



Operation SOS:

Support Operator Scholarships

June 2024 Fundraising Goal: **\$200,000**

Mission: Elevating Operators by creating sustainable and inclusive opportunities for access into the industry across New York state. Operator support reinforces our vital infrastructure and the strength of our communities.



DONATE

How You Can Help:

Individuals: Spread the word and donate what you can! Use the QR code at the left to donate via PayPal or credit card, go to the nywea-sos.org website to donate via the home page or send a check to the address at the bottom of the page!

Chapters: Add an extra box on your event registration forms with language such as “Would you like to donate an additional \$10 to Operation SOS: Support Operator Scholarships?” Use our QR codes on agendas, handouts or as table tents at your events. And, of course, spread the word!

Corporate Sponsorships: See the website for opportunities to support Operation SOS while also getting exposure for your company. If you don't see something that meets your needs, talk to Khris at khris@nywea.org.

The **Lucy Grassano Scholarship** invites one Operator from each Chapter to attend the Annual and Spring meetings at no cost as well as provides a stipend to assist with travel expenses.

Lucy Grassano was a principal administrative assistant at NYCDEP. If you were to ask anyone who knew her, Lucy always went out of her way to help any of the operators she engaged with, and their respect and admiration for each other was mutual. She was a mentor, friend, teacher and “mother” to many operations staff throughout the years. Everyone needs a coach; it is in this spirit that this scholarship is granted in her name.

“The Lucy Grassano Scholarship was a fantastic experience that gave me an opportunity to meet operators, vendors and regulators from across the state, and motivated me to become more active in NYWEA. It improved my career by broadening my perspective of wastewater treatment by learning from the presentations and establishing new contacts, and refreshing my passion for protecting our limited water resources.”

Craig Hurteau, Albany County

The **Brian Romeiser Scholarship** is awarded to 10 aspiring operators to assist with pre-certification training. These programs have successfully helped dozens of new members join the NYWEA family, and to be recognized as an integral part of our efforts to maintain the health and safety of our most precious resource, water!

Brian Romeiser was a certified Grade 4A operator who was a selfless and dedicated individual who spent his career helping to advance other operators and encouraging individuals to pursue water resource recovery careers. He served for a long time on the Genesee Valley Chapter Board of Directors.

Special Thanks to the Operation SOS working group:

Co-chairs Donna Grudier and Lisa Derrigan and members William Grandner, Joe Massaro, Dan O’Sullivan, Cinar Ackman and Matt Oster.

For more information contact Khris Dodson at khris@nywea.org
or visit the SOS website:

www.nywea-sos.org

