

42,533 BOARD VOLUNTEER HOURS + 56,125

ORGANIZATIONAL VOLUNTEER HOURS = 98,658

\$422,240,495

VOLUNTEER HOURS X THE NATIONAL AVERAGE FOR 1 HOUR OF

VOLUNTEER TIME \$22.14 = \$2,184,288

ECONOMIC IMPACT

36 ADIRONDACK NONPROFITS



STRENGTH THROUGH COLLABORATION

In 2009, as the nation struggled through its worst economic downturn since the Great Depression, the leaders of more than two dozen Adirondack region nonprofits convened to have a frank discussion about how to survive in a time of dwindling public resources. Those leaders discussed relationship building, sharing resources and reducing redundancies to strengthen communities and institutions. In the months that followed, a charter was established, dues were paid, and the Adirondack Nonprofit Network (ANN) was formed.

ANN has since worked to create stronger connections between the region's nonprofits by breaking down real and imagined barriers, and removing the isolation that comes with working and living in a rural, mountainous region. Our mission is to support and connect nonprofits in their efforts to improve the quality of life in the Adirondacks, and our members play a key role in supporting healthcare, the arts, mental health, public media, the environment, education, economic development, and civic and cultural organizations.

Our nonprofit organizations, like government and the for-profit sector, must think creatively to continue delivering critical services to the Adirondack region. ANN allows organizations to share ideas and collaborate to accomplish this goal. By working together, nonprofits become stronger and more sustainable, and everyone benefits.

It's been said in the past that Adirondack organizations would rather fight than win. With the formation of ANN and other efforts like the Common Ground Alliance, we believe we're bucking that trend.

—ANN Advisory Council

Jill Breit TAUNY *Cali Brooks* Adirondack Foundation *Steven Engelhart* AARCH
Diane Fish Adirondack Council *Stephanie Ratcliffe* The Wild Center
Ben Strader BMC *Kip Thompson* Families First in Essex County

PARTICIPANTS

Adirondack Architectural Heritage
Adirondack Center for Writing
Adirondack Chapter of the Nature Conservancy/Adirondack Land Trust
Adirondack Community Housing Trust
Adirondack Council
Adirondack Foundation
(formerly Adirondack Community Trust)
Adirondack Health
Adirondack Health Foundation
Adirondack Lakes Center for the Arts
Adirondack Mountain Club
Adirondack Museum
Adirondack North Country Association
Blue Mountain Center (BMC)
Central Adirondack Partnership
for the 21st Century (CAP-21)
Clifton-Fine Hospital
Creative Healing Connections
Elizabethtown Community Hospital
Families First in Essex County
Fort Ticonderoga
High Peaks Hospice and Palliative Care
Housing Assistance Program of Essex County
Hudson Headwaters Health Network
Indian Lake Theater
Lake Placid Center for the Arts
North Country Public Radio
Paul Smith's College
Pendragon Theatre
Planned Parenthood of the North Country
Sagamore Institute
St. Joseph's Rehabilitation Center
Seagle Music Colony
Traditional Arts in Upstate New York (TAUNY)
Trudeau Institute
View
The Wild Center
Wildlife Conservation Society

■ ANN MEMBERS AS OF 2013
NOTE: NORTH COUNTRY SPCA, A NEW MEMBER
OF ANN, WAS NOT PART OF THIS STUDY

■ NON MEMBER, NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS

THE STUDY

CONDUCTED BY

SUNY Oswego Office of Business and Community Relations

THE GOAL

Build awareness about the role nonprofits play in our society and to inform policymakers, the media and the public about charitable activities in the Adirondack region.

36 PARTICIPANTS

26 members of The Adirondack Nonprofit Network (ANN) +
10 organizations selected for inclusion by a subcommittee of ANN

THE SOURCE MATERIAL

2011 IRS Form 990s (unless otherwise noted) +
a supplemental questionnaire

WRITTEN AND PRODUCED BY

Adirondack Foundation and Davidson Design, Inc.

The SUNY Oswego Office of Business and Community Relations objectively analyzed the primary economic and public benefit of participating organizations, as reported for 2011.

As you read through their findings, it will become clear that the term “nonprofit” doesn’t begin to tell the story of these organizations. Nonprofits do things that government can’t or won’t do, and they provide services that the for-profit sector isn’t well-equipped to provide. Nonprofits play a critical role in the Adirondack region, and their impact shouldn’t be underestimated.

Think of the study’s participants as only a piece of a much larger pie. If more nonprofits were included, the numbers would be more impressive, especially considering the relatively small sample size of the organizations studied.

NONPROFIT SECTOR

THE NATION'S
NONPROFITS

ACCOUNTED FOR

9.2%

OF WAGES PAID
IN 2010

NEW YORK STATE
NONPROFIT
EMPLOYEES

15% OF WORKFORCE

WAGES PAID

\$55.6 BILLION

THE NATION'S
CHARITABLE
CONTRIBUTIONS

**\$298.42
BILLION**

*given in 2011 by individuals,
foundations, bequests, and
corporations*

ANNUAL GIVING
#1 IN THE NATION

NEW YORK STATE FOUNDATIONS
CONTRIBUTED MORE THAN

\$6.9 BILLION

IN 2011

THE NATION'S
PUBLIC
CHARITIES

REPORTED ASSETS OF

**\$2.71
TRILLION**

IN 2010

MORE THAN **102,000**

NEW YORK STATE NONPROFITS

HOLD ASSETS OF

\$372 BILLION

THAT GENERATE REVENUE OF

\$194.7 BILLION

26.8% OF
AMERICAN ADULTS GAVE
7.9 BILLION
HOURS OF

VOLUNTEER TIME
IN 2012

20.7% OF NEW YORK'S
ADULT POPULATION GAVE
413.2 MILLION
HOURS OF SERVICE WORTH

\$9 BILLION
IN 2011

THE STUDY GROUP

The nonprofit sector accounts for about 10 percent of the total workforce in the Adirondack region.

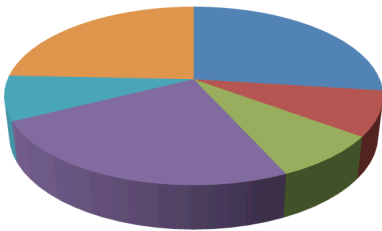
The participants in this study represent only a fraction of the Adirondack region's nonprofit sector.

A comprehensive study could have included smaller nonprofits, churches and tax-exempt civic organizations.

We believe it's important to highlight the impact of nonprofits, but in a fiscally prudent way.

Makeup of 36 ORGANIZATIONS

24%	PUBLIC BENEFIT
27%	HEALTH
8%	HUMAN SERVICES
8%	MUSEUMS
25%	ARTS
8%	CONSERVATION



For a complete list of sources, please visit www.generousact.org

THE ESSENTIAL DIFFERENCE BETWEEN NONPROFIT AND FOR-PROFIT



Unlike for-profit organizations, all excess revenue created by Adirondack Health is reinvested to ensure those who live in and visit the community continue to receive world-class healthcare in a modern and comforting setting year after year.

This also means providing services that don't necessarily add to the bottom line financially. Nonprofits like Adirondack Health are mission-driven organizations, and as such endeavor to provide services community members need but would have to travel great distance and at significant personal expense to receive.

The annual operation of Adirondack Health—two hospitals, four community health centers, two Living Centers and specialty care clinics in the region—represents a regional economic impact of \$148 million.

"The services our region's nonprofits provide are critical for the growth of healthy, vibrant communities—and we've demonstrated, through collaborations and partnerships, that we know how to work together for the greater good," noted Cyndee McGuire, Chief Operating Officer of Adirondack Health.

"We're in a unique position as a network to connect the entire region, and we share a lot of our stories with the nation and the world. We've also tried to fill an important gap by covering the neglected stories, the unpopular stories. Because our funding comes from so many sources—listeners, local businesses, grants, and a tiny amount from the government—NCPR has the time, the resources and the space to tackle those stories."

– Ellen Rocco, Station Manager
North Country Public Radio



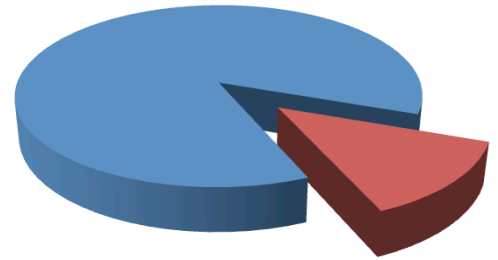
SARAH HARRIS, 24
Reporter
North Country Public Radio,
Canton

Born in Texas, Sarah now resides in West Stockholm, a small community in northern St. Lawrence County.

"I interned for North Country Public Radio when I was in college, and lived on Station Manager Ellen Rocco's farm in DeKalb. That was my first real introduction to the region. I've been working for NCPR in different capacities since, including covering the Champlain Valley in Vermont and New York for almost two years. I eventually moved back to St. Lawrence County to work full-time at the station. I think, in a rural region like ours, the impact of your work goes a long way, and you can make a concrete difference in people's lives while being part of the community."

FULL TIME
1,384

PART TIME
209.30



The Value of **NONPROFIT EMPLOYMENT IN THE ADIRONDACKS**

The nonprofit sector is a critical job-provider in the Adirondack region. The study group offers more than livable wages and good benefits. They offer their employees a rewarding, mission-based work environment. Employees of the region's nonprofits pay property taxes, buy local goods and contribute to their communities in meaningful ways. They make a substantial impact in the communities where they live and work.

FINDING

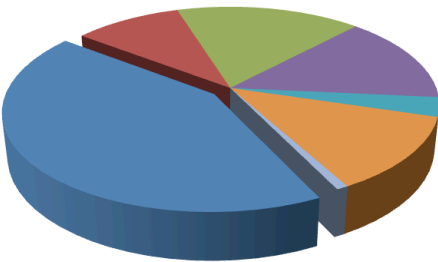
1,593.3 full and part-time staff
\$84,029,488 paid in salaries
= \$6,260,943 payroll taxes paid

These numbers represent only a portion of people involved in the operation of the studied organizations. They would be marginally higher if data was available for the remaining organizations included in this report.

For a complete list of sources, please visit
www.generousact.org

Percentage of Workers EMPLOYED IN THE ADIRONDACK PARK BY EMPLOYER TYPE

17%	LOCAL GOVERNMENT
14%	STATE GOVERNMENT
3%	FEDERAL GOVERNMENT
12%	SELF EMPLOYED
1%	UNEMPLOYED FAMILY WORKER
43%	PRIVATE FOR-PROFIT
10%	PRIVATE NONPROFIT



"The Department of Environmental Conservation greatly appreciates the efforts of the Adirondack Mountain Club, the Adirondack 46ers, The Adirondack Chapter of the Nature Conservancy and our other nonprofit partners. Working together we protect and conserve the natural resources of the Adirondack Forest Preserve and maintain the trails, bridges, lean-tos and other infrastructure that people use to recreate in the backcountry."

— Robert Stegemann, Director, Region 5
New York State Department of Environmental Conservation



Photo by Carl Hellman II/Wild Visions, Inc.

PROTECT, CONSERVE, MAINTAIN

Founded in 1922, the Adirondack Mountain Club's dedicated staff and volunteers work to protect natural resources in the Adirondack Park and promote responsible recreation.

Executive Director Neil Woodworth says his organization offers a variety of educational programs, outdoor skills workshops and lectures aimed at instilling a love of the natural world. But the Adirondack Mountain Club also provides critical backcountry services.

"Our trail crews build backcountry structures—ladders and bridges—that protect the environment," Woodworth says. "We're also a sponsor of the Adirondack High Peaks Summit Stewardship Program, aimed at educating hikers about how to protect the fragile plants of the shrinking alpine zone, and we operate the High Peaks Information Center, Adirondack Loj, the Johns Brooks Lodge and a Wilderness Campground in the Adirondack High Peaks."

"Volunteers have always been the heart and soul of hospice."

– Darsie Townsend, *Director of Development*
High Peaks Hospice and Palliative Care



VOCAL ADVOCATES, UNIQUE SKILLS

High Peaks Hospice and Palliative Care was founded by community volunteers in 1986 with a vision to provide comprehensive and compassionate end-of-life care. Two years later, the organization added a paid professional staff and continued to grow its volunteer base.

"Our more than 165 active volunteers bring unique life skills to caring for our patients and families," says Townsend. "They provide respite for caregivers, a listening ear, a shoulder to lean on and, in the case of our certified canine volunteers, a gentle head to hug, all of which help patients and families live the biggest life possible. They are our most vocal advocates in the community and their efforts in 2012 saved the organization over \$129,000."

The Value of NONPROFIT VOLUNTEERS

The study group relies on an extensive network of volunteers to carry out their missions. Volunteers include board members who provide careful oversight of an organization's finances and dedicated citizens who just want to lend a helping hand.

These volunteers operated programs, performed maintenance, worked at fundraisers, transported materials, and spent weekends and evenings to ensure their organizations continue providing vital services to Adirondack communities.

FINDING

1,396 non-board volunteers worked
56,125 hours for nonprofit organizations
X 1 hour of volunteer time at \$28.73*
= \$1,612,471

The national average value of one hour of volunteer time is \$22.14. This figure is based on the hourly earnings (approximated from yearly values) of all production and non-supervisory workers on private, non-farm payrolls (based on yearly earnings provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics). Independent Sector indexes this figure to determine state values and increases it by 12 percent to estimate for fringe benefits.

**The value of one hour of volunteer time in New York State is \$28.73, which is the highest in the nation.*

The Value of VOLUNTEER BOARD MEMBERS

With new state and federal regulations requiring more operational transparency, board members are tasked with more than basic fiduciary responsibilities.

Nonprofit board members—lawyers, small business owners, accountants, healthcare professionals, artists, young and old—all have one thing in common: They believe in the mission of the organizations they serve. Their contribution is priceless.

Metrics established by the Independent Sector, a national coalition of nonprofits, foundations and corporate giving programs, attempt to put a dollar value on the service of volunteer boards in this study group.

FINDING

582 board member volunteers
worked 42,533 board volunteer hours
X 1 hour of volunteer time at \$28.73*
= \$1,221,973

This is in addition to other contributions to the communities they serve through their employment or activities.

For a complete list of sources, please visit www.generousact.org

"Volunteer board members are the backbone of any nonprofit. They give the institution structure, definition, and forward momentum."

— Cali Brooks, *Executive Director*, Adirondack Foundation



STRUCTURE, DEFINITION, MOMENTUM

A strong, engaged board of trustees is an invaluable resource for any nonprofit organization. For a community foundation like the Adirondack Foundation, mission success depends on a diverse and dedicated group of volunteer leaders.

"When recruiting new board members, we look at a number of key attributes, such as passion for philanthropy, investment acumen, legal expertise, an understanding of the region we serve, and strong connections to people who love the Adirondacks," Brooks says.

"When a nonprofit combines a group of highly skilled, generous and dedicated people, the impact on an organization is powerful. Beyond guiding our course, our board members are our most important ambassadors. Each is making a huge charitable gift of service. There is no way we could pay for this level of wisdom and time."

"We're more than one of the region's largest private employers. Every year, hundreds of students join our community who wouldn't be here otherwise. Together, we live, shop and recreate here in the Adirondacks. Many of our students graduate and become valued employees of North Country businesses, or start their own. And thousands of visitors travel to the Paul Smith's College VIC every year, further broadening our economic impact. As an institution, Paul Smith's thrives when our community thrives. We're proud that our community benefits from our presence as well."

— John Mills, President, Paul Smith's College

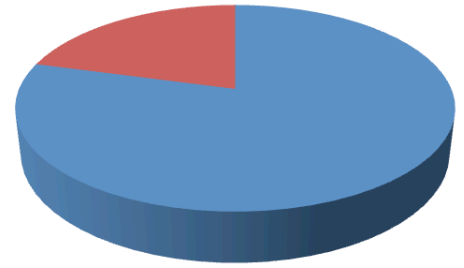


PAUL SMITH'S COLLEGE

With 195 full- and part-time employees, and a payroll of \$9 million, Paul Smith's College is a major economic engine in the Saranac Lake area. But the college's economic impact goes beyond employees and salaries. In the 2012–2013 academic year alone, Paul Smith's students spent \$133,000 at local businesses using their KatKash card—debit cards accepted at a dozen or so local businesses.

**YOUTH
SERVED**
333,324

**ADULTS
SERVED**
1,268,724



The Value of A MAJOR ECONOMIC ENGINE

The organizations in this study provide services to residents and visitors alike. The income generated by these nonprofits—through fees for services, philanthropy, membership dues, and state and federal grants—is in turn pumped back into the local economy.

FINDING

1,602,048 adults and youth served dramatically exceeds the local year-round park population of 130,137

FINDING

\$220,377,373 total income generated
\$214,335,277 total spent on programs, services and staff

For a complete list of sources, please visit www.generousact.org

FINDING: ECONOMIC IMPACT

$$\begin{array}{l}
 \$214,335,277 \text{ TOTAL SPENDING} \\
 \text{OF THE 36 NONPROFITS IN THIS STUDY} \times 1.97 \\
 \text{THE AVERAGE REGIONAL OUTPUT MULTIPLIER} = \\
 \$422,240,495
 \end{array}$$

The Bureau of Economic Analysis' RIMS II Model was used to obtain appropriate economic output multipliers. In addition, Regional Multipliers: A User Handbook for the Regional Output Modeling System by the U.S. Department of Commerce Bureau of Economic Analysis was used to calculate related employment data. Using a weighted average regional output multiplier of 1.97 for the nonprofit's spending in the 12-county region, the impact of expenditures for the studied nonprofits equal \$422,240,495.

"The Adirondack region's nonprofit sector plays a vital role in maintaining and enhancing the quality of life in our communities. These organizations provide healthcare for families in need, protect valuable environmental resources, and respond with aid when disaster strikes. They also entertain us, educate us and enrich our lives. Nonprofits know how to get the most out of their financial and human resources, and in recent years, we've become more responsive to the needs of our communities. As economic realities continue to change, nonprofits will play an increasingly important role in delivering critical services."

– Nick Rose, Executive Director
Central Adirondack Partnership for the 21st Century (CAP-21)

"The nonprofit world by definition attracts people who are passionate about causes and issues, and want to see their work translating



into action or measurable change in something they care deeply about. Young people bring a whole new depth and energy to mission-driven organizations. I feel very fortunate to have been able to offer some incredibly talented young people an opportunity to have a measurable impact through their work with us and to enable them to stay in the area with meaningful jobs."

– Kate Fish, Executive Director
Adirondack North Country Association

EMBRACING THE NEXT GENERATION

The Adirondack region, like most rural areas around the country, continues to grapple with an aging population. Our nonprofit organizations understand that hiring young, talented staff members helps fight this trend while simultaneously bringing new ideas and innovations to the table.

SUNY Oswego's study didn't target employment figures based on age, but an Adirondack Nonprofit Network poll found that nonprofits are hiring young people at a solid rate. For example, more than a third of the full- and part-time staff at Adirondack Health is between the age of 20 and 40—325 out of 874, to be exact.



ANN POLL: EMPLOYEES BETWEEN 20 AND 40

4 of 7	Lake Placid Center for the Arts
7 of 21	North Country Public Radio
6 of 9	Adirondack North Country Association
4 of 15	Families First in Essex County
10 of 19	View
4 of 13	Adirondack Council
19 of 77	Adirondack Museum
8 of 11	Wildlife Conservation Society

62 of 172 come from the 20- to 40-year-old bracket, more than a third (36%) of employees

EMILY KILBURN, 33

Administrator

Adirondack Community
Housing Trust, Elizabethtown

Emily lives in Lake Placid where she was born and raised. Her father's family has been in the community for generations.

"I always knew that after I finished college I would come back to the Adirondacks. I witnessed many talented young people leave the area, and I didn't want to be one of them. I knew I could make a valuable contribution to the place I would always call home – and you couldn't ask for a more beautiful place to call home. I like working for a nonprofit because I know that my work is focused on making a positive difference in peoples' lives and in our communities."

ALEX HARRIS, 24

Managing Director

Adirondack Lakes Center for
the Arts, Blue Mountain Lake

At age 10, Alexandria and her mother moved to the Adirondacks after vacationing here for many years. She now lives in Long Lake.

"I like working for a nonprofit because it allows me to work on many different projects, requiring different skill sets. In addition, working with such a small staff you really get to collaborate creatively and build a wonderful sense of team. I really enjoy working for ALCA because it was created by the community in 1967 and it still strives to serve that community today. As an Adirondack native, a sense of community is key, and enhancing it should be any Adirondack nonprofits' goal."

ROB CARR, 36

*Exhibits and Interpretive
Programs Manager*

The Wild Center, Tupper Lake

Born and raised in Hoboken, New Jersey, Rob first came to the Adirondacks as an actor.

"I was working as a professional actor in New York City and ended up taking a job way off Broadway at Great Camp Sagamore in Raquette Lake giving first-person interpretive tours in the character of an Irish immigrant. I fell in love with the Adirondacks, and I developed a much deeper connection to and appreciation for nature—so I altered my career path. What I like most about the nonprofit sector is that they employ interesting, like-minded people. It is a common misconception that nonprofits have to settle for only those employees willing to work long hours for low pay. On the contrary, I feel inspired every day by my colleagues."

CHRIS MORRIS, 29

Communications Manager
Adirondack Foundation,
Lake Placid

A native of Saranac Lake, Chris returned to the Adirondacks to pursue a career in journalism before joining the nonprofit sector.

"This place is in my blood, and I care deeply about it. After working as a reporter here for six years, I decided I wanted to pursue a different career path. When I started looking at my options, I realized that I might have to leave the Adirondacks—something I didn't want to do. When the Adirondack Foundation offered me a job, I felt like I had won the lottery: I got to stay here and work for an organization that does meaningful work in our communities. Our mission is to lead and inspire the growth of generosity to benefit the Adirondack region. I go to work every day knowing that we make a difference. I think that speaks to what's best about working for a nonprofit: The mission is the motivation, and that's a wonderful thing."

"One of the most important things that we do, that most other government agencies can't do, is that we serve the whole family."

— JoAnne Caswell, *Executive Director*
Families First in Essex County



FAMILY AFFAIR

Families First in Essex County exists to bring hope and support to families that have children with mental health issues. The Elizabethtown-based nonprofit works in partnership with families: "Most agencies will start with what's wrong and work from there," says Executive Director JoAnne Caswell. "We start with what's going well, what is working. Eventually, you have to get to the child's needs, but we frame our work through the strengths."

Caswell adds that government funding often goes to services that directly impact the child only. Families First uses a more holistic approach.

"Our agency relies on private donations that allow us to provide our services," Caswell says. "We will provide respite and social/recreational experiences for siblings, not just the identified child. We will provide a stipend if a family member—a grandmother, for example—is providing respite. We pay parents a stipend for their participation in agency and community events like strategic planning or lobbying days and community service board committees. We also provide a week-long summer camp experience for entire families that is mostly funded privately."

FUNDRAISING AND PHILANTHROPIC GIVING

Nonprofits rely on public resources and charitable giving by individuals to carry out their missions. Fundraising is a critical component to the success of these organizations.

Trends nationwide indicate that despite the recent recession, giving to community organizations has fared well. Contributions from visitors to the region account for a large portion of the charitable giving to the study group. A portion comes from residents of the Adirondack region.

Nonprofits in the Adirondacks are supported in several ways:

- Fees for services
- Membership dues
- Philanthropy
- State and federal grants

FINDING

\$32,031,387 grants and other funding raised
– \$ 3,801,247 cost to raise funds
= \$28,230,140 net funds raised

A 742.7% return on investment for each \$ spent

This is an aggregate calculation and does not reflect individual results for fundraising.

"Access to healthcare has become a huge issue in our country. It is an even more challenging problem in rural areas like the North Country. For years, Hudson Headwaters has been at the forefront of this issue. Their commitment to serving the needs of so many in the Adirondacks spans decades and they play an integral role in making the region's healthcare system function."

– Assemblyman Dan Stec
R-Queensbury



OPEN DOOR POLICY

Finding basic healthcare services in a rural area can be daunting. Enter Hudson Headwaters Health Network, a nonprofit system of community health centers based in Glens Falls that serves a 3,700-square-mile area that encompasses most of the Adirondack Park, more than twice the size of Rhode Island.

"We're set up to provide primary healthcare to everyone, regardless of insurance or income," says Executive Director Howard Nelson. "Most of our patients live in communities where no other basic health services are available. In our mountain service area, we are the doctor for each of the school districts, the health officer for local towns, the doctor for area summer camps, and the medical director for many assisted living and long-term care facilities."

Operational funding comes from patient service revenue and grants, most significantly a federal Section 330 Rural Health Initiative award from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

"We use a sliding fee scale that enables people to receive care for as little as \$10 per visit, based on household income," Nelson says. "The sliding fee also applies to diagnostic imaging: x-ray, mammography, and ultrasound. Clearly, we are providing care for people who would otherwise be unable to afford it."

"Another thing we do is help patients obtain prescription medications," Nelson adds. "Because the government subsidizes their research, pharmaceutical companies are required to provide these medications to the needy. We have a staff member who works on this full time, securing about \$1.5 million in free high-cost prescription drugs for people who would never be able to afford them."

"Nonprofit organizations throughout the Adirondack region lead our communities down the path of economic and social success. Nonprofits branch out to neighboring entities to attain these goals. Recently Pendragon Theatre, Saranac Lake ArtWorks, and the village of Saranac Lake applied for an 'Our Town Grant' to bolster the region's presence on a national level. It doesn't take long to see firsthand the incredible impact the nonprofit sector has on the area's business owners and citizens."

—David Zwierankin, *Managing Director*, Pendragon Theatre

This report is published on the occasion of the Adirondack Nonprofit Summit, November 2013. The findings were compiled by SUNY Oswego Office of Business and Community Relations. The report was written by Chris Morris, Adirondack Foundation, and designed by Karen Davidson, Davidson Design, Inc. Special thanks to the study group for their participation and contributions. For a complete list of sources, please visit www.generousact.org

FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

Founded in 1975, the Adirondack Council's mission is to ensure the ecological integrity and wild character of the Adirondack Park. Collaborating with diverse stakeholders, the Council advocates for an Adirondack Park with clean air and water and large wilderness areas, surrounded by working farms and forests and vibrant communities.

"Having lived in Saranac Lake as a child and then spending summers there, I have a deep appreciation for the special character of the Adirondacks. I want to ensure that those who come after me can enjoy this wonderful place in the same condition as I have. I feel the best way to do this is to support the Adirondack Council."

—Adirondack Council Member



FOR OUR FURRY FRIENDS

Based in Elizabethtown, the North Country Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals is the only SPCA animal shelter in rural Essex County. The no-kill shelter provides refuge to more than 400 dogs and cats each year.

"At the North Country SPCA, our number one priority has always been to provide refuge and find loving new homes for the many homeless dogs and cats in our communities. Now, our impact is broadening as we expand programming to educate and inspire a new generation of animal welfare advocates and forge rich partnerships that will help us improve the lives of abused, abandoned, and neglected animals far beyond the borders of Essex County."

—Jessica Hartley, *Executive Director*, North Country SPCA



FOR THE ARTS

Each summer, Seagle Music Colony, based in Schroon Lake, recruits 32 talented young vocal artists from across the country to hone their craft at a summer training program. As a result, Seagle has built a lasting connection between its artists and the Adirondack community.

"Artists' families and friends travel to the Adirondacks to see them perform, contributing significant dollars to the local economy. Participating artists leave our program with a new set of career and life skills, and an appreciation for the uniqueness of the Adirondacks. In the last two years, our expanded post-season outreach has brought live, professional-quality operatic performances to around 7,500 elementary school students. Our programs have become part of the fabric of Schroon Lake existence for generations of residents and visitors."

—Tony Kostecki, *General Director*, Seagle Music Colony

