



Excellence in Volunteerism 2019 Employee Award Winners

And chosen non-profit organizations for \$1,000 grants

The Excellence in Volunteerism Program, started in 2019, is a U.S. Corning employee program. The program is designed to recognize Corning employees who help make Corning communities vibrant by volunteering their free time at non-profit organizations. The Excellence in Volunteerism Grant allows employees to nominate other employees who show exceptional volunteer commitment in the community. The 50 selected nominated employees will be able to give a \$1,000 grant to an eligible non-profit organization of their choice.

Suzy Achey, Corning Gorilla Glass, Corning, NY

Nominated by: Charles Rizzo, Corning Advanced Optics, Canton, NY

Grant recipient: Elmira Little Theater, Inc., Elmira, NY

Suzy Achey has been a strong advocate for the Elmira Little Theater ever since joining the board of the organization more than two years ago. She manages the heavy workload of communications for the theater company and has organized and directed the operating files of the theater office. Staffing auditions, painting scenery, recruiting members, even producing stage shows – these are all roles Suzy has willingly filled. “Suzy truly puts her heart and soul into her work and has a genuine, giving heart,” writes Charles Rizzo. “It is her level of dedication that helps keep this small, fully-volunteer organization running.”

David Adams, Corning Pharmaceutical Technologies, Vineland, NJ

Nominated by: Freda Phifer, Corning Pharmaceutical Technologies, Vineland, NJ

Grant recipient: A Bike For Every Child, Wilmington, NC

David Adams gives his all to local organizations serving the nutritional, social, and physical fitness needs of others. He has been a committed volunteer for Special Olympics for 15 years. Inspired by his daughter, Dawn, Dave serves as mentor and coach in Special Olympics track and field, soccer, bowling, and baseball events. He focuses on helping each individual grow into a life of independence. Dave also uses his time and talents to design and build local disc golf courses. Freda Phifer writes: “Dave makes an imprint on his community through various activities and passionate interests. His contributions have and will continue to shape his legacy.”

Katrina Alexander, Corning Gorilla Glass, Harrodsburg, KY

Nominated by: Brandon Sizemore, Corning Gorilla Glass, Harrodsburg, KY

Grant recipient: Blue Grass Community Partnership/Mercer County Senior Center, Harrodsburg, KY

Senior citizens at the Mercer County Senior Center look forward to visits from Katrina Alexander. When she drops by, rousing games of chair volleyball, laughter, and other fun activities are sure to follow. Katrina regularly organizes a wide variety of events for the seniors and recruits other volunteers to join her, often on their lunch breaks from work. "Katrina goes above and beyond and has obvious passion in supporting this cause," writes Brandon Sizemore. "She does an excellent job showing how much she cares for the community."

Johnnie Allen, Corning Optical Communications, Winston-Salem, NC

Nominated by: Renee Pegram, Corning Optical Communications, Winston-Salem, NC

Grant recipient: Salisbury-Rowan Community Action Agency, Salisbury, NC

Johnnie Allen's energy and dedication as a community volunteer help support people of all ages in and around Stanly County, NC. Her work at St. Luke Church of the Living Word has her deeply involved with the Kingdom Kidz Distribution effort, providing food and household supplies to those in need. The group has delivered more than 50 reclining chairs to seniors in the area, and also helps those affected by fire to refurbish their homes. Johnnie is also a dedicated foster parent. "Johnnie enjoys helping others and has plans to continue with this service," writes Renee Pegram.

Ronald Beck, Corning Environmental Technologies, Corning, NY

Nominated by: Chester Chang, Research & Development, Corning, NY

Grant recipient: Corning-Painted Post Band Boosters Inc., Corning, NY

As president of the Corning-Painted Post Band Boosters, Ron Beck provides solid support to the school district's instrumental music program. He recruits and coaches parent volunteers to undertake a wide variety of support activities, including raising funds, staffing parades, organizing instruments and uniforms, providing logistical support at festivals and competitions, and chaperoning band trips. He was a key player in the band's trip to London for the New Year's Day parade of 2018. "Ron has demonstrated an exemplary degree of dedication and commitment toward the well-being of the students in the bands and the program itself," write Chester Chang.

Roderick Bell, Corning Optical Communications, Wilmington, NC

Grant recipient: Port City Track Club, Wilmington, NC

Roderick Bell uses his experience in track to train young athletes in body and mind. Since 2013, his work with the Port City Track Club has resulted in 12 All-American athletes. Many students in his program have earned college scholarships for track. He also helps steer them toward a life far beyond themselves as they work together to help others in the community. Team members collected and delivered

contributions for people affected by Hurricane Florence and contributed toys to youngsters during the holiday season.

Robbie Bright, Corning Life Sciences, Greater Boston Area, MA

Nominated by: Isatta Lamina, Corning Life Sciences, Greater Boston Area, MA

Grant recipient: Budget Buddies, Inc., Chelmsford, MA

Budget Buddies helps low-income women become more economically self-sufficient by teaching basic money management skills. As a coach with Budget Buddies, Robbie Bright worked with a woman for six months and helped her transition from a life of dependence to a new world of social and economic independence. In the process, she developed a trusting relationship and helped the woman build a new sense of confidence. “She coached her into being responsible and committed to long-term goals,” writes Isatta Lamina. “It was a successful and educational experience for both Robbie and the young lady.”

Eric Brown, Corning Life Sciences, Kennebunk, ME

Grant recipient: City Theater Associates Inc., Biddeford, ME

Eric Brown is engaged in many volunteer efforts that bring his community together. Besides serving on two non-profit boards, he is an active member of local theater. He serves as backstage crew member, usher, and house manager at the historic Biddeford City Theater, staging five productions each year. His family also donates considerable time to make sure the shows come off successfully. Eric has also developed a collaborative relationship between the Life Sciences plant in Kennebunk and local schools.

Steven Caracci, Corning Life Sciences, Corning, NY

Nominated by: Ashley Clark, Corning Life Sciences, Corning, NY

Grant recipient: With You International, Grand Rapids, MI

Steve Caracci inspires his co-workers when he shares news about With You International. The non-profit helps care for Ecuadoran orphans and funds women’s empowerment projects. Last year, Steve went on two mission trips to Ecuador and held jewelry and textile sales to support the women’s program. His whole family is also involved. He has contributed more than 100 hours to these Ecuadoran programs. “As a young woman new to the Corning workforce, I love to see men empowering women,” writes Ashley Clark. “When we are talking about volunteers, one name stands out, and that is Steve Caracci.”

Briant Carter, Corning Life Sciences, Salt Lake City, UT

Nominated by: Melody Dunn, Corning Life Sciences, Salt Lake City, UT

Grant recipient: Encircle Family and Youth Resource Center, Provo, UT

Briant Carter's volunteer work addresses people's basic needs at their most vulnerable time of life. Since 1993, Briant has been a volunteer hospice worker with Community Nursing Services. Inspired by the death of his brother, Briant dedicated himself to making sure others will also have support and love into their final days. In addition, Briant serves as a youth mentor for Encircle, an organization that strives to reduce the risk of suicide and homelessness for LGBTQ youth. Writes Melody Dunn: "Briant provides support to those wanting to connect with this community and serves as a mentor and role model to many youth."

Dawn Marie Castellana, Staff Sector, Corning, NY

Nominated by: Cheryl Crozier, Staff Sector, Corning, NY

Grant recipient: First Tee of Corning, Corning, NY

Through First Tee of Corning, Dawn Marie Castellana has devoted nearly two decades to helping area youth grow and learn the inherent values of golf. As executive director, she manages home office needs like strategic planning and license renewal. She helps improve communications between the chapter, First Tee leadership, and the PGA. She always helps support special programs like the Winter Golf Academy, summer camps, and other events. "She is the go-to person for the local First Tee program," writes Cheri Crozier.

Fred Collins, Research & Development, Corning, NY

Nominated by: Nicholas Ferratella, Corning Environmental Technologies, Corning, NY

Grant recipient: All Saints Academy, Corning, NY

Fred Collins has had a profound impact on Corning-area children and their families through his tireless support of All Saints Academy. Over many years, Fred has served the All Saints community in almost every capacity, including as school board president. He has guided creative fundraising events that have resulted in everything from new playground equipment to safety and security upgrades for the school. As an avid distance runner, Fred organized a 5K race, The Running of the Saints, to promote student and family fitness while raising student scholarship funds. "Fred's volunteer efforts ensure an environment of academic excellence for students to learn and grow into community-minded young adults," writes Nicholas Ferratella.

Skip Copperwheat, Corning Life Sciences, Oneonta, NY

Nominated by: Lisbeth Parent, Corning Life Sciences, Oneonta, NY

Grant recipient: Oneonta City School District, Oneonta, NY

Skip Copperwheat dedicates himself to helping high school students develop team and leadership skills through the Oneonta Robotics Club. As a volunteer leader since 2013, Skip has encouraged students to

grow as young engineers. They also learn about fundraising, budgeting, strategic planning, advertising, and recruiting. He has supported the young team members in group competitions for the past five years. "Skip is a shining example of how Corning is part of the community and how, as individuals, we can all make a difference by donating our time," writes Lisbeth Parent.

Lanie Crisp, Corning Optical Communications, Hickory, NC

Nominated by: Keara Koehler, Corning Optical Communications, Hickory, NC

Grant recipient: Sipes Orchard Home, Conover, NC

Lanie Crisp demonstrates a strong sense of giving back, both to her Corning colleagues and within the greater Hickory community. As a leader in the Hickory chapter of the Corning Professionals Network, she has mobilized dozens of colleagues to volunteer. Together, they have walked shelter dogs and organized a new preschool classroom. She honored military veterans at her office with a celebration in November and led a Christmas gift drive that helped 14 local families. "Lanie is motivated, organized, and a good leader," writes Keara Koehler. "She demonstrates this every chance she gets."

Cheryl Crozier, Staff Sector, Corning, NY

Nominated by: Dawn Marie Castellana, Staff Sector, Corning, NY

Grant recipient: Family Service Society, Corning, NY

Cheri Crozier has been involved with many non-profit organizations in the Corning area. Among her most notable endeavors are those with the Corning Community Food Pantry. During her long tenure as board president, she planned and facilitated the pantry's move to a new location. She helps it set more aggressive goals each year to help people in Steuben County and surrounding areas. "The Corning Community Food Pantry would not be the stellar organization it is today without Cheri Crozier," writes Dawn Marie Castellana.

Gregory Davis, Corning Optical Communications, Wilmington, NC

Nominated by: Snigdharaj Mishra, Corning Optical Communications, Wilmington, NC

Grant recipient: Port City Robotics, Wilmington, NC

Greg Davis is the coach of the Wired Wizards FIRST Robotics team. He excels at communication between team members and their families during the team's six-week build sessions and at other key times of year. As a programming mentor, he assists older students in teaching newer students about robotics. He also volunteers at state-level events, including set-up, take-down, and troubleshooting robotics issues that arise. "Greg is passionate about coaching and giving training to these high school students," writes Snigdharaj Mishra. "He is a great teacher and mentor. The skills students learn help them to be successful when they go to college and beyond."

Lancy Evans, Staff Sector, Corning, NY

Nominated by: David Seymour, Corning Environmental Technologies, Corning, NY

Grant recipient: Nonnie Hood Parent Resource Center, Inc., Corning, NY

Lancy Evans is president of the Board of Directors for Nonnie Hood Parent Resource Center (PRC). The PRC has been a fixture in the Corning community for nearly two decades, providing a stable place for families to create bonds, for parents to connect with other parents, and for children to have fun together. Over her time as A volunteer, Lancy has helped lead the PRC through a turbulent time of leadership transition and has helped recruit and mentor a new executive director. “The PRC has achieved the stability it needed and is growing by adding more programs, more hours of open time, and planning for future opportunities,” writes David Seymour.

Vincent Ferretti, Corning Optical Communications, Hickory, NC

Nominated by: Angela Lambert, Corning Optical Communications, Hickory, NC

Grant recipient: Newton Depot Authority, Newton, NC

Vince Ferretti is a leading force in preserving and celebrating local rail history and model railroads. He has led multiple programs to expand and build awareness for the popular Southeastern Narrow Gauge & Shortline Museum, located at Newton Depot. He helped build a foundation to preserve the museum’s operations for generations to come. He has helped transform the museum’s model railroad center into an interactive, state-of-the-art experience. Numerous outreach programs and collaborations with other organizations have raised the museum’s profile and brought new enthusiasts into the fold. “Vince’s passion for the museum and his vision and energy to improve make him an invaluable asset,” writes Angela Lambert.

Scott Fixman, Corning Life Sciences, Greater Boston Area, MA

Grant Recipient: Winter Wildlands Alliance Inc., Boise, ID

Many homeless people get through the harsh Boston winters with a little more warmth, thanks to Scott Fixman. Scott runs an annual drive to collect cold-weather clothing, which is then distributed to people at more than 30 sites served by Boston Health Care for the Homeless Program. The organization also provides access to healthcare for the homeless people of Boston. In 2018, Scott led the collection of 265 warm items, including coats, sweatshirts, winter pants, hats, and gloves. The items were all distributed within two weeks of the collection.

Yuhui “Victor” Jin, Research & Development, Corning, NY

Nominated by: Jing Zhu, Staff Sector, Corning, NY

Grant recipient: Chinese School of Rochester Inc./Chinese School of Corning, Corning, NY

Corning Chinese School brings community volunteers together to teach Chinese to people of all ages and backgrounds. Victor Jin is principal of the school, and under his leadership the organization has made significant strides in promoting Chinese language and culture in the community. He has nurtured relationships with child development groups and other community partners; benchmarked with Chinese schools in other regions; organized performances for traditional Chinese New Year celebrations. “Victor contributes a great deal of his personal time to making the Corning Chinese School a vibrant place for community members to learn, to communicate, and to have fun,” writes Jing Zhu.

Hank Jonas, Staff Sector, Corning, NY

Nominated by: Kurt Hollasch, Staff Sector, Corning, NY

Grant recipient: Corning-Painted Post Civic Music, Corning, NY

World-class musical entertainment regularly enhances the lives of people in Corning, NY, due in large part to the efforts of Hank Jonas and Corning-Painted Post Civic Music. Hank has been a key member of the organization’s board for 17 years. He puts in countless hours recruiting board members and donors, offering his own home for meetings, and promoting each season with a video production. Kurt Hollasch writes: “Once Hank even researched and helped arrange for a private airplane to accommodate an artist’s contract! Without Hank, it’s not clear that Corning Civic Music would be anywhere near as vital as it is today – and still going strong into its 90th year.”

Kenneth Kelmer, Research & Development, Wilmington, NC

Nominated by: Joseph Streit, Research & Development, Wilmington, NC

Grant recipient: Port City Robotics, Wilmington, NC

Teenagers wanting to learn the basics of engineering in a fun environment have a great mentor in Ken Kelmer. As a coach for the local FIRST Robotics team, Ken teaches students how to design, build, program, and test robots for competition. He coaches them on using tools safely, thinking creatively, and solving problems strategically. He even revamped his home garage so team members had a safe space to create their entries. “Ken is well-respected by the team and is effective in leading them to set and meet goals,” writes Joseph Streit. “He contributes his personal time, effort, assets, and finances so kids can experience firsthand how engineering works.”

Lester Kreger, Corning Environmental Technologies, Corning, NY

Nominated by: Michael Hibbard, Corning Environmental Technologies, Corning, NY

Grant recipient: Tioga Community Food Bank, Tioga, PA

For more than 20 years, Lester Kreger and his wife, Linda, have helped people in and around Tioga, PA have access to the food they need. On Saturdays, Lester makes the rounds of local grocery stores to pick up food staples and delivers them to a local food bank for storage until it’s ready to be picked up. He has

provided transportation for disabled neighbors to the food pantry so they can make their food and supply selections. People need not feel isolated and hungry when Lester is there, writes Michael Hibbard. "He has spent time delivering food to folks who have called in their needs and cannot make the pickups because they have no transportation. They have made significant contributions to this cause."

Francis LaLomia, Corning Pharmaceutical Technologies, Corning, NY

Nominated by: April Shen, Corning Pharmaceutical Technologies, Corning, NY

Grant recipient: Boy Scouts of America, Five Rivers Council, Horseheads, NY

Francis LaLomia demonstrates his dedication to volunteer work in many ways. As a member of Rotary International, he has made many trips – most recently to El Salvador in February – to build homes for disadvantaged families. He applies his business skills, resourcefulness, and compassion to leading change efficiently and effectively. He has inspired many others to start looking for ways to improve their communities. "His generosity has created a ripple effect," writes April Shen. "He is a catalyst for positive change and empowerment. His commitment to the people of this area is unmatched."

Christina Laskowski, Research & Development, Corning, NY

Nominated by: Matt Kempton, Research & Development, Corning, NY

Grant recipient: Notre Dame High School, Elmira, NY

Christina Laskowski is helping shape the next generation of engineers through her work with Notre Dame High School FIRST Robotics. As a mentor, she helps students learn about mechanical engineering, robotics, design, and rapid prototyping. She travels to team competitions, which are typically intense, all-day, late-night, "all-hands-on-deck" events. "Christina provides amazing support," writes Matt Kempton. "She is well deserving of any recognition and award to honor her tireless and humble 'paying it forward.' "

Shawn Markham, Corning Gorilla Glass, Harrodsburg, NY

Nominated by: Linda Whittaker, Corning Gorilla Glass, Harrodsburg, NY

Grant recipient: Mercer County School District, Harrodsburg, NY

Shawn Markham is a parent volunteer for a wide variety of local public school programs. She helps the administration of a local middle school review policies and procedures on a regular basis to implement change as needed. She coordinates student visits to Corning's Harrodsburg facility, showcasing engineering and manufacturing career opportunities. She coaches children in various life skill events, like facing situations in the legal justice system and budgeting money. "Shawn is always looking for new opportunities to offer her knowledge in engineering and manufacturing to school students and she encourages others in the plant to do the same," writes Linda Whittaker.

Dan McCauley, Corning Environmental Technologies, Corning, NY

Nominated by: Thomas Tebo, Corning Environmental Technologies, Corning, NY

Grant recipient: Boy Scouts of America, Five Rivers Council, Horseheads, NY

Dan McCauley's passion for scouting and support of local youth is evident through his leadership of Boy Scouts of America Troop 87 in Big Flats, NY. He has had a positive impact on more than 40 scouts and their families who look to him for guidance, direction, and motivation. Troop membership has grown significantly under his leadership, and he has shepherded three youth to the prestigious rank of Eagle Scout, a feat achieved by only 6 percent of Boy Scouts. "With him, the young men in the program learn to live the values of scouting, and our community and nation are better as a whole," writes Thomas Tebo.

Steven Miller, Staff Sector, Corning, NY

Nominated by: Jingshi Wu, Research & Development, Corning, NY

Grant recipient: Chemung Valley Montessori School, Big Flats, NY

Steve became president of the Chemung Valley Montessori School board in 2015. He immediately began navigating the school through a challenging leadership transition. He led improvement in communications, tripled fundraising, consolidated the middle school into the main campus, refreshed the school's strategy, and undertook a host of other activities central to the long-term health of the school. "The school approaches its 45-year anniversary on more solid footing as a result of these efforts," writes Jingshi Wu. Steve is also a key player on the board of the Clemens Center, helping ensure the long-term viability of this world-class performing arts venue.

Sharon Milligan, Staff Sector, Hickory, NC

Nominated by: Martin Light, Corning Optical Communications, Hickory, NC

Grant recipient: Hickory Choral Society, Inc., Hickory, NC

As a volunteer member of the Hickory Choral Society for more than 30 years, Sharon Milligan has done much more than sing. She has also contributed to the sustainability of the arts organization through her knowledge of finance, strategic planning, fundraising, and grant writing. As a senior leader of the group during its 40th anniversary, she led a \$500,000 capital campaign. "Sharon's love of performing quality choral music and her commitment to children's music education contribute toward a vibrant arts and culture community for Corning employees around Hickory," writes Martin Light.

Bernadette Monterio, Corning Gorilla Glass, Corning, NY

Nominated by: Shawn Markham, Corning Gorilla Glass, Harrodsburg, KY

Grant recipient: Chemung County Library District, Corning, NY

As president of the Harrodsburg plant's chapter of Corning Professional Women's Forum, Bernadette Monterio became a champion for a number of community causes in the Harrodsburg area. She helped support women seeking employment through Dress for Success and was active in raising funds for local chapters of United Way and the American Cancer Society. Now that she is based in Corning, NY, she dedicates many hours to Ca\$H, a United Way of the Southern Tier program that does tax returns for those needing assistance. "She also continuously supports STEM-related activities at Corning, like CHOICES and other youth-mentoring programs," writes Shawn Markham.

Stephanie Morris, Research & Development, Wilmington, NC

Nominated by: Eugenia Burrell, Research & Development, Wilmington, NC

Grant recipient: WARM (Wilmington Area Rebuilding Ministry, Inc.), Wilmington, NC

Stephanie started volunteering with WARM shortly after she moved to Wilmington three years ago. She devotes at least two weekends a month to WARM, which makes urgent, safety-related home repairs for low-income residents of the community. She has helped connect Wilmington employee affinity groups with WARM projects as well, adding to their volunteer ranks. The group worked diligently in the aftermath of Hurricane Florence to bring damaged homes back into repair. "Stephanie does all this very quietly but in a way that inspires others," writes Eugenia Burrell.

Gail Pentheny, Corning Life Sciences, Greater Boston Area, MA

Nominated by: Hannah Gitschier, Corning Life Sciences, Greater Boston Area, MA

Grant recipient: Special Olympics of New Hampshire Inc., Manchester, NH

Members of the Dover Mighty Seals are a close-knit group, and coach Gail Pentheny is the reason why. Gail coaches the 25-member Special Olympics swim team, supporting them with their efforts in the pool and at home and work. Gail leads the coaching staff with encouragement, positive reinforcement, and an inclusive spirit for all team members. Swimmers represent a wide range of intellectual disabilities. They learn body awareness and efficient movement as well as teamwork. "Some of the team members live independently and hold jobs in the local area," writes Hannah Gitschier. "They apply skills they learn on the swim team to be better employees and community members."

Anthony Popkin, Staff Sector, Corning, NY

Nominated by: Colin Ferguson, Staff Sector, Corning, NY

Grant recipient: Chemung County Historical Society, Elmira, NY

Brand Park in the heart of Elmira is a popular green space with playgrounds, picnic areas, and venues for concerts and active sports. It remains a vibrant part of the community thanks to Tony Popkin, who leads the Brand Park Beautification Committee. He frequently appears on local media to promote Brand Park events, has created a social media presence, and launched a trust fund to finance park maintenance and future programs. The mission continues the legacy of Tony's grandmother, Winnie Watts, who was well-known locally for her dedication to Brand Park. "Due to Tony's efforts, at-risk youth have a safe public space to use, community culture and connections are enhanced, and community organization band together to further efforts originated by his family," writes Colin Ferguson.

Cristal Rager, Corning Optical Communications, Hickory, NC

Nominated by: Lanie Crisp, Corning Optical Communications, Hickory, NC

Grant recipient: North Carolina Zoological Society, Asheboro, NC

Cristal is known to all as a compassionate, caring friend to animals. Dogs at the Humane Society of Catawba County jump for joy when she arrives to take them for exercise. "She will walk as long as it takes to get as many as she can out of their pens for a walk," writes Lanie Crisp. "She will be there through rain, hail, sleet, or snow!" Cristal's gentle training and care for the dogs helps enhance their chances of adoption. She has even adopted a few of her own – choosing those who might otherwise not find new homes. "She takes in older pups that need love for the remainder of their lives – and even a blind pup that may not have 'seen' love, but now feels it daily," writes Lanie.

Katherine Rossington, Research & Development, Corning, NY

Nominated by: Conor Walsh, Corning Advanced Optics, Corning, NY

Grant recipient: Food Bank of the Southern Tier, Elmira, NY

Katherine helps keep the vital work of the Food Bank of the Southern Tier top-of-mind with colleagues and friends. She organizes volunteer activities and team-building exercises – like filling bags of food donations -- that bring team members closer together while helping the Food Bank fulfill its mission of eradicating hunger in the community. "It is clear that Katherine is very passionate about the Food Bank," writes Conor Walsh. "She is a great champion for this organization."

Dan Smith, Staff Sector, Corning, NY

Nominated by: Ryan Naylor, Corning Environmental Technologies, Corning, NY

Grant recipient: National Fallen Firefighter Foundation, Emmitsburg, MD

As a volunteer line officer with the Painted Post Fire Department, Dan Smith helps ensure that firefighters and other emergency personnel respond quickly and effectively when they're needed most. Dan works closely with the fire department's training officer to help develop his fellow firefighters, building a safer environment for all. He is also part of the group that makes sure all equipment and gear is in safe working order. He manages the flow of information between the department and county officials. "The work he does goes unnoticed by many," writes Ryan Naylor. "He puts a lot of time and effort to make his fire department the best it can be."

Julie Smith, Corning Life Sciences, Oneonta, NY

Nominated by: Samantha Garcia, Corning Life Sciences, Oneonta, NY

Grant recipient: Girl Scouts of NYPENN Pathways, Cicero, NY

Girls in the Oneonta area have a great mentor in Julie Smith, who spends much of her free time running several Girl Scout troops from the Daisy to Cadet level in Oneonta and Milford. She has been a Girl Scout volunteer for more than 10 years. She frequently devotes her events and weekends to helping plan and execute activities and assist the girls in their learning opportunities. "Her passion in working with them is so evident," writes Samantha Garcia. "Her dedication to volunteering her own time is something to be showcased throughout Corning."

Crystal Stamey, Corning Optical Communications, Wilmington, NC

Nominated by: Eric White, Corning Optical Communications, Wilmington, NC

Grant recipient: Vigilant Hope Inc., Wilmington, NC

Crystal Stamey helps create a connection between her teammates at Corning and various community causes in the Wilmington area. For instance, she has facilitated more than \$37,000 in donations to Coastal Horizons Center, all gleaned from regular events like bakes sales and "jeans days" at work. She organized a volunteer team-building event at the Food Bank of central and Eastern North Carolina. Using a Lean Manufacturing approach, the Corning team packed 1,429 pounds of food – enough for more than 1,200 meals – in two hours. "When Crystal applies her organization and process skills to her charitable efforts," writes Eric White, "both the charities and the community benefit."

Lee Stowell, Corning Life Sciences, Greater Boston Area, MA

Nominated by: Carol Fluet, Corning Life Sciences, Greater Boston Area, MA

Grant recipient: American Cancer Society, Boston MA

Lee has been supporting the American Cancer Society's "Making Strides Against Breast Cancer" walk for nearly 20 years. She recruits friends to join her walking team each October. She also spearheads a creative basket raffle to raise additional funds for the cause. She has built so much enthusiasm around the event that other departments are eagerly donating baskets of their own. She regularly raises up to \$5,000 for the Cancer Society each year. "Folks look forward every year to this raffle, and Lee puts so much time into it," writes Carol Fluet.

Jessica Teribury, Corning Pharmaceutical Technologies, Corning, NY

Nominated by: Eric Starns, Research & Development, Corning, NY

Grant recipient: Erwin Valley Painted Post Cinderella Softball League, Painted Post, NY

Jessica Teribury is an avid leader for several community youth organizations. As concession chairperson for the Erwin Valley Painted Post Cinderella Softball program, she manages inventory and purchasing for the concessions stand. She often spends her entire weekend at the fields during the season, providing refreshments for softball players and fans. She also leads the Erwin Valley Elementary School LEGO Club, organizing and maintaining the sets and planning new and interesting builds for the children. Eric Starns writes that Jess is also a volunteer organizer for the spelling bee and 5th Grade Farewell celebration at Erwin Valley. She is also a board member of the Erwin Valley PTA.

Robert Trapp, Corning Optical Communications, Wilmington, NC

Nominated by: Michele Holbrook, Corning Optical Communications, Wilmington, NC

Grant recipient: Brunswick County Schools, Bolivia, NC

Bob Trapp has volunteered his time to advance STEM education in the Wilmington region for many years and in many diverse ways. In 2018 alone, he supported more than a dozen different educational events, spending his weekends judging science fairs and working at Science Olympiad competitions. He helps create and deliver science-based activities for middle schoolers, with special emphasis on inspiring STEM-related paths for girls. He serves on the STEM Council for Brunswick County Schools. Michele Holbrook writes: "Bob's active involvement in our community demonstrates that Corning is committed to the long-term sustainability of our economy and to the overall quality of life in the area."

Jue Wang, Corning Advanced Optics, Fairport, NY

Nominated by: Xiang-Dong Mi, Research & Development, Corning, NY

Grant recipient: Chinese School of Rochester, Rochester, NY

Jue Wang is a leading volunteer at the Chinese School of Rochester, which serves more than 200 students of all ages and backgrounds. In his many roles with the school over the past decade – including principal and board chairman – he has organized many outreach programs to the surrounding community. His Chinese program for high school students has been recognized by several local school districts. He helped enhance the Chinese art program, which includes traditional Chinese calligraphy, brush painting, dancing, and crafts. His relationship-building with the New York State Council on the Arts and United Way of Greater Rochester have helped build both funding and training opportunities for the school. “His efforts ensure that the Chinese School of Rochester will continuously brighten and broaden the community as a sustainable volunteer organization,” writes Xiang-Dong Mi.

Leandra Young, Corning Optical Communications, Hickory, NC

Nominated by: Elizabeth Bruscia, Corning Optical Communications, Hickory, NC

Grant recipient: Statesville Christian School, Statesville, NC

Leandra Young is an enthusiastic volunteer for many organizations that help disadvantaged people. Her co-workers are especially inspired by her work with Dress for Success, where she advocates by fundraising, delivering donations, and raising awareness. As a very busy manager, mother, and church member, writes Elizabeth Bruscia, Leandra “could have easily said she was too busy to help. Yet in true form, Leandra asked what she could do to help this organization help more women prepare for careers in business and feel confident. She has a special gift for motivating those around her.”

Thomas Zajicek, Research & Development, Corning, NY

Nominated by: Johannes Moll, Research & Development, Corning, NY

Grant recipient: Seven Generations of Stewards, Corning, NY

Tom was the leading force behind the creation of Seven Generations of Stewards (SGS). The non-profit strives to support Native American persons and to offer Native American educational programs to everyone. As vice president and director of SGS, Tom helped organize a three-day Native American festival that attracts more than 1,000 local students from throughout the region. Tom also leads the Native American Council at Corning. “He has supported Native American employees and causes at Corning through strategic recruiting, outreach, and cultural awareness activities, including multiple events during Native American History month,” writes Johannes Moll.