



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Central New York Lyme & Tick-Borne Disease Alliance Expands Prevention, Education, and Advocacy Efforts into Cayuga County through Cayuga Community Fund Support

SYRACUSE, NY (July 10, 2026) — The Central New York Lyme & Tick-Borne Disease Alliance is proud to announce the expansion of its prevention, education, and advocacy programming into Cayuga County. This effort was made possible through a generous \$10,000 grant from the Cayuga Community Fund at the Central New York Community Foundation.

The Cayuga County expansion initiative represents a significant milestone in the Alliance's mission to reduce the incidence and impact of Lyme disease and other tick-borne illnesses throughout Central New York. Over the next year, the Alliance will partner with schools, libraries, municipalities, camps, employers, healthcare providers, and community organizations across Cayuga County to deliver evidence-based education, prevention resources, and public awareness initiatives designed to help residents stay safe from tick exposures while enjoying the outdoors.

"As tick populations and tick-borne diseases continue to increase across our region, expanding these important efforts into Cayuga County is both a strategic priority and a public health necessity," said Melissa Carr Rowe, Executive Director of the Central New York Lyme & Tick-Borne Disease Alliance. "We are incredibly grateful to the Cayuga Community Fund and the Central New York Community Foundation for investing in this effort. Their support will allow us to bring practical prevention education directly into additional communities where people live, learn, work, and recreate."

The program builds upon the Alliance's successful regional model, which has reached thousands of Central New Yorkers through community education, youth programming, healthcare provider training, and public awareness campaigns. The Alliance also recognizes the important role philanthropy plays in strengthening local communities.

Community organizations interested in hosting an educational presentation or partnering with the Alliance are encouraged to contact the organization at www.cnylymealliance.org to learn more.



About the Central New York Lyme & Tick-Borne Disease Alliance

Founded in 2019, the Central New York Lyme & Tick-Borne Disease Alliance is a regional nonprofit organization dedicated to preventing Lyme disease and other tick-borne illnesses through education, advocacy, and community engagement. Serving communities across Central New York, the Alliance provides public education, youth programming, healthcare provider training, patient support, public awareness campaigns, and collaborative partnerships that strengthen the region's response to tick-borne disease.

About the Cayuga Community Fund

The Cayuga Community Fund is a geographically specific fund administered by the Central New York Community Foundation. This philanthropic initiative is supported by the generosity of many donors committed to preserving and enhancing the quality of life for Cayuga County residents through a permanent charitable endowment. Each year, grants are awarded to support impactful programs in arts and culture, education, environment and animals, health, human services, and civic affairs.

About Central New York Community Foundation

The Central New York Community Foundation is a public charity established in 1927 that receives contributions from donors, manages them to grow over time and then distributes funding to local charities to help them thrive. It is the largest charitable foundation in Central New York with assets of more than \$366 million and has invested more than \$230 million in community improvement projects since its inception. As a grantmaker, civic leader, convener and sponsor of strategic initiatives, the Community Foundation strives to strengthen local nonprofits, encourage better understanding of the region and address the most critical issues of our time.

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