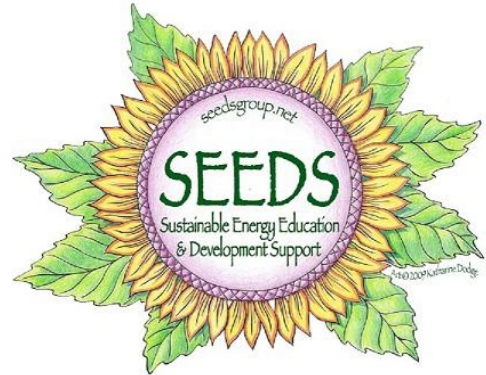


# 2020 ANNUAL REPORT

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## Pivoting, adapting, innovating...

Because of COVID-19, SEEDS had to make significant adjustments this year, but we ended up achieving more than we originally expected thanks to our ongoing sponsors, proactive donors and hard-working volunteers. The constraints placed on us in 2020 made us more creative and pushed us to explore new opportunities.

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## FROM OUR CHAIR

I am so grateful for the hard work of our executive director, Olga Trushina, who, in her first year with us, had to adapt to and overcome so many obstacles presented by the pandemic and accompanying impacts to our community's well-being. Thank you, Olga. I have enjoyed watching you grow into the role over the past year.

I am also indebted to our board, advisors, and other volunteers who have continued contributing to the work of SEEDS through difficult times. I rely heavily upon the expertise others bring to our governance and operations. Thank you! I have been in leadership positions of SEEDS since 2008 and, frankly, I am tired. Soon, it will be time for someone else to step into this role. I will, however, continue to be a working member of SEEDS into the foreseeable future as it has become one of the most satisfying endeavors of my life. I have faith that SEEDS has established itself so well in our community, that it will thrive well into the future.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Katharine Dodge'.

**Katharine Dodge**

Chair of SEEDS



## FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

I am thrilled to be writing this message after-the-fact: after the shock of first learning about the pandemic arriving in the US; after hundreds of hours spent adapting and thinking of ways to keep people safe, while still working towards sustainability in our community; after the neverending worry about whether SEEDS will survive and wonder about things to prioritize... As I look back on the year 2020, I have a bittersweet feeling of relief + exhaustion, of pride for everything our community was able to accomplish mixed with heartache for those we lost, for businesses that didn't survive, and for divisiveness that still looms in our atmosphere today. All in all, I feel glad to be turning a new page into a New Year. Although I have no idea of what 2021 will hold for us, I know that last year's experience has made me and everyone else in SEEDS stronger and willing to take up challenges and jump toward opportunities to innovate and collaborate. My New Year's resolution calls for an inward focus, taking care of our people, our community and our ecosystems.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Olga Trushina'.

**Olga Trushina**

Executive Director, SEEDS



# MISSION

SEEDS mission is to promote energy efficiency, renewable energy and sustainable living to improve our environment and local economies.

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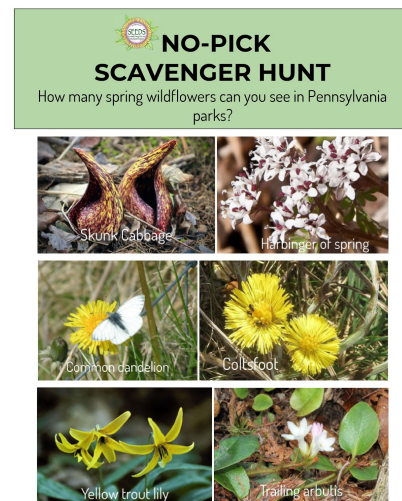


## HANDS-ON WORKSHOPS AND FORUMS

SEEDS offers community forums and workshops, free residential and nonprofit energy assessments, and environmental education programs for children, thereby promoting and encouraging energy conservation, cultivating scientific knowledge in sustainable technologies, and inspiring people to love and protect our environment.

## VIRTUAL SUSTAINABILITY EDUCATION

SEEDS creates educational videos and digital materials on energy conservation, sustainable agriculture, and renewable energy that is shared on its social media platforms and website. SEEDS also leads online webinars and live broadcasts addressing the most pressing environmental topics in our community and serves as a platform for sustainability information and news.



## Board of Directors

### Continuing Board Members



#### Katharine Dodge – Chair

Kathy is one of the founding members of SEEDS, holding leadership positions from 2008 until the present. She thinks that SEEDS is one of the most inspiring groups she has ever worked with.

She holds a BFA from Rhode Island School of Design and a MA from Marywood University. She moved to Wayne County in 1972 to work as staff illustrator at Highlights for Children Magazine. She lives on an old farm in Lake Ariel with husband Pete Snyder where they raised two sons, and continue to raise most of their own food. They have solar power and a geothermal system.

Kathy has been a board member of the Northeast PA Audubon Society since 1974. She is active in peace and justice issues, and environmental education (including spending 4 years creating a mural at Wayne Conservation District, to be used for environmental education).

She now volunteers her art skills to help her favorite organizations raise money. You can read "Words from our Chair" in our SEEDS free e-newsletters.

#### Sue Currier – Assistant Chair

Sue served as the executive director of the Delaware Highlands Conservancy from 2003 to 2016, a non-profit land trust working with farmers and forest landowners in New York and Pennsylvania. Prior to her work in conservation, Sue led marketing teams for a global telecommunications manufacturer.

In addition to SEEDS, Sue is active with local non-profit boards including the Downtown Hawley Partnership and Farm Arts Collective.



#### Jocelyn Cramer – Board Member at Large

Jocelyn Cramer is a lifelong lover of music, arts, theatre and the environment. She was executive director/founder of The Ground Floor Theatre Lab in New York City for nearly 10 years, then developed a business management career for over 12 years before returning to northeastern PA full time in 2011.

Jocelyn was SEEDS' first executive director, and remains on their board. She is also Chair of the Board of Directors of Sustainable Energy Fund (Allentown) and on the board of The Cooperage Project in Honesdale. In January 2020 she was extremely proud to have been the first woman to be elected as a Wayne County Commissioner. She lives in Damascus Township with husband Michael Rollison.

#### Jack Barnett – Sustainable Food Circle Leader

After nearly a 30 year career in the telecommunications industry, Jack is now a local advocate and volunteer for sustainability, local farming & food, and solar energy. His on-going project is a super-insulated, net-zero solar home and vegetable garden near Hawley, PA, owned with his wife, Mary Anne Carletta. Jack has served as a past chair of a chapter of the American Solar Energy Society, and is also a co-founder and current president of the Clean Energy Co-op Inc. (which spun out from SEEDS in 2014; learn more at [www.cleanenergy.coop](http://www.cleanenergy.coop)).

Jack holds Electrical and Computer Engineering degrees from Clemson University and Carnegie Mellon University.





### **Jane Bollinger – Recording Secretary**

Growing up in Southeast PA in a home where mom cooked three meals a day "from scratch," Jane developed a lifelong taste for "real" food that today fuels her passion for promoting sustainable agriculture and advocating for farmers, who deserve to make a living wage.

Jane is a member of the volunteer working group Wayne Agriculture Tomorrow and past co-chair of Wayne County Grown. For a decade of summers, Jane did a live cooking demonstration at the Wayne County Farmers Market.

Before retiring to the country, Jane held editing, reporting and writing positions at ABC's Good Morning America, The Scranton Times-Tribune and The River Reporter. Jane currently serves as president of the board of trustees at Bethany Public Library.

Ever the "foodie," Jane can always find time to cook "from scratch" at home. She lives in the wilds of Dyberry Township with her husband David Huggard on a dead-end dirt road with the bears and the wild turkeys.

### **Jenna Wayne Mauder – Education Circle Leader**

Jenna currently serves the community as the Agriculture and Food Program Manager at The Cooperage Project in Honesdale, PA. With a degree in elementary education, her experience has been primarily in environmental education, program development and public outreach. She is most passionate about exploring our human need for a healthy natural system, and reconnecting with nature to develop an understanding of cohabitation.

Jenna resides in Cherry Ridge Township of Wayne County, PA with her husband, two children and a dog.



### **David Ford – Governance Circle Leader and Board Member at Large**



David comes to SEEDS with a background in technology and a strong interest in sustainability and community involvement.

Prior to retiring to Wayne County, David spent over 30 years in various technology roles, ending as an Executive Director at JPMorganChase responsible for engineering of the firm's critical infrastructure services. He has served as the SEEDS Chair, and is also an active volunteer with his church and other community organizations.

David holds a degree in Computer Science from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. He currently lives in Honesdale with his wife Denise.

## **Outgoing Board Members**

### **Andrew Drewchin – Energy Circle Leader**

Andrew was the chair of the SEEDS Energy Circle. He has worked in the solar energy industry since 2015. Andrew has experience in sales, operations, and finance for both residential and commercial projects. He now operates his own company, Gincgo, managing renewable energy projects throughout the northeast.

Thank you Andrew for all your contributions to the SEEDS Energy strategy!







### **Denise Bussiere - Treasurer**

Denise was vice-president of a NJ software company responsible for design and implementation of a proprietary accounting system in the real estate industry. After spending over 30 years visiting clients across the tri-state area, she "semi-retired" by opening a home and garden accessory store in the arts and crafts village of Sugar Loaf, NY. When it was finally time to actually retire, she and husband, David and dog, Penny moved to Honesdale to try and live more sustainably by raising chickens and a large garden.

Denise is also treasurer of Growing Older Together and active in her church and other organizations.

Thank you Denise for your time and diligence as a SEEDS Treasurer! We will miss you!

### **Krista Gromalski - Outreach Leader**

Krista earned her B.A. in Communications, with a concentration in Interpersonal and Organizational Communications, from Wilkes University, and her M.A. in Sustainable Business and Communities at Goddard College, with a focus on youth-led engagement journalism in PA's anthracite region. She has worked in the public relations and journalism fields for more than 20 years. Krista launched the kid-created newspaper Coal Cracker in 2014, and has grown it into a 501(c)(3) non-profit called Coal Cracker Kids, with a headquarters in Mahanoy City, PA.

Krista has served on the Board of Directors of the Delaware Highlands Conservancy, NACL Theatre, Pike County Chamber of Commerce, Black Bear Film Festival and Grey Towers Heritage Association. She has also served on the PA Land Trust Association's Editorial Advisory Board and Schuylkill Conservation District Environmental Education Committee. Krista is a Senior Fellow in the Environmental Leadership Program, Delaware River Watershed Network.



Krista likes to hike, kayak and bike, and to spend time with family.

Thank you Krista for your creativity in building a brand for SEEDS!

### **Shannon Brown - Governance Leader**

Shannon brought over 25 years of small business ownership, executive management, and community sustainability experience to SEEDS as a Governance Circle Representative. He thrives in community sustainability initiatives. He owned and ran a sustainable farm (market gardening), remains active in community gardening, and served as a founding member and first president of a farm cooperative. He received training in small renewable energy projects including training as a wind turbine installer.

Shannon served in higher education as the coordinator for community initiatives at St. Lawrence University. He recently served as an assistant professor for Community, Natural Resources & Economic Development with the University of Wisconsin Extension.

He focuses on sustainability initiatives such as community food systems, downtown development, rural community support, community gardens, sustainable farming, CSAs, cooperatives, sustainable land use, community stabilization, renewable energy, and energy conservation.

Thank you Shannon for your dedication and the generous time you've donated to the SEEDS cause!

## Incoming Board Members

### Allaina Propst – Treasurer

Allaina was born and raised in the woods outside of Honesdale, PA. She earned her degree from Bryn Mawr College in economics and middle eastern studies. Allaina returned home to Honesdale and now owns and runs Here & Now Brewing Company. After purchasing her building in 2013, she spent the next 4 years renovating it, taking time to find the balance between historical accuracy, modern functionality and energy efficiency.

Allaina's mission is to help create a more sustainable local economy the old-fashioned way by sourcing products as locally as possible, reducing waste, and just doing the right thing. In addition to food and beer, Allaina loves long walks in the woods, skeeball, spreadsheets and that rewarding feeling when the last piece of the puzzle fits in perfectly. Allaina is also treasurer of the Clean Energy Coop.

Welcome Allaina! We look forward to working with you!



### Charles (Chuck) SanClementi – Board Member at Large



Charles moved to Hawley, PA from Manhattan in 2005 and became a full-time resident with his family in 2009. Born and raised in New Jersey, he studied at Pratt Institute and William Patterson University, then worked and lived in New York City. A former conservation assistant for The MET, Chuck's professional experiences include managing fine art galleries, running an independent fine arts installation and logistics business, and instructing at NYU Graduate School. In 1995, he co-founded a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, an online fine arts reference library. With a master's degree in fine art, Chuck is accomplished in woodworking, design and construction, and brings a lot of handy know-how to the table.

In 2016, while serving as a board member for his residential community, Chuck successfully organized a grassroots information campaign stopping Kinder Morgan and Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company from extracting 4 million gallons of lake water in Pike County to test a newly constructed 13 mile section of one of their fracked gas pipelines running through Wayne and Pike counties. The hard-fought effort prevented a proposed months-long lake siphoning project that would have required the use of approximately 1,600 tanker trucks in an otherwise quiet residential community. It was at that time he first learned about SEEDS and has avidly followed it ever since. "I'm honored and excited to be more directly involved with these environmentally indispensable issues," he said.

Welcome Charles! Your experience in the nonprofit world and passion for sustainability will be a great asset for SEEDS!

### Devan George – Outreach Circle Leader

Devan is a Honesdale, PA native. She attended Honesdale High School and volunteered with and learned from many local environmental organizations, such as NEPA Audubon, SEEDS, and Lacawac Sanctuary. These interactions sparked a lifelong passion for the environment and inspired Devan's career plans.

Devan received her B.S. in Environmental Conservation and Sustainability from the University of New Hampshire and a M.S. in Entomology from University of Delaware. Before starting her current role as the Communications Coordinator with Pike County Conservation District, Devan worked for the United States Department of Agriculture, in their agricultural research service, Dow AgroScience as a research and development intern, Cornell University as a summer researcher and Lacawac Sanctuary as an environmental educator.

Environmental education being a lifelong passion of hers, Devan has always made time for sharing what she was working on and the things that she learned from the communities she lived in. So, taking on the responsibilities as an Outreach Circle Rep at SEEDS is right up her alley!

Welcome Devan! We cannot wait to exploit your dedication to sustainability and environmental education!





## Programs and Initiatives

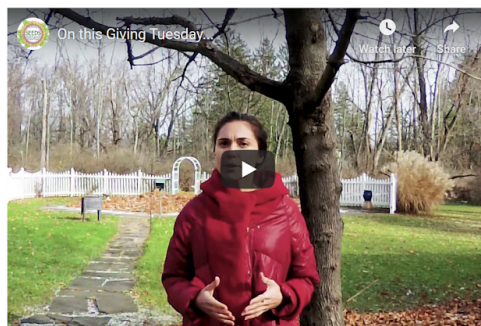
One of the biggest pivots for SEEDS this year was adapting our programming to be available and engaging to our audience digitally. In addition to expanding our social media presence and recording, editing and uploading our events and programs to online platforms, we also decided that 2020 was the perfect year to overhaul our outdated website.

To do this, we created a Request for Proposals, outlining our requirements and aesthetics of what we want our website to look like, and sent it out to local web designers for a quote. Ultimately, we decided to work with BlackOut Design in Scranton, PA for their vast experience and complementing visual style, and their modest quote that fit our budget. We began this work in November 2020, slowly adding new pages and converting original, but still rich and useful, content into something with which we can furnish our new website.

To fund this project, we used The John and Helen Villaume Foundation grant that SEEDS received for website upgrade in 2019. In addition, The Overlook Estate Foundation and a secret donor provided us with \$1500 in total for this project, making our budget exactly what BlackOut Design quoted. It is to be completed in the first half of 2021 and will be another outlet for SEEDS to share its knowledge on energy efficiency and conservation through virtual sustainability education.



### SEEDS IN OUR COMMUNITY



Yes, I'm In!

#### Support a resilient NEPA through Sustainability Education and Development

Imagine our community, sustainable and resilient, with strong social ties and well-developed local supply chains. Our community would be able to weather any storm.

This year our community came together in new ways, supporting one another and filling the gaps in supply chains as best we could.

Yet there is more we need to do together to ensure a resilient future.

#### Memberships



## #LoveLocalPA

The goal of this campaign is to (1) promote "Resilient Regional Economies" message locally, (2) support our local economy, and (3) generate new subscribers to our newsletter. Currently only 19% of our newsletter subscribers are highly engaged and open almost every mailing, with 17% "sometimes engaged" and the rest "rarely engaged". Since the beginning of this campaign we've had net 11 subscribers.



### Giveaway

Gift Cards are either purchased or donated by businesses and then offered in a giveaway which is promoted on social media.

#### Wallenpaupack Brewing Company

FB	1212 people reached	72 engagements	8 shares	6 likes
IG	124 people reached	6 engagements	1 share	11 likes

#### Moka Origins

FB	1091 people reached	76 engagements	7 shares	7 likes
IG	87 people reached	2 engagements	1 share	10 likes

#### Crazy Otto's Vintage

FB	414 people reached	29 engagements	4 shares	7 likes
IG	140 people reached	11 engagements	3 shares	16 likes

## SWAPAPALOOZA

This annual event helps to sustain SEEDS, with businesses donating products and services, which are then put up for bidding in a live and silent auction. Because our SWAPAPALOOZA event was cancelled this year due COVID, our volunteers are currently in the process of planning it for 2021. One direction proposed by volunteers that is attractive and safe is to combine this regular fundraising event with our #lovelocalPA campaign to provide benefits for SEEDS and businesses alike, thereby supporting our local economy and workforce.



## Digital Storytelling

The pandemic made everyone realize how important it is to be connected during a time of crisis—not only is it financially important, allowing people to work from home and continue to make business decisions, but also for community collaborations, for filling in gaps, and for a healthy state of mind. This realization pushed SEEDS to begin its digital storytelling project, where we digitally and emotionally connect social distancing people to speakers, leaders, and entrepreneurs in our area, allowing inspirations, motivation, and engagement to happen indoors.

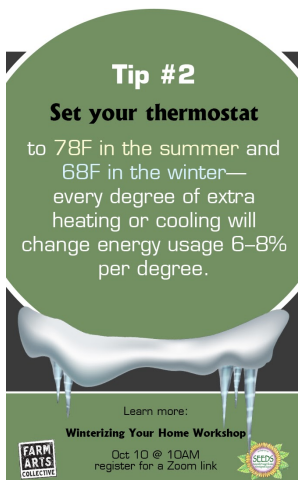
### Annual Membership Meeting

Although usually done in person, the 2020 Meeting was executed as a live broadcast on [YouTube](#) and [Facebook](#) using Streamyard for maximum engagement and visual experience. This event allowed SEEDS to reach more people than it would have during a physical event. More than 200 viewers joined in.



### Live Webinars and Discussions

This year we experimented with [webinars](#) and [movie viewings and discussions](#), leading to a wider audience reach and engagement that can be revisited in the future. This is because all of our recorded live content stays online indefinitely, allowing the audience to check sources, confirm information, and come back to the videos at a more convenient time. This type of format also allows organizations to collaborate by delegating duties and using their donated funds more efficiently.



## Farm Tours

Northeast Pennsylvania is abundant with farms that practice regenerative farming and sustainable agriculture. SEEDS recognizes this advantage by creating virtual tours of local farms that are posted on our social media channels and website, exposing local residents to quality produce in our area and providing exposure to farmers who deserve recognition for their sustainability dedication. Check out the [Fertile Valley Farm](#) and [Bialecki Farm](#) tours.



## Solar Installations

This year, as we continued our solar PV installations, SEEDS also began video recordings of each project and conducted interviews with SEEDS volunteers and project partners to get an in-depth understanding of how a solar PV project is planned, prepared and executed. These mini documentaries are posted on our social media channels and website for maximum reach and benefit, allowing people from small, kindred communities similar to ones in NEPA, to envision, find guidance for, and execute similar renewable energy projects in their localities. Check out our videos on the [Highlights Foundation](#) and the [Stourbridge Project](#) installations.





## SEEDS Reads

In the beginning of 2020, SEEDS Reads was launched. It is a community outreach initiative intended to promote the joy of reading or being read to, while educating people of all ages about the importance of caretaking the natural resources that make Northeast Pennsylvania and the surrounding region truly special. Although the physical events were put on a hold this year, our volunteers conducted behind-the-scenes planning and were able to install a Little Free Library in front of the Cooperage, thanks to a local Girl Scout Troop and a local woodworking group. We continued by developing a template and process by which our volunteers can record themselves reading in appropriate settings, such as along [a local waterway](#) or trail. The recordings will be uploaded to the SEEDS YouTube Channel and shared via Instagram, Facebook and on the SEEDS website.





## Hands-on Energy

SEEDS was founded in 2008 by a group of passionate, engaged community members committed to developing a local renewable energy infrastructure. This is still a major part of our work, even during a pandemic year. In 2020, SEEDS volunteers assisted in two solar installations, one for The Highlights Foundation and the other for The Stourbridge Project. Projects like this bring together local contractors and volunteers to install solar panels using industry knowledge and previous experience, providing maximum cost savings and education.



We continued to wear masks during all installations and provided virtual viewing alternatives for those at risk. For example, on Earth Day we live streamed a DIY workshop teaching kids [how to make a solar oven](#) using everyday household items. We were even able to melt a cheese sandwich on a 50°F day!



## Michael “Jake” Burkhardt Scholarship

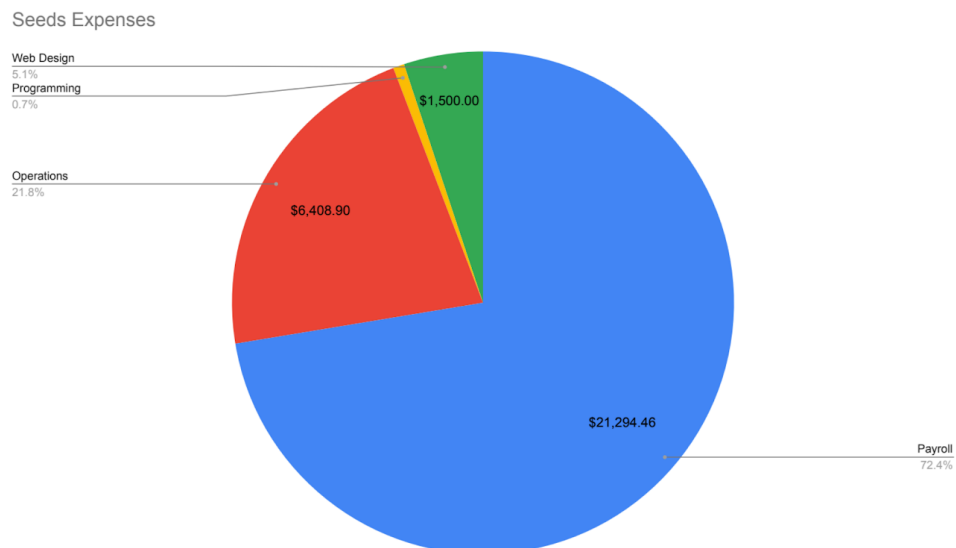
SEEDS awarded the fourth \$1,000 annual sustainability scholarship in memory of Michael “Jake” Burkhardt, to Sinclair Ogof, a graduate of Western Wayne High School. Sinclair was selected for her winning essay on the following topic: How can people from rural places, like Wayne or Pike Counties, contribute to a sustainable future both locally and globally? How would one balance the trade-offs between sustainability and economic development? Provide examples where sustainability is working or missing in your county. Please be comprehensive and specific.

Her essay provided a pragmatic outlook for a person from a small town and a beautiful metaphor of what it means to be a superhero. You can listen to her reading her full essay [here](#).



## Financials and Outreach

2020 Balance Sheet	
<b>Assets</b>	
Bank Accounts	65,912.45
Other Current Assets	100.00
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$66,012.45</b>
<b>Liabilities &amp; Equity</b>	
Payroll Tax Liabilities	2,500.67
Short-term Notes (credit line)	-50.00
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$2,450.67</b>
<b>Equity</b>	
Unrestricted Net Assets	38,112.45
Net Income	25,449.33
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>\$63,561.78</b>
<b>Total Liabilities and Equity</b>	<b>\$66,012.45</b>

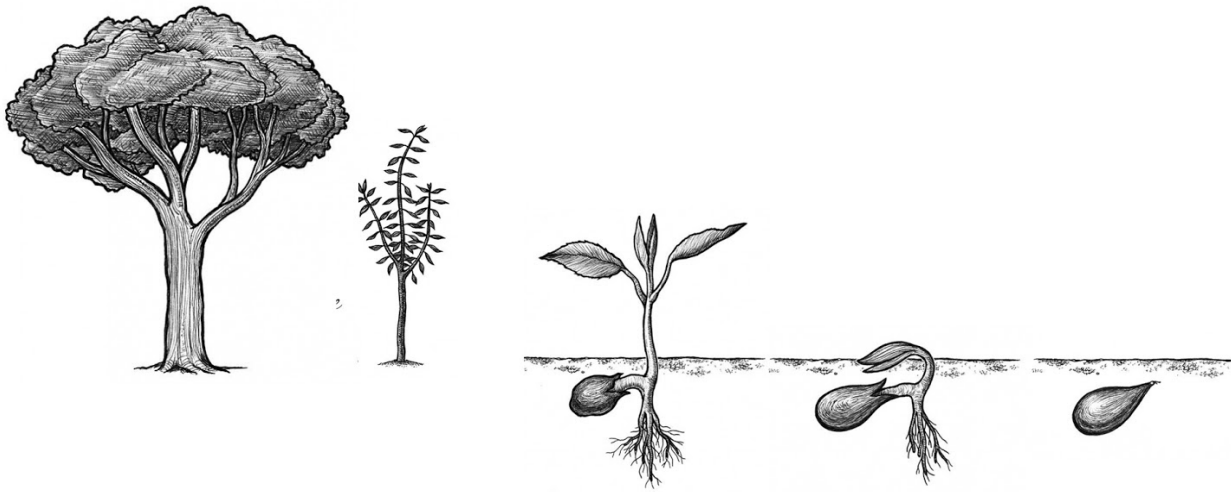


<b>2020 Profit &amp; Loss</b>	
Income	
Dividend Income	400.00
Program Income	1,948.27
Grants	17,890.90
Business & Individual Contributions	36,659.67
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$56,898.84</b>
Expenses	
Contract services (web design, accountant)	1,860.00
Fundraising	91.45
Operations	6,048.90
Payroll Expenses	21,294.46
Program Expenses	120.00
Scholarship	1,000.00
Other	1,034.70
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$31,449.51</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>\$25,449.33</b>

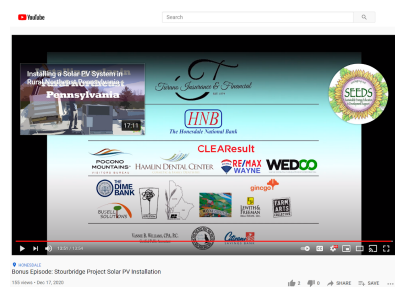
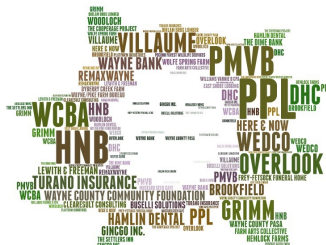


## Sponsorships

Our finance team rolled-out a new program in 2020, which allowed sponsors to choose a level of funding in return for broad sponsorship benefits throughout the year. This not only provides SEEDS piece of mind and reduces the time spent fundraising during the year, but also provides our business supporters access to creative benefits and acknowledgements.



This year we included sponsor acknowledgement on the SEEDS website, over the live broadcast of our Annual Meeting featuring Judy Wix, on a press release, across our social media accounts, using designed custom digital art, and in video credits on our YouTube channel.



This new sponsorship/underwriting program generated \$1980 since launching in mid July. With new opportunities and a revamped website to be completed in early 2021, this program is expected to attract a greater number of local sponsors.



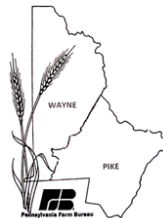
## FY2020 BUSINESS SPONSORS

THANK YOU!



*The Honesdale National Bank*

**CLEAResult**



VANNIE B. WILLIAMS, CPA, P.C.  
— Certified Public Accountant —



## Our Individual Donors

SEEDS would not exist without its donors, those who donate their time, energy and financial support to propel SEEDS toward its mission. Each year SEEDS relies on donations in order to continue its educational programs and support its mission, and 2020 was no different. We expected the pandemic to influence people's finances, making them more financially conservative. We have yet to see the impact that the pandemic will have on individual donations to SEEDS. However, the tremendous support we received from our grantors and from government assistance programs has made 2020 easier to bear, financially.

SEEDS was also chosen to be the beneficiary of the Annual MIDVALCRE Volleyball Tournament, which raises money for a special community organization chosen each year. The tournament is annually organized by Andrew and Krissy Satre Murphy and takes place on their property in Lake Ariel, PA. The \$750 check SEEDS received from this event contributed to our nonprofit's solvency during the year.



## FY2020 SUPPORTERS

### THANK YOU!

#### \$10,000+

Anonymous

#### \$5,000+

Anonymous

#### \$1,000+

Sue Currier

Denise Bussiere & David Ford

Mary Anne Carletta & Jack Barnett

Anonymous

Anonymous

#### \$500+

Jim & Pat Sanders

Chuck & Andrea Heyn

Heidi Finkelberg

Michael Rollison & Jocelyn Cramer

#### \$100+

Carl & Marianne Milks

Pennell Whitney

Barbara Leo and Georgetta

Pascotto

Mary Evans

Vince and Roberta Conroy

Vincent and Anna Gallo

Nancy Rasmussen

Margaret Bakker and Rob Lewis

Kent Brown & Jolyn Taylor

Krista Gromalski and Sandy Long

Anthony and Debbie Waldron

Pamala Box

Chris and Ronnie Fischer

Ray and Donna Hamill

Maurice and Jean Meagher

Jeremy Oettinger

Thane Peterson and Lindsay

Barrett George

Charles and Erin SanClementi

Anonymous

Leroy and Pat Spoor

Ron and Sally Talaga

Mark and Phyllis Terwilliger

Ed Thomas

Mike and Wendy Uretsky

Daniel and Linda Wescott

Bob Richards

Kevin Hoffman

Rosie Starr

Barbara Peters

Arlene Moore

Joe Davis & Kathryn Box

Diane & Randi Diffenderfer

Joann Puskarcik

#### \$50+

Anonymous

Jess Wolk

Caroline Romano

Ray and Lenore Cramer

Peter and Hester Greene

Jean Kammer

Jesse and Colette Ballew

Katharine and George Brown

Anonymous

John and Sarah Duda

Ray and Ella Hoerning

Timothy and Angela Lauffenburger

Anonymous

Jenna and Sean Mauder

Anonymous

Anonymous

Anonymous

Joan Russo

William Schweighofer and Ann

Foster

John and Susan Short

Robin and Bob Skibber

Brian Stafford

Sheila Vaswani

Jeanne Wasman

Jeff George

Susan Porter & Howard Snyder

Gordon Smith

Patricia Wilson

Blair & Christina Kobelin

Anthony Waldron

#### \$1+

Barb Korteling

Anonymous

Juliann Doyle

David and Marcia Dunsmore

Roebing and Karen Gravel

Sheryl Mills and Karen Zingermann

Deborah and David Pursch

Anonymous

Vicky Botjer

Nancy DeYoung

Bill Donnelly

Anonymous

Pauline Glykokokalos

Jade Golo

Laurie Graham and Larry Wilson

Marian Keegan

Deborah and Clyde Kreider

Barbara Lewis

Stephen Schwartz

Linda Scott

Kristina and Harry E. Young

Alice Zinnes

Anonymous

Anonymous

Deena Mader McKenna

Bill and Sara Spoerri

Anonymous

Aleta Kahn

Anonymous

Anonymous

Josephine Clearwater

Anonymous

John Feik

Margaret and Ann Marie Gilhool

Anonymous

Anonymous

Jenna Motichka

Anonymous

Lisa Peet

Anonymous

Brigitte Reifler

Jay Sweeney

Stu & Cheryl Bander

Mary & Leonard DeDuke

Jennifer Leuthe

Victor Salib

Virginia Nordstrom

Earl Lory

Marcia Nehemiah

Edward Zygmunt

Lisa Chiampou

## Our Grantors



### The Overlook Estate Foundation, Inc.

The Overlook Estate Foundation has been an ardent supporter of SEEDS in the past. It funded projects such as our volunteer-led energy efficiency and solar workshops in Lackawanna County and our SEEDS Reads program initiated in 2019. Because of the cancellations and postponements of events in 2020 SEEDS launched a Virtual Sustainability Education initiative early during the year to help us revamp our website, connect with our audience virtually and provide learning opportunities for our community while social distancing. To support this initiative, The Overlook Estate Foundation granted SEEDS \$4000. Keep an eye out for our growing selection of virtual educational content on social media and our new website, to be completed in the coming months.



**PPL Foundation**

### PPL Foundation

One of the most difficult fundraising efforts for a nonprofit is finding a source for overhead expenses that are not related to specific programs, such as rent, filing fees, employee salary for administrative work, etc. Each year the PPL Foundation supports this unnoticed work by providing SEEDS a "Sustaining Grant", specifically made for the mundane work that all nonprofits have to do in order to survive. This year PPL continued this sustenance by granting SEEDS \$5000. SEEDS prides itself for being a lean but mighty organization that can accomplish so much with so little. With only one employee, more than 10 regular volunteers and Board members, and the support of PPL, SEEDS continues to deliver sustainable education to our community, even in the time of pandemic.



## Greater Pike Community Foundation

In 2020, our Board Member and volunteer Jane Bollinger noticed the gaps in our food systems and supply chains that were brought to light during pandemic closings and social distancing mandates. It especially became clear when schools closed and many families with kids had trouble setting food on the table. During this time, The Cooperage began working with farmers to get donated produce to local residents. This is when Jane realized three important issues that needed to be addressed in our community: (1) very few people know how to cook “real food” from scratch, because for years many have turned to mass-produced, processed food, (2) too many farmers in Northeast PA struggle to make a living and need more customers; and (3) COVID-19 has raised awareness and concerns about food security and vulnerabilities in our industrialized food system and long supply-chains, presenting new reasons to turn to local food. With all this in mind, Jane and other SEEDS volunteers created the Food Circle and with it an idea for a radio program that will introduce listeners to local farmers, chefs, and food entrepreneurs that will share stories about produce, recipes and nutrition that is available locally. The Greater Pike Community Foundation agreed to grant this project \$1500, which will launch on local radio in spring 2021.



## Wayne County Cares

The Wayne County Commissioners granted SEEDS \$6325 to assist with lost revenue and expenses related to COVID-19. Thanks to this award SEEDS was able to continue its work through the year with reduced donations and ongoing expenses.



# AWARDS

**2009: SEEDS received the Green Powerhouse Award from the NEPA Business Journal** for sponsored solar training for 60 area contractors. Several of these trainees have earned Pennsylvania Sunshine certification and two have achieved certification from the North American Board of Certified Energy Providers.

**2011: SEEDS received the Green Power Hero Award from PennFuture** for sponsoring two “350” initiatives—installing small wind and solar renewable energy installations totaling 350 kW and encouraging energy conservation that saved \$16,000 in region electric bills and kept 85 tons of CO<sub>2</sub> from the atmosphere. Wayne County is now 3rd in the state in solar PV system installations per capita.

**2011: SEEDS was recognized by the Northeast Pennsylvania Environmental Council with the 21st Environmental Partnership Award** for its efforts to build demand and infrastructure for renewable energy and to encourage sustainable living through energy conservation. SEEDS partnered with Northampton Community College, Wayne County Conservation office, Workforce Wayne, PPL-Electric Utilities as well as many other organizations to provide education, training and recognition regarding alternative energy choices and options.

**2016: SEEDS received the Governor's Award for Environmental Excellence** for its continued efforts and services.

**2019: SEEDS received the Environmental Partnership Award from NEPA Environmental Partners** for our 8th Annual Free Book Swap. The award recognizes the Book Swap for exemplifying how partnerships work together to get big jobs completed for the benefit of the environment and our community. The NEPA Environmental Partners is comprised of the Northeastern Pennsylvania Alliance, Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Department of Environmental Protection, PA Environmental Council, PPL Corporation, Procter & Gamble Paper Products Company, and Wilkes University.





SEEDS of Northeastern Pennsylvania is not just a nonprofit organization. It is made up of every person, business and organization in our community who supports it with their time, creativity and funds. Together, we can do so much more. You too can make a difference and push Northeastern Pennsylvania toward resiliency and a sustainable future, for humanity and our environment.

**VISIT** our website and social media accounts to learn about SEEDS sustainability initiatives, programs, educational events and applications. Give us a “like”, comment and a share to spread the word on SEEDS and its sustainability efforts.

**VOLUNTEER** with us. SEEDS is always looking for creative and skillful teachers, event planners, idea generators and people greeters. Our volunteers are the reason why SEEDS continues to exist; they are the ones that make a real impact on sustainability in our community. Email [volunteer@seedsgroup.net](mailto:volunteer@seedsgroup.net) to become a SEEDS volunteer!

**SPONSOR** SEEDS and make your voice heard and sustainability efforts seen and appreciated in our community. Our once-a-year sponsorship/underwriting program is mutually beneficial for SEEDS and business owners alike, and allows businesses to choose a level of funding in return for broad sponsorship benefits throughout the year. Email [executivedirector@seedsgroup.net](mailto:executivedirector@seedsgroup.net) to become a SEEDS sponsor!

**COLLABORATE** with SEEDS and make an impact through live events, hands-on workshops, and written resources that allow our community members to learn more about energy conservation, sustainable living and a healthy ecosystem. Email [executivedirector@seedsgroup.net](mailto:executivedirector@seedsgroup.net)

For more ways to get involved, email us at [info@seedsgroup.net](mailto:info@seedsgroup.net).



# CONSERVE AND SUSTAIN

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