



**JOHN BEN SNOW
FOUNDATION
ANNUAL REPORT 2025**



INVESTING IN THE COMMUNITY



INVESTING IN PEOPLE



INVESTING IN THE FUTURE

THE JOHN BEN SNOW FOUNDATION

About John Ben Snow



John Ben Snow was born and raised in Pulaski, New York, a small village north of Syracuse. He graduated from New York University in 1904 and soon thereafter entered F. W. Woolworth & Company. A man of vision, he was attracted to mass market sales and introduced innovative retailing techniques. He rose rapidly through the ranks from stock boy to corporate director, initially in New York, and finally in Great Britain, where he accumulated a small fortune through hard work, savings and wise investments. After retiring from Woolworth in 1939, Mr. Snow devoted the remainder of his life to building the Speidel chain of newspapers and publishing the Western Horseman. He was fond of animals, especially horses, enjoyed racing, fox hunting, polo and range riding. Throughout his life, John Ben Snow shared his wealth with relatives, friends, business associates and fellow Pulaskians. He gave generously and freely to those persons and causes he cherished. He preferred to “invest” in people, especially the young, by making available financial assistance. He also believed in improving the quality of life in Pulaski and its environs.

To further these and other philanthropic causes, he established The John Ben Snow Foundation in 1948. The Foundation continues to operate under the terms of its original charter. The charter, granted by the State of New York, authorizes the Foundation to grant funds for educational and humanitarian purposes to qualified organizations.

THE JOHN BEN SNOW FOUNDATION

FUNDING POLICIES

The John Ben Snow Foundation is a private foundation that focuses funding for tax-exempt organizations primarily serving Central New York through prioritized investment in the following grant programs (prioritized below).

- **Primary Grant Program:** Dating back to the inception of the Foundation in 1948, the primary and overarching grant making priority has been and continues to be programs that focus on education.
- **Secondary Grant Programs:** The Foundation considers proposals within the areas of Arts and Culture, Community Initiatives, and Youth Programs. The Foundation's objective is to extend the primary educational focus by providing funding support within these additional program areas.
- **Tertiary Grant Programs:** The Foundation does consider proposals in the areas of Disabilities and Universal Access, Environment, and Historic Preservation. As these are not core focus areas, funding is often limited. Priority will be given to proposals with an educational focus.

Geographic Focus: The Foundation focuses funding in Central New York defined as Onondaga County and its four surrounding counties of Cayuga, Cortland, Madison, and Oswego.

It is the Foundation's general policy to give preference to proposals seeking funds for new or enhanced programs (including capacity building), one-time grants focused on a specific capital need, and matching grants used to encourage the participation of other donors, and "last dollars" towards a capital campaign.

The Foundation will not accept proposals from individuals or for-profit organizations. Additionally, the Foundation does not encourage proposals from religious organizations or proposals for endowments, contingency funding, or debt reduction. There are no minimums or maximum grant amounts; however, most grants range from \$5,000 to \$10,000.

GRANT APPLICATION PROCEDURES

The Foundation is pro-active in seeking grant proposals from qualifying 501(c)(3) organizations. Additionally, the Foundation accepts unsolicited proposals from qualifying organizations.

An initial letter of inquiry must be submitted via the Foundation's online grant management system between **December 1st** and **February 1st** of the year in which a grant is requested. If the proposal meets the stated guidelines and priorities of the Foundation, grant application instructions will be sent to the applicant. If invited after the receipt of the letter of inquiry, all grant applications must be submitted via the Foundation's online grant management system by **April 1st** of the year in which a grant is requested.

The Foundation may require additional information and possibly an interview or site visit. Any discussions or indications of interest should not be construed as a commitment by the Foundation. All complete grant applications are carefully considered and evaluated by the Foundation. Applicants are notified in writing of the Foundation's decision by **July 1st**. All approved grant applicants are required to sign a Grant Acceptance Agreement prior to any funds being granted.

REPORTING RESPONSIBILITIES

Because the Foundation assumes that the grantee has a moral and legal obligation to account for all funds received, each grantee is required to submit a grant report via the Foundation's online grant management system by **June 1st** of the year after the approval of the grant. All grant reports are reviewed by the Foundation. Any change in plans must be approved by the Foundation. If a grantee fails to submit a formal report, the Foundation reserves the right to request that the grant funds be returned. Additionally, further grants will not be considered until a final report is received.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jonathan L. Snow, President
David H. Snow, Vice-President and Treasurer
Keegan D. Snow, Secretary
Angus M. Burton
Marion Hancock Fish
Valerie A. MacFie
Emelie M. Williams

PROGRAM STAFF

Elizabeth A. Snow, Program Officer

THE JOHN BEN SNOW FOUNDATION

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Year Ending: 31 December 2024

Total Assets:.....	\$ 8,920,164
Excise Taxes:	\$ 2,934
Investment Revenue:	\$ 404,112
Grants Paid:	\$ 263,557

GRANTS APPROVED IN FISCAL YEAR 2025

PRIMARY GRANT PROGRAM:

EDUCATION

We believe that primary and secondary education, literacy, and vocational training are essential ingredients to improving life outcomes. Our goal is to reduce barriers that limit equitable opportunities and expand equal access to quality education. Our strategies include supporting early childhood education, academic tutoring, literacy, college access, internships, scholarships, fellowships, and journalism focused on underrepresented populations and first-generation students.

Academic Tutoring

Downtown Syracuse YMCA –
Syracuse, NY.....\$ 25,000
Power Scholars Academy

LAUNCH – Syracuse, NY.....\$ 5,500
Summer Learning Program 2025

Syracuse University –
College of A&S/Physics –
Syracuse, NY.....\$ 5,100
High School Physics Teachers Enrichment

Tillie’s Touch – Syracuse, NY.....\$ 7,500
Academic & Athletic Empowerment Initiative

Literacy

Friends of the Rosamond Gifford Zoo
at Burnet Park – Syracuse, NY\$ 6,250
Tadpole Academy Early Literacy Program

Imagination Library of Oswego County –
Fulton, NY.....\$ 10,000
Books for Imagination Library

Oswego Bookmobile –
Oswego, NY.....\$ 10,000
Summer Program: Funding Literacy Team

Scholarships

Volunteer Lawyers Project
of CNY, Inc. – Syracuse, NY.....\$ 28,000
Access to Justice Fellowship Program

\$ 97,350

SECONDARY GRANT PROGRAMS:

ARTS & CULTURE:

We believe that engagement in the arts creates a stronger and more vibrant community and culture. Our goal is to foster arts education and appreciation. Our strategies include supporting educational curriculum, instruction, and engagement of youth via visiting artists or performances.

Arts Education

Red House Arts Center –
Syracuse, NY.....\$ 8,000
Arts-Based Learning Through Live Theater Productions

Salmon River Fine Arts Center –
Pulaski, NY.....\$ 8,000
Art Classes for All Ages

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Syracuse Stage – Syracuse, NY \$ 10,000
Children’s Tour 2025-2026 “My Robot”

The Everson Museum of Art –
 Syracuse, NY \$ 10,000
Educational Outreach

Youth Engagement

Cayuga Museum of History and Art –
 Auburn, NY \$ 20,000
Creative Explorers Education Programming

Central New York Jazz Arts
 Foundation, Inc. – Syracuse, NY \$ 4,000
Jazz Educational Pipeline of Opportunity

KEYS – Sherrill, NY \$ 5,400
Youth Music Scholarship Program

Schweinfurth Art Center –
 Auburn, NY \$ 10,000
Engaging Youth with Professional Artists

\$ 92,900

COMMUNITY INITIATIVES:

We believe that a resilient social infrastructure is essential to a healthy local community. Our goal is to directly enhance the lives of the residents within our core geographic regions by expanding services that bridge the poverty gap. Our strategies include investing in community centers, safe and affordable housing, human services delivered by shelters and food pantries, and veterans services.

Community Centers

Fulton Family YMCA – Fulton, NY \$ 10,000
Technology Infrastructure Improvements

Huntington Family Centers, Inc. –
 Syracuse, NY \$ 10,000
Supporting Youth Programs

WHOLE ME, Inc. – Syracuse, NY \$ 5,000
Deaf Seniors Hub Program

Food Insecurity

Erins Angels of CNY, Inc. –
 Phoenix, NY \$ 5,000
Summer Meals Program

Human Services

Integrated Community Planning
 of Oswego County, Inc. –
 Oswego, NY \$ 10,000
Oswego County Early Childhood Alliance

Madison County Rural
 Health Council, Inc. – Cazenovia, NY.. \$ 10,000
Teen Mental Health First Aid

Road to Emmaus Ministry
 of Syracuse, Inc. – Syracuse, NY \$ 7,500
St. Marianne Cope Health Services Clinic Improvements

Rural & Migrant Ministry
 of Oswego County, Inc. –
 ichland, NY \$ 5,000
Medical Equipment Storage

Joseph’s House for Women, Inc. –
 Syracuse, NY \$ 5,525
Lifecycle Assessment and Organizational Readiness Review

Veteran Services

Clear Path for Veterans, Inc. –
 Chittenango, NY \$ 10,000
Empowering Veterans and Military Families

\$ 78,025

THE JOHN BEN SNOW FOUNDATION

YOUTH PROGRAMS:

We believe that encouraging young adults to dream and equipping them to succeed can change the trajectory of their lives. Our goal is to empower young adults in their personal development and to equip them in their professional aspirations. Our strategies focus on developing sustained relationships that offer one-on-one mentoring, character education, skills training, and violence prevention.

Mentoring

Mercy Works – Syracuse, NY\$ 10,000
Synergy Leadership Development Internships

Hopeprint, Inc. – Syracuse, NY\$ 7,500
Refugee Youth Education and Skills Development

Restore CNY – Brewerton, NY\$ 5,000
Extra Storage for the Programs at the Hub

The First Tee of Syracuse –
Jamesville, NY.....\$ 1,000
Operational Costs

The Image Initiative, Inc. –
Syracuse, NY.....\$ 10,000
The CHOICES Mentoring Program

WCNY -The Public Broadcasting
Council of CNY, Inc. – Syracuse, NY ..\$ 10,000
Career Exploration/Mentoring Experience

The Haven at Skanda –
Cazenovia, NY\$ 1,000
Operational Costs

YWCA of Syracuse &
Onondaga County – Syracuse, NY\$ 10,000
Girls Inc. Afterschool and Outreach Programs

Skills Training

Perform 4 Purpose – Auburn, NY.....\$ 10,000
Youth Musical Lessons and Performance

Women on the Front Line, Inc. –
Syracuse, NY.....\$ 3,000
Youth Sewing Class and Mentoring

Violence Prevention

Center for Community Alternatives –
Syracuse, NY.....\$ 10,000
Youth Violence Prevention

Child Advocacy Center
of Oswego County – Fulton, NY.....\$ 10,000
Safe Harbor Program

\$ 87,500

GRAND TOTAL \$355,775