

McDermid Financial Group supports Community Missions



For the fourth consecutive year, McDermid Financial Group has stepped in to meet a holiday need at Community Missions' Aurora House. This year, it has provided a donation to purchase a new propane grill for the program.

"We are honored to be able to help such an important program once again this year," said Geoffrey McDermid, president and CEO of McDermid Financial Group. "We take seriously the responsibility to give back to our community. We feel that it is important that the youth at Aurora House know that there are people that they don't even know that believe in them and want the best for them, and we are humbled to be in a position to support that effort."

Located in Lockport, Aurora House is a community residence treatment program for youth ages 12-18 with mental health diagnoses. As many as eight youth may reside in the program simultaneously for up to one year while attending school, work, volunteer and recreational activities. Family reunification, when appropriate, is the program's goal.

"We are so appreciative of the support that McDermid Financial Group has continued to provide to Aurora House," said Marilee Clark, Community Missions' vice president of youth services. "It is encouraging to see a community partner commit to our program and, more importantly, the youth that we serve. Thank you to all of those at McDermid Financial Group for their support!"

Based in Buffalo, McDermid Financial Group was founded in 1978. It offers a full suite of financial planning services, including life insurance, disability income protection, retirement savings program, long-term care insurance and investment solutions.

Community Missions has provided the Niagara community with a wide range of vital services since 1925. In 2020, CMI provided over 197,000 meals and more than 11,000 nights of care within its crisis services programs. For more information, visit www.CommunityMissions.org.

Pictured, McDermid, left, presents a check to Michael Powers (right), senior family peer advocate at Community Missions' Aurora House.



Lewiston Dance brings holiday cheer to Niagara County

Lewiston Dance teams kicked off the holiday season by performing in the community.

The senior, junior and mini ensemble teams and mini competition team – clad in sparkly jackets and Santa hats – performed holiday-inspired dances at the Lewiston tree-lighting on Dec 3.

The next day, the senior, junior and mini ensemble teams performed on stage for the Niagara Falls Firefighters Christmas Toy Fund Telethon. The studio has been involved with this event since its inception.

On Dec. 5, all ensemble teams and the senior, teen, junior and mini teams took part in the Lewiston Christmas

Lights Parade. They lit up Center Street with a glowing float and outfits while performing to a holiday classic, "All I Want for Christmas is You" by Mariah Carey.

The mini and junior teams performed in blue costumes on the Niagara University Gallagher Center basketball court during halftime.

The final performance of the season was at the Fashion Outlets of Niagara. All the ensemble teams performed their festive numbers for holiday shoppers.

"We feel so lucky that we are able to perform for the community this year! Our dancers were so excited to perform for such wonderful audiences

since they worked so hard on these numbers," dance team coach Lauren Rogers said.

In addition to performances, Lewiston Dance Center collected donations for the Niagara River Region Chamber of Commerce to give to the Community throughout December.

"It is important for us to give back to the community," studio owner Rachel Novelli said. "It has been a tough few years for everyone, and we wanted to make sure we did our part in giving back."

Lewiston Dance offers classes for ages 2 and up in a variety of different styles. The studio is located at 781 Cayuga St.



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Now through the end of the football season, Niagara Frontier Publications wants your input in naming the area's best chicken wing joint. It could be a bar, a restaurant or a social club – the only requirements are that chicken wings are sold to the public from a locally headquartered joint.

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Name (Full): _____
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