Volunteer and Community Engagement Specialist

Visit gateway-longview.org/getinvolved or call 783.3100 ext 3106 to inquire about individual and group volunteer opportunities.

Donate While You Shop!

Did you know you can shop online while giving to Gateway Longview? **When you shop both Amazon and Rite Aid, a portion of your purchase will be donated to Gateway Longview.** Simply add Gateway Longview as your organization of choice before you begin shopping! Visit smile.amazon.com or kidcents.riteaid.com (online or in their apps) to get started!



- 16

Volunteers across Gateway Longview
- 3

Businesses across WNY represented
- 147

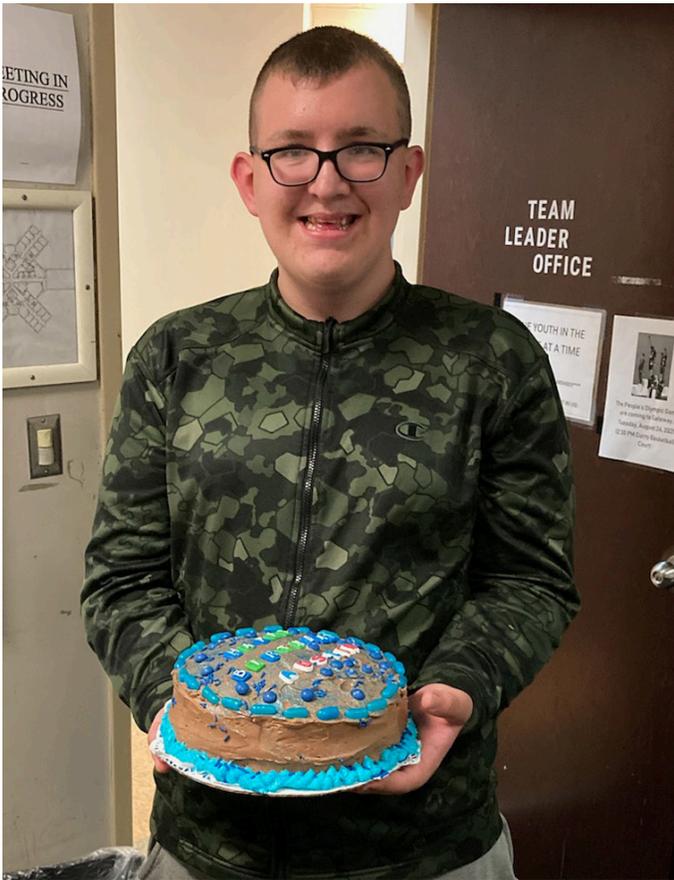
Volunteer hours donated
- 3

Houses of worship represented

*2021 Fiscal Year

Forming a Sweet New Partnership with For Goodness Cakes

We have partnered with the non profit, For Goodness Cakes, that gives underprivileged youth the chance to have a birthday by matching volunteers to bake special cakes just for them. Our first cake went to Austin, a residential youth. Happy Birthday Austin!



Local Girl Scouts Make Impressive Donation

Madison, Riley, and Sophia of local Girl Scout Troop #32006 decided to organize a backpack and luggage drive for their Bronze Award project. The girls worked with local businesses, family and friends to coordinate this impressive donation.

Visit gateway-longview.org/donate to donate or view our list of needed items.



Adopt An Angel 2021 Partners with 110 Donors To Fulfill Over 1,000 Wish Lists

Gateway Longview's Adopt an Angel 2021 campaign was another success! **During the month of December, Gateway Longview received, sorted and packaged gifts for over 1,000 wish lists, for children and families in need over the Christmas and Holiday season.** The past couple of years have been challenging for us all, and it is amazing the generosity and support Gateway Longview continues to receive for this campaign. Thank you for your continued support in allowing Gateway Longview to protect, enrich and give hope to every child and family served.



Summer Street Capital, SUNY ITEC, University of Buffalo - CR Department, Dave and Adams Card World, 1st Priority Mortgage, 716 Realty Group 2.0, APA Solutions, Candy Apple Café, Cross Country Mortgage, Evans Bank, Frontier Science, HUNT Real Estate, Ingram Micro, Life Storage, Linde Technology Center (Formerly Praxair), Nottingham Advisors, PCB Piezotronics, Root & Neal Co., Try-It Distributing, Merck & Co, Inc., USI Insurance Services

Amherst Presbyterian Church, Burdett United Methodist Church, Christ United Methodist Church, Clarence United Methodist Church, Clarence Center Akron Mennonite, Elma United Methodist Church, Faith United Methodist Church, Kenmore United Methodist Church, St. John's Lutheran Church, Unitarian Universalist Church of Amherst, Williamsville United Methodist Church, Middleport United Methodist Church, Kaleida Health - Center for Laboratory Medicine

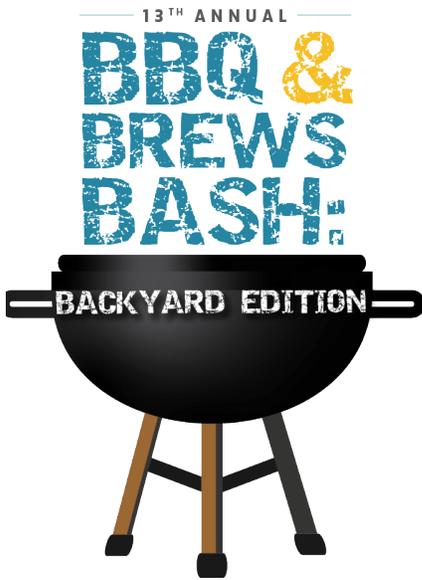


WMC Health, The Schwartz Family, Gloria Martin & Friends, Tina Mazzuchelli & the New Ara Mudd Jeep Club, Cassie Miller & Friends, Nardin Montessori School, Niagara University - Social Work Student Association, UB Student Athlete Advisory Committee, Town of Amherst Assessor's Office, Rotary Club of Williamsville, WGRZ TV, Carrie Biggar, Virginia Bradley, Terasa Gipson, Robin Bielinski, Nadine Powell, Andrea Pierce, Sue Willard, Jennifer Wiertel, Elizabeth Swackhamer, Scott Fisher, Mindy Marranca, Kateybeth Shaw, Jackie Tomasello, Miranda Bauch, Lisa O'Conner, Christie McNee-Geiger, Aberlee Clark, Courtney Gabamonte, Sarah (Kozlowski) Perrigo, Michelle Ferrini, Victoria Weise, Rachel Issa, Rebecca Lindsey, Tina & John Neuland, Sara

Oche, Darice Hickey, Dru Hites, Marcy Werth, Margaret Foster, Kristin Grande, Paul Kanick, Kelly Kawalec, Erin Stotz, Esther Donner, Emily Caya, Christopher & Madonna Shriver, Kelly Moore-Arnold, Natalie Weil, Rylie Podger, Pam Schreiber, Kari Bonaro, Jackie Root, Carol McCarthy, JoAnn Losi, MaryBeth Norwalk, Travis Packard, Lindsey Mayer, Heidi Ann Milch, Melissa Jorgenson, Kathleen Bugno, Kim Aston, Lenise Deakin, Alicia Morrell, Karen Filighera, Sarah Rizzo, Kathleen Tarquin-Opiel, Jeanne Langan, Paul Banas, Kelly Newton, Christina Palmerton, Melissa Lehnes, Pamela Harvey, Julie Stuewe, Lauren (Packard) Pautler, Melissa Martin, and Megan MacNeill

Gateway Longview Teams Up with New Directions Youth & Family Services for the 13th Annual BBQ & Brews Bash: Backyard Edition

“By joining forces with New Directions, event supporters will impact more local children and families than ever before,” said Board Chair Michael Ervin.



“The collaboration of our two organizations allows us to expand our reach and increase the impact of this great event,” said Carolyn DeFranco, CEO of Gateway Longview. “We are so thankful for all of our sponsors and auction donors, they make our work possible.”

“Through our continued collaboration with Gateway Longview, New Directions has the opportunity to enhance the impact and scope of the event, raising needed funds as essential service providers during these difficult times. We are grateful for the generosity of our community partners, ensuring a successful event,” said James Coder, CEO of New Directions.

The virtual event featured silent auctions, raffle prizes, a 50/50 raffle and presentation video. Thanks to your generosity, Gateway Longview was able to raise over \$70,000 to help continue the mission of protecting, enriching and giving hope throughout the COVID-19 pandemic.

Taking Part in a New Initiative: Give 716 Day

Give 716 is a collaborative effort between the Buffalo Bills Foundation and the Buffalo Sabres Foundation. The goal of Give 716 is simple, to unite Bills and Sabres fans with the Western New York community in an epic giving event.

Thanks to your generosity, Gateway Longview was able to raise over \$1,200. These funds kickstarted the new Therapeutic Toy Fund allowing us to purchase brand new therapeutic toys, sensory toys, and sports equipment for our youth!

Funding from the Rotary Club of Williamsville and the Judith Thuman Memorial Fund were used to help hit our campaign goal (\$5,000) for our Therapeutic Toy Drive! The funds were used to purchase various therapeutic toys, games, and sensory items housed in our relaxation room for students across our Education programs (TPS and Lynde Day School). These items will aid youth in refining their gross and fine motor skills, releasing their energy in a more positive way as well as practicing mindfulness skills; promoting movement and assisting them in meeting their educational and clinical treatment goals. Gateway Longview appreciates your generous annual donation to support our mission to protect, enrich, and give hope!



Gateway Longview Achieves National Accreditation

Gateway Longview is pleased to announce that the agency has achieved national accreditation through the New York-based Council on Accreditation (COA). The year-long process to earn this accreditation involved audits of Gateway Longview policies and procedures, as well as interviews with staff, consumers, foster parents, community partners, and the Gateway Longview Board of Directors. Organizations pursue accreditation to demonstrate the implementation of best practice standards in the field of human services. COA evaluated all aspects of Gateway Longview's programs, services, management, and administration. This process supports an organization's sustainability, encourages its growth, and helps it to achieve measurable results.



"I am so proud of our staff," said Carolyne DeFranco, CEO of Gateway Longview, "This process was very involved and our staff rose to the challenge. We not only had to demonstrate that we did good work but we had to have it verified through the community and the people we serve. We are honored to be recognized by this prestigious organization."

Gateway Longview was rated exceptionally well in every area of accreditation. Highlights include;

- **Training, Supervision, and Trauma Informed Care:** Gateway Longview has a strong focus on supervisor development in its training program. Training also focuses on providing trauma-informed care throughout the organization.
- **Parent Training:** The parenting groups are tailored to meet the individual families' needs. The program collaborates with other providers to refer and assist with services. The parenting groups emphasize group learning and sharing.
- **Health Homes:** This program was able to rapidly restore vital services to clients after the shutdown due to COVID-19. The program is very collaborative in working across the organization and in the community. They are family driven and highly engaged in fulfilling their case plans. The case workers demonstrate commitment and patience with clients.



Founded in 1977, COA is an independent, not-for-profit accreditor of the full continuum of community-based behavioral health care and social service organizations in the United States and Canada. Over 2,000 organizations – voluntary, public, and proprietary; local and statewide; large and small – have either successfully achieved COA accreditation or are currently engaged in the process. Presently, COA has a total of 47 service standards that are applicable to over 125 different types of programs.

To learn more about COA, please visit www.coanet.org.

COA accreditation is an objective, independent, and reliable validation of an agency's performance.

The COA accreditation process involves a detailed review and analysis of an organization's administration, management, and service delivery functions against international standards of best practice. The standards driving accreditation ensure that services are well-coordinated, culturally competent, evidence-based, outcomes-oriented, and provided by a skilled and supported workforce. COA accreditation demonstrates accountability in the management of resources, sets standardized best practice thresholds for service and administration, and increases organizational capacity and accountability by creating a framework for ongoing quality improvement.

JUSTICE, EQUITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

New View Alliance Adds New Focus to Justice, Equity, Inclusion and Diversity

New View Alliance (NVA), the parent affiliate of Gateway Longview (GL) and New Directions Youth and Family Services (ND), has made diversity and inclusion a priority. NVA has created a Director of JEDI (Justice, Equity, Inclusion and Diversity) position to oversee and coordinate all aspects of diversity, equity and inclusion across the organizations. Across both organizations, NVA is developing a multi-pronged strategy that is committed to advancing racial equity across all processes and programs. The JEDI Director is focused on providing and promoting opportunities for JEDI knowledge and skill building so that every member of the workforce is equipped to engage in conversations, decision-making, and service delivery that promote cultural competence and humility.

Funding awarded from The John R. Oishei Foundation (\$242,600) and The Peter & Elizabeth Tower Foundation (\$40,000) will be used to strategically revamp NVA organizational processes and service delivery through initiatives focused on JEDI. Implementation of strategic initiatives aim to encourage transformative, tangible change across programs, policies, staffing, leadership development, vendors, community engagement and advocacy efforts.

The grant from the Peter & Elizabeth Tower Foundation will go towards establishing an Equity Work Group (EWG) and members of both GL and ND leadership teams undergoing professional development training. The formation of the EWG is a formal opportunity for staff to be involved in the development and implementation of JEDI strategic initiatives across the agencies. EWG members will have the opportunity to lead, promote and guide efforts that will enable NVA to better meet and exceed the needs of our diverse employees, youth, families and communities. Professional development opportunities will be specifically chosen to help grow and/or enhance skills as JEDI champions and change agents.

To foster and promote truly equitable systems for staff, youth, and families that can be sustained, NVA is committed to implementing a formal and comprehensive JEDI strategy, shaped by the lived experiences of staff and families served.



**Gateway Longview
Equity Work Group**

Residential Youth Builds Life Skills While Assisting Maintenance Team

Our dedicated maintenance team has been working on renovating several buildings on our Williamsville campus. One of our Residential Youth, Jason, spent his free time shadowing the team and working on flooring, electrical work, carpentry, and landscaping!



“Over the past few months a residential youth has been working side by side with our maintenance team. Jason is well-known on campus and has a desire to work and learn anything and everything he can. Jason has been working with several maintenance team members to learn a variety of skills. The residential team cannot thank the maintenance team enough for the real life skills, job skills, and basic daily living skills he has learned from working with our maintenance team on a daily basis. You may have seen Jason helping with a variety of tasks, and not even known he was a residential youth. Jason looks forward to his time with the maintenance team, talks about the things he learns from them and is excited for the next day. I can even say his desire to continue to learn has helped Jason manage his behaviors and emotions. He’s had something to look forward to! Myself and the residential team cannot thank the maintenance team enough for all they do for each and every one of our kids, but for this youth in particular, they have gone WAY ABOVE AND BEYOND and without even trying they have enriched his life and given him great hope for what his tomorrow can be!!!! THANK YOU”



-Michelle Cope, **COO Foster Care & Residential Services**

Campus Upgrades Made Possible Through Grant Funding

James H. Cummings Foundation Awards \$25,000 for Residential Renovations

Funding from this grant was used for the renovation of the kitchens in our older residential cottages to improve the quality of life skills development and family visits. The purchase of outdoor grills will allow youth to cook meals, and enjoy their family visits and other group activities outside!



Garman Family Foundation awards Gateway Longview \$33,600

Administered by the Community Foundation for Greater Buffalo, this grant was awarded to address and upgrade safety needs within the agency's residential campus in Williamsville, NY. Funding provided replacement doors and locks within the residential facilities with durable, state-of-the-art door-and-lock systems to further protect the Gateway Longview youth and staff.



Additional Maintenance Projects Completed During 2020-2021:

- Converted the school lighting to LED
- Refinished the gym floor
- Installed new windows in Knox building classrooms
- Refinished bathroom in Hart Cottage
- New siding and windows installed on Hart Cottage rear porch

We Are Thankful For Your Generous Donations!

The following list reflects those who have gifted \$250 or more through financial contributions to The Gateway Longview Foundation between July 1, 2020 and June 30, 2021. We are grateful for your support.

L.J. Quigliano II Inc.	Howard Hanna Real Estate - Williamsville Office	Donald H. McIntire
P&R Casilio Enterprises Inc.	Miller Gesko Wealth Management	A. Douglas Oak
Riva's Catering Presents Cater Tots	Ovid Federated Church	Patricia Obstarczyk
Summer Street Capital Partners, LLC	Phyllis J. & Harry S. Newman	Debra Robinson
Bruce M. Buyers	The Chapel	Kristina Neuland
Elizabeth Kahn	Ann T. Davis	Waterloo United Methodist Church
Christopher Miller	Courtney Hunter	Maureen Reilly
Dorothy L. Smatresk	David Simmons	Buffalo Bills / Buffalo Sabres
Dr. Donald A. Tucker DDS	Lewis S. Somers	Independent Health
Ann Nicholson Wright	Joan L Thomas	Marjorie and John Buyers Foundation Inc.
Robert N. Yasinow	Bruce T. Venner	Upper New York Annual Conference of the UMC
Joe Starck	Macedon Center United Methodist Church	Carl Helfter
Tara Westcott	Mark Murtha	Stephen DeFranco
Harry H. Witham Trust	Stephanie Sawyer	Mattie G. McConnell Trust
Newfane United Methodist Church	Gateway Longview Future Fund at CFGB	United Methodist Frontier Foundation New York & Connecticut
Marion Johns	Charlotte E. Kowalewski Trust	Employee Benefit Concepts, Inc.
Reverend F. Victor Metivier	V Shafer Perp Charitable	Lawley Service Inc.
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State Employees Federated Appeal	Buffalo Pharmacies, Inc.	New Wave Energy Corporation
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