



Ticonderoga Revitalization Alliance

A non-profit 501(c)3 Local Development Corporation whose mission is to restore economic prosperity in the Ticonderoga region by serving as a catalyst for innovative ideas and resources, and for public-private partnerships and investment opportunities.

Issue #25 - March 2024

From the Board

The first quarter of every year is always busy at Ti-Alliance. Q1 grant applications are due, we are preparing construction projects for Childcare and 108 Montcalm, and there are workforce development activities with our students nearly every week. The creative and dedicated team at the Alliance works with our partners and vendors to push the boundaries and bring the best of the best to Ticonderoga in every project.

We are incredibly grateful to all our donors and foundation supporters. Without you, this work would not get done. All we really need is to keep the lights on and the people in the chairs that do the work.

We had an amazing fund-raising season in Q4, raising all the funds needed for 2024 operations, plus resources for the Entrepreneurs Fund, George C. Singer Scholarship Endowment, and Childcare.

You are an incredible force that understands the work we do and how it uplifts our community. Each year, the Ticonderoga Area becomes a better and healthier place to live with more opportunity for all.....because of you.

With Sincere Gratitude,

The Ti-Alliance Board of Directors

Nancy Archer	Lance Clark
Scott Hearburg	Pat Ida
Chris Mallon	Sandy Morhouse
Pam Nolan	Bobby Porter
Peter Reale	Mark Wright (Ex Officio)



Creative Careers Brought to the Classroom

When you grow up in a rural environment it's hard to dream about your future career. You know what a teacher, nurse, police officer, dentist, lunch monitor, or mill worker does. Those are the jobs of your parents and others around you. But you don't know what you don't know about how the rest of the world works. It's hard to dream of something exciting and fulfilling when you have no frame of reference beyond what you see in your teenage life.

Ti-Alliance's Professionals in the Classroom (PITC) Program challenges students to be curious about the world and imagine themselves in all kinds of professions. This winter we've been bringing speakers into a big conference room and inviting all students to join interesting lunch and learn career discussions. Emily Phillips lives in Essex, NY and enjoys her fascinating work as an art conservator in the North Country. She has worked in some of the most prominent museums in San Francisco, Boston, Cleveland, and Washington, DC. Recently, she treated students to a riveting presentation about her exciting occupation that combines art, history, forensics, chemistry, imaging, and teamwork to preserve and restore important art and objects. She did a live demonstration of UV imaging revealing hidden mysteries in a painting (and her drivers license) and talked about the excitement of art and science coming together on artwork from all over the world. Emily shared an especially cool project that showed a time-lapse video about how she and her team removed a 60-foot mural painted on a flat wall, and reinstalled it on a curved wall in another building - without a wrinkle! The students were completely awestruck and had so many questions about Emily's work.

Dr. Katie Alexander, from Ticonderoga Animal Hospital, did a PITC session recently to share her path to becoming a veterinarian and her goal of opening a local animal shelter. Students were especially interested in how they could get involved in caring for some of the animals at her office. With both internships and volunteer opportunities available, students didn't hesitate to contact her afterward. In addition, Andrea Cooke, one of our scholarship students from the Class of 2022, will be graduating from SUNY Adirondack in a few weeks and will go to work for Dr. Alexander. Andrea will put her new accounting degree to work in the practice while she contemplates a path toward veterinary school.

Thank you to Emily and Dr. Alexander for generously giving their time to help inspire our students. Next up for PITC - Next Generation Farming in the North Country and a visit with the fascinating New York State Canal System.

To see more of our Career Exploration program, follow the Ti-Alliance social media pages (Facebook: @revitalizeticonderoga Instagram: @ti_alliance), and learn more on our website at www.ticonderoga-alliance.org/skilled-workforce. If you are a professional interested in sharing your career with students, contact us at fuller.melinda@gmail.com.



Pre-Registration is open for the Ticonderoga Early Learning Center!

As our readers know, Ti-Alliance has been working with its partners to bring reliable and affordable childcare to our community. We're making great progress and getting closer to opening the doors each week. It's an exciting time. We received final engineering drawings recently and opened the contractor bidding cycle on 3/1/24. By the time you read this newsletter, we'll have bids in hand and we expect construction to begin in the beginning of April. We're planning to be complete by the end of June. We're especially grateful to the Northern Border Regional Commission (NBRC) for providing much of the funding for our construction phase and to the Charles R. Wood Foundation, Cloudsplitter, Sylvamo, Adirondack Foundation, and all our amazing donors for getting us to the finish line. We could not do this without your partnership.

Pre-registration is now open for the Ticonderoga Community Early Learning Center! When it opens the center will provide full or part-time care to children 6 weeks to 5 years old, Monday through Friday, 6:30 am - 6:30 pm, for all families in the region.

If you or someone you know needs childcare, now is the time to let us know. The center anticipates full enrollment with a wait list upon opening. Applications and more information are available on our website at www.ticonderoga-alliance.org/building-childcare.

Staffing is one of the most crucial elements of childcare. The childcare industry is notorious for low pay and no benefits for employees. We want to break the mold of this industry. We're excited that our operator will be offering a living wage and excellent benefits to their employees. It's one of the reasons why we already have a large cohort of local applicants ready to work at the center. We're still accepting resumes, so if you know anyone interested in a great job at the center, have them contact Ti-Alliance.

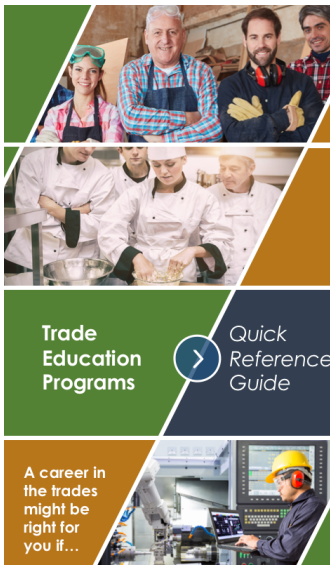
Addressing this need for public childcare in our community has been a monumental challenge made possible by our entire community coming together. The Alliance is grateful for all of its partners, supporters, and the many generous donors that continue to work together to realize the Ticonderoga Community Early Learning Center. We're almost there.

Building the Workforce Pipeline

April 25th is the annual Job Fair Day at Ticonderoga Jr./Sr. High School. It's an opportunity for employers to connect with full-time, part-time, and seasonal employees to create awareness of their career opportunities, foster a pipeline of applicants from year to year, and to connect with great candidates for current jobs.

Each year Ti-Alliance provides students with a booklet of job listings in advance of the fair and arranges pre-scheduled interviews to facilitate maximum employment connections. Ti-Alliance teams up with counselors and teachers ahead of the fair to help students explore their best qualities and job interests. This year we will be adding to the project by holding "office hours" at lunchtime the week prior to the fair to provide one-on-one resume polishing and mock interviews to help students become successful job candidates and great employees.

All Ticonderoga Area employers are welcome to attend and are encouraged to contact Ti-Alliance Program Coordinator, Melinda Fuller, to RSVP and for details at fuller.melinda@gmail.com.



Newly Updated & Fully Digital: Skilled Career Training Guide

The only "cheat-sheet" we encourage students to use has been updated: The Skilled Career Training Guide! The guide is a resource for students, counselors, and families to explore all the skilled-career degrees and accreditations available regionally.

This year the Skilled-Career Training Guide will be fully digital and is accessible to anyone via our website. The updates include revised program listings, the addition of CV-TEC to the school list, and updated accreditations. In addition to program listings, the guide also includes school contact information and financial help resources. It is a fantastic resource, and we're excited for it to work in tandem with the Adirondack Foundation's upcoming report on the most in-demand fields in our region.

Check out the cool Skilled Career Training Guide on our website at www.ticonderoga-alliance.org/skilled-careers-programs.

Stay Up to Date - Follow Us

Facebook: @revitalizeticonderoga
Instagram: @ti_alliance

Donate to Ti-Alliance

Share the Vision!

You can donate [here](#) on our website or on our Facebook page.