

2017
ANNUAL
HIGHLIGHTS

Inspired
Philanthropy

Patrick Warn Lee

April 24, 1960 - September 4, 2017

IN REMEMBRANCE

Patrick "Pat" Warn Lee, the second child of Patrick and Nancy Lee, was raised in Western New York with his siblings, Barbara, Jennifer and Christopher. Pat was intelligent, athletic and had a great sense of humor. His welcoming nature and adventurous spirit made him popular among his friends and classmates.

After graduating high school, Pat's proud service in the United States Navy afforded him the opportunity to see the world, including a long stint in Italy. It was during this time that his love of



sailing developed and continued to be an interest for years to come.

While in the Navy, Pat was diagnosed with schizophrenia, a disease he would courageously

battle for more than 35 years. Schizophrenia, which affects about one percent of the American population, is a serious disorder that impacts how a person thinks, feels and behaves. Like other diseases of the mind, it is often misunderstood and stigmatized.

Pat, a member of Mensa, was a formidable scrabble opponent and loved playing Euchre with friends. He was incredibly kind and always willing to lend a hand with a project or volunteer at church. Most of all, Pat enjoyed spending time with his family - especially his nieces and nephew.

On September 4, 2017, Pat passed away leaving behind family and friends who deeply miss him.

It was Pat's experience with schizophrenia that gave rise to the Foundation's focus in mental health. He remains the guiding inspiration as the Foundation works to improve the lives of individuals with mental illness.



Lee Foundation Board Members meet with engineering scholarship recipients from St. Louis University

The Lee Family and the Foundation

experienced a tremendous loss with the unexpected passing of Patrick Warn Lee - son, friend and continuing inspiration. Pat lived with schizophrenia and received treatment from several mental health providers in Western New York. Even with family and community supports, navigating the health care system and accessing appropriate services were at times difficult. Others with mental health conditions and their families face these same challenges every day. We are committed to changing this reality.

In 2017, we began implementing a new strategic plan introduced in late 2016. The plan allocated resources to advance our two priority areas of mental health and education. To guide our work, we identified five goals each with scalable opportunities that offer deep impact.

Part of a long range view, and inherent in our mental health grantmaking, is the intention to raise awareness, encourage public investment, and remove structural barriers to care. As these initiatives take root, we will move closer to our vision of a community that is well-informed about mental health, inclusive of individuals with mental illness, and served by high quality, accessible mental health services.

Our education investments included the expansion of our engineering scholarship program to two regional institutions, allowing us to grow the talent pool in Western New York. We also broadened our scholarships and learning opportunities to include mental health professionals. The aim of these efforts is to produce a vibrant engineering workforce and a strong mental health sector.

We know it takes many partners – *advocates, institutions of learning, providers and fellow funders* – to achieve our goals. We are grateful to those who have joined us on this journey and, going forward, we will continue to build on these partnerships and explore new avenues for collaboration.

Sincerely,



Patrick P. Lee
Founder



Jane M. Mogavero
Executive Director



Foundation Goals

As a result of a comprehensive strategic planning process, the Foundation identified five goals to guide our work in mental health and education.

GOAL 1:

Raise public awareness of mental health conditions, specifically serious mental illness

GOAL 2:

Increase and leverage public funding for mental health services

GOAL 3:

Develop and support a well-trained, experienced mental health workforce capable of meeting the needs of the community

GOAL 4:

Increase the number of engineers and skilled technicians in the workforce

GOAL 5:

Provide access to post-secondary education and training opportunities that lead to economic self sufficiency



Mental Health

GOAL 1:

Raise public awareness of mental health conditions, specifically serious mental illnesses

GOAL 2:

Increase and leverage public funding for mental health services

Changing Attitudes About Mental Health

A mental illness is a disease that causes mild to severe disturbances in thought and/or behavior, resulting in an inability to cope with life's ordinary demands and routines. **Each year, one in five Americans experiences a mental illness and half of all chronic mental illnesses begin by age 14.** Despite their prevalence and far reaching impact, mental illnesses are often misunderstood and stigmatized.

As with other health conditions, outcomes are better with earlier diagnosis and treatment. Unfortunately, there are many barriers to care including availability and affordability of services and lack of understanding about mental illness. Discrimination and stigma associated with mental health issues also deter individuals from seeking treatment and hold others back from offering help. **In 2017, nearly 60% of people with a mental health condition did not receive care. And for those who did, the average delay between onset of symptoms and treatment was ten years.**

Mental illness is a community health issue that requires community action. **We know that with proper diagnosis and treatment people with mental illnesses can lead healthy and productive lives.** The Lee Foundation is proud to partner with organizations - treatment providers, educational institutions, news media outlets and advocates - to improve the lives of people with mental illness. Together we are raising awareness of mental illnesses,

building our community's mental health literacy, and fostering a supportive environment focused on positive mental health.

Opportunity 1: Expand our community's mental health knowledge and helping behaviors

Mental Health "First Aid" - Community Training on Mental Illness

As a community, we need to be better informed about mental health issues. To provide people and organizations an opportunity to learn more about mental illnesses, the Lee Foundation funded Mental Health First Aid through Compeer Buffalo. The 8-hour evidence based course teaches participants how to identify risk factors and warning signs for mental health and addiction concerns.



Just as CPR training helps a person with no clinical expertise assist an individual whose breathing or heart has stopped, Mental Health First Aid helps a person assist someone experiencing a mental health crisis. Participants learn the skills they need to reach out and provide initial help and support to someone who may be developing or experiencing a mental health or substance use problem.

The program has been shown to improve the mental health of the individual administering the care and the one receiving it. Also, by strengthening the community's mental health literacy, the stigma associated with mental illnesses is reduced.

Mental Health

OPPORTUNITY 2: Support in-depth and comprehensive media coverage of mental health issues

WBFO Dives Deep on Mental Health News Coverage

News media can be a primary source of information for the public, so it is imperative that journalists deliver the content in a well-balanced, thorough manner. In partnership with WNED/WBFO, the Lee Foundation launched the Mental Health Initiative. This two-year project provides journalists the resources and opportunity to examine the mental health care system, initiate public debate, challenge stereotypes and highlight stories of people who are successfully dealing with mental health issues. To provide guidance in identifying the key mental health issues in our community as well as to answer questions related to specific mental health stories, an advisory council was created. Members of the council include: Michael Cummings, MD (Associate Medical Director, ECMC), Howard Hitzel, PsyD (President and CEO, BestSelf Behavioral Health), Jessica Pirro (CEO, Crisis Services) and Karl Shallowhorn, MS, CASAC (Director, Therapy.Live).

OPPORTUNITY 3: Partner with providers, advocates and thought leaders to start a community dialogue about mental health

“WNED/WBFO is proud to partner with the Lee Foundation to educate the general public about mental health issues and overcome the lack of understanding that stigmatizes those living with mental health conditions.”

– Donald K. Boswell
President & CEO, WNED/WBFO

Join the Conversation on Mental Health

The Erie County Anti-Stigma Coalition was founded by a group of mental health providers, foundations and community advocates with the shared goal of changing attitudes surrounding mental health conditions. The Lee Foundation partnered with the Coalition to launch “Join the Conversation,” an awareness campaign committed to increasing awareness, understanding, and acceptance of those living with mental health illnesses. The campaign provides resources for those seeking help, opportunities for community education and a forum for people living with mental health conditions to share their struggles and successes.

Founding Members of the Erie County Anti-Stigma Coalition



Mental Health/ Education

GOAL 3:

Develop a well-trained, experienced mental health workforce

Investing in Mental Health Professionals

Ensuring that our community has a well-trained, experienced mental health workforce is at the intersection of the Lee Foundation's two focus areas of mental health and education.



Western New York, like many other parts of the United States, has a serious shortage of mental health professionals. **In fact, seven of the eight counties in our region are designated by the federal government as mental health professional shortage areas; two of the counties do not have any practicing psychiatrists.** As community awareness of mental health issues grows and people are supported in their efforts to receive treatment, there will be greater demand for high quality, accessible mental health services and the current shortage will become even more critical.

Opportunity 1: Build a pipeline of mental health practitioners

Scholarships for Medical Students Specializing in Psychiatry

The Lee Foundation is dedicated to creating opportunities in Western New York for students training in psychiatry. By partnering with the University at Buffalo Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences, we are providing scholarships for medical students who are committed to psychiatry and to remaining in Western New York. Going forward, we will expand our efforts and support to other mental health professions.

“The Lee Foundation Scholarship allows me to remain in the community that raised me and to give back to it by providing essential mental health care to those in need.”

– James L. Thompson III, UB medical student



James L. Thompson III, Lee Scholarship recipient



Mental Health/ Education

Opportunity 2: Support continued education and professional development opportunities for mental health professionals

While the long term goal is to increase the number of mental health professionals, it is imperative that the capacity of mental health providers be strengthened and additional supports be provided to keep them engaged and advancing in their careers. We sought to understand the community needs so we invested time in speaking with local agencies and conducted a survey to determine the desired learning opportunities and topics. Something unexpected emerged from the conversations. Besides professional development for mental health professionals, there was great need for basic mental health training for staff at safety-net organizations. Although many of their clients live with a mental illness, the staff often had limited, if any, experience and/or training in mental health. To best address this issue, we created two distinct programs - one with community-wide reach and a second that provided grant funding to address more specific training needs of organizations.

Mental Health Professional Development Training Series

In partnership with D'Youville College, we created the Lee Professional Development Series, a free continuing education program for mental health workers. The year-long series launches in

“The Lee Foundation funded essential training and support to our staff so they can be as effective as possible when serving our clients with a mental health diagnosis.”

*– Marlies Wesolowski, Executive Director
Lt. Col. Matt Urban Human Services Center*

spring 2018 and will feature topics and trainings recommended by local mental health providers. National and local instructors will work with participants to sharpen their clinical skills and position them for professional growth and advancement within their agencies.

Professional Development Small Grants Program

For many nonprofits, finding funds for professional development programs can be difficult. To address this need, the Lee Foundation created the Professional Development Small Grants Program. In 2017, we awarded grants to a variety of mental health and human services organizations that provide direct support to people with mental illness.

Education

GOAL 4:

Increase number of skilled engineers and technicians

GOAL 5:

Provide access to training opportunities that lead to self-sufficiency

Positioning Students for Professional Success

Supporting education, particularly in engineering and technical fields, has long been the cornerstone of the Foundation's education platform. Economic self-sufficiency is the driving force behind our scholarships which position students for financial and professional success in high-demand fields. The rising costs of post-secondary education negatively impacts students' financial stability after graduation. The goal is to support students so they complete their schooling on time with minimal, if any, student loans.

Opportunity: Support scholarships for students pursuing post-secondary education in the Foundation's interest areas of engineering and other technical degrees



Patrick P. Lee with Jessica Rozycki, first Lee Scholarship recipient now serving as an ambassador for the Foundation

Engineering and Technical Scholarship Program

This scholarship program focuses on fostering an engineering and technical mindset while preparing students for the workforce. We give priority to students from middle class households, who often do not qualify for need-based financial aid but still struggle to meet rising tuition costs.



Ashley Kosak, Lee Scholarship recipient at RIT

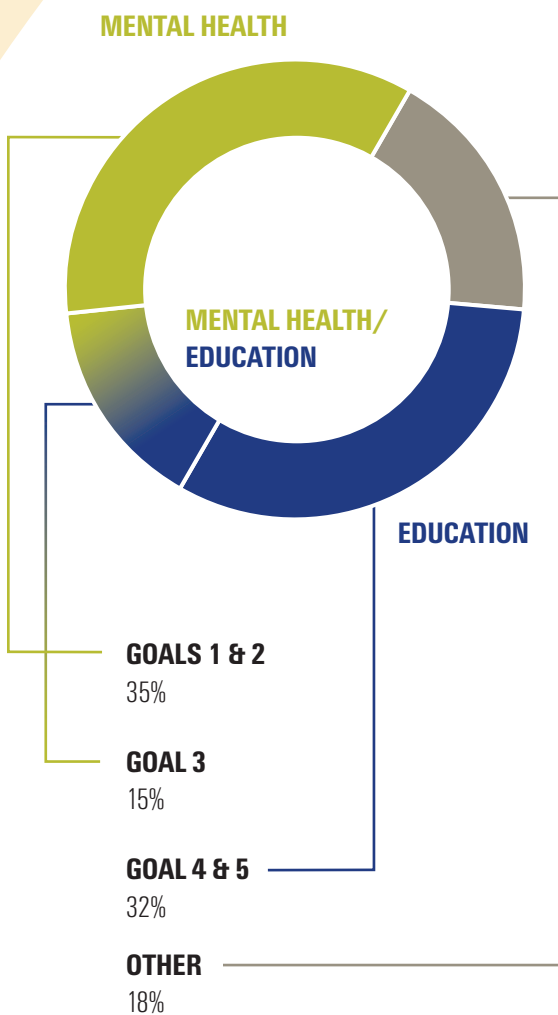
The Lee Foundation's largest and longest-standing scholarship program is with Saint Louis University, Patrick P. Lee's alma mater. In 2017, we expanded our engineering scholarship to Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT) and the University of Rochester. Working with these two regional schools allowed us to honor our Buffalo

roots by prioritizing students from Western New York.

“The Lee Foundation helped me obtain my degree in engineering and secure a job right after graduation. I have the opportunity to work on exciting problems that require innovative solutions.”

*– Jessica Rozycki
First Lee Scholarship recipient at St. Louis University,
Class of 2012*

Funding at a Glance



2017 Grants By Goal

GOALS 1 & 2

- BestSelf Behavioral Health - *Merger between Lakeshore Behavioral Health and Child & Adolescent Treatment Services*
- Compeer Buffalo - *Mental Health First Aid*
- Crisis Services - *Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Training*
- Erie County Anti-Stigma Coalition - *Join The Conversation Awareness Campaign*
- WNED/WBFO - *Mental Health Initiative*

GOAL 3

- Buffalo City Mission - *Professional Development Grant*
- D'Youville College - *Mental Health Professional Development Training Series*
- Gateway-Longview - *Professional Development Grant*
- Homespace Corp. - *Professional Development Grant*
- Jericho Road Community Health Center - *Professional Development Grant*
- Lt. Col. Matt Urban Human Services Center of WNY - *Professional Development Grant*
- Mental Health Association of Erie County - *Professional Development Grant*
- New Hope CORPS - *Professional Development Grant*
- University at Buffalo Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences - *Scholarships for Students Pursuing Psychiatry*

GOALS 4 & 5

- Erie Community College - *Scholarship Program*
- Horatio Alger - *Scholarship Program*
- Rochester Institute of Technology - *Engineering Scholarships*
- Say Yes Buffalo - *Engineering Scholarships*
- St. Louis University - *Engineering Scholarships*
- University of Rochester - *Engineering Scholarships*



Patrick P. Lee Foundation Board of Directors

2017 Board of Directors

- Patrick P. Lee - *Chairman*
- David C. Hohn, M.D.
- David C. Horan, Esq.
- Robert J. Lane, Jr., Esq.
- Christopher J. Lee
- Cynthia R. Lee
- Michele R. Lee
- Jennifer Lee McNamara
- Barbara R. Rhee
- John W. Rhee, M.D.
- Lee C. Wortham

The Patrick P. Lee Foundation

The Patrick P. Lee Foundation is a family foundation based in Buffalo, N.Y. with two key investment areas - mental health and post-secondary education with an emphasis on mental health, engineering and technical fields.

2017 Grant Committee Members

- Jennifer Lee McNamara - *Chair*
- Michele R. Lee - *Vice-Chair*
- David C. Hohn, M.D.
- Cynthia R. Lee
- Arthur Michalek, Ph.D.
- Ann Monroe
- Barbara R. Rhee
- John W. Rhee, M.D.



Kelly McNamara and Jennifer Lee McNamara, Board Member, attend a press conference for Join the Conversation



5166 Main Street, Suite 303
Williamsville, NY 14221
p. 716.844.3100
www.Lee.Foundation

 Follow us on Twitter: @PPLeeFoundation

 Like our Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/ppleefoundation/>

Photos courtesy of Compeer Buffalo, D'Youville College and the University at Buffalo