Food insecurity plagues nearly 14% of New York state residents (USDA, 2015). Together, federal nutrition programs and charitable networks weave a safety net designed to protect food insecure individuals. Companies like Broome Co-operative Insurance Company, Erie Insurance Group and Nationwide Insurance are teaming with local, grassroots food charities to support food insecure communities. Explore how New York companies are helping the fight against hunger.

Insurance companies all over the state are identifying gaps in their community and finding amazing ways to step up to the plate. Whether it's local budget shortfalls or overlooked community investment, they are lending a helping hand when it's needed the most. From natural disaster response to fixing community eye sores, these are stories about organizations that saw an opportunity to make a difference, and not only did they get involved, but they stayed involved long after the initial project was done, and continue to support communities where they live and work.
From empowering teachers to helping high school students become more financially savvy, there are a number of companies in New York state dedicated to supporting the next generation. What better way to do that than to make sure local schools and youth programs have the tools they need to succeed. These stories show that making a difference in community schools can be as impressive as launching a nationwide funding campaign, or as simple as donating a pair of snow shoes.

Trouble in the workplace often evokes thoughts about lawsuits and layoffs. But many companies all too often face a different sort of scare: colleagues diagnosed with life-threatening illnesses. Workplace responses to serious illness have changed over the past 15 years. Activism by people with AIDS and breast cancer has made it easier and more acceptable to discuss life-threatening conditions, while medical science has enabled patients to continue working during treatment. These stories are about workplace compassion; as many of us know, when work becomes personal, all bets are off.
16 COMPANIES
20 CHARITIES AND
HUNDREDS OF
VOLUNTEERS IN
13 COUNTIES ALL
WITH 1 GOAL:
GIVING BACK TO
THEIR COMMUNITY
collections were so large that a second truck was needed to pick up all the food. In 2015, the Keats Agency collected 277 pounds of food.

Employees from the Keats Agency came on board as well. “Buy-in from our staff was immediate and enthusiastic,” Ron Keats, president said. “The effort shows our staff that giving back not only means a lot to us but that its impact can be quite substantial. And that puts a smile on everyone’s face.” ■

---

Nationwide Insurance 35-year partnerships with local food banks has raised millions of meals.

In addition to local regional partnerships, in 2009 Nationwide launched its national partnership with Feeding America. Nationwide employees support Feeding America through food drives, monetary donations and volunteer efforts and have raised more than 32.9 million meals for Feeding America member food banks.

These national partnerships trickle down to our local communities in very real ways. In New York, one Nationwide agent from Floral Park has made hunger relief and giving back a priority with his family and his business.

Agent Ron Keats and his wife, Cyndi, initially volunteered with Island Harvest and Long Island Cares, which are both food bank members of Feeding America.

The Keats Agency collects food twice a year at each of its locations, and in some years the

- Island Harvest is the largest hunger relief organization on Long Island. By relying on volunteers, in-kind services, and donated food, they devote more than 95 cents of every dollar contributed directly to their programs.

- Through food drives, monetary donations and volunteer efforts, Nationwide employees have raised more than 32.9 million meals for Feeding America member food banks.

---

THE REAL FOOD NETWORK BEGINS IN LONG ISLAND

Island Harvest is the largest hunger relief organization on Long Island. By relying on volunteers, in-kind services, and donated food, they devote more than 95 cents of every dollar contributed directly to their programs.

Through food drives, monetary donations and volunteer efforts, Nationwide employees have raised more than 32.9 million meals for Feeding America member food banks.
Collecting the food, delivering the meals and raising funds are all huge ways that local businesses and community organizations are banding together to fight hunger. But in Broome County, New York, one local business is thinking outside the box. Broome Co-operative Insurance Company has partnered with CHOW (Community Hunger Outreach Warehouse) to help fight hunger in their community by volunteering on the CHOW farm.

The farm is located on land that was condemned and repurchased by FEMA after flooding caused by Hurricane Lee in 2011. The organic farm, which opened in 2013, redistributes 100 percent of the food grown through a network of food pantries and soup kitchens.

This helps maintain the CHOW food warehouse that supplies pantries throughout Broome County, feeding about 3,000 people each month. “CHOW reaches such a vast group of individuals and there is so much need in our community that our employees thought it would be a good way to give back,” Siobhan Davey of Broome Co-operative said.

In 2013, this project utilized 5,000 volunteer hours to export an additional 7,000 pounds of broccoli, corn, tomatoes, cucumbers, squash, pumpkins, lettuce, cabbage, spinach, zucchini, onions, beans, peas and peppers. Broome Co-operative Insurance Company employees that volunteered on the CHOW farm added new fencing, weeded gardens and prepared new garden beds for fall crops.
Sterling Insurance of Cobleskill, New York enjoys getting creative when it comes to raising awareness about hunger issues in their home county. They partnered up with Empty Bowls Schoharie County in 2015 to host an annual soup luncheon to raise money for food pantries.

Community members (including Sterling employees) make bowls out of clay and paint them, and a local arts and craft store fires them in their kiln. “Some of the bowls were incredibly creative,” said Stephen Harris, president & CEO of Sterling. “Although mine typically look more like ashtrays than bowls.”

Bowl prices start at $8, and all proceeds go to food pantries throughout the county. The purchase price of the bowl includes a serving of soup and bread donated by area restaurants. Last year, 22 restaurants donated 26 different soups. In the past six years Empty Bowls Schoharie has created over 3,000 bowls, served over 120 varieties of soup, hosted over 3,500 people and donated over $30,000 to local food pantries.

“The project has become ingrained in our culture and people appreciate the opportunity to be a part of it.”
- Stephen Harris, Sterling Insurance
When Erie Insurance Group reached out to insurance agent Peter Wallin for ideas about giving back to the community, he immediately thought of Meals on Wheels of Chemung County. A group of 13 Erie Insurance agents and employees—from claims, sales and management—helped to package and deliver meals for 200 Meals on Wheels clients. Erie Insurance also donated $2,500 to the organization.

“It was eye opening to see how many people Meals on Wheels serves,” said Mark Schafer, a district sales manager for Erie Insurance. Meals on Wheels of Chemung County serves mostly elderly people, primarily age 80 and older, that are still living in their homes.

Wallin has been involved with Meals on Wheels for the past 10 years, including being on the board. “I’ve been blessed in my own life, and it feels good to give back to the community,” Wallin said.

Erie Insurance is committed to community involvement. They are also active in the Rochester Habitat for Humanity, and support the Lollypop Farm (part of the area’s Humane Society), both monetarily and by manning the phones during their annual fund drive.

“It was eye opening to see how many people Meals on Wheels serves...giving money is good, but also get involved in your community.”

— Mark Schafer, Erie Insurance
The insurance industry is a major contributor to New York State’s economy and communities—
providing financial security to consumers and businesses and vital services to people in their time of need. Let’s take a look at the numbers!

**$59.8 Billion in Economic Output**
The insurance industry’s contributions to the New York State economy accounted for 4% of the state’s gross domestic product. Insurance contributed more than a variety of other key industries, including construction, utilities and transportation.¹

**$1.5 Billion in Taxes**
Premium taxes paid by insurance companies in New York State totaled $1.5 billion in 2016, in addition to numerous other taxes, assessments and fees.²

**$23.9 Billion in Claims**
Insurance provides New Yorkers with financial security and enables people to live life to the fullest. Individuals would not be able to own a home, drive a car or start a business without insurance.³

- **$8.6 Billion** AUTO INSURANCE
- **$2.2 Billion** HOMEOWNERS
- **$3.6 Billion** WORKERS COMPENSATION

**$1 Billion in Charity**
By donating financially to a myriad of worthy causes, New York insurance companies and agents contribute to philanthropic giving of $1 billion annually on a national level. Even more importantly, employees dedicate their time to help those in need—whether it’s Meals on Wheels, flood recovery efforts or building a playground—the industry is always looking to make a difference.⁴

**$23.9 Billion in Municipal Bonds**
Insurance companies invest the premiums they collect in state and local municipal bonds, helping to fund the building of roads, schools and other public projects.⁵

199,000 Jobs
New York boasts one of the largest insurance workforces in the country. The Empire State is ranked fourth in the nation.⁶

---

¹ U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, 2015
² U.S. Department of Commerce, 2016
³ SNL Financial, 2016
⁴ Insurance Industry Charitable Foundation, 2014
⁵ A.M. Best, 2015

---

Empowering New York
Insuring New York
Moving New York Forward

SnGL Thank Goodness for Insurance®
As old route 7 winds through beautiful upstate New York, the alluring countryside gives way to the charm of a small town. Founded in 1795, Cobleskill is home to a SUNY school, the annual Schoharie County Maple Festival, and the renowned natural attraction, Howe’s Caverns.

But for all that Cobleskill contributes to the diversity and wonderment of New York, like other small towns, Cobleskill faces a familiar hurdle: funding improvement projects.

The weeding and planting of flowers in the median dividing Route 7—as the road winds into town—began as a one-off community service activity for the employees of Sterling Insurance Company. “The median was not previously maintained as the village budget wasn’t able to absorb the costs and it had come to be known locally as the weedian,” said Stephen Harris, president and CEO of Sterling. “It wasn’t just bad-looking. It was hideous.”

Sterling donated the flowers, mulch, fertilizer and, most importantly, the labor. That was almost 10 years ago. Just last month Sterling employees—about 30 of them—found themselves back at their favorite median, weeding and planting.

Cobleskill residents are certainly taking notice of the improved median. The Times Journal cites their work to improve the aesthetics of the east entrance to Cobleskill as a contributing factor to the economic resurgence in that part of town.

Beyond what their work has done to contribute to the beauty of their town, Harris is also proud of what it has contributed to the Sterling employment culture as well. “The Route 7 project was a real eye opener. What started out as community service ended up being probably the best team building exercise we ever had,” Harris said. “Our people genuinely enjoy it. It’s a real team-building concept for us. And we’re proud of it. This is the real gateway to Cobleskill.”

“

The Route 7 project was a real eye opener. What started out as community service ended up being probably the best team building exercise we ever had.”

– Steve Harris, Sterling Insurance
The Valley Community Association (VCA) is dedicated to advancing the quality of life for Buffalo River community members. Since Merchants Insurance Group’s employees are eager and enthusiastic about volunteering and fundraising, it made perfect sense to partner with VCA—an organization in their own backyard.

During the Insurance Industry Charitable Foundation (IICF) Week of Giving this past year, 14 Merchants Insurance Group employees from several departments and two volunteers from a local agency came together to volunteer for the VCA. Some volunteers worked at the River Fest Park where they stained outdoor furniture and cleaned up the gardens and grounds. Others worked at Mutual Riverfront Park, clearing debris from the kayak launch area. This was Merchants’ first time participating in the Week of Giving and they considered it a great success.

Merchants’ Colleagues In Action (CIA) contributes more than $30,000 annually and provides benefits to over 50 local non-profit organizations annually.

Volunteering and community giving is an important part of the culture of Merchants Insurance Group. In addition to their participation in Week of Giving, Merchants is also very active in the local United Way campaign and directly supports many other charitable organizations, especially those where Merchants employees are active board members. “Merchants’ Colleagues In Action (CIA) coordinates our employee volunteer and philanthropic projects and activities that provide value for Merchants and the community,” John F. Bodensteiner, business analyst for Merchants Insurance Group said.
The town of Freeport, New York was heavily damaged by Hurricane Sandy. The Freeport community made great strides in recovering from the storm, but there was still work to be done. The Allstate Foundation pitched in to help out. 150 volunteers (including more than 75 Allstate employees and agency owners) worked alongside professional installers to build a playground from start to finish in a single day. This was the largest playground project ever completed by The Allstate Foundation and the Injury Free Coalition for Kids.

The coalition and Allstate have partnered to create more than 50 “Little Hands” playgrounds across the United States, including two in New York (one in Rochester, and now one in Freeport).

“We looked for a tight-knit community that had been devastated by the storm where we could make a difference, even a year after the storm surged through the community,” said Allison McMahon, a sales associate at Allstate who organized the project. “The recreation center sustained five feet of water and the old playground was deemed unsafe for children to play. The ‘Little Hands’ playground is a symbol of resiliency that mirrors the strength of the Freeport community who overcame the hardships of Sandy.”

This was the largest playground project ever completed by The Allstate Foundation and the Injury Free Coalition for Kids. Together they have built over 50 “Little Hands” playgrounds across the country, including two in New York.

The Allstate Foundation also launched SaferLives to help communities become better prepared for potential future disasters. The foundation hosted a disaster education and kit building event in Eisenhower Park, New York. Allstate agents and members of the community assembled 400 free disaster preparedness kits for residents to take home to their families.
Finger Lakes Tour de Cure is a charity cycling event supporting the American Diabetes Association. “The suggestion to get involved with Finger Lakes Tour de Cure came from one of our agents – Terry Lewis of the Ryan-Manley Agency,” said Kristen Rice, marketing administrative assistant for Wayne Cooperative Insurance Company. Lewis has been involved with the event for a number of years, and after Wayne Cooperative participated in the Tour de Teddi in 2014 (a charity cycling event supporting Camp Good Days and Special Times) Lewis suggested they get involved with the Tour de Cure.

Discussing the success of the project, Rice said Wayne Coop had accomplished what they had set out to do and then some. “Our original fundraising goal was set at $7,500; after that had been surpassed, our new goal became $10,000,” said Rice. In the end, the team raised $11,487, the second highest of corporate teams. The Wayne Cooperative team consisted of nine individuals, two of which were from other insurance companies—Andrew Banach, president and CEO of Oswego County Mutual Insurance Company and William Auten, vice president of claims at Ontario Insurance Company.

“In addition to asking for donations, we invited others to join our team if interested. Andy and Bill both quickly joined and even sported our Wayne Cooperative cycling jerseys. It’s great working in an industry where you can come together like that,” said Rice. Participants completed routes ranging from 20 to 100 miles.

After the Tour de Teddi, Wayne Cooperative decided to start a biennial fundraising program. “Every other year we will select a local charity event to participate in,” said Rice. Wayne Cooperative also recently began participating in the Insurance Industry Charitable Foundation Week of Giving.
New Hope Community provides support for individuals with intellectual and other developmental disabilities. They pride themselves in their ability to allow for personal choice and community integration.

“Associated Mutual was one of our very first supported employment contracts—we continue to provide services at Zane’s office to this day,” said a New Hope representative. “Our supported employment program gives individuals the opportunity to have gainful employment and earn a competitive wage while greatly contributing to their overall quality of life.”

Zane Morganstein, who served as president of Associated Mutual Insurance Cooperative (AMIC), describes the relationship between his company and New Hope Community as both long term and heartfelt. "Some individual relationships go back over 25 years," he said. Associated Mutual has proven to be a steadfast advocate for New Hope in a variety of ways and also helps with fundraising. One event AMIC is involved in is the golf tournament in honor of former AMIC president and longtime volunteer at New Hope, Wally Berkowitz.

“We have been embraced by the residents of New Hope and accepted as part of their family.”

- Zane Morganstein, Associated Mutual

The impact of the relationship has been profound. “The employees of AMIC were taken by surprise,” Morganstein said. “After years of opening up our office to the residents of New Hope to visit daily and interact with our staff, they developed personal relationships with many of the residents, contributing to the success of the program with more than just financial support.”
Dryden Mutual Insurance Company has been dedicated to enhancing the financial literacy of future generations for more than 20 years. A cornerstone of this endeavor is the InVEST program, which educates high school students on insurance, actuarial science and personal investments. “Dryden’s motivation for involvement continues to be based on the belief that financial literacy is one of the major challenges faced by virtually every young American,” said Robert Baxter, former CEO and general manager of Dryden Mutual.

There are numerous benefits for InVEST students who receive paid internships at both Dryden Mutual and local insurance agencies, are awarded scholarships, and receive credits from the local community college. Twenty-four Dryden Mutual employees have either been InVEST classroom speakers or have given brief presentations about their jobs to groups of InVEST students. Both Finger Lakes Fire & Casualty Insurance Company and Security Mutual Insurance Company employees have participated in the InVEST program as well.

In 2015, Dryden turned its attention to younger students and became the sole sponsor of Math & Movement Family Fun Nights in upstate New York. “This type of conceptual math training is kinetic in nature so it is done in gyms, not classrooms,” said Baxter. The sessions have included up to 300 people each—elementary students, parents and teachers—and are held after school. Dryden Mutual has funded dozens of family fun nights to date and is committed to funding additional sessions across the state.

This program offers a chance for children, parents and their teachers to acquire an alternative learning tool that is as kinetic in nature as the children themselves.”

- Robert Baxter, Dryden Mutual
Eastern Mutual Insurance Company President Kent Johnson had wanted to become involved with Special Olympics New York for some time. Eastern Mutual’s affiliate, Union Mutual of Vermont Companies and New York Insurance Association (NYIA) both spoke highly of the organization. “After hearing all the wonderful stories and positive experiences, Kent decided it was a great cause to be involved in,” Jacqueline F. Rauf, assistant vice president of marketing, said.

This summer, the pieces fell into place making it possible for the company to send nearly 20 volunteers to the New York State Summer Games hosted by Siena College in Loudonville, New York.

STUDENT ATHLETES GET SOME EXTRA SUPPORT

It was amazing to see how happy and proud the athletes were of themselves, their teammates and their competitors.”
– Jacqueline Rauf, Eastern Mutual

Employees were given the honor of presenting medals and awards. “It was amazing to see how happy and proud the athletes were of themselves, their teammates and their competitors,” Rauf said. This was not Eastern Mutual’s first foray into volunteer service.

They have participated in several Insurance Industry Charitable Foundation Week of Giving projects and worked with fellow NYIA member AIG to organize, sort and pack meals for vulnerable families around the globe for Rise Against Hunger.

Eastern plans to continue supporting Special Olympics. “Employees at Eastern Mutual were very excited to be a part of the New York State Summer Games this year,” Rauf said. “The experience was both rewarding and fun.”
The Insurance Industry Charitable Foundation’s annual Week of Giving is an international event, one that the New York Insurance Association, its employees, and its member companies take very seriously. This year employees from various insurance organizations in the capital region joined forces to help clear trails for Vanderheyden, a school in Wyantskill, New York. Sixteen volunteers spent 5 hours working on various trails that weave through the campus, clearing brush, fallen branches, and dead trees.

These trails will allow students, many of whom reside on campus, to enjoy the therapeutic and healing powers of the great outdoors. Vanderheyden provides a safe haven for youth, adults, and families who have experienced family disruption, trauma, abuse, emotional difficulty, developmental disability, and learning problems.

Vanderheyden’s began in 1800 as the Benevolent Society of Troy to Assist Indigent Women and Children. In 1833 the Society opened the Troy Orphan Asylum, which was soon incorporated by the State of New York and in 1942 was renamed Vanderheyden, after the founding family of Troy.

Volunteers, which included NYIA staff, employees from American International Group, Mid-Hudson Co-Operative, Washington County Cooperative and Union Mutual, where so impressed by the school and the students they met, they decided to keep the spirit of giving going, and took on the additional task of collecting funds and snowshoes for donations so that the trail can be enjoyed by students year round.
Everyone has had a teacher who made a profound impact. That’s why Farmers Insurance created the Thank a Teacher program. Originally called Thank A Million Teachers (TAMT)—Farmers has since met its original goal of thanking one million teachers—the program is an opportunity to recognize teachers who have gone above and beyond for their students. TAMT focuses on dedicated teachers who work in schools that lack resources.

Through TAMT, Farmers has been able to help students and teachers achieve their goals around the country by awarding $2,500 grants. The TAMT pilot program started in October 2013 in Montana and Nevada.

“Due to the outstanding public response, Farmers proceeded to launch Thank a Million Teachers nationally on January 1, 2014,” Nick Masi, former manager of government and industry affairs in NY, NH and VT for Farmers Insurance said. “All Farmers employees have participated in TAMT in one way or another. Whether it be through nominating a teacher, talking about the program, participating in an awards ceremony or getting teachers they know involved.”
Erie & Niagara Insurance Association (ENIA) employees have been participating in fundraising events for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society for over a decade, including their Gelatin Splash fundraiser event. Participants in this event are asked to obtain a minimum of $400 in sponsorship money from friends and family for them to slide into 1,000 gallons of cold gelatin in honor or loving memory of a cancer patient.

Three days before the event, volunteers meet to mix the gelatin. “Norm, Roz Brown (HR manager) and I spent the morning opening 6,000 little boxes of gelatin and mixing over 1,000 gallons of very cherry gelatin in 30 gallon garbage bags,” said Maureen Mulcahy, vice president, corporate relations/corporate secretary of ENIA.

“Although Erie and Niagara has been a longtime supporter, this year was particularly heartfelt because of our own had been diagnosed with lymphoma in April,” stated Mulcahy, “Amy Lipman, person lines underwriter, had just turned 30 when she was diagnosed and began the journey for the cure.” All 62 employees at ENIA became involved in one way or another. “We had purple t-shirts made up with ‘Amy’s Angels’ printed on them,” described Mulcahy. “We held a ‘Jeans in June event’ where our employees could receive a jeans pass to wear blue jeans every Monday in June for $20, or a shorts pass for $40.” Erie & Niagara employees donated over $1,600. I am very proud of all of our employees,” said Orlowski. “They are caring, generous people with huge hearts.”

Orlowski and Sandy Sugg (underwriting assistant manager) splashed into 1,000 gallons of very cold, very cherry gelatin in honor of Amy. They raised over $5,170 and were two of the top ten fundraisers for the event.

ENIA has also sponsored (and ENIA employees have participated in) other Leukemia and Lymphoma fund raising events, such as the Diamond Ball, the Leukemia Cup Golf Classic and the Light the Night Walk.
MLMIC Insurance Company (MLMIC) opened its Syracuse office in 1984. One of the first employees hired was Carol Collins as office manager. Carol not only kept a rapidly expanding office running smoothly, she was a sounding board for young people starting their careers and a confidant who helped others through life’s stumbling blocks.

Sadly, Carol was diagnosed with ovarian cancer and despite numerous surgeries, hours of treatment and a strong will to live, she succumbed to her illness in December 2011. During her illness and since her passing, her colleagues have supported the charity Teal There’s a Cure—a charity committed to educating women on the subtle signs and symptoms of this disease and advance the research science that will one day find a cure.

“We are committed to working with Teal There’s a Cure to that end,” Louis Neuburger, senior vice president of MLMIC said. “In 2010 a group of our staff joined Carol and the Collins family in a fun walk/run held by Teal There’s a Cure. Every 4th of July since, even though families might be otherwise engaged in holiday activities, our employees gather to participate in the annual event.”

MLMIC employees raise money through other avenues such as bake-offs like the one held in January. “We challenge each other with baking contests searching for the best cookie, the best pie, the best dessert recipe and the competition is exciting,” Neuburger said. “At our afternoon coffee break, guest judges crown the winner and we all get to taste the entries.” This year’s bake-off raised $533.
“Cancer is a terrible disease that has affected a number of Ontario employees,” said Keith Fry, president/CEO of Ontario Insurance Company. “We approached CURE, a local charity that supports the families of children fighting cancer to find a way of providing some assistance.” CURE Childhood Cancer Association helps families by providing free tutoring to sick children as well as financial relief to families in the form of paid hospital parking fees, gas gift cards and food gift cards. Eighty-six cents of every dollar donated is used toward programs and services for affected families.

“We concluded that hosting a gala would enable us to generate support for CURE, and be a good way of giving back, helping those families that are going through the ordeal of cancer,” Fry said. The Gathering for Hope Gala was held at Club 86 in Geneva, New York. Fry even agreed to have his head shaved in support of childhood cancer patients. More than 50 people attended, including Ontario employees and agents as well as employees of Wayne Cooperative. “Jeff Rice and his team at Wayne Coop were great supporters,” Fry said.

All Ontario employees were involved in the gala, making it a company wide effort. This is not the first time they have supported a worthy cause either. In 2016 Ontario employees raised funds to enable a boy from Sierra Leone to come to the U.S. for medical treatment, participated in a craft brewers’ competition run by Raise a Glass International to support the InterVol Haiti Relief Fund in the wake of Hurricane Matthew and delivered free or low cost meals to seniors in conjunction with the Ontario County Office for the Aging.
When the Mohawk Valley was devastated by floods, nearly 30 employees from Preferred Mutual Insurance Company volunteered to help in affected communities. Six employees volunteered each day through the Salvation Army’s Disaster Relief Command in Herkimer. Volunteers worked on recovery efforts, including delivering food, water and care items to those in need.

“The devastating floods in the Mohawk Valley and surrounding area have had an impact on our organization, from our employees who live in the area, to our independent agents who do business here, and our over 3,500 policyholders in that region.” Christopher Taft, president and CEO said. In addition to volunteering through the Salvation Army, employees collected money to donate to the American Red Cross Disaster Relief for local flood victims.

This is not the first time that Preferred has given back to their community.

Preferred Mutual is committed to providing support to disaster relief efforts in the areas we serve. This is an opportunity to make an impact in a meaningful way,“

- Christopher Taft, Preferred Mutual

After Irene and Lee hit in 2011, Preferred Mutual donated $7,500 to three local chapters of The United Way to aid in flood recovery in Chenango, Delaware and Otsego counties and in the greater Village of Sidney area. The donations were on behalf of the company’s employees who wanted to provide relief after processing so many claims.
NYIA WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE FOLLOWING COMPANIES FOR SHARING THEIR STORIES.

Allstate Insurance Company
American Insurance Group, Inc.
Associated Mutual Insurance Cooperative
Broome Co-operative Insurance Company
Dryden Mutual Insurance Company
Eastern Mutual Insurance Company
Erie Insurance Group
Erie and Niagara Insurance Association
Farmers Group, Inc
MLMIC Insurance Company
Merchants Insurance Group
Mid-Hudson Co-Operative Insurance Company
Nationwide Insurance
Ontario Insurance Company
Preferred Mutual Insurance Company
Sterling Insurance Company
Washington County Co-Operative Insurance Company
Wayne Cooperative Insurance Company