

Gateway Foundation  
President's Report 2020

The Brattleboro Gateway Foundation was founded by our club in 1986 to create a local fund to award scholarships to deserving, area students pursuing higher education. Historically, the Gateway Foundation has been supported through club fundraisers, such as Christmas Tree Sales, as well as individual donations from dedicated Rotary members. For the past two years, we received a donation from the Golf Committee.

Every Brattleboro Rotary Club member is a member of the Gateway Foundation. Many of us on the board have served multiple terms. While the workload is light, the oversight of the foundation is vital. Please consider serving on this important arm of the club.

Gateway gave the Scholarship Committee \$20,500 this year. In addition to six students from area high schools, we presented the fifth recipient of a \$2500 scholarship to a Community College of Vermont student pursuing a career in early childhood education. This award was created to honor **Jesse Corum**, a dear Rotarian who recognized the need for education.

Since the Gateway Foundation's formation in 1986, the cost of a college education has more than doubled. According to Forbes, the average student loan debt of graduating college seniors is over \$26,000, with 1 in 10 students owing over \$40,000.

Scholarships such as Gateway Foundation are important for students as they embark upon their college education. However our current award amount of \$18,000 is not enough to fund even one year of college for one student.

We know that we can do better. Our goal is to increase the number of members contributing to the Foundation. This money will allow us to sustain our endowment and award more scholarships to more deserving students. You can help us reach this goal! Please send your donation to:

Gateway Foundation  
PO Box 6433  
Brattleboro, VT 05302-6433

Thank you for your consideration.  
Yours in Rotary,  
Marty Cohn  
President, Gateway Foundation