

GOLISANO  
FOUNDATION



THE B. THOMAS GOLISANO FOUNDATION

C/O FISHERS ASSET MANAGEMENT  
ONE FISHERS ROAD  
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[www.golisanofoundation.org](http://www.golisanofoundation.org)

ANNUAL REPORT  
2006



## MISSION

The B. Thomas Golisano Foundation is interested in funding programs that will help individuals with developmental disabilities achieve their maximum potentials by integrating independence, self determination, and productivity into all facets of their lives.

The Golisano Foundation will serve as a proactive partner with service providers, organizations, and the community. Together, we will:

- Enable those with disabilities to more fully participate in the life of the community.
- Create an environment of dignity and care for disabled individuals and their families.



## HOW TO APPLY

### APPLICATION PROCEDURES

#### INITIAL APPROACH:

If applicants believe that their request falls within the scope of the Foundation's primary funding interest for the developmentally disabled, they should send a grant proposal to the Golisano Foundation using the Common Application Form. Copies of the Form are available at the Foundation office or may be downloaded from Foundation's website. Applicants are encouraged to call the Foundation office for clarification.

#### FORM OF FUNDING REQUEST:

- a. Two (2) copies of the Common Application Form;
- b. Two (2) copies of the agency's most recent audited financial reports and Form 990, and
- c. One (1) copy of the agency's 501(c)(3) tax-exempt verification form.
- d. Applicants may be contacted for additional information.

#### PERSONAL CONFERENCES:

Yes, upon invitation.

#### PROPOSAL DEADLINES:

Applications must be received at the Foundation office four (4) weeks prior to the quarterly board meeting to be considered in that quarter.

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF PROPOSAL:

Receipt of the application will be acknowledged and correspondence sent if additional information is necessary.

#### BOARD MEETING DATES:

Meetings are generally the 4th Wednesday of January, April, July and October.

#### DECISION NOTIFICATION:

Within one week of the board meeting.

#### TRUSTEES

Gloria A. Austin  
G. Thomas Clark  
B. Thomas Golisano  
Nancy N. Koch  
Patricia Malgieri  
James D. Murray

#### STAFF

Ann Costello, Foundation Director  
David Still, Fishers Asset Management  
Christine Bouchard, Fishers Asset Management  
Rosanne Burris, Administration



## ABOUT THE GOLISANO FOUNDATION

### PRIMARY FUNDING INTERESTS

- Programs and services for individuals with developmental disabilities including mental retardation, cerebral palsy, epilepsy, and autism. Organizations providing services for those with similar conditions (e.g. those who are blind and deaf, have traumatic brain injury, or have other cognitive and mobility impairments) will also be considered.
- Programs that will have a long lasting, positive impact on the lives of the developmentally disabled and their families.
- Programs that create and promote opportunities for those with developmental disabilities; that enable them to become active members of their community and allows them to have choices about the nature and level of their participation in their community.

### GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION OF GRANTS

The Foundation's geographic target area for grant contributions is the greater Rochester/Monroe County area. Grants are considered for programs addressing the Foundation's funding interests in the contiguous counties.

### ELIGIBILITY / LIMITATIONS

The requesting organization must be a 501(c)(3) organization whose programs meet the Golisano Foundation's philanthropic priorities. The Golisano Foundation does not contribute to endowments, fund raising events, individuals requesting grants, fellowships, medical research or municipal programs.

### OTHER FUNDING INTERESTS

With limited and targeted funds, the Golisano Foundation may consider grant proposals for disability programs other than those for the developmentally disabled. Applicants are welcomed to contact the Foundation office for further clarification.

### FINANCIAL SUMMARY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2006

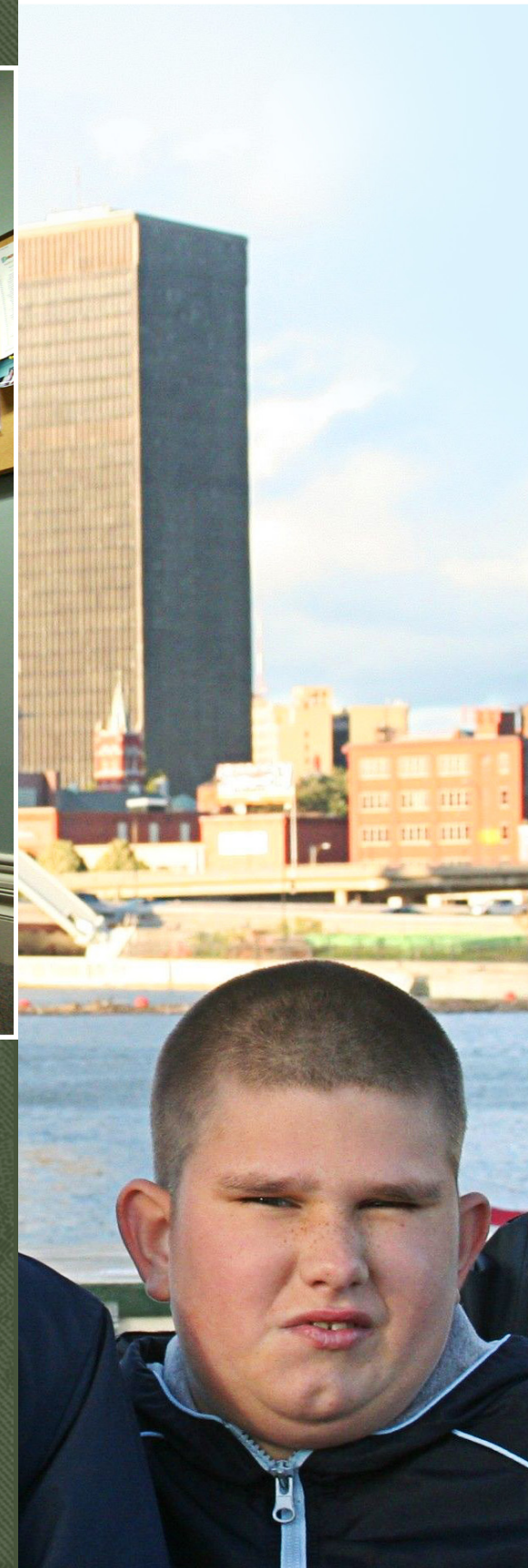
Total Grant Distribution: \$1,069,900

- Total Number of Grants: 39
- Largest Grant: \$223,000
- Smallest Grant: \$500
- Average or Typical Grant Range: \$10,000 - \$30,000



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## DIRECTOR'S REPORT

I am proud to present to you the B. Thomas Golisano Foundation's 2006 Annual Report. As I look over the accomplishments and grant activity of 2006, I am reminded of a remark by a young panel advisor with developmental disabilities to the Community Transition Planning Process: "Always think the strong way; think, 'I can do it'. Live your life to the fullest." He was referring to his experience and that of other students with developmental disabilities as they transition from high school to the adult world of employment, services or post-secondary education.

Last year, the Golisano Foundation funded the Transition Planning Process to better understand the issues, challenges and opportunities for improving outcomes for disabled high school students and their families. This effort was led by The Advocacy Center with facilitation and consulting services from Jerry Wein and Associates. Starting with a kick-off breakfast in April 2006, over one hundred members of the community gathered to begin a comprehensive examination of the transition process from high school to the adult world for students with developmental disabilities. These members included youth with developmental disabilities, family members, educators, school officials, advocates, community leaders, state agencies and disability service providers.

Let me share with you a few items that clearly surfaced over our eight-month process.

- Two very different worlds are involved in transition: the world where students with developmental disabilities are "entitled" to an education that meets their needs, and the world where adults with developmental disabilities may be "eligible" for services. These worlds know too little about each other, they use different vocabulary, have different cultures and connect in very informal ways;
- There are too few choices available to students as they move from the world of education to the world of work or higher education;
- Without a "champion" or advocate, the chances for achieving a successful transition are enormously reduced.

The work of the Transition Steering Committee represented an important first step in an on-going process of information gathering, pilot demonstrations of best practices and advocacy for systemic changes. School districts and human service providers, funders and consumers worked together at the same table to begin this endeavor. Thanks to the momentum they have given us and their cooperation, we now have a solid base upon which to build. Recommendations and next steps were released in a report in December 2006 and can be downloaded from the Advocacy Center website. Stay tuned for more on this topic in the upcoming year. Better yet, get involved with us by contacting the Foundation office or the Advocacy Center for more information.

Other projects focused on supporting the disabled in the community, creating more opportunities for them to be active, and partnering with agencies committed to their inclusion.

Noteworthy programs and partnerships forged last year include a first-time grant to Corn Hill Navigation's Welcome Aboard! *Mary Jemison* Riverboat Cruises Outreach Initiative. Working with local agencies serving the developmentally disabled, Corn Hill Navigation customized several recreational outings for disabled consumers and their families.





## ADULT & FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES

### ABVI GOODWILL

\$50,000 for renovation of dining area for blind/visually impaired employees.

### ADVOCACY CENTER (THE)

\$15,000 for the Developmental Disabilities Advocacy Program.

### AL SIGL CENTER, INC.

\$10,000 for production costs for "Two Weddings and a Future," a documentary film about the marriage of two individuals with Down Syndrome.

### ARC OF FULTON COUNTY

\$2,600 for travel expenses for FLAME, a soft rock band of musicians with developmental disabilities.

### ARC OF MONROE COUNTY

\$30,000 for day services for senior adults with developmental disabilities.

### ARC OF SENECA CAYUGA COUNTIES

\$20,000 for incline elevator to improve lakefront accessibility for developmentally disabled consumers.

### BISHOP SHEEN HOUSING

\$5,000 for Emergency Home Repair Program for persons with disabilities.

### CENTER FOR DISABILITY RIGHTS

\$10,000 for sport and recreation activities for individuals with disabilities.

### COBBLESTONE ARTS CENTER

\$7,000 for expanding education and work opportunities for individuals with disabilities.

### CONTINUING DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES

\$35,000 for air ventilation system in employment facility for disabled workers.

### CORN HILL NAVIGATION

\$10,000 for outdoor recreational and educational program for individuals with developmental disabilities.

### CP ROCHESTER

\$7,500 for adaptive ski program for persons with disabilities.

### DAZZLE SCHOOL OF VISUAL & PERFORMING ARTS

\$7,000 for furnishings to expand programs for the disabled.

### EASTER SEALS OF NEW YORK

\$20,000 for Health Maintenance Education and Training Program for the developmentally disabled.

### EASTMAN DENTAL CENTER

\$5,300 to improve dental services for people with developmental disabilities.

### HAPPINESS HOUSE/FLCP

\$223,000 to expand and renovate facilities for the disabled.

### HERITAGE CHRISTIAN SERVICES

\$75,000 for equipment for new Life Center for consumers with developmental disabilities.

### HOCHSTEIN MUSIC SCHOOL

\$20,000 for music therapy for individuals with developmental disabilities.

### ITALIAN AMERICAN COMMUNITY CENTER

\$500 for social event for disabled consumers.

### LIFETIME ASSISTANCE

\$20,000 for Healthy Living Program for senior adults with developmental disabilities.

### PARENTS & TEACHERS UNITED FOR KIDS, INC.

\$5,500 for transportation to recreational and educational outings for the disabled.

### PRALID

\$30,000 for home-based aide services for traumatic brain injured and developmentally disabled.

### ROCHESTER MUSEUM & SCIENCE CENTER

\$10,000 for Community Partner Pass Program for organizations serving the disabled.

### ROCHESTER REHABILITATION CENTER

\$20,000 for adaptive equipment for driver training program.

### SISTERS CARE (SISTERS OF ST. JOSEPH)

\$2,000 for office equipment for home care ministry.

### TERESA HOUSE

\$10,000 for renovations and wheelchair lift for hospice house.

### COMMUNITY SERVICES

#### AD COUNCIL OF ROCHESTER

\$7,000 for marketing and communications support for non-profits.

Other programs reached out to the developmentally disabled as well:

- Hochstein's music therapy program;
- Gliding Stars skating program for disabled skaters (using adaptive equipment);
- Rochester Museum and Science Center (RMSC) with their Community Partner Pass offered to agencies serving the developmentally disabled.

Besides all the programs and partnerships we have seen this year, there has been another important change in the disability field. The term "mental retardation" has been an ongoing source of contention in the disability community. The American Association on Mental Retardation (AAMR), a 130 year-old association representing developmental disability professionals worldwide, has changed its name to the American Association on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (AAIDD). This establishes a new standard in disability terminology, making way for a more socially acceptable way of addressing people with intellectual disabilities. As one professional in the field noted, "By taking it [mental retardation] out of their name, the association has set the precedent for it to be taken out of classrooms, doctors' offices, personal case records, and eventually out of the vocabulary of the people walking down the street." (From the DDPC e-bulletin, 1/07)

As you can see, we have a great deal of exciting new and developing projects going on, and many individuals and providers committed to improving the quality of life for the disabled. Thank you all for working together to help the disabled in these various endeavors. Also, please join me in congratulating the many individuals with disabilities and their families who continue to strive and succeed in becoming more independent, active in their communities, and determined to "live life to the fullest."





“ONE CAN NEVER  
CONSENT TO CREEP  
WHEN ONE FEELS  
AN IMPULSE TO SOAR.”

Helen Keller

## 2006 GRANT SUMMARY

### CHILDREN & YOUTH PROGRAMS

#### ADVOCACY CENTER (THE)

\$50,000 for Transition Services Planning Project for disabled students leaving high school to the adult world.

#### CAMP ABILITIES

\$5,000 for a summer camp for blind and visually impaired youth.

#### COALITION TO PREVENT LEAD POISONING

\$25,000 for education, information, and community action program to eliminate lead paint in older homes.

#### COMMUNITY PLACE OF GREATER ROCHESTER

\$15,000 for inclusive summer day camp for children with developmental disabilities.

#### COMPEER

\$20,000 for mentoring program for developmentally disabled teens.

#### CORN HILL NAVIGATION / SPINA BIFIDA ASSOCIATION

\$2,500 for outdoor recreational program for teens with spina bifida.

#### EMPIRE JUSTICE CENTER

\$25,000 for Disability Rights Advocacy Project.

#### GLIDING STARS OF ROCHESTER

\$5,000 for ice skating program for the disabled youth.

#### HOPE HALL

\$25,000 for Mastery in Learning Scholarship Program for students with disabilities.

#### LDA LIFE AND LEARNING SERVICES

\$25,000 for Educational Advocacy Services for students with developmental disabilities.

#### MENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION

\$15,000 for Drum Circles - music therapy and disability awareness workshops.

#### SPRINGBROOK (UPSTATE HOME FOR CHILDREN FOUNDATION)

\$200,000 to expand and renovate facilities for the developmentally disabled.

