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**PRESS RELEASE** 

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## New York State Tool Company and the Believe 271 Foundation, Inc. launch new scholarship program

Utica, NY – New York State Tool Company and the Believe 271 Foundation, Inc. are pleased to announce a new scholarship program benefiting family members of volunteer firefighters and ladies auxiliary members. The new program, presented by Believe 271 and funded by New York State Tool Company, will begin accepting applications March 1. Completed applications, with supporting evidence, may be submitted through <u>www.believe271.com</u>.

The Believe 271 Scholarship, created in memory of Gregory Wilsey, has been designed to benefit those residing in Oneida and Herkimer counties who have been affected by Cancer. The goal of the scholarship is to support the needs of individuals as they progress through higher education.

"My wife, Lisa, and I wanted to create this scholarship in memory of my father, Greg, to celebrate and remember his love for the Mohawk Valley and to encourage those wanting to commence or further their education through college," said Matt Wilsey, President and Owner of New York State Tool Company.

Gregory Wilsey founded New York State Tool Company in 1976.

New York State Tool Company will fund two scholarships in June with the recipients receiving \$2,500 each in financial support through the Believe 271 Foundation, Inc.

"We couldn't be more pleased to be partnering with New York State Tool Company on this scholarship program," said Brian McQueen, Believe 271 board member. "To our knowledge it is the first of its kind in the United States with this mission and we hope to inspire others to create similar programs in their communities."

The deadline for applications is May 15. If you or someone you know is interested in applying, please visit <u>www.believe271.com</u> or email Lisa Wilsey, Scholarship Program Director at <u>info@thetwagency.com</u>.

## About New York State Tool Company

New York State Tool Company (NYST), founded in 1976, has grown to over 20 employees and has worked with companies as large as Fortune 3 down to specific support industries.

For more than 33 years, NYST has provided solutions for the machine tool industry. Utilizing the industry's best equipment, their firm can meet your needs and deadlines. Every industry today needs high accuracy and the most parts per tool to meet production goals. NYST helps you achieve your production requirements by providing unmatched delivery. With knowledge gained as a second generation company, they have the expertise to create tools to your specifications.

As a legacy company NYST has the experience manufacturing tools from paper drawings, replicating existing tools and creating tools using the latest computer aided design (CAD) provided. Looking for a new custom design is a service provided routinely for companies both large and small. New York State Tool offers the value of a large shop with the personal service and speed of delivery you can only find today in shops dedicated to quality.

## About the Believe 271 Foundation, Inc.

Christmas Eve 2013, past Chief of Whitesboro and former Deputy Fire Coordinator "271" for Oneida County, Brian McQueen, was diagnosed with B Cell Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma. With the support of family and friends, Brian sought further diagnosis and treatments at Memorial Sloan Kettering (MSKCC) in New York City. It was at MSKCC that Dr. Joachim Yahalom, internationally known oncologist, researched and confirmed Brian's diagnosis. When Dr. Yahalom shared this grim diagnosis he connected his volunteerism in the fire service as to the probable cause.

Brian's team collectively decided that 25 days of Intensified Modulated Radiation Therapy (IMRT) would be the treatment that would offer the best results. He completed those treatments in March 2014.

May 6, 2014, Brian's scans revealed no signs of cancer. Brian remains vigilant against this disease by practicing firefighter safety and following up with medical appointments.

Since then, the mission of The Believe 271 Foundation, Inc. has grown offering financial and educational assistance to volunteer firefighters battling cancer and life-threatening illnesses. As

of February 1, they have assisted 48 firefighters/ladies auxiliary members from Oneida and Herkimer Counties, in excess of \$133,000.00.