

40

UNDER FORTY

PRESENTED BY

BERKSHIRE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Thursday, March 27, 2025 • Robert Boland Theatre

www.berkshirecc.edu/40underforty for tickets

2025

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When the Berkshire County 40 Under Forty awards were created in 2016, we had a simple goal: to honor the ways young people improve the quality of life here in the Berkshires. From these humble beginnings grew a truly noteworthy annual event, as evidenced by the fact that we received more than 300 nominations this year. Our seven judges had a monumental task of awarding fewer than 14% of the nominees from a pool of diverse and impressive candidates. It was not an easy task, but the result is a selection of 40 young people who are making their communities a better place. We couldn't ask for better role models.

In addition to honoring these special young leaders, 40 Under Forty is also an important fundraiser for Berkshire Community College. This year, the proceeds benefit the College's Workforce and Community Education programs, which not only empower students with the tools and knowledge they need to succeed in the Berkshire County job market, but also help local employers fill urgent hiring needs. Thanks to the support of these programs, our students are hired as CDL drivers, EMTs, paraprofessional educators, community health workers and certified nursing assistants, to name a few.

Making this event even more special, Mill Town Foundation has yet again provided an incredible gift: Each of the 40 winners will be provided \$1,000 to give to an eligible Berkshire-based nonprofit organization of their choice. The far-reaching effects of this act of generosity are extraordinary. Our local non-profits will receive a total of \$40,000 to help further their missions, while our award winners will be instilled with a respect for philanthropy and the personal empowerment it brings. This empowerment, in turn, can pave the way for a lifetime of philanthropic purpose for future generations of community leaders.

Oftentimes, the people who do the most for our communities are the quiet leaders – the ones who give so much of their time but ask for no recognition. It is my hope that 40 Under Forty can shine the spotlight on these young people, even just for a moment, to honor them for all they do to make our community a better place in which to live and work. It is my privilege to present the awards to these special young people, who come from all walks of life but have one common goal: to do good in this little corner of the world we hold so dear. Congratulations to all nominees and award recipients, and warm thanks to our sponsors, partners, judges and supporters of this meaningful celebration.

Ellen Kennedy
Ellen Kennedy
President, Berkshire Community College



Special thanks to our judges:

- Zorelly Cepeda Derieux***
Associate Director of Alumni Engagement for Affinity and Identity Connections, Williams College
- Meghan Donnelly***
Essential Needs Coordinator - Community/Outreach Counselor, Berkshire Community College
- Keifer Gammell***
Office Manager & Assistant to the Principal, Lanesborough Elementary; CEO & Artist of Vuronika Baked

- La Wanza Lett-Brewington**
Title IX Coordinator & Affirmative Action Officer, Berkshire Community College
- Lenny Light***
Executive Vice President, Lenco Armored Vehicles
- Jay Ogle**
AVP, Business Development Officer, Adams Community Bank
- Brian Seminara***
Technical Manager, General Dynamics Mission Systems

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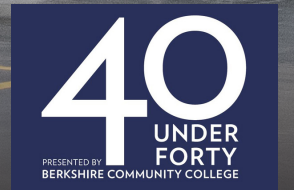
1Berkshire

* Previous 40 Under Forty winner **Sponsors as of publication printing

Congratulations to all of this year's 40 Under Forty honorees!
Thank you for your contributions to the Berkshires.

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The annual 40 Under Forty fundraiser supports immediate needs in Workforce Education, including scholarships, cutting-edge classrooms, and emergency financial aid, while also contributing to a long-term endowment fund dedicated to sustaining these vital programs. Workforce development at BCC equips students with the skills and training they need to excel in fields like STEM, nursing, entrepreneurship, and community services—ensuring their success in the Berkshire County job market and beyond.

Together, we're building a stronger, more dynamic workforce for our community.

Thursday, March 27, 2025
5:00 p.m.

Robert Boland Theatre
Berkshire Community College
1350 West Street
Pittsfield, MA 01201

Tickets: \$75/person
Includes reception with catering by
Mazzeo's Ristorante and open bar.

Tickets now on sale! Purchase at www.berkshirecc.edu/40underforty.





Melissa Agosto

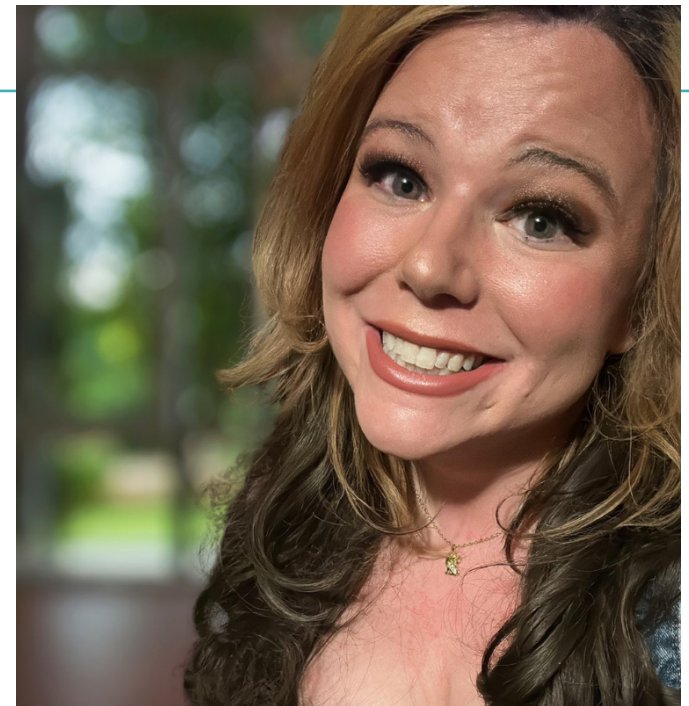
Director of Finance, Austen Riggs Center

I strive to make the Berkshires a better place by combining my professional expertise with my passion for supporting the community. As the Director of Finance at the Austen Riggs Center, I work to ensure the financial stability of an organization dedicated to help people take charge of their lives. Beyond my professional role, I am deeply involved in the community. As a Girl Scouts Troop Leader, I help young girls build confidence, leadership skills, and a sense of community. Serving on the board of the Berkshire Children's Chorus allows me to support an inclusive environment where young voices, including my daughter's, can thrive. In addition, I serve as a Lee Bank Corporator. By combining my skills and passions, I aim to make the Berkshires a more vibrant, supportive, and inspiring place to live, work, and play.

Abigail Anne Allard

Development & Communications Manager, Gladys Allen Brigham Community Center

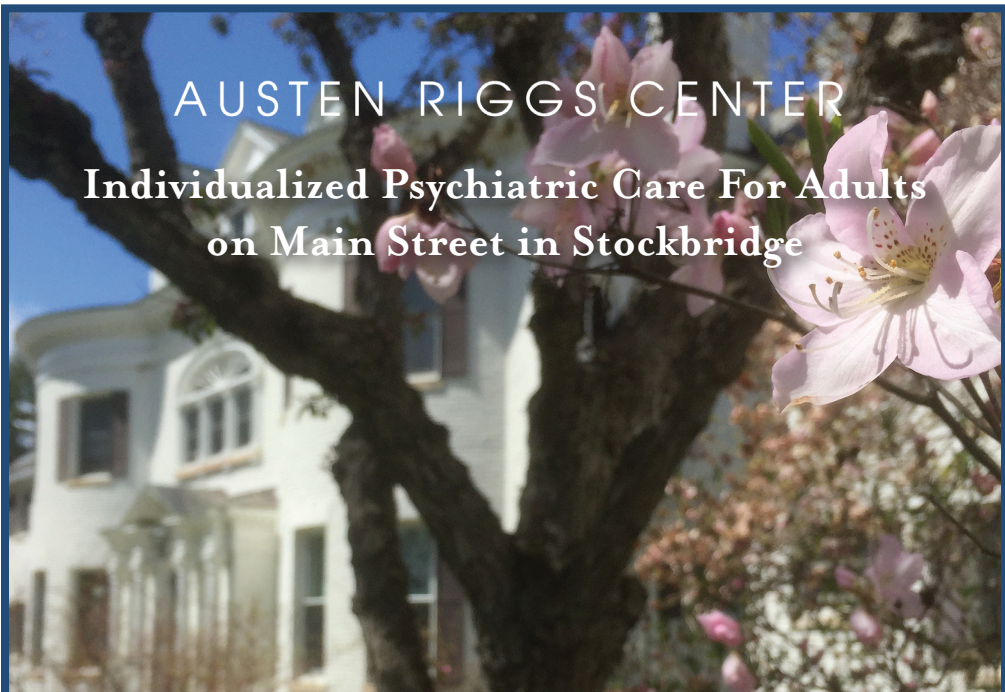
Through my professional work and personal dedication, I've focused on empowering individuals and strengthening the Berkshire community. As a leader in youth development, I've supported programs that address challenges faced by youth, their families, and adults with special needs. My work with the Gladys Allen Brigham Community Center has created opportunities for young people to thrive, offering tools for self-advocacy, leadership, and belonging. I've helped deliver initiatives that bridge gaps in education, foster equity, and inspire confidence, especially in young women. Personally, I am committed to uplifting my community through volunteerism, mentorship, and creating connections that promote growth. Whether organizing community-driven events, coaching, or supporting families and individuals with unique needs, I aim to ensure that everyone has the opportunity to succeed. By fostering a culture of inclusion, I'm helping to make the Berkshires a stronger and more vibrant place.



Christian Alan Bianchi

CEO, Berkshire Family YMCA

This feels like an award that my entire family deserves. My father, mother, aunts and uncles showed me how to live a good life. My wife and children make me want to be the best version of myself. The recognition of the work we have done in our community is wonderful. I have not personally made the Berkshires a better place to live, work and/ or play; it takes village. This is a special place. Our community has embraced us, and our impact is only as great as the people we've worked with. While at Brien Center, our team helped to raise money and awareness for mental health and substance use disorder, making the lives of people better. We've volunteered many hours coaching multiple sports teams and teaching children the fundamentals of life through sport. At the Y, our goal every day is to make people's lives more fulfilling and healthier. We've started new programs and we've given back to the community. We had a great year and 2025 is going to be even better. Thank you for this award.



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Congratulations to all of the
40 Under Forty Honorees,
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Melissa Agosto!



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that supports our work helping
individuals achieve their career
goals through comprehensive
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Kate DeWolf

Certified Nurse Midwife,
Berkshire OB/GYN & Associates

As a midwife and native of this community, I'm proud to have positively impacted the lives of many in the Berkshires. Over the past 13 years as a Certified Nurse Midwife, I've had the privilege of working with individuals through some of life's most vulnerable and transformative moments. From birth to new parenthood, I've seen firsthand how crucial connection is – to our community and to one another. By meeting people where they are, I've built meaningful relationships that empower birthing individuals, support new parents, and offer guidance through life's challenges. It's been a joy to uplift and encourage others, knowing that the care and compassion we share can make a lasting difference in their lives.



Dr. Ashley Nicole Clancy-Gagnon

Audiologist, Berkshire Medical Center

Previously, to receive care for surgical hearing devices, cochlear implant recipients were traveling up between 1-3.5 hours depending on the manufacturer. Now, they and potential candidates can see me at Berkshire Medical Center Hearing and Balance Center, where we see all makes, models, and manufacturers. This past year we have had 4 activations with about 7 surgeries and activations planned for the next year.

Marina Dominguez

Community Coordinator, Downtown Pittsfield; Founder, Katunemo Art Collective; Owner, MARU Studio & Art

Living and working in the Berkshires has given me a chance to connect with so many incredible people and contribute to the community in ways that feel deeply meaningful. As a youth worker, artist, and community organizer, I focus on creating opportunities that bring people together, especially by amplifying the voices of immigrants and celebrating our rich cultural diversity. Whether it's organizing art exhibitions that tell powerful personal stories, or mentoring emerging artists, my goal is always to make art and culture something everyone can feel a part of. I've also had the privilege of supporting small businesses and immigrant entrepreneurs, helping them navigate challenges, find resources, and thrive in our community. For me, it's about creating spaces where people feel safe to express themselves, share their stories, and grow alongside one another being successful in the Berkshires.





Grace L. Enchill

Attorney, Heller & Robbins PC

Accessing legal help and navigating the legal system can be a daunting task. I feel privileged to support and guide members of our community as they purchase their first home, realize dreams for their business, or plan for their family’s future. My firm has a history of representing impactful nonprofits, being proponents of development, and building meaningful connections with our clients. I view this work as vital to strengthening our community. I have had many great mentors in my ten years as a Berkshire County resident, from my former teaching colleagues to the rockstar women at Heller & Robbins to generous friends. I pay that time and effort people have invested in me forward by volunteering with organizations like 18 Degrees that foster these bonds (shout out to my mentee) and groups who welcome new folks like the Berkshire Bar’s Young Lawyers.



Samantha Farella

Reading Specialist, Pittsfield Public Schools

Since 2010, I have been dedicated to teaching elementary-aged children in the Berkshires. Currently, as a reading specialist with Pittsfield Public Schools, I support students from K\ kindergarten through fifth grade. I am deeply committed to the belief that every child has the potential to become a successful reader, and I am determined to ensure they achieve that right. Using research-based strategies and a multisensory approach, I work closely with our most struggling learners, empowering them to grow into confident and capable readers. I also organize and lead a variety of family and community literacy events to strengthen the connection between school and home, fostering a collaborative environment that supports student learning and growth. By fostering a love for reading and equipping children with essential literacy skills, I am helping to open doors to brighter futures and contributing to a more vibrant and educated community in the Berkshires.



Luke Fitzgerald

Case Coordinator, Massachusetts Department of Mental Health;
Founder/Executive Director, Love of T

Today I am known as an advocate for mental health and the founder of Love of T, a peer to peer suicide prevention organization that has positively impacted many, which I founded in 2021 after the tragic and unexpected loss of my mother to suicide. Although I have not always been the person I am today, I have made the Berkshires a better place through my resiliency and pride myself on being a power of example. In my younger years I was carefree and floated through life without purpose, until I was forced to tackle my own substance use and mental health issues. I make it a point to be loud and proud to be a person in recovery and to show others that regardless of what has happened in the past, a beautiful future can be created.



Mystie Ford

Fraud and Loss Prevention Officer, Greylock Federal Credit Union

I make the Berkshires a better place by providing community members with the tools and knowledge to thrive. In my role at Greylock I have helped numerous members through challenging times while working to raise fraud awareness. I strive to be the best leader I can be to help others by taking leadership courses and being a member of the Dulye Leadership Experience. My husband and I own the American Powerlifting Association (APA) where we provide powerlifting athletes a safe, inclusive, and encouraging environment to compete. I believe in striving to be the best version of myself so I can inspire and uplift others. By keeping my glass full, I can help fill the glasses of those around me.



Kelly Galvin

Program Director, Community Access to the Arts

I believe in the power of the arts to create and strengthen community. I have been so enriched by the wealth of arts and culture in the Berkshires, and I want everyone in our community who's passionate or curious about the arts to have access to those experiences. At CATA, I work with an amazing team to create inclusive, accessible arts experiences for artists with disabilities across Berkshire County, and I collaborate with our performing artists to share their work with the public in CATA's Annual Performance. At Shakespeare & Company, I have worked as a director and teacher, and have loved helping empower students to express themselves with confidence and clarity through Shakespeare's works. I especially love the opportunities I have as a theater director to assemble audiences across a range of ages, backgrounds, and abilities. To me, there's nothing more magical than our community coming together to experience a great story.



Christopher L. Hantman

College and Career Readiness Coordinator, BART Charter Public School

I value connection and hope it resonates throughout my professional and personal work. Whether it be connecting students to career and educational growth opportunities, booking artists for community events, or connecting those in need with community resources that can support them, connection is something I value and hope to embody in all that I do. I have a strong belief that every person has something to contribute, and I enjoy helping them to realize their potential. For seven years I ran an all-volunteer music promotion group that booked over 100 concerts across the North Berkshires, providing opportunities for artists to showcase their art and a space for patrons to connect and build community. I have also worked in education for 10 years, working for eight years in student affairs to help facilitate student volunteerism, and in the last two years I have worked to support local high school students in pursuing college and career goals.

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Kelly Galvin

CATA Program Director
& 40 Under Forty Honoree!

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BRPC

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Luke Fitzgerald, Mystie Ford, Lyndsey Wadsworth

Your selection widens the DLE
40 Under Forty winner's circle to **19!**

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10 2025 40 Under Forty Awards



Dan Hudson

Executive Director, Images Cinema

Since I have moved to the Berkshires to be the Executive Director of Images Cinema, the organization has made great strides to rebuild and expand audiences with a broader range of festivals, series, and screenings throughout the year. We have also expanded our programming beyond film with events and workshops in our new Lounge. My approach to arts organizations is a perfect fit with Images Cinema, where our approach is to invite the public in to co-curate and collaborate, fostering an engaged community and sense of belonging. Plus, one of my career dreams was to run an art house movie theater in a college town, and I achieved that dream before I turned 40!



Michael Jefferson

Family Medicine Physician Assistant, Community Health Programs

I believe everyone regardless of race, gender, sexual preference, or socioeconomic status should have fair and equal access to good healthcare. I hope to provide this by meeting people where they are, out in the community. It has been my goal while working on the Mobile Health Unit (MHU) to make healthcare more accessible to the residents of Berkshire County by removing the barriers to access. The MHU has continued to adapt to the growing needs of the Berkshire County residents by providing primary care, urgent care, vaccinations, and education to some of our most vulnerable residents.



Darci Hess

Senior Marketing & PR Specialist,
General Dynamics Mission Systems

Community and economic development are the heartbeat of a thriving region. They create opportunities, foster growth, and ensure that everyone feels connected. When I began my career in the Berkshires, I had grandiose dreams of making an impact – and I hope I have. Working with the Berkshire Leadership Program and 1Berkshire allowed me to be part of an incredible team that built solid networks among local leaders and organizations, creating pathways for collaboration to strengthen our community. Serving on the Berkshire Music School board allows me to help provide access to the transformative power of music education, enriching lives and promoting creativity and emotional well-being across generations. And at General Dynamics, we recruit local talent, advocate for STEAM education, and contribute to long-term economic growth. Everything I do is driven by a commitment to ensuring the Berkshires remain a vibrant, innovative place where future generations will thrive.

Kevin P. Kelly

Founder & CEO, After Hours Hospitality, LLC

Through the launching of my business, After Hours, I have created a business model that fundamentally changes the way business is done. By changing the dynamic of the competitive landscape in the local food industry, we are able to foster a sense of collaboration over competition. In recognition of the struggles and challenges that not only food businesses face, but also our local economy, After Hours has laid the groundwork to allow for businesses to mutually benefit from each other. By recognizing our own comparative advantages within varying industries, we can recreate and reimagine what a Berkshires economy can be.



Matthew Edward Kosiorek

Program Director, College Internship Program

As the Program Director at the College Internship Program (CIP) in Lee, I have dedicated my career the past 14 years to empowering neurodivergent individuals and making a positive impact on our Berkshire community for students, families, staff, and community members. Our students are involved in internships and/or employment, with over 30 local partnerships throughout Berkshire County. Additionally, we provide programming for these young adults with their post secondary goals, many of whom choose to stay and reside in the Berkshires. Our CIP team strives to deliver exceptional care by collaborating to promote a positive culture so that we can best meet the needs of our students and have successful integration of our CIP students within the Berkshire community. Beyond my professional role, I enjoy volunteering as a youth soccer and basketball coach, serving on the Lee Chamber of Commerce, and fundraising for local organizations by participating in running events through the BRF.

Hayden Kuhn

President, Thunderbolt Ski Runners (TSR); Pharmacist, Berkshire Community Pharmacy

Native to Berkshire County and now living in Lee, I'm passionate about supporting our community by being a steward of public land. I am most proud of my accomplishments volunteering with Thunderbolt Ski Runners as Treasurer and President. We utilize over 400 volunteer hours and member donations each year to build and maintain 20+ miles of trails in Mt Greylock Reservation and Greylock Glen in Adams. We continue the 90-year legacy of the Thunderbolt Ski Trail by yearly brush cutting the 1.5-mile, 2,000-foot backcountry run. We utilized Mass Trails grants to improve our existing hand-built, singletrack mountain bike network and created the county's first machine-built, bike-optimized beginner trail. We host the 30-mile, 4,000-foot Greylock Go Around Mountain Bike Fundraiser. These accomplishments allow thousands of both county residents and tourists a pristine trail network to use during all four seasons starting at the base of Massachusetts' tallest mountain.





Gabriela Elaine Leon

Outreach Coordinator/Recovery Coach, Berkshire Health Systems (Berkshire Connections)

As an outreach coordinator and recovery coach for Berkshire Connections, I bring a unique blend of professional expertise and lived experience to support individuals on their path to recovery. My personal journey equips me with a deep understanding of the challenges faced by those struggling with addiction, while my professional role allows me to guide them with empathy and practical solutions. By building trust, fostering resilience, and connecting clients to vital resources, I help empower individuals to rebuild their lives and strengthen their communities. My work focuses on creating opportunities for personal growth, reducing stigma, and advocating for equitable access to services. This commitment not only improves the quality of life for those I serve, but also contributes to a healthier and more compassionate Berkshires, where everyone has a chance to thrive.

Cheryl Lynn Martin

SVP Consumer Banking, Lee Bank

I've been fortunate to contribute to the Berkshires thanks to many people that have provided me the opportunity. I've had the privilege of supporting local students on their educational journeys through Dollars for Scholars. As a tennis coach, I've enjoyed sharing my passion for the sport and hopefully instilling some valuable life lessons in those I have worked with. I've also cherished the opportunities to connect with others in the community as a team member working in the Berkshires for the past 14 years. I believe that even small contributions can make a big difference, and I'm grateful for the chance to have played a part in making the Berkshires a better place.



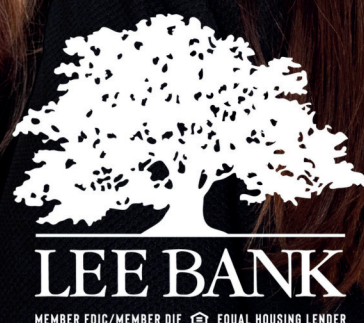
Michael Massery

Owner/Head Coach, The Infield

In 2011, I opened The Infield, a multi-sport indoor facility designed to help young athletes sharpen their skills, master the fundamentals, and build confidence. As a lifelong resident, I grew up participating in the very same programs I now support – such as Pittsfield Little League and American Legion Baseball – which played a crucial role in shaping me both as an athlete and a person. The Infield has become an essential resource, especially during the winter months, providing year-round training that enables local athletes to remain competitive. My approach to coaching emphasizes long-term development over short-term wins. It's truly an honor to watch young players grow, extend their careers to the varsity and collegiate levels, and often return to The Infield as coaches themselves. Having grown up in this community, I am deeply committed to ensuring that future generations have the resources and support they need to pursue and achieve their goals – both on and off the field.

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Thank you for
inspiring us all!

Brandy L. McKie

First Vice President, Retail Banking, Lee Bank

After graduating from college, I always knew the Berkshires was where I wanted to be. I was drawn to living and working in a community that had given me so much over the years. My goal was to join a local company that aligned with my values, challenged me professionally, and inspired me to contribute meaningfully to both the job and the community. I wanted to support the well-being of employees who, like me, chose to make their lives here. For nearly 15 years at Lee Bank, I've been privileged to have a platform to volunteer throughout Berkshire County and serve as a board member for the Central Berkshire Habitat for Humanity. This role, in particular, fills me with pride, knowing we're helping create homes that enable families to remain in the Berkshires.



Cailin McMahon

Special Education Teacher, Branches School of the Berkshires

While living in the Berkshires, I have been able to make a positive contribution to the community in several ways. Professionally, I make a positive impact on the community by providing an engaging and therapeutic educational environment to help children develop and maintain a better quality of life. I am able to collaborate with families and fellow educators to develop educational plans that support and increase daily living and communication skills. Most recently, I worked with my students and fellow educators to collect resources for a food and toy drive for those in need to promote a sense of togetherness and enhance educational opportunities.

Christina Meucci

Owner, The Recovery Room

As the founder of a sports medicine facility, my mission is to treat our local active community with the same standard of care as professional athletes. Part of this mission is to partner with our local communities who may not view themselves as athletes, but deserve quality compassionate care for their injuries, like veterans, PPD, PFD, Sheriff's Department, Hillcrest Educational, Barrington Stage Company, Jacob's Pillow, and many more. As a role model, mentor, coach, and Girls Inc. board member, I want to empower our younger generation to pursue their calling, while developing and practicing strong core values. I am deeply committed to the belief that everyone, regardless of their background, deserves to be treated like an athlete – with the utmost care and respect for their body's potential.



Tiffany Moreno

Program Manager, Berkshire Community College

During my time at Berkshire Community College, I have had the privilege of contributing to efforts aimed at addressing workforce gaps and supporting the economic growth of Berkshire County. By collaborating with reputable organizations such as MassHire, County Ambulance, Berkshire AHEC, and others, I have played a key role in designing and implementing training programs that align with the unique needs of our community. Beyond my professional contributions, I actively engage in mentorship with Latinas413 and community leadership roles with Berkshire United Way to promote inclusivity and support personal growth among Berkshire County residents. These experiences have strengthened my ability to build meaningful relationships with residents, employers, and local organizations, fostering collaboration and positive change.



Mary R. Morrison

Math Teacher, Pittsfield High School

As a Pittsfield High School math teacher, I dedicate my energy to creating a positive and supportive environment where students can grow into compassionate and capable individuals. As an advisor of the Rotary Interact Club, I help to guide students in meaningful community projects that help those in need and make a difference in our community, including running Best Buddies, where we promote inclusion and build meaningful friendships to ensure everyone feels valued. Through my work in education, community service, and volunteering, I strive to enhance the quality of life for others and help make the Berkshires a better place to live, work, and thrive.

LaTonia Morton

Behavioral Intervention Paraprofessional, Pittsfield Public Schools

As a devoted champion for Berkshire County's youth, I've supported local youth for 20+ years through professional and community initiatives. Professionally, I've served as a Behavioral Intervention Paraprofessional in Pittsfield Public Schools and worked in various youth centers and dance studios. I support and empower students to overcome obstacles and strive to achieve their goals. Through community initiatives, I've led a youth dance team in performing at various events throughout Berkshire County, including nursing homes, parades, block parties, Third Thursdays, UPC telethons, and Breast Cancer Awareness charity functions, promoting community engagement. My goal is to continue supporting Berkshire County's next generations, ensuring they possess the skills and confidence to thrive and succeed. As a proud Berkshire resident, I believe every young person deserves access to opportunities, resources, and support to reach their full potential.





Bethany Prince-Malloy

Program Director, Family Center of Northern Berkshire, Child Care of the Berkshires Inc.

As a lifelong resident of Northern Berkshire County, I have been excited to support my community through my professional career at Child Care of the Berkshires. For the past 13 years at The Family Center of Northern Berkshire, my goal has been to empower families, helping them recognize their potential and become the strongest they can be. I developed a passion for assisting parents in navigating community resources so their families could thrive. Over the years, I have supported families by facilitating parent groups, home visiting, providing diapers, and offering a listening ear. I remain committed to assuring that Northern Berkshire County is a place where families are supported and strengthened by a dedicated team that shares my passion for this work and helps implement programs that allow families to flourish.

Adam Rice

CPA, Partner, Killeen Arace & Quinn PC

As a CPA, I support entrepreneurs, non-profits, and individuals by guiding them toward financial success while ensuring compliance with regulations. It's deeply rewarding to work with passionate clients whose efforts enhance and serve our community. Additionally, I proudly serve as the board chairman for Soldier On, an organization dedicated to ending veteran homelessness. As an Army veteran, this mission is especially meaningful to me, and I'm honored to contribute to improving the lives of those who have served our country.



Megan Rose

Attorney, Hilgers Graben

Life has thrown me curveballs, and not always in the best of ways, but I have learned from them, grown from them, and they have fostered the person I have become. Due to personal experiences, I have become an avid volunteer for Strong Little Souls, a Berkshire non-profit organization for pediatric cancer and brain tumors. The gratification from helping a family and child in need during their darkest hour is unmatched. Additionally, my 10-year career path at the Berkshire DA's office has allowed me to advocate for victims of crime at a time when they feel they have the weight of the world on their shoulders – at a time when they feel the system has failed them. I find solace in knowing I have the ability and means to help them through their trauma and to provide the support they need.



Heather Roy

Domestic Violence Specialist,
Department of Transitional Assistance

My previous work with the Elizabeth Freeman Center and now with the state has allowed me to support survivors of domestic violence in securing safe and stable housing, achieving financial independence, and finding a safe space to heal from trauma. These efforts have helped empower individuals to build more equitable and fulfilling lives. I am deeply grateful for the connections I've made within the community and local boards, which ensure that the needs of survivors and their families remain a priority and that their voices are always heard at the table.



**Berkshire Gas
applauds and
congratulates
the 2025 class of
40 Under Forty
nominees.**



berkshiregas.com

CONGRATULATIONS!

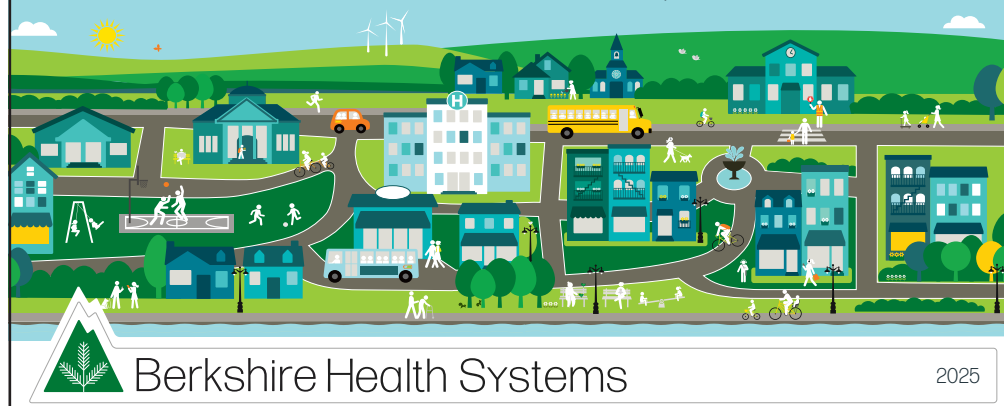
Your dedication, leadership, and expertise inspire us all.

DR. ASHLEY CLANCY-GAGNON
Berkshire Health Systems, BMC Audiologist

KATE DEWOLF
Berkshire Health Systems, Berkshire OB/GYN Associates,
Certified Nurse Midwife

HAYDEN KUHN
Berkshire Health Systems, Berkshire Community Pharmacy, Pharmacist

GABRIELA LEON
Berkshire Health Systems – Berkshire Connections Program,
Outreach Coordinator/Recovery Coach



**Congratulates all of the 2025
Berkshire County 40 Under Forty
Award winners!**

www.hillcrestec.org





WANDERING DANCE FESTIVAL

Visit milltownfoundation.org
for upcoming events!

MILLTOWN
FOUNDATION

Congratulations!

Congratulations to
our very own Mystie Ford,
and all of this year's 40 Under
Forty honorees on this
outstanding recognition.



GREYLOCK
FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

Insured by NCUA



Ryan Sears

Executive Director, Commonwealth Collaborative

I came to the Berkshires a decade ago seeking healing – and I found it. This extraordinary community embraced me with love, support, and the right services when I needed them most. Inspired by this generosity, I’ve dedicated my life to giving back and enhancing the quality of life for those living here. Professionally, I’ve been privileged to help build two great organizations supporting recovery from substance use and mental health challenges. Our mission is to expand essential services in Berkshire County, ensuring individuals receive the care they need. In my leadership role at Commonwealth Collaborative, an outpatient behavioral healthcare agency in Great Barrington, I focus on making compassionate, high-quality care accessible to all. Personally, I’m committed to advocating for a thriving community in which everyone has opportunities to succeed. My dream is for every neighbor in the Berkshires to access the innovative care and support they deserve.



Allen Scaccia

Project Manager, Senior Estimator, Thermo Expert

I have contributed to enhancing the Berkshires by improving the energy efficiency of numerous residential and commercial properties in our community with window replacements. My efforts have enabled residents and business owners to reduce their energy expenses while also making a positive impact on the environment. Additionally, my work improves not only the aesthetics of individual buildings but also enhances the overall appearance of neighborhoods ultimately increasing property values. Our teams are comprised entirely of local residents from Berkshires all of whom continue to live in our area. Additionally, I have contributed to our community through my ongoing volunteer work at St. Mark’s Church over the years, allowing me to positively impact those around me.



Taylor Staubach

Community Conservation Senior Manager, Berkshire Natural Resources Council;
Founder, Berkshire Family Hikes

“Roots down, wings out” – that’s how I see my work in the Berkshires. Through Berkshire Family Hikes and my role with the Berkshire Natural Resources Council, I’ve had the privilege of helping others feel the crunch of leaves underfoot, the joy of an autumn afternoon, and the whisper of a winding trail – all while working towards making our outdoor spaces more accessible for everyone. In the Berkshires, I wear many hats, but at the heart of it all, I’m a connector. Whether linking families to trails, spotlighting local businesses through stories, or building partnerships that unite people and ideas, my work is rooted in a deep love for this region and its people.



Mary Summers

Owner, Tommy's Compost Service

I am proud to call the beautiful Berkshires my home. After years of teaching middle school science, working in conservation, and piloting zero-waste programs, I have come to enjoy my work as the founder and owner of Tommy's Compost Service. Named after my young son Thomas, I work to save food waste from the trash and turn it into nutrient-dense soil. This process allows me to help my fellow neighbors and businesses reduce their waste while promoting a healthy future for Thomas and our community. In my spare time, I enjoy serving the Berkshires through various volunteer opportunities, such as chairing my hometown of Cheshire's Conservation Commission and representing five towns on the Municipal Recycling Facility (MRF) Advisory Board. I enjoy leading the writing team for the annual Reduce, Reuse, Recycle publication in the Berkshire Eagle, and I love providing guidance and mentorship through the local EForAll chapter. Suffice it to say, I am excited to see what the future has in store!



Jeanna L. Tinney

Founder & CEO, Romans 828, LLC

In all that I do, I am deeply inspired by the love and teachings of Christ and my mom – two foundational sources that have carried me throughout my life. I am honored and privileged to be called to serve, recognizing that we all have the potential to make a difference, no matter how small our actions may seem. My commitment to the Berkshires is rooted in doing all the good I can, in all the ways I can, and for all the people I can, as a reflection of who Christ is, while also honoring my own capacities and healthy boundaries. Whether I'm at the grocery store, with a client at the local jail, at church, or the baseball field, I actively seek out ways to serve. It is as simple as this: Jesus has commanded that I love others as I love myself. Perhaps some of the service I consider "small" are among the biggest things I have ever done.



Lyndsey Wadsworth

Systems Engineer, General Dynamics Mission Systems

I coached 7th-12th grade girls for four years at Mount Greylock, striving daily to make a difference by encouraging them to pursue further education, build confidence, and enjoy a stress-free environment where they could be their best selves. I believe my enthusiasm for the sport and positive attitude had a lasting impact on everyone I coached and worked with. At General Dynamics, I became actively involved in onboarding new hires, emphasizing the value of networking to enhance their roles. I encourage them to build connections and engage in opportunities outside the company, offering ideas on how they can make a difference beyond General Dynamics. Additionally, I have volunteered with the parks and rec department to clean up parks and participated in Clean Up North Street. I plan to remain in this area long-term, and my happiness depends on creating a positive environment for myself and those around me. By contributing to my community, I aim to make both my workplace and surroundings better for everyone.



Rebecca L. Wehry

Executive Director of Development,
Berkshire Community College

Through my work and personal life, I do my best to make the Berkshires a better place to live, work, and play. In my career in nonprofit development, I've focused on expanding access to education and cultural opportunities, whether at BCC, Buxton School, Simon's Rock, MASS MoCA, or Hancock Shaker Village. In these roles, I've taken on volunteer roles to help strengthen community connections, support efforts to keep employees in the Berkshires, and made sure these organizations are part of what makes the Berkshires so special. Personally, I've lived in the Berkshires my whole life. My husband and three stepkids inspire me to keep growing and giving back. We love going to cultural events and community happenings together, which helps us stay connected to this vibrant region. I'm also volunteering with the Berkshire Humane Society, helping animals and their future families in our community. I'm always looking for ways to build a place where everyone feels connected, supported, and valued.



 **BCC ALUMNI**

Jen H. Weber

EMS Director, Lanesborough Ambulance

I'd like to think that with the EMS service we have been able to provide, we have made our community as well as the communities around us a better place. We love our role in community outreach and working toward more positive interactions and patient outcomes. Our providers have been challenged and have responded in amazing ways with not only clinical skills but also with empathy and compassion.



 **BCC ALUMNI**

Andy Wrba

Program Director, Mill Town Foundation

Born and raised in Pittsfield, I've always felt a deep connection to the Berkshires and a commitment to giving back to the community that shaped me. Through my work at Mill Town Foundation, I've developed programs that celebrate and enhance the region, such as Common Ground and Wandering Dance Festival. As a musician, I've had the privilege of performing at leading venues across the region, including Tanglewood and FreshGrass Festival, collaborating with a multitude of artists to create moments of connection and joy. Whether I'm involved in community work or sharing music, my love for the Berkshires inspires everything I do to help this region continue to thrive.

Mill Town Foundation

Empowering Purposeful Giving

Mill Town Foundation is pleased to once again partner with Berkshire Community College (BCC) for the 2025 40 Under Forty Awards. The nonprofit sector is extensive and vital to the fabric of our community. Therefore, the role of philanthropy and charitable giving is of critical importance. Mill Town Foundation's philosophy of philanthropy is rooted in the belief that impact requires a thoughtful and holistic approach to giving. It goes beyond the mere act of charity, with an emphasis on collaboration, sustainability, and empowerment.

To promote and engender the spirit of philanthropy, Mill Town Foundation and BCC are thrilled that each 40 Under Forty Award winner will have the opportunity to re-grant \$1,000 to an eligible Berkshire-based nonprofit organization. We hope that this empowerment will lead to a lifetime of philanthropic engagement for the next generations of community leaders.

Melissa Agosto
Berkshire Childrens Chorus

Abigail Anne Allard
Gladys Allen Brigham Community Center

Christian Alan Bianchi
Community Access to the Arts (CATA)

Dr. Ashley Nicole Clancy-Gagnon
Berkshire Humane Society

Kate DeWolf
Berkshire Nursing Families

Marina Denise Dominguez
Berkshire Immigrant Center

Grace L. Enchill
18 Degrees

Samantha Farella
Love of T

Luke Fitzgerald
Love of T

Mystie Ford
No Paws Left Behind

Kelly Galvin
BRIDGE

Christopher L. Hantman
Popcares

Darci Hess
Berkshire Music School

Dan Hudson
Images Cinema

Michael Jefferson
Roots Rising

Kevin P. Kelly
Berkshire Bounty

Matthew Edward Kosiorek
Wildcat Sports Group

Hayden Kuhn
Roots Rising

Gabriela Elaine Leon
Safe Pet Program at Berkshire Humane Society

Cheryl Lynn Martin
Berkshire Humane Society

Michael Massery
Baseball in the Berkshires

Brandy L. McKie
18 Degrees

Cailin McMahon
Road Runners Club of America

Christina Meucci
Girls Inc. at the Gladys Allen Brigham Community Center

Tiffany Moreno
Latinas413

Mary R. Morrison
Berkshire United Way

LaTonia Morton
R.O.P.E.

Bethany Prince-Malloy
Child Care of the Berkshires Inc.

Adam Rice
No Paws Left Behind

Megan Rose
Strong Little Souls

Heather Roy
Elizabeth Freeman Center Inc.

Allen Scaccia
Gladys Allen Brigham Community Center

Ryan Sears
Berkshire Pride

Taylor Staubach
Berkshire Natural Resources Council

Mary Summers
Berkshire Agricultural Ventures

Jeanna L. Tinney
Berkshire Reign Youth Sports

Lyndsey Wadsworth
Elizabeth Freeman Center Inc.

Jen H. Weber
Western Mass Critical Incident Stress Managment

Rebecca L. Wehry
Berkshire Community College Foundation

Andy Wrba
Focus Is Our Children

*Thank
you
Mill Town
Foundation!*

MILL TOWN
FOUNDATION

Congratulations to last year's 40 Under Forty Awardees!

To see all previous winners, visit berkshirecc.edu/40underforty

Princewill E. P Abanulo	Jacob R. Dabrowski	Samantha Lee Kendall	Jordan E. Romeo
Ciana Barnaba	Olivia Daly	Christy Lemoine	Julia B. Sabourin
Scott Barschdorf	Izinna B. Degraffenried	Lenny Light	Allison Schmitt
Jessica Bartle	Emily Dominik	Sara Luciani	Brian Seminara
Christine Bile	Meghan Donnelly	Andre M.P. Lynch	Alicia Starsja
Meaghan J. Bresnahan	Paul Farella	Caitlin McKinnon	Colin D. Sykes
Josh M. Brilliant	Cameron Hadley	Jay Meczywor	Dr. Mark Taylor II
Andy B. Cambi	Dr. Sonja Haecker	Shawn Mille	Kristen Tool
Kalee Nicole Carmel	Sidney Hamilton	Brent Osborne	Crystal Wojcik
Zorelly Cristina Cepeda Derieux	Dr. Claire Horth	Khalil Kyle Paul	Julie L. Zdon

SAVE THE DATE!



Harvest Run

AT BERKSHIRE COMMUNITY COLLEGE



 **BERKSHIRE
COMMUNITY COLLEGE
FOUNDATION**

SAT. OCT. 18, 2025
5K RUN & KID'S FUN RUN



A FOUNDATION FOR SUCCESS.



The Berkshire Community College Foundation enhances our students' academic success by providing scholarship aid, programming support, and resources for food security. Additionally, the Foundation extends its support to workforce development and community education programming.

Currently, the Foundation manages over 180 scholarships totaling more than \$450,000 for BCC students. In the past 15 years, the Foundation has awarded in excess of \$2.5 million in scholarships to more than 2,200 students.

For more information about how you may support BCC or to discuss including BCC in your estate plan, please contact us at foundation@berkshirecc.edu or 413-236-2185.



www.berkshirecc.edu/foundation