

Salvation Army East Stroudsburg Corps Has Awarded \$50,000 In Scholarships

By Major John R. Wheeler

EAST STROUDSBURG – The Salvation Army East Stroudsburg Corps has awarded \$50,000 in scholarships to fifteen students from throughout Monroe County to assist them with the expenses associated with continuing their education. Miguel Barbosa, The Salvation Army East Stroudsburg Corps Advisory Board Chairperson, describes the program, “Each year, we select students who have been accepted in an accredited college or university and have demonstrated a history of participating in community service.

The scholarship awards are funded from a special private endowment at the bequest of Irene Cramer. Without this financial support, most of these students would be unable to attend college. This year, the decision was especially difficult with the record-breaking number of applicants. However, to Do the Most Good for our students, we expanded our traditional ten \$5,000 awards to help fifteen students and varied the awards to \$4,000/\$2,000.”

This year's recipients and their intended colleges are:

Adrianna Adamoli – Northampton Community College

Emma Coleman - Michigan State University

Talon Denniston – Misericordia University

Olivia Dudley – Kutztown University

Grace Farley - Kutztown University

Fikrie Hodzhova – University of Pennsylvania

Kaylie Kimler – Bentley University

Emily Lesh – Susquehanna University

Isaiah Louis-Jacques – Pennsylvania State University

Jacob Mohring - University of Scranton

Anna Morton – East Stroudsburg University

Tiffany Persad - East Stroudsburg University

Rachel Polashenski – Pennsylvania State University

Krisofer Ulanday – University of Notre Dame

Nicole Valderrama – Undecided

The Salvation Army East Stroudsburg Corps will host a small reception for recipients on Thursday, May 16, 2024, at 4:30 pm at its Corps, located at 226 Washington Street, East Stroudsburg, PA 18301.

Each year, the Salvation Army East Stroudsburg Corps welcomes applicants residing in Monroe County, PA, with a family income below 300% of the Federal Poverty Line and who have demonstrated a strong community service history. Applicants must have completed high school or the equivalent GED and plan to attend an accredited post-secondary undergraduate college, university, community college, or career school in the upcoming academic year. The number and amount of scholarship funds awarded are distributed bas□

Barbosa concludes, “We are very proud of the applicants and their contribution to our community. The Salvation Army hopes that these funds assist them in successfully pursuing their degrees and that they continue to give back to the community throughout their careers.”

Slate Belt Annual Litter Clean-Up 2024: A Community Triumph



By CALV

SLATE BELT - Slate Belt Rising is ecstatic to share the outstanding results of the Slate Belt Annual Litter Clean-Up 2024, held on Saturday, April 27th. This year's event not only continued the tradition of community engagement, but also set a new benchmark in our collective environmental stewardship.

Unprecedented Volunteer Turnout!

Over 100 volunteers from six municipalities came together in a powerful display of unity and purpose. The event, spearheaded by Slate Belt Rising, saw community leaders and residents alike roll up their sleeves for the greater good.

We are grateful to our litter team captains for their exemplary leadership:

Councilwoman Marissa Donnelly and the Hope Spring Community of Faith in Bangor Borough

Borough Council VP Stephanie Steele in Portland, PA

Borough Councilwoman Tammy Kemp in Pen Argyl Borough

Borough Manager Louise Firestone & Mayor Wesley Smith in Wind Gap Borough

Slate Belt Chamber Executive Director Beth Duyssen in Washington Township

Township Manager Nick Graziano in Upper Mount Bethel Township

Bangor Elks Lodge #1106, who also fielded a team, contributing significantly to the clean-up efforts.

Local Businesses Stepping Up:

The event was further enhanced by the invaluable support of local business owners Jason Swanson and Caitlyn Swanson. Their businesses, J.Swanson Electric LLC and Cait's Quality Cuts, played a pivotal role in the clean-up's logistics. They generously transported the collected litter to a dumpster donated by WM (Waste Management), ensuring the smooth disposal of waste. Their commitment to the cause was a shining example of how local enterprises can contribute to community initiatives.



A Generous Contribution:

The Baltimore Life Companies' generous donation was crucial in providing supplies and support for our volunteers, ensuring the event ran smoothly and effectively.

Environmental Impact:

The collective effort led to the collection of .57 tons (1,140 pounds) of litter from our roadways, not including additional collections by volunteers in Bangor Borough, Upper Mount Bethel Township, and the Bangor Elks #1106. This remarkable achievement highlights the significant impact we can make when we come together as a community.

A Word from the Director:

“Through the Slate Belt Annual Litter Clean-Up, we've witnessed the formidable power of our community in action. It clearly demonstrates that when we unite towards a common purpose, our collective efforts can lead to extraordinary outcomes. This event is more than just a clean-up; it's a symbol of our shared commitment to the environment and to each other. Together, we're not only transforming our streets and landscapes but also reinforcing the bonds that make our community strong. I am immensely proud of what we've achieved and inspired by the potential of what we can accomplish in the future.”

- Brian Fenstermaker, Director of Slate Belt Rising