

PRIDE of TICONDEROGA

2022 ANNUAL REPORT

SERVICE MAP



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Dear Esteemed Supporters and Partners,

It was with great enthusiasm and passion that I joined PRIDE this past August 2022 as the new Executive Director. Since my arrival, I have been struck by the profound need in our community, but equally inspired by the immense compassion and dedication of our partners who are ready to help. As we reflect on the past year, I am incredibly proud of our accomplishments and eager to share our latest efforts with you. At PRIDE, we believe that we can make a tangible difference by working together toward our mission of preserving homes, supporting people, and revitalizing our community. We recognize that our work has a direct impact on people's lives, and that is why we are passionate about creating a better future for all.

One of our most significant achievements over the past year was securing the \$10 million NYS Downtown Revitalization Initiative grant by leading its application process with the Town of Ticonderoga. This accomplishment builds upon PRIDE's 39-year history of revitalizing our downtown community and will create new job opportunities and foster further economic growth. We are grateful for the opportunity to collaborate with the Town of Ticonderoga and our partners in bringing this vision to reality.

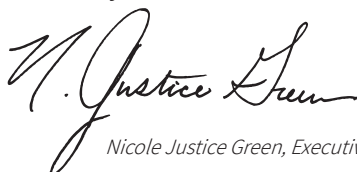
At PRIDE, we firmly believe that everyone deserves a safe, decent, and affordable place to call home. We are thrilled to have played a crucial role in finalizing the Essex County Land Bank's application and to serve as its new administrator. The creation of affordable housing is a desperately needed growth step for PRIDE, as we have been committed to preserving the housing stock and protecting affordability with our housing rehabilitation and repair programs since 1986. The creation of affordable housing is critical because it provides stability, security, and a sense of pride for families, and we remain steadfast in our commitment to this mission. We extend our gratitude to the Essex County Board of Supervisors for their unwavering support in championing this effort over the past two years. We are excited to continue our work in addressing the affordable housing crisis and ensuring that everyone in our community has access to safe, decent, and low-cost housing.

PRIDE experienced significant growth and expansion this year, doubling our administrative capacity and staff. This growth has enabled us to take on even more projects and initiatives to benefit our community. Currently, we are administering a total of \$2.4 million dollars in housing, business, and community development grants, bringing our total administrative grant funding over our 39-year history to an impressive \$15.2 million dollars. With this continued success, we are eager to keep pushing forward and finding new ways to make a positive impact in our tri-county service area.

We invite you to join us in our efforts to make our community a better place. Your support enables us to provide safe and quality housing rehabilitation, tackle food insecurity, and promote revitalization in our downtown community. Together, we can impact more lives and create a brighter future for all.



Sincerely,



Nicole Justice Green, Executive Director



STU BAKER
President
Years on the Board: 11

Stu Baker is a respected figure in the field of planning and community development, with a distinguished career spanning over three decades. He has been instrumental in shaping the growth and development of various communities in New York State. As the Senior Planner for the Town of Queensbury in Warren County, Stu brings his wealth of experience and expertise to bear in ensuring sustainable development and growth in the region. He is also the President of the Board of Directors for Pride of Ticonderoga, where he provides strategic leadership and guidance to the organization. Stu's commitment to community development and his passion for creating sustainable and vibrant communities are an inspiration to us all.



NICHOLAS FITZGERALD
Ex Officio Land Bank
Years on the Board: 1

Raised in Silver Bay, Nicholas has been an advocate for the town his entire life.

He graduated from Ticonderoga Senior High School in 2017 before getting his Bachelor of Arts in History and Political Science from the University of New Hampshire. For nine seasons, Nick worked with Fort Ticonderoga in various roles: starting as a Fifer in the Fife and Drum Corps to managing its Retail and Guest Service Departments. Recently, he has represented young professionals as part of the Downtown Revitalization Initiative Application Committee and continues to work to improve the town through PRIDE.



ALLISON KAUPELIS
Ex Officio Land Bank
Years on the Board: 4

Allison Kaupelis is an accomplished individual who has made significant contributions to her

community and the hospitality industry. As a resident of Ticonderoga since 2009, she has deep roots in the community and is passionate about making a positive impact on the lives of those around her. With a Bachelor of Science in Biochemistry and a Master's degree in Psychology and Counseling, Allison brings a unique perspective to her role as the Regional Director of Operations for Milya LLC. She is responsible for overseeing the operations of the Northeast region hotel, ensuring that guests have an exceptional

experience during their stay. Moreover, Allison is an active member of the Ticonderoga Chamber of Commerce and currently serves as the Chairwoman, where she advocates for the interests of local businesses and works tirelessly to promote economic growth in the area. Adding to her impressive portfolio, Allison's husband is a New York State Master Teacher and works as a math teacher at Ticonderoga High School. The couple has two children and is committed to providing them with a bright future. Allison's dedication to her profession, community, and family is truly inspiring and serves as a shining example for others to follow.



JAMES MONTY
Ex Officio Land Bank
Years on the Board: 1

James Monty was born in Moriah and moved to Lewis in 1971. He graduated from Elizabethtown Lewis

Central School in 1975 and SUNY Canton in 1977. James started his career in the New York State Department of Corrections as a Corrections Officer in 1985, where he worked at various facilities. In 1989, James transferred to Moriah Shock Correctional Facility and became involved in the State Employee Assistance Program. In 2009, James resigned from Corrections to go to work for the Governor's Office of Employee Relations in the Statewide EAP program, becoming the Regional Representative for the North Country. He assisted state employees and their families with a variety of issues which may have been causing difficulties in their work life. James retired in 2016. He was a Town Councilman for the Town of Lewis from 1998 - 2016 and then became Town Supervisor. James has been on the Board of Directors for Adirondack Community Action Programs since 1998 and on the Board of Directors of the United Way of the Adirondacks since 2019. He is the Vice Chair of the Essex County Board of Supervisors since 2020 and on the Board of Directors for Essex County Soil and Water. James has been married to Cynthia Monty for 45 years and has a son, Tyler Monty, and a daughter, Abby Monty.



Tom and Charlene with their grandchildren.

TOM SCHAFFER,
Secretary
Years on the Board: 4

Tom graduated from Hudson Valley Community College in 1969 and from the Union College School of Engineering in 1987. He served in the US Army from

1970-71, worked for Digital Equipment Corporation from 1969 until 1998, and then Compaq Computer Corporation from 1998 until 2002. He ended his career as a Senior Systems Engineer with Cengage Learning from 2004-2013. Since retiring in 2013, he has been a technology consultant for the Town of Hague and aids the Hague Volunteer Fire Department with their office technology. He is an active member of the Ticonderoga Kiwanis Club, volunteers with the Ticonderoga Area Backpack Program, and has served on the Pride Board of Directors since June of 2018. Tom is a current member of the Silver Bay Association Board of Trustees. He is the manager and operator of the community water system at Arcady Bay HOA where he lives with his wife, Charlene. They enjoy spending quality time on Lake George with their five grandchildren.



MARK WRIGHT
Ex Officio Land Bank
Years on the Board: 1

Mark A. Wright is the Supervisor for the Town of Ticonderoga. Born and raised in

Ticonderoga, he is a 1976 graduate of Saint Mary's School, 1980 graduate of Ticonderoga High School, and a 1984 graduate of Syracuse University with a BS in Aerospace Engineering. Mark is married to Laura (Barron) Wright, and they have two adult children, Zachary Wright, and Samantha Wright. Mark has 35 years of federal service, employed as a civilian federal employee in the Department of Defense/United States Air Force for 16 years at Vandenberg Air Force Base, followed by 19 years with the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) Office of Commercial Space Transportation in Washington, D.C. He received the Ticonderoga High School Distinguished Alumni Award in 2019, served as a Ticonderoga Fire District Fire Commissioner, is Vice-President of the Ticonderoga Heritage Museum, a member of the Knights of Columbus Council #333, and a member of St. Mary's Catholic Church. He and his wife, Laura, are both dedicated volunteers and actively involved in several efforts within the town. Mark has a passionate love for Ticonderoga's history and more importantly, a passionate drive for its prosperous future. As Supervisor, he re-initiated the Town's Economic Development Committee and works with local business, economic development, and revitalization partners to improve Ticonderoga's economic strength. In his spare time, he enjoys historical research for his website, railfanning, and is an avid model railroader.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

For 39 years, PRIDE of Ticonderoga has been an essential non-profit organization in the Tri-County service area, committed to enhancing and connecting the community through various programs, including housing restoration, downtown revitalization, historic preservation, and community development programs. As a rural reservation, our organization plays a vital role in addressing the needs of our community.

At PRIDE, we firmly believe that everyone deserves a safe, decent, and affordable place to call home. Over the past year, we have continued to fulfill our mission by providing a range of essential programs and services to support our community.

Through our grant programs, we have funneled over \$15,400,000 of funding into our Tri-County service area to strengthen our communities and their economic vitality.



EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

\$2,408,721

Total Fiscal Year Administration

\$1,630,221

Housing Grants

\$500K

Economic Development Grants

\$300K

Seed funding for the Essex County Land Bank

\$107,550

Historic Preservation Grants

\$89,500

Rural Preservation Grant

\$27,450

Black Point Beach Playground Fund

\$27,000

Neighbors Helping Neighbors Fund

\$14K

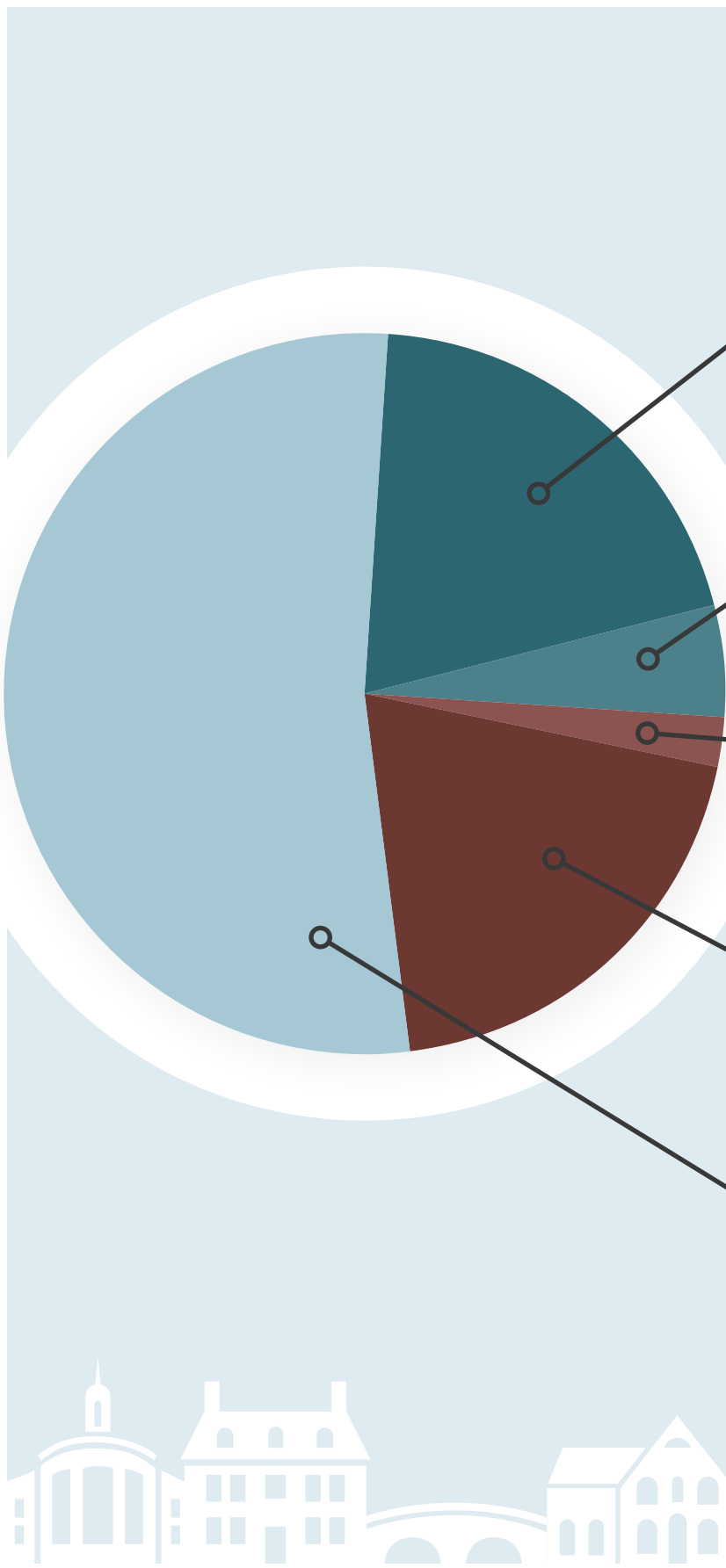
Ice Rink Fund

\$13K

End School Hunger Fund

JUNE 2022- JUNE 2023 GRANT ADMINISTRATION

2022 FINANCIALS



**ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT
GRANTS \$500,000**

Cumulative:

\$3 million

**PARKS AND
RECREATION**

Cumulative:

\$800,000

**COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT
GRANTS: \$83,000**

Cumulative:

\$303,000

**HISTORIC
PRESERVATION
GRANTS \$110,000**

Cumulative:

\$3.3 million

**HOUSING
GRANTS**

Cumulative:

\$8.1 million

Homes rehabilitated
and repaired: **43**

Cumulative: **838**

Land Bank Funding: **\$300,000**
One home donated in Upper Jay

HOUSING PRESERVATION PROGRAMS

Our commitment to rehabilitating and maintaining older homes in our community has yielded significant progress over the past year. We have successfully rehabilitated and repaired 43 homes in Essex, Washington, and Warren counties, enhancing the safety, energy efficiency, and overall quality of life for local residents. Our efforts have not only helped to maintain a desirable living environment but have also demonstrated our dedication to creating sustainable and affordable housing options for all. As we continue this work, we are proud of our accomplishments and remain committed to making a positive impact on the lives of our community members.



“Our commitment to providing safe, affordable, and sustainable housing options for all remains unwavering. We look forward to continuing our work in rehabilitating and maintaining homes in our community, creating a positive impact on the lives of our neighbors.”



HOME

The New York State HOME Program is dedicated to making housing more accessible for low to moderate-income residents. Managed by the Housing Trust Fund Corporation, the program funds one of PRIDE’s major home rehabilitation programs, which adheres to federal regulations. By providing home rehabilitation assistance to households with incomes at or below 80% of the area median income, with a priority for those at or below 60%, the HOME Program makes a significant impact on the quality of life for residents across the state, ensuring they have a safe and comfortable place to call home.



CDBG

Homeowner rehabilitation is a vital community development program that has a significant impact on the lives of many families nationwide through funding by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and HCR. With the flexibility provided by CDBG funds, grantees can implement emergency repair programs, spot rehabilitation, or full house rehabilitation, bringing homes up to local codes and standards. The CDBG program also allows for special purpose programs, such as energy efficiency, handicapped accessibility, emergency repair, and weatherization, ensuring that homeowners have safe, comfortable, and healthy living environments. Investing in homeowner rehabilitation can create a positive impact on the lives of residents, improving the overall quality of life and the local economy. This is a new program for PRIDE and we are profoundly thankful to the Essex County Board of Supervisors for this new partnership.



RESTORE

PRIDE’s RESTORE program provides a critical lifeline to senior citizens who are struggling to make necessary repairs to their homes. RESTORE is managed by the Office of Homes and Community Renewal (HCR). The program enables eligible homeowners to maintain their independence and continue living safely and comfortably in their homes. RESTORE provides financial assistance to address emergencies and code violations, ensuring that vulnerable members of our community can receive the critical repairs they need. We have been administering the RESTORE program for over a decade, and we remain committed to ensuring that senior citizens in our community have access to safe and affordable housing.



NEIGHBORS HELPING NEIGHBORS

The Neighbors Helping Neighbors program provides financial assistance to low-income homeowners who cannot afford emergency home repairs. Eligible repairs include critical electrical updates, plumbing issues, furnace repairs, and other home emergencies, with awards of up to \$1,500 granted to eligible homeowners. The program is entirely funded by private donations, and 100% of the funds raised are dedicated to emergency home repairs. Neighbors Helping Neighbors demonstrates the power of community and how small acts of kindness can have a significant impact on those in need.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING PROGRAMS

On May 18th, after two years of diligent work by the Essex County Housing Task force, Empire State Development approved Essex County's application for a land bank. PRIDE is thrilled to announce that our rural preservation company will administer the Essex County Land Bank. This is a significant departure from PRIDE's past focus on home rehab and emergency repairs and will allow us to play a crucial role in addressing the county's housing crisis. This momentous occasion marks a milestone for PRIDE of Ticonderoga, as we take a bold step towards addressing the critical affordable housing crisis in Essex County.

Essex County, like many other parts of the state, is experiencing a severe shortage of affordable housing, forcing working professionals and young families to seek employment and establish roots elsewhere. The Essex County Board of Supervisors and PRIDE are stepping up to relieve some of the county's burden with the Land Bank program. The program removes blight by rehabilitating taxed foreclosure properties, which aligns with the Governor's goal of creating affordable homes across the state, while adhering to the Adirondack Park Agency's guidelines.

The Essex County Land Bank plans to start with rehabilitating three to five homes county-wide for the first three years, while building capacity. PRIDE's track record in rehabilitating homes and buildings is impressive, and we intend to turn these foreclosure properties into affordable homes for young workers and families who live and work in the county. Our top priority is to provide homes to those with the most urgent need, guaranteeing that they are sold to the individuals and families who need them the most, and who are ready to be homeowners. The Land Bank's first home has been donated by the Town of Jay and is located in Upper Jay. We hope to begin construction in the next few months.





“PRIDE is also excited to announce the creation of its new homebuyer counseling program.”

A \$20,000 Generous Acts grant from the Adirondack Foundation has allowed us to receive training and expand our Continuum of Care approach to include HUD-certified housing counseling. We also were able to expand our team and hire a new fulltime Continuum of Care administrator, Mrs. Fallon Jordon, in April of this year. This new program will be used independently and in conjunction with the Land Bank. Housing Counseling will be available to all residents in PRIDE’s Tri-County service area. Additionally, PRIDE will collaborate with HAPEC to provide HUD-certified homebuyer counseling to Land Bank homeowners; including financial literacy education, pre-purchase counseling, and post-purchase counseling.

This initiative is especially personal for PRIDE’s new Executive Director, who recalls her family’s struggle

to secure a home when they relocated to Essex County. Nicole is committed to helping other hardworking families facing similar situations, providing them with safe homes where their families can grow and build equity and generational wealth. With PRIDE’s dedication to this crucial issue and the formal approval of the Land Bank, Essex County is one step closer to addressing the affordable housing crisis. This effort will help ensure that individuals and young families from all occupations can continue to reside in the county and cultivate a sense of belonging in the communities that they cherish. PRIDE would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to Jim, Ken, Mike, Bill, and the Town Board of Jay for their trust and immense support. Now, it’s time to get to work!

“This effort will help ensure that individuals and young families from all occupations can continue to reside in the county and cultivate a sense of belonging in the communities that they cherish.”

MAINSTREET AND REVITALIZATION PROJECTS

The success of the Town of Ticonderoga’s recent grant application for the Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI) is a testament to the community’s unwavering dedication to revitalizing its historic downtown area. As the Executive Director of Pride of Ticonderoga, I am honored to share this exciting news with our stakeholders. PRIDE coordinated and led the application effort with the Town of Ticonderoga collaboratively with all of our DRI committee members. The application featured several projects that will now be developed to make our town more welcoming and vibrant. Securing the grant was not an easy feat, and it took us nine months of careful coordination and information gathering to ensure that our application was strong. Public engagement was a key focus, and we made sure to involve the public in every step of the process. This approach has undoubtedly contributed to our success, as we have received overwhelming support from the community. As we move forward, we are excited to begin working with the Department of State to develop the final roster of projects and to continue involving the community in every aspect of the revitalization process. We are proud of the progress we have made so far, and we are more determined than ever to create a thriving and attractive downtown area that will be the pride of Ticonderoga.

In addition to our work in Ticonderoga, we are thrilled to be working with the Town of Jay to assist in their economic development aspirations. The formation of an economic development committee marks the beginning of a new chapter for the town, prioritizing downtown revitalization and improvements to housing and businesses. Drawing on our experience with economic development grants, such as New York Main Street and Downtown Revitalization Initiatives, we are excited to aid our neighboring community. The committee held its inaugural meeting in early May, with the priority being an update to the comprehensive plan, last revised in 1997, to identify areas that require immediate attention. Revitalizing Main Street in Au Sable Forks is a significant step towards achieving this goal, and we are thrilled to be a part of this exciting project. As the first thing people see when they cross the bridge and drive into Essex County and Au Sable Forks from the North, Main Street’s revitalization is critical. Our Executive Director will apply for a New York Main Street technical assistance grant for Au Sable Forks, funding the downtown assessment, design guidelines, and facade drawings. One of the committee’s





objectives is to create an environment that will increase tax revenue and improve the quality of life for the community's current residents. We are eager to collaborate with the community to achieve their economic development objectives and excited to be a part of this inspiring project.

Finally, we are thrilled to announce the launch of the "Ti-Together" emergency business assistance fund in partnership with Small Town Boutique, Dolly and the Bean, and the Ticonderoga Area Chamber of Commerce. This program is a testament to the ingenuity and generosity of the Ticonderoga business community, as well as the leadership of Jaimee Kuhl and Megan Bambara. The need for an emergency business assistance fund has never been more urgent. "Ti-Together" will provide vital financial support to local businesses in times of crisis, ensuring that they can continue to serve our community and contribute to Ticonderoga's economic growth. We are so proud to be a part of a community that recognizes the importance of supporting small businesses.

The Essex County Industrial Development Agency (IDA) and Ticonderoga Area Chamber of Commerce play a crucial role in promoting economic development and growth in the region. As two of the most important organizations in the area, their mission is to support businesses of all sizes and help them achieve their goals. PRIDE of Ticonderoga recognizes the vital role that these organizations play and works closely with them to provide year-round business assistance. Our bi-weekly meetings with the IDA and Ticonderoga Area Chamber of Commerce provide a platform for us to share our expertise and offer guidance and support to local businesses. The collaboration and support from these organizations have been instrumental in the success of many small businesses in the region. Without the tireless efforts of these organizations, the local business community would not have the resources and support necessary to thrive.



BASIC INFORMATION/APPLICATION COVER PAGE

REDC Region: North Country
Program applying for: Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI)
Municipality Name: Town of Ticonderoga
Downtown Name: *Downtown Ticonderoga: Revolutionizing the Future of Downtown Ticonderoga*
 Essex County
County Name: Essex County
Applicant Contact(s): Mark A. Wright, Town Supervisor
supervisor@townofticonderoga.org
 Nicole Justice Green, PRIDE of Ticonderoga
executive.director@prideofticonderoga.org





Photo Courtesy of : Shawndra Bartlett Yaw



Photo Courtesy of : Shawndra Bartlett Yaw





Photo Courtesy of : Sean Magee



Photo Courtesy of : Sean Magee

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

The culmination of two years of dedicated work is drawing to a close as we near the completion of our latest New York Mainstreet project, Paper and Pencil. Thanks to a \$500,000 award from the 2020 New York Main Street program, LaChute Ventures has partnered with PRIDE to restore an 80-year-old restaurant that had been left dormant in downtown Ticonderoga. The building, formerly known as Roofers, has been transformed into a beautiful, year-round, 200-seat restaurant and banquet space.

What makes this project so unique is the history and design of the building. The former 1820s furniture factory at 119 Burgoyne Road in Ticonderoga has been rebuilt from the ground up, breathing new life into this beloved building. By incorporating many of the original elements, the industrial-themed interior design preserves the historic charm while the addition of modern elements create an upscale dining experience with elements of fine dining service. The restaurant will be a new gathering place for locals and visitors alike along the LaChute River corridor.

Not only is this restoration project significant for its design, but it also plays a vital role in the revitalization of Ticonderoga's downtown area. With the opening of Paper & Pencil, LaChute Ventures will now have the only waterfront restaurant in Ticonderoga, putting the downtown waterfront on the map and providing a much-needed boost to the local economy. This historic renovation has created a riverfront magnet, expected to attract visitors from far and wide, creating jobs and bringing new opportunities to the area.

At PRIDE, we have a track record of assisting other downtown businesses with various NYMS grant awards since 2004, and we are proud to have culminated our efforts in this project. We believe in the importance of restoring old buildings, not only to preserve our history but to also revitalize our communities. The total restoration cost of this project is projected to be close to \$2 million dollars, but the impact on our community is priceless.

The grand opening of Paper & Pencil is set for summer 2023, and LaChute Ventures cannot wait to welcome visitors from near and far to experience the revitalization of our downtown area. We are incredibly grateful to LaChute Ventures and Tom Cunningham for their partnership, investment, and unwavering commitment to this project and the economic vitality of the Town of Ticonderoga. This is just the beginning of a new era for our community, and we invite everyone to come and be a part of it.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

END SCHOOL HUNGER

In September 2022, PRIDE of Ticonderoga announced the launch of its “End School Hunger” project, which aimed to eliminate school meal debt and combat childhood food insecurity in the community. Since then, PRIDE has funneled \$13,000 into the school system for this program. We would like to thank our donors for their generous support.

The project was initiated by PRIDE’s executive director, Nicole Justice Green, who received alerts from families and school employees that some students were unable to pay for lunch and were choosing to not eat since they knew that they would incur a debt. Green recognized that universal free school meals, provided during the pandemic, would no longer be exempted by the USDA, leaving families with little time to prepare financially for this expense.

“Over 10% of households in New York State experience food insecurity”

To address this issue, PRIDE leveraged \$5,000 in seed money to create a tax-deductible “school lunch reserve account.” PRIDE’s “End School Hunger” project has also received a boost from the Adirondack Foundation’s Sudden and Urgent Needs Fund, which will help cover the cost of more than 500 school meals this year. PRIDE

and the Adirondack Foundation have been partner agencies since 2016. At the end of each month, PRIDE has been administering these funds to the district finance office to pay off as much outstanding debt as possible. Additionally, PRIDE still offers “open office hours” to assist families with their free and reduced lunch applications, which can be challenging for families with non-traditional sources of income.

The “End School Hunger” project is not just an initiative to pay off school lunch debt; it is also a powerful statement of solidarity and commitment to the well-being of the community’s children. According to recent data, over 10% of households in New York State experience food insecurity, and this number is even higher in rural areas like Ticonderoga. Childhood hunger can have serious consequences, including poor academic performance, behavioral problems, and physical health issues. PRIDE’s project is a critical step in addressing the root causes of food insecurity in Ticonderoga by ensuring that every child has access to healthy and nutritious food, regardless of their socioeconomic status. The “End School Hunger” project is an important component of community development because it recognizes the critical role that food security plays in ensuring the health, well-being, and success of the community’s children. By investing in the future of Ticonderoga, PRIDE is creating a more just and equitable community where every child has the opportunity to thrive and succeed. The project is a powerful example of what can be achieved when communities come together to address the most pressing needs of their most vulnerable members. Through collaboration, compassion, and a commitment to social justice, we can create a more equitable and just world for everyone.





ICE RINK

PRIDE of Ticonderoga is pleased to announce that the Ticonderoga Ice Rink has undergone significant improvements, making it a top-notch recreational facility for the community. Thanks to generous grants and volunteer efforts, the rink was in excellent condition and open to the public multiple weekends this winter. The Adirondack for Kids Grant removed income barriers, making the rink accessible to everyone in the community, and provided 40 pairs of ice skates in various sizes, including toddler double-bladed training models and adult sizes. To ensure the skates remained safe and secure, we placed decals on them to identify them as rink property in case of theft.

Furthermore, the Adirondack Community Recreation Alliance granted the Ticonderoga Ice Rink \$4,000 towards any rink improvement the town desired. This initiative received support from various organizations, including PRIDE of Ticonderoga and the Town of Ticonderoga, who partnered with the Charles R. Wood Foundation to provide an \$8,000 grant for the project. With over \$10,000 in funding, the rink opened numerous possibilities for expansion and improvements.

Thanks to the hard work of Ash Alexander, Mark Harrison, and Natan Belanger, the rink underwent several improvements, including the installation of a hockey perimeter board, a liner to hold in the water while it freezes, improvements to the warming hut, and the possible addition of ice refinishing tools. Our long-term vision for the rink is to expand and offer youth hockey and skating lessons, making it a lynchpin in our recreational infrastructure for winter. As an underutilized resource and asset to the town, we believe the Ticonderoga Ice Rink will help improve children's lives in the Lake George region. We are proud of the progress made thus far and look forward to the future of the rink.

The Ticonderoga Ice Rink is more than just a recreational facility, it is an important asset for the community. By providing free winter outdoor recreation, the rink promotes community development, helps children develop essential life skills, and has a positive impact on local economies. Community development is crucial for creating a sense of belonging and socialization within a community. The ice rink provides a safe and welcoming environment for community members to come together and participate in winter activities such as ice skating, sledding, and snowshoeing. These activities promote physical fitness and wellness, which is essential for overall community health.

Children are the future of any community, and the ice rink plays an important role in their development. Winter outdoor recreation provides an opportunity for children to be physically active and develop essential life skills such as teamwork, leadership, and problem-solving. Free access to these activities ensures that children from all economic backgrounds have the opportunity to participate and enjoy the benefits of winter recreation.

The economic benefits of the Ticonderoga Ice Rink cannot be overlooked. Winter outdoor recreation can attract tourists to the area, which generates revenue for local businesses such as restaurants, hotels, and shops. Additionally, it creates jobs and opportunities for local residents, such as coaches, instructors, and maintenance workers. Free access to these activities can increase the number of visitors to the area, which can have a positive impact on the local economy.

In conclusion, the Ticonderoga Ice Rink is an important asset for the community. It provides free winter outdoor recreation that promotes physical fitness, socialization, and community bonding. It also helps children develop essential life skills and has a positive impact on local economies. By supporting the Ticonderoga Ice Rink, we can ensure that our community continues to thrive and grow for years to come.

PLAYGROUND

At PRIDE of Ticonderoga, we are thrilled to announce that we have already raised \$27,000 for the Black Point Beach Playground project, including \$15,000 in grants. Our goal is to turn the need for a new playground into a reality, with some parts of a brand-new playground to hopefully be installed by this summer season.

As our community has continued to grow, the playground at Black Point Beach is long overdue for a facelift. PRIDE's Executive Director Nicole Justice Green is a huge champion for outdoor recreation, and she believes that a new playground would be an excellent addition for area youth. With free public access to Black Point Beach, everyone can enjoy the facility for birthdays and social gatherings, making it an important asset for our community. Our hope is to raise \$80,000 for this project. Working in conjunction with the town, we have applied for the Charles R. Wood Grant, which would be for \$50,000, though the grant also provides partial funding if we are unable to meet the full requested amount. We have also applied for, and received, the Cloudsplitter Grant for an additional \$10,000 and intend to pursue other New York State Parks and Recreation grants as they become available.

As an organization, we are committed to actively addressing the needs of our community and youth in meaningful ways every year. Our vision for the Black Point Beach Playground includes a number of large multi-climber sets, an activity area similar to one that Hague and other beaches have, and a slide replacement, which often serves as the centerpiece to the whole aesthetic.

We also hope to install a toddler and small child installation with spring riders, as well as a pad for basketball, and regrade the sand for the volleyball area. Childhood is short, and we want our children spending those summers playing at the beach and swimming because it's incredibly beneficial for their development. For PRIDE, this project is building upon the fourth pillar of what we represent, which is community development. We believe that by building great houses and investing in the well-being of our children, we will attract new residents to our town. We are excited to pursue this project and create a beautiful outdoor space for our community. Donations for the new Black Point Beach Playground can still be mailed to:

**PRIDE of Ticonderoga at PO Box 348/111 Montcalm Street,
Ticonderoga, N.Y., 12883.**

Please write "Black Point Beach Playground" in check memos. There is also a small on-going GoFundMe campaign for public contributions.

"As an organization, we are committed to actively addressing the needs of our community and youth in meaningful ways every year."



HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROJECTS

Over the past year, PRIDE of Ticonderoga has made significant progress in our mission to preserve and promote the rich history of the area. Thanks to grants from the DEC Smartgrowth and the Champlain Valley National Heritage Partnership, we completed two exciting projects that have helped us gain a deeper understanding of Ticonderoga's unique heritage.

One of our most significant achievements was the completion and publication of the report on Ticonderoga's oldest industry and LaChute River. This project, made possible by the DEC Smartgrowth grant of \$100,000, was a collaboration with Fort Ticonderoga and the Town of Ticonderoga, and it provided insights for potential reconstruction efforts in the future. The preservation of the sawmill is important because it helps to maintain Ticonderoga's rich history and provide insights into the town's oldest industry.

In addition, PRIDE received a \$7,500 grant from the Champlain Valley National Heritage Partnership on behalf of the Town of Ticonderoga, which enabled us to upgrade 12 interpretive signs along the LaChute River Walk. These themed interpretive signs will highlight the impact of the Clean Water Act on local and regional waterways, as we celebrate the 50th anniversary of this important legislation. The signs' content and graphics were updated, and the existing sign bases were refurbished thanks to the in-kind support of the Ticonderoga Historical Society and the Town of Ticonderoga Parks and Recreation Department.

We are thrilled to have completed both projects in December 2022. The information we have gained from these projects can be used to educate future generations about the importance of preserving our cultural heritage. Additionally, historic preservation can be a key driver of economic development by attracting visitors and supporting local businesses that cater to history buffs and heritage tourists.

The signs have been ordered and will be installed this year, adding to the many other attractions that draw visitors to Ticonderoga. This kind of historic preservation is crucial because it helps us to connect with the past and understand the events and people that shaped our community. It also helps us to appreciate the natural beauty and resources of the region and recognize the importance of protecting them for future generations.

We would like to express our gratitude to all those who contributed to these projects, including the DEC, the Champlain Valley National Heritage Partnership, Fort Ticonderoga, the Ticonderoga Historical Society, and the Town of Ticonderoga Parks and Recreation Department. We would also like to thank our former Executive Directors for their years of work guiding our organization towards achieving our mission of historic preservation.

PRIDE of Ticonderoga is committed to continuing our efforts to preserve and promote Ticonderoga's rich history for generations to come. With ongoing partnerships and support, we can continue to make significant progress towards this goal.



THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS

Adirondack Energy:
Adirondacks for Kids

The Adirondack Foundation:
Generous Acts and Urgent Needs

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The United Way of the
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The University of Vermont Health
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Walmart

War Cannon Spirits

Bob and Jan Whitaker

The Wild Center

Windchill

The Charles R. Wood Foundation



ANNUAL SPONSORSHIP LEVELS 2023-2024

LEVEL 1 - \$50 PRIDE MEMBER

Invitation to our Annual Meeting, lapel pin, and a 15% discount on Wine and Swine 2023 tickets. Access to PRIDE newsletter and emails, annual report recognition, and website recognition.

LEVEL 2 - \$100 GOOD NEIGHBOR

Invitation to our Annual Meeting, lapel pin, one (1) complimentary Wine and Swine 2023 ticket, and recognition as a Sponsor in the 2023 program, on PRIDE's website, and on our social media channels. In addition, you will receive the perks listed above as well as grant technical assistance for your businesses.

LEVEL 3 - \$250 HOUSE BUILDER

Invitation to our Annual Meeting, lapel pin, two (2) complimentary Wine and Swine 2023 tickets. You will be listed as a sponsor in/on the following: the 2023 Wine and Swine program, PRIDE's website, PRIDE t-shirt, print media, and our social media channels, and receive the perks above.

LEVEL 4 - \$500 STREET BUILDER

Invitation to and recognition at our Annual Meeting, lapel pin, and four (4) complimentary Wine and Swine 2023 tickets. You will be listed as a sponsor in the 2023 Wine & Swine program, on PRIDE's website, on our PRIDE t-shirt, in print media and our social media channels, and receive the perks above.

LEVEL 5 - \$750 COMMUNITY BUILDER

Invitation to and recognition at our Annual Meeting, lapel pin, and six (6) complimentary Wine and Swine 2023 tickets. You will be listed as a sponsor in the 2023 Wine & Swine program and on PRIDE's website, receive an invitation to a ribbon cutting, receive ad space in "Lake George Living" magazine, and receive the perks above.

LEVEL 6 - \$1,000 FOUNDER'S CIRCLE

Invitation to and recognition at our Annual Meeting, lapel pin, and a reserved table for 8 guests at Wine and Swine 2023. Additionally, you will be listed as a sponsor in the 2023 Wine & Swine program, on PRIDE's website, receive a certificate for an advertisement in the SUN, as well as the above perks.

STUDENT AMBASSADOR: 1 HOUR

Requires min. 1 volunteer hour with PRIDE of Ticonderoga, Inc. Student Ambassador perks: PRIDE lapel pin, letter of recommendation, and website recognition.



NICOLE JUSTICE GREEN is an accomplished Executive Director with a background in non-profit and education sectors. She has been working in these fields since 2014, and most recently worked with the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation in Virginia, administering historic preservation and freelance competitive grant programs since 2007. She is a former Fulbright-Gilman scholar who holds a Bachelor's and Master's degree in History and Teaching from Christopher Newport University. As a passionate advocate for her community, Green is committed to addressing public health issues locally, specifically lead-based paint remediation and food insecurity. She has reaffirmed PRIDE's long-standing commitment to address the affordable housing crisis regionally and to support Ticonderoga's economic development through historic preservation as well as assisting local businesses.

Green and her husband, Cameron, live in Ticonderoga with their five children. She is deeply invested in the well-being of her community and takes an active role in ensuring that it remains a vibrant and thriving place to live. Her expertise and dedication make her an invaluable member of the PRIDE of Ticonderoga team.



JEANENE WILSON is a dedicated Housing Program Specialist with over 30 years of organizational management experience. She is passionate about helping families in need of affordable housing, and has a wealth of knowledge in housing restoration, lead-based paint remediation, assistance program application processes, and repair project completion. Jeanene holds an Associate Degree in General Studies and is also certified in Aerospace Ground Equipment Maintenance. She is constantly seeking to improve her skills and knowledge and is committed to providing the best possible service to her clients.

In September 2022, Jeanene was promoted to Housing Program Specialist, a testament to her hard work and dedication to the organization. She and her husband, Darrell, live in Putnam, and she enjoys spending her free time with family and friends. Jeanene's expertise and commitment to helping others make her an invaluable member of the PRIDE of Ticonderoga team.



FALLON is a recent graduate of North Country Community College, where she obtained a degree in Human Services. From a young age, Fallon always had a passion for helping her community and making a positive impact in the lives of those around her. Her bubbly, happy, and outgoing personality earned her the nickname, "Bubbles" from some of her close friends.

In her free time, Fallon loves spending quality time with her loved ones. She cherishes the relationships she has with her friends and family, and often hosts friend game night where they can all relax and have a good time together. Fallon's love for her community and her joyful spirit makes her an invaluable member of PRIDE of Ticonderoga.

STAFF BIOS

Nicole Justice Green, Jeanene Wilson, and Fallon Jordon work together to provide exceptional customer service, office management, and project management at PRIDE of Ticonderoga. Their efficient teamwork ensures that referrals, prospective client inquiries, program education, eligibility requirements, and documentation reviews are all handled in a timely and effective manner.

To assist with accounting, inspections, environmental reviews, and housing rehabilitation, PRIDE employs several contractors who are experts in their respective fields. Additionally, PRIDE has formed partnerships with professionals in the housing and preservation industries, such as Flatley Read and Glenn Swajger, to further expand their resources and improve their services.

The collaborative efforts of Green, Wilson, Jordon, and their team of contractors and partners ensure that PRIDE of Ticonderoga can provide the highest quality of service to their clients and the community. Their dedication to excellence is a cornerstone of PRIDE's success, and we are grateful for their contributions.





PRIDE OF TICONDEROGA

**A PRIDE FUNDRAISER TO BENEFIT
NEIGHBORS HELPING NEIGHBORS**

Wine & Swine

**THURSDAY, AUGUST 17TH 6:00 PM
THE BARN AT LORD HOWE VALLEY, TICONDEROGA**

Wine and Swine helps make a tangible difference in the lives of those facing unforeseen housing challenge. This emergency home repairs program provides financial assistance to low-income homeowners who cannot afford essential repairs, such as electrical updates, plumbing issues and furnace repairs.

100% of the funds raised go directly to emergency home repairs, thanks to the program's private donation funding.