



TOGETHER WE ACHIEVE MORE

VALLEY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

2015 annual report



A Year in Review

Dear Friends,

As you know, the Valley community is blessed to have so many engaged and civic-minded members who have cared deeply about our region for generations. A rich heritage of manufacturing and collaboration are the hallmarks of our five towns. Much like this year's theme, our strength is in working together to achieve more.

At the Valley Community Foundation (VCF), we are partnering with our nonprofit community by providing resources, strengthening and empowering our local organizations to make a more measurable impact in the Valley. Thanks in part to the collective knowledge from nearly 50 community members and representatives from local nonprofits, school administrators and local officials, we released *The Valley Now: A 2015 Snapshot*. This Snapshot serves as a timely baseline report on the socioeconomic trends apparent in Ansonia, Derby, Oxford, Seymour and Shelton, including Beacon Falls and Naugatuck.

In the next phase of our continued effort to build an informed community, we are convening work groups consisting of dozens of representatives from more than 30 organizations in support of the 2016 Community Index. This Index, which will include wellbeing phone survey data, represents the start of a multi-year commitment to learn about the changing needs and opportunities in the Valley, culminating with the release of a comprehensive, single-source report in the fall of 2016.

We also proudly released the *Your Valley – Your Legacy* brochure, the first step in our Valley Gives Back initiative. We hope this publication inspires our readers to take action by remembering their favorite Valley charities or the causes that matter with a gift in their estate plan. This piece provides simple examples of legacy giving and shows how planned gifts can fit into everyone's financial plan. Imagine the impact on the Valley if we each gave as little as 5% of our estate!

Lastly, after three years as the VCF Board Chair, John Zaprzalka is turning the gavel over to Alan Tyma. Alan brings a wealth of experience to the Foundation. Now in his second seven-year term, Alan was a founding VCF Board Member and has served as both a Board Member and Chair for our partner in philanthropy, The Community Foundation for Greater New Haven.

As you read this annual report, we hope you will see that, together, we are all making great strides to create a stronger, more vibrant community today and for generations to come!

John J. Zaprzalka
Board Chair

Sharon L. Closius
President & CEO

Index

GRANTS, DATA AND GROWTH – 3

SETTING THE STAGE FOR – 4
COLLECTIVE IMPACT

BUILDING PHILANTHROPY – 5
IN THE VALLEY

THE GATES SOCIETY – 6

THE GREAT GIVE® 2015 – 7

VALLEY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION FUNDS
DONOR ADVISED – 8
DONOR DESIGNATED – 11
ORGANIZATION – 11
SCHOLARSHIP – 13
PREFERENCE – 17
UNRESTRICTED – 17

DONORS – 18

GRANTS – 20

FINANCIALS/INVESTMENTS – 28

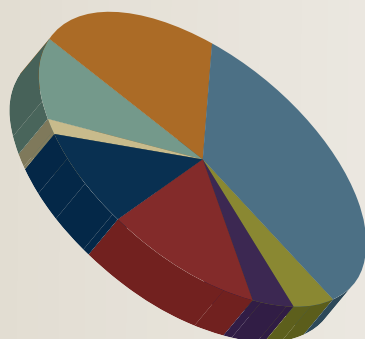
2015 GOVERNANCE – 30

HOW TO SET UP A FUND – 31

Grants, Data and Growth

Our mission is to make the Valley a better place to live and work, both now and in the future, by connecting private philanthropy to the long-term public good of the Valley.

DISCRETIONARY GRANTS BY PROGRAM AREA PAID IN 2015



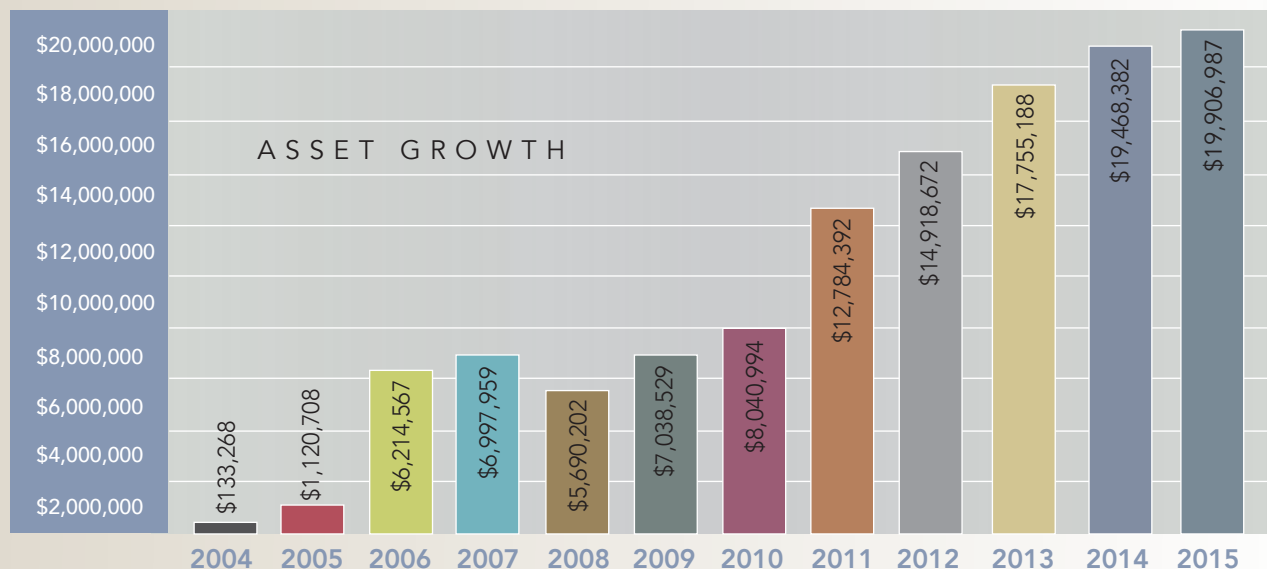
Youth Development.....	\$70,000
Education.....	\$129,612
Health.....	\$221,076
Basic Human Needs.....	\$34,368
Community Development.....	\$28,000
Regional Development.....	\$87,500
Arts & Culture.....	\$59,695
Environment.....	\$10,000
GRAND TOTAL.....	\$640,251

Note: This data reflects grants made through the Responsive, Needs and Opportunities and Community Grants Process, and includes previously committed multi-year grants. See page 20 for further details.

NEW FUNDS IN 2015
11

2015 GRANTS AWARDED
\$1,509,630

2015 CONTRIBUTIONS
\$1,685,694



Big Benefits for a Small Community



Together, we are like colorful threads woven into a beautiful tapestry. It is undeniable that we are all connected and what happens to the least of us, happens to all of us. Communities everywhere want to improve the quality of life for their residents. We strive to make parks and schools as best as possible. We also want to attract other families, businesses and jobs to locate here so our community can flourish.

By understanding the needs and opportunities of our region through data collection, we are setting the stage to make a collective impact on our community. *The Valley Now: A 2015 Snapshot* was published in April of 2015 and spotlights trends using existing data as a baseline report. Since the report was published, cross-sector work groups comprised of more than 30 organizations have regularly assembled to discuss the data critical to our community.

This report represents the start of a multi-year process, which will culminate with a comprehensive study on the demographic, economic, education, health and housing trends within the region. It is the goal of all organizations involved to produce a community index in which the data will be used to convene community conversations, align current efforts and investments, and collaborate on strategic endeavors to build, sustain and enhance the quality of life in the Valley.



A community member reviewing
The Valley Now: A 2015 Snapshot



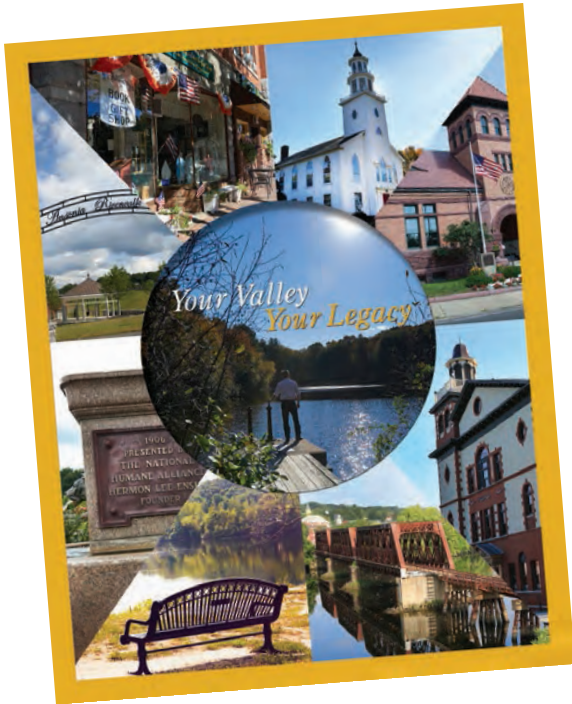
Elected officials and school superintendents meet to
discuss *The Valley Now: A 2015 Snapshot*

This index will also be completed in fulfillment of Griffin Hospital's Community Health Needs Assessment and will be revised with new data every three years to maintain a pulse on the region.

Proof that there are big benefits for a small community, this initiative represents people coming together in a structured way while sharing a common agenda – to better understand the evolving needs of our region and the opportunities to coordinate efforts to make a measurable impact. It is the fervent hope of all involved to create an even stronger and more vibrant Valley for generations to come.

To demonstrate their commitment for data collection and building an informed community, the Valley Community Foundation is pleased to partner with: Griffin Hospital, Katharine Matthies Foundation, Bassett Family Fund, Valley United Way, The Community Foundation for Greater New Haven and others to provide funding and support for this initiative.

Your Valley – Your Legacy



“Many individuals find that one of the most gratifying aspects of success is the ability to provide financial support to help transform charitable goals into meaningful actions. You have the ability to change the lives of countless Valley residents and organizations without affecting your current lifestyle.”

– Marianne Smythe, Professional Advisor and VCF Development Committee Member

The field of philanthropy is changing. People are inundated with appeals from their colleges, their children's colleges, and national and international charities. Our mission is two-fold: match the charitable ambitions of those in our community with an area of their passion and help our local nonprofits find sustainable solutions that allow them to provide for those in the Valley. Both translate into meaningful action. We believe private philanthropy is directly connected to the long-term good of the region, both today and for generations to come.

The Valley Community Foundation (VCF) unveiled *Your Valley – Your Legacy*, a Valley-wide initiative that aims to inspire people to consider making a planned gift. We encourage individuals to discuss their charitable ambitions with their professional advisors, such as accountants, attorneys and financial planners.

Many individuals are more comfortable giving a larger gift after their life due to expenses related to retirement planning and end of life costs, which can sometimes be unforeseen. What would it look like if everyone had a philanthropic plan in place? Imagine the impact on the Valley if everyone committed 5-10% to charitable causes of anything remaining in their estates!

Families are often surprised how easy it can be to leave a lasting legacy with just a little planning. Often times, planned gifts can be set up at no cost. A planned gift will support the charities you are passionate about and will make a difference, regardless of the amount. Your action will inspire your family, your friends and others you may never meet, to follow your example and show they care about our community in their own way.

Through this effort, VCF is partnering with local nonprofits to augment their planned giving capacity. We will serve as a trusted philanthropic advisor and educator since most of the Valley nonprofits do not have the resources to staff planned giving experts. We will also assist attorneys and accountants who may not typically encounter some of the planned giving vehicles. Together, we can nurture the spirit of philanthropy in the Valley.

A Planned Giving Community



It's a universal truth: you can't take it with you. You determine how your assets are spent during your lifetime and you can also determine how you want your assets to be used when you are no longer here.

You can provide for your heirs through your estate plan and create a lasting legacy for the Valley. Your planned gift will impact what you are passionate about and make a difference regardless of the amount.

The Gates Society is the Valley Community Foundation's (VCF's) planned giving community. Joining is simple. All it takes is for someone to let us know that they plan to remember VCF in their estate, regardless of the fund, amount or percentage. The Society is named in honor of Ross and Frank Gates, brothers of the last generation of a prominent Derby family, who created trusts in their family name to benefit charitable causes they were passionate about. The trusts established

The Gates Fund with our partner in philanthropy, The Community Foundation for Greater New Haven, and specified that in the selection of beneficiaries due consideration be given "...to the benefit of the inhabitants in the vicinity of Derby, Connecticut..." Created over a half a century ago, the Gates Fund continues to distribute substantial resources for the benefit of Valley communities, and beyond.

Today, a person doesn't need to set up a trust to support a charitable cause after their lifetime. Whether your gift is endowed or for current use, there are many ways to establish a legacy of giving forever by making a planned gift using the Valley Community Foundation as a partner. VCF has deep roots in the Valley and strong knowledge of our community's needs and opportunities.

Establish your legacy of giving forever through the Valley Community Foundation. Contact VCF at (203) 751-9162 and your trusted professional advisor to explore your options.

A legacy is not only what you leave to the world; it's what you tell the world about yourself. When you include a charity or charities in your estate plan, you're creating a legacy that tells future generations what causes mattered to you. Your action can also inspire others to follow your example and make a difference in their own way.

Gates Society Members Include:

Sharon Closius
Jane Cohen*
Walter and Bonnie Drozeck
Helen Dubrava*
Bob and Sheri Grier
Heidi Kaplan
Laura Lane
Robert Lang
Raymond F. Mackowski*
Dorothy Palazzi
Donald Warichar
Joseph Warichar
John and Laura Zaprzalka

* deceased

Coming Together for Something Great



A 36-hour, online-giving event — May 5-6 on giveGreater.org



The Community Foundation
for Greater New Haven



The Great Give® 2015, a 36-hour online giving event that benefits nonprofits serving the Greater New Haven region, increased by 51% over 2014. Overall, a 43% increase in giving from Valley residents and employees, combined with matching grants and prizes, totaled nearly \$230,000. The results prove the Valley is a philanthropic region and its people understand the importance of giving locally in a global world where so many charitable options exist.



3rd Annual VCF Great Give ice cream social and awards ceremony

Valley nonprofits raising the most dollars were: Center Stage Theatre, which also won a second place Grand Prize from The Community Foundation for Greater New Haven for attracting the most donors, Boys & Girls Club of Lower Naugatuck Valley, BHcare, TEAM, Inc. and Griffin Hospital. In addition to Center Stage Theatre and TEAM, organizations receiving the most gifts were Seymour Pink, the Shelton High School Robotics Team and the Valley Independent Sentinel, who conducted the first ever 36-hour live webcast during the event.

The Great Give® 2015 generated \$1,291,096 including matching funds and prizes, for nonprofits working in the 20-town area served by The Community Foundation for Greater New Haven, which includes VCF's five-town region. There were more than 7,000 donors who gave 9,611 gifts. To see all participating nonprofits and prize information, visit www.thegreatgive.org.

The following is a list of more than 120 nonprofit recipients supported by Valley donors during The Great Give® 2015:

108 Monkeys, Agency on Aging of South Central Connecticut, ALS Association - Connecticut Chapter, American Red Cross - Connecticut Chapter, Ansonia Public Schools, Area Congregations Together - Spooner House, Arte Inc., Arts Council of Greater New Haven, Backyard Theater Ensemble, Beth-El Center, BHcare, Boy Scouts of America - CT Yankee Council, Boys & Girls Club of Milford, Boys & Girls Club of the Lower Naugatuck Valley, Bridges - A Community Support System, Catholic Charities Archdiocese of Hartford, Center for Children's Advocacy, Center Stage Theatre, Central Connecticut Coast YMCA, Children in Placement, Christian Community Action, Christian Counseling and Family Life Center, Civic Orchestra of New Haven, Columbus House, Community Health Network of CT Foundation, Inc., Connecticut Center for Arts & Technology, Connecticut Food Bank, Connecticut Fund for the Environment - Save the Sound, Connecticut Mental Health Center Foundation, Continuum of Care, Creative Arts Workshop, DataHaven, Derby Community Endowment, Derby Historical Society, Derby Public Library, Elm City ChamberFest, Elm City Dance Collective, Elm Shakespeare Company, Emergency Shelter Management Services, Ethnic Historical Archives Center of New Haven, Father McKenna St. Vincent de Paul Shoppe, Fellowship Place, Friends of Animals, Friends of the Ansonia Nature Center, Get In Touch Foundation, Girl Scouts of Connecticut, Greater New Haven Community Chorus, Griffin Hospital, Hamden Hall School, Hamden/North Haven YMCA, Hope After Loss, Housatonic Council, Boy Scouts of America, INROADS New England Region, Institute Library, James Blackstone Memorial Library, Jewish Family Service of New Haven, Junior Achievement of Western Connecticut, Kennedy Center, Literacy Center of Milford, Lower Naugatuck Valley Parent Child Resource Center, Mary A. Schmecker Turtle Shell Fund, Mary Wade Home, Massaro Community Farm, Masters Manna, Music Haven, Neighborhood Housing Services of New Haven, Neighborhood Music School, New Haven Ballet, New Haven Chamber Orchestra, New Haven Chorale, New Haven Farms, New Haven Folk, New Haven Free Public Library Foundation, New Haven Gay & Lesbian Community Center, New Haven Land Trust, New Haven Legal Assistance Association, New Haven Lions Club, New Haven Preservation Trust, New Haven Promise, New Haven Reads Community Book Bank, New Haven Symphony Orchestra, Operation: Music Aid, Oxford Historical Society, PACE.ECA, Pantochino Productions, Project Access of New Haven, 'r Kids Family Center, Rape Crisis Center of Milford, Inc., Read to Grow, Ronald McDonald House of Connecticut, Seymour Pink, Seymour-Oxford Nursery & Child Care Association, Shelton Economic Development Corporation, Shelton Exchange Club Foundation, Shelton High School Education Fund, Shelton High School Robotics Team, Shelton Historical Society, Shelton Land Conservation Trust, Shubert Theater - Connecticut Association of Performing Arts, Solar Youth, Inc., Square Foot Theatre Company, Squash Haven, St. Martin De Porres Academy, St. Rita School, TEAM, Inc., The Community Foundation for Greater New Haven, The Graduate Institute, The Salvation Army (Greater Valley Corps), Treasured Time, Inc., Valley Arts Council, Valley Community Foundation, Valley Emergency Medical Services, Valley Independent Sentinel, Valley Shakespeare Festival, Valley United Way, Valley YMCA, Victim Rights Center of Connecticut, Visiting Nurse Association of South Central Connecticut, Whitney Players, Women and Family Life Center, Women's Health Research at Yale, WPKN, Yale-New Haven Hospital.

Making a Difference Your Way

The Valley Community Foundation (VCF) is here to help you make a difference in the community and support the causes you care about. Every grant VCF makes comes from a gift made by someone like you.

When you establish a charitable fund with us, you choose the name and purpose. Our commitment is to ensure your wishes are carried out. We offer various types of funds to reflect your specific philanthropic goals and ambitions.

In 2015, eleven funds joined VCF. Each was established for a different reason and will help address a unique cause. We are proud to share their stories with you in this annual report. Please contact us if you would like to learn more about establishing a fund. Together, we can find a solution that best fits your philanthropic plan and perpetuates your values.



DONOR ADVISED FUNDS

The easiest way to support the nonprofits and issues you personally care about in the Valley and beyond is through a Donor Advised Fund. Offering maximum flexibility, you recommend grants from the fund to any qualified public charity in the U.S. You can add to and recommend grants from your Fund at any time.



Champagne Family Fund

The Valley is a special place. It's not just a community where people live. It has a feel to it. Everyone seems to genuinely care about each other and is involved with one another. According to Jennifer Champagne, it's something very unique.

"From an early age, I watched my parents, Nick and Ernie Luise, deeply involve our family in the Valley community," Jennifer said. Through her parents' experience with the Derby/Shelton Rotary Club and a range of local, regional and international nonprofit organizations, community involvement has become a way of life for Jennifer. "Now, my husband, Derrick, and I want to share the same experiences and values with our daughter, Aimee."

"Everyone's needs are both important and different," Jennifer said. For example, Aimee started giving gift

Making a Difference Your Way

cards to the homeless on the streets of New York City long before she could even drive. Her social awareness and her family's desire to make a difference led to conversations about other ways the Champagne family could create an impact here in the Valley.

"Setting up a donor advised fund at VCF allows us to address changing local needs while including Aimee in our family's rich tradition of community involvement," Jennifer said. "Establishing a fund was a simple process and a great way to inspire future generations to care just as much as we do. It allows us to create a legacy to share with our family that will outlast all of us, address the needs of others and always keep the Valley top of mind."



Valley Breast Health Care Fund

There is profound strength in numbers, especially when it relates to advocacy. Local agencies and community representatives, under the auspices of Griffin Hospital, came together more than sixteen years ago to discuss pressing topics concerning women's health in the Valley and, among the issues, was breast cancer awareness.

Statistics at the time showed a climbing rate of breast cancer deaths in the region. The Valley Women's Health Initiative, comprised of health and community members, was formed with a clear objective – intensify local breast cancer awareness with the hope of improving access to breast cancer screening and diagnostic imaging. The research was clear, when detected early and treated promptly, the survivability of breast cancer is greatly increased.

The purpose of this ongoing effort is to reach out to those who cannot afford the cost of breast cancer screening and diagnostic imaging and enable them to

receive it. Working in collaboration with Griffin Hospital and other breast health facilities, the advisory committee wants to ensure no patient is turned away when the avenues of federal, state and local grant monies have been exhausted.

What started as an initiative to educate women as well as local physicians, grew to hosting fundraisers to engage community members, providing free mammograms, and advocating for women's health. Their collective voice led to many positive changes in educating and informing the Valley community, supporting legislation and grant funding – all in an effort to increase the early detection and treatment of breast cancer.

"More recently, we began seeking a local investment partner who could understand and support our objectives," said Kate Cosgrove, Committee Co-Chair. "After careful consideration, VCF became our selection to assist us in growing the Valley Breast Health Care Fund."

Diagnostic imaging, medical treatments and patient advocacy have advanced over the years, but continue to fluctuate. There is hope that a day will come when breast cancer will have an ultimate cure. "Until that time comes, the Valley Breast Health Care Fund is able to address many needs in the vast area of breast wellness," Kate said. "The legacy of what we are trying to achieve will continue far beyond any of us."



Joe and Judy Zaprzalka Family Fund

They say family is like the branches on a tree – each growing and expanding in different directions but its roots remain the same. For the Zaprzalka family, their roots are firmly grounded in the Valley.

Making a Difference Your Way

Joe and Judy Zaprzalka were born and raised in Derby, attended Derby High School and moved to Shelton in the 50s to start their family. Judy was a homemaker while her children were young and later worked outside their home. Joe worked in and later owned a printing business and was a volunteer firefighter at Echo Hose during the 60's. He was also was a lifelong member of the Highland Golf Club where he served on its Board and socialized over the game he loved to play.

Both Joe and Judy were dedicated to their children and families. They loved the Valley and often helped wherever or however they could, and would frequently remind their children of the importance of supporting their community.

As their children Michael, Thomas, John and Susan grew, so did the family's involvement in the Valley community. "My brothers and I have been and will continue to be involved with Valley charities," Susan said. "We all learned how to swim at The Recreation Camp and were members of the Boys & Girls Club. Now, as adults, we serve on the boards of many of the organizations that made an impact on our lives growing up."

The Zaprzalka family had been considering setting up a fund for a number of years, and was particularly familiar with VCF through its support of organizations in which they volunteer. "We created the Joe and Judy Zaprzalka Family Fund to support Valley nonprofits that have been so special to us," said Tom. "This endowed donor advised fund is a way to honor our parents and the community-minded, philanthropic values they instilled in us. Since all of our children will eventually have a say in which charities will benefit from the Fund, we hope they, too, will learn that giving back is important, feels great and really does make a difference."

DONOR ADVISED FUNDS

Kathleen and Mariano Adamo Community Service Fund
 John and Paraskeve Vartelas 'AGAPE' Fund
 Bassett Family Fund
 Monty Blakeman Fund
 Champagne Family Fund*
 Cohen-DeToro Charitable Fund
 Jane C. and David B. Cohen Fund
 Connecticut Businesses Enriching Scholars Together (BEST) Fund
 Mary Lou Cicia Cook Memorial Fund
 Salvatore and Linda Tiano Coppola Family Fund
 Susan Coyle Family Fund
 Thomas and Ruth Curran Family Fund
 D'Addario Family Fund
 Derby - Puglianella Sister City Fund
 Walter and Bonnie Drozeck Fund
 Frey-Hershey Foundation Fund
 Mario Garofalo Family Fund
 Raymond Gildea Memorial Fund
 David M. and Gail A. Grant Family Fund
 Guarrera Family Fund
 Tyler, Brian and Zachary Haywood Fund
 Jones Family Farms Fund
 Kaplan Family Fund
 Paul and Gloria Konwerski Family Fund
 Edward and Laura Lane Family Fund
 Robert C. Lang Fund
 John Lauretti Memorial Family Fund
 Mary Fund
 William C. and Elaine N. Nimons Family Fund
 Joseph A. Pagliaro, Sr. Family Fund
 Palazzi Family Fund
 Pepe Family Fund
 President's Fund of the Valley Community Foundation
 Sophie and Robert W. Rapp Family Fund
 Samuel Rifkin Fund
 Anthony (Sonny) Savignano Memorial Fund
 Dorothy E. and Kenneth E. Schaible Fund
 Louis Schmecker, Jr. Memorial Fund
 Mary A. Schmecker Turtle Shell Fund
 Seymour Public Schools Fund
 Shelton CT Gaels Alumni Fund
 Shelton Education Endowment Fund
 Sterling Opera House Endowment Fund
 Carla and Sean Sullivan Charitable Fund
 Sally and Dominick Thomas Fund
 John Tyma Fund

Making a Difference Your Way

Nancy Valentine Fund
Valley Bar Association Memorial and
Commemorative Fund
Valley Breast Health Care Fund*
Valley Pride Fund
Alphonso and Eulalia Vitello Family Fund
Warichar Family Fund
Joe and Judy Zaprzalka Family Fund*
John and Laura Zaprzalka Family Fund

* New fund in 2015

DONOR DESIGNATED FUNDS

If you want to support a specific organization or organizations during your lifetime or endow your giving to a favorite nonprofit, a Donor Designated Fund allows you to name one or more organizations to receive an annual gift from your Fund.

DONOR DESIGNATED FUNDS

Edward J. and Marie M. Cecarelli Book Fund
Cohen Family Book Fund
Edward J. Cotter, Jr. Memorial Fund
Derby Public Library - Harold B. Yudkin Historic
Preservation Fund
Griffin Family Memorial Fund
Health Initiative for Men (HiM) Fund
Jones Family Farms Fund for the Connecticut
Agricultural Experiment Station
Maureen, Megan and Katey Ryan Fund
Gary and Francesca (Riggio) Scarpa Fund for
Center Stage Theatre
Dorothy E. and Kenneth E. Schaible Fund for the
Boys & Girls Club of the Lower Naugatuck Valley
Francis "Frank" M. Skoronski Memorial Fund
Donald W. and Lillian C. Smith Family Fund
Peter J. Vartelas Invest in Youth Fund #2 for the
Valley YMCA
Colonel Lloyd E. and Joan Platt Witmer Fund

ORGANIZATION FUNDS

Nonprofit organizations can set up either a permanent Organization Endowment Fund, which is a component fund of the Foundation, or an Organization Fund which is for investment only. Both funds provide a stable source of income for the nonprofit.



Plumb Memorial Library Reserve Fund

Libraries in the Valley and across the nation have transformed into community resources and access points to new technology for people of all ages. The Plumb Memorial Library prides itself on providing a variety of services to Shelton and surrounding communities. As the programming and services for local residents adapt, so do the libraries' strategies, including its approaches to managing its resources.

The Plumb Memorial Library's Board carefully reviewed its investment options and decided to establish a fund at VCF, creating the Plumb Memorial Library Reserve Fund.

"The Library witnessed the success of VCF's long-term investment strategies and wanted to avail itself of the Foundation's professional financial management," said Aleta Miner, Treasurer of the Plumb Memorial Library's

Making a Difference Your Way

Board of Directors. "Having access to a commingled investment management program like this allows a little fish, like our Library, to swim in quite a large pond."

"The Library has been aware of VCF's growth and support for so many of the Valley's nonprofit organizations," said Barbara Glover, Plumb's former Board Chair, "This was a great opportunity to partner with our local philanthropic community foundation."

VCF's funds are invested with The Community Foundation for Greater New Haven (TCF), which has more than \$500 million in charitable assets and operates a diversified long term approach to charitable funds' management. The assets are managed with a "total return approach" to generate predictable current distributable revenue to respond to charitable needs, while providing for long term growth by protecting the dollars against the effects of inflation.



Shelton Historical Society Endowment Fund

The Shelton Historical Society (SHS) preserves elements of the community's history in order to create lasting and meaningful connections between Shelton's past, present and future generations. By maintaining a museum and providing a voice in the community regarding matters of historical significance, the Society strives to build an awareness of and appreciation for the rich 300 years of history through educational programs for both young and old.

To help ensure their future of preserving the past, the Society's staff and Board began researching options that could provide SHS with a long term sustainability

plan. "We explored several different alternatives, and found that creating an endowment fund with VCF could assist us in reaching our long term goals," said SHS Board President Marty Coughlin. "We worked with both the Community Foundation for Greater New Haven and VCF on a number of grants for renovations to our buildings and educational offerings. Then we learned VCF could also provide endowment management. This was a logical next step in our partnership."

Whether it's educating grade school classes about such things as how food didn't always come from a supermarket, or how butter used to be churned for hours before it could be used, SHS wants to offer community events and programming to share the way of life from the early 1700's to the present for years to come. SHS also shows how people interacted with each other years ago and the ways in which Shelton evolved from a rural agricultural area to the thriving city it has become.

"At the Historical Society, we often say a community that forgets its past loses its soul," said Marty. "We preserve the items and experiences of the past so their legacies can endure for future generations. In a way, both VCF and the Historical Society are in the business of preserving the memories of the past so the legacy of those who called the Valley home can live on. We are pleased to be able to create this Fund to help SHS do its part to sustain and share Shelton's rich heritage."

ORGANIZATION FUNDS

Anonymous
Birmingham Foundation Fund
Herbert M. Clark Fund
Derby Community Endowment Fund
Derby Public Library Endowment Fund
Housatonic Council, Boy Scouts of America Endowment Fund
Housatonic Council, Boy Scouts of America Fund
Oak Cliff Cemetery Association Fund
Parent Child Resource Center Endowment Fund
Planetree Fund
Plumb Memorial Reserve Fund*
Recreation Camp Endowment Fund
Ritchie Fund for Plumb Memorial Library
Seymour-Oxford Rotary Club Fund
Seymour Pink Endowment Fund

Making a Difference Your Way

Seymour-Oxford Nursery and Child Care Association (SONCCA)

Shelton Historical Society Endowment Fund*

TEAM, Inc., Richard J. Knoll Endowment Fund

TEAM Reserve Fund

Town of Seymour Endowment Fund

Troop 3 - Derby BSA Alumni and Friends Fund

Valley United Way Fund

Valley YMCA Endowment Fund

Peter J. Vartelas Invest in Youth Fund #1
for the Valley YMCA

Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 597 Fund

Women In Networking Fund

* New fund in 2015

SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS

You can help students pursue their educational dreams with a Scholarship Fund. Scholarship Funds are often created in memory of someone and can be used to support educational opportunities, a specific educational institution, or a course of study.



Rachel and William Brogadir Scholarship Fund

Sometimes humble beginnings can lead to extraordinary action. Rachel and William Brogadir moved from Brooklyn, NY to Ansonia nearly 70 years ago. It was there that they opened a grocery store and raised a family. Rachel made their house a home, loved art and

always seemed to have classical music playing softly in the background.

"Education was our parents' number one priority for us," said Dick Brogadir, one of their three sons. "From the time we attended Larkin School, Ansonia High School and went to college, they supported our interests in pursuing higher education."

The family started a scholarship fund at Ansonia High School after Rachel passed away in 1997 to benefit graduating students pursuing her passions of art and music. Upon William's passing in 2014, he left a bequest in his will that included a portion of his estate to support the scholarship.

"I spoke with my jogging partner, Greg Stamos, VCF's former Board Chair, about creating an endowed scholarship fund so it could be awarded in perpetuity," Dick said. "The scholarship money was previously earning very little interest, so this was a great opportunity to support the graduating seniors of Ansonia High School forever."

After speaking with Sharon Closius, VCF President and CEO, Dick and both of his brothers contributed to establish an endowed scholarship fund in their parents' name. "Our parents supported us in pursuing education to achieve stable careers. This is our way to honor what they did for us and give back to Ansonia High School by supporting graduating students for years to come," Dick said. "It was very simple to set up this Fund. We hope the scholarship recipients will be successful in their respective fields of art or music so they can have a similar feeling of accomplishment through education as we did."

Making a Difference Your Way



Stanley and Irene Chlebowski Memorial Scholarship Fund

Irene and Stan "Smiles" Chlebowski, were life-long Valley residents who taught their children the importance of supporting the Valley community from a very early age. Stan was born in Derby and attended Derby Public Schools, was a WWII Veteran, and a longtime member of the Highland Golf Club. Irene was born in Shelton and attended Shelton Public Schools. She was a homemaker, as well as an enthusiastic sewer and knitter.

Their children, Bob Chlebowski and his sister Susan, both formerly of Shelton and now living in San Francisco, CA and Rochester, NY respectively, wanted to honor their parents' love for the Valley. Bob began searching for a way that would best meet their needs and found the Valley Community Foundation during an online search.

"We contacted VCF and found that they provided the endowment opportunities that we were looking for," said Bob. "We were able to do all of this over the phone and via e-mails long distance. It was straightforward, easy and took no time at all."

Bob and Susan established the Stanley and Irene Chlebowski Memorial Scholarship Fund in memory of their parents. Each year, this Fund will provide one graduating Shelton High School senior who is pursuing nursing or an allied health field with a scholarship that is renewable up to four years.

"Shelton provided Susan and I with the benefits of a growing up in a small town where everyone knew each

other," said Bob. Susan agreed. "Our dad earned the name 'Smiles' while working at the former Sponge Rubber Products company in Shelton," said Susan. "The nickname stuck because he was always smiling, never had a bad thing to say and would give anyone the shirt off his back."

"Our parents always stressed the importance of education as a way to grow professionally and as a person," said Susan. "They made great sacrifices for our education and we could not think of a better way to honor them than by creating this scholarship at VCF."



Brandon Giordano Football Scholarship Fund

Oxford High School mourned the untimely death of a student in March of 2012 when 15-year old sophomore, Brandon Giordano, tragically passed away in an automobile accident. Thanks to an outpouring of community support, Angela Borrelli, Brandon's mother and a life-long Oxford resident, created a scholarship to honor Brandon's memory and benefit a graduating member of the football team who shared his enthusiasm for life.

Football had recently become a big part of life for Brandon. For him, it was about brotherhood, respect and discipline – many of the qualities that have a lasting impact both on and off the field. "It wasn't until his

Making a Difference Your Way

passing that I learned how his true impact within the high school community and among his peers went far beyond anything I could have imagined," Angela said. "The amount of people he touched with his humor, smile and generous bear hugs is incredible, and is something that nobody will ever forget."

The conversation about what more could be done with the scholarship fund started when a friend of Angela's suggested she endow the scholarship at VCF so the fund, like Brandon's legacy, could benefit Oxford students in perpetuity. Angela hopes this annual scholarship will help a graduating senior member of the football team, who exemplifies Brandon's attributes and team-spirit, by defraying some of the rising costs of higher education.

According to Angela, establishing an endowed scholarship fund was very easy. "I was able to better understand community foundations after meeting with Sharon Closius, VCF President and CEO, to discuss similar funds that were endowed at VCF." Angela added, "I especially liked how VCF is a local organization that specifically focuses on the Valley. This whole experience has been so personal, not transactional."

"Brandon had such a big heart, positive attitude and infectious laugh that never failed to bring a smile to others," said Angela. "Having this scholarship at VCF helps to ensure that Brandon's life will be honored for all the wonderful things he did and as the special young man we were so fortunate to know."



Randall R. Holden Memorial Scholarship Fund

It is never easy to lose a loved one, especially a child and sibling. The Holden family knows this all too well after the sudden passing of their son, Randall Rapp Holden in 2001. Their community, too, felt deeply the loss of his bright and creative spirit. As a result of the tremendous outpouring of support they received at the time, the Holden family initially created a scholarship fund at Amity High School in Woodbridge, where Randy had been a member of the graduating class of 1999.

To expand the Fund's ability to accept different gift vehicles, the Holdens worked with Amity High School, who graciously agreed to transfer this scholarship to the Valley Community Foundation. "Schools in general are not positioned to accept different types of gifts," said Randy's parents, Allen and Jo-Anna. "This move has allowed us to make use of several different gift vehicles to contribute to the Fund, including a gift from our IRA, as well as the use of appreciated stock. In addition, our daughter, Katrina Holden-Buckley, is providing support through matching contributions from her employer."

The Holdens have also made provisions to add to their Scholarship Fund through their estate plan, becoming members of VCF's, planned giving community, the Gates Society. The scholarship is given to a college-bound

Making a Difference Your Way

Amity High School Senior, who is working and persevering to overcome challenging health problems and who demonstrates financial need. "Having this Fund at VCF allows us to have many ways to help it to grow during our lifetime and beyond," said the Holden family. "It is a fitting way for us to honor Randy's memory."



Anthony Pagliaro and Shelton High School Education Fund

In 2014 Shelton High School entrusted the management of its Scholarship and Award Funds to the Valley Community Foundation. As part of this new partnership, a portfolio of non-endowed and endowed scholarship funds are now being financially managed by VCF. Since that time the Anthony Pagliaro Fund and the Shelton High School Education Fund have become endowed funds at VCF.

Anthony Pagliaro Sr. was a distinguished educator in Shelton who passed away in May of 2015. The contributions made in Mr. Pagliaro's memory have enabled the scholarship to become a permanently endowed fund at VCF. The scholarship is awarded to a high ranking student accepted to a four-year college, whose community and school service has improved the quality of life in those respective areas.

The scholarship from the Shelton High School Education Fund is presented to a graduating senior(s) that exemplify the traits of the Gael guidelines: respect, responsibility and safety.

Dr. Beth A. Smith, Headmaster of Shelton High School, said, "Shelton High School is a learning community with high academic expectations. We are proud these two awards can become endowed funds at VCF and together we look forward to supporting the well-deserving graduates of Shelton High School for years to come."

The Anthony Pagliaro Fund and the Shelton High School Education Fund join the family of Shelton High School Scholarship Funds managed by VCF.

SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS

Michael J. Adanti Memorial Community Fund
Joseph 'Jay' Amico Artistic Memorial Awards Fund
Ansonia Public Schools Scholarship Endowment Fund
Ansonia Rotary Club Scholarship Endowment Fund
Bruno Battaglino Memorial Fund
Rachel and William Brogadir Scholarship Fund*
Stanley and Irene Chlebowsky Scholarship Fund*
Stephen and Emily Chuckta Memorial Scholarship Fund
Lou and Dolly DeFilippo Scholarship Fund
Derby High School Endowed Scholarship Fund
Derby High School Non-Endowed Scholarship Fund
Domorod-Youd Shelton High School Scholarship Fund
Agnes and Helen Dubrava Fund
Honorable Joseph P. Flynn and Family Scholarship Fund
Eugene Imperato Family Scholarship Fund
Francis Family Fund
Geissler Family Scholarship Fund
Brandon Giordano Football Scholarship Fund*
Traci L. Haines Memorial Scholarship Fund
Arthur Hayes, Jr. Memorial Scholarship Fund
Randall R. Holden Memorial Scholarship Fund*
Patricia M. Kondrath Scholarship Fund
Frank J. Lang Fund
Jesse McCord Lewis Memorial Scholarship Fund
Michael R. McMahon Scholarship Fund
Bernice Nicolari-Howard Gura Award Fund
Ann O'Neil Memorial For Integrity Award
Anthony Pagliaro Scholarship Fund*
Lillian Pawlowski Fund
Joseph E. Potter Memorial Fund
George and Beatrice Ryan Scholarship Fund
John Sabulis Memorial Scholarship Fund

Making a Difference Your Way

Norman K. and Janet N. Santa Fund
Shelton Education Endowment Fund
Shelton High School Education Fund*
Shelton High School Endowed Scholarship Fund
Shelton High School Non-Endowed Scholarship Fund
Gaeton and Elizabeth Simonetti Family Fund
Howard Tassitano Fund
Julian A. Taylor Fund
George Vartelas Ansonia High School Scholarship Fund
Peter Vartelas Ansonia High School Scholarship Fund
John J. Wabuda Memorial Scholarship Fund
Joseph and Pauline Warichar
Memorial Scholarship Fund
Alexander George Wilson, Sr. Scholarship Fund
* New fund in 2015

PREFERENCE FUNDS

Preference or Field of Interest Funds support evolving needs and a variety of nonprofits by focusing on a broad area of interest. This fund type supports interest areas such as education, childcare, environmental issues, healthcare, or specific geographic area(s). VCF makes grants to nonprofits that serve the donor's field of interest in perpetuity.

PREFERENCE FUNDS

Ancient Order of Hibernians, Derby Division Fund
Lawrence J. DeTullio, Jr. Fund
The Future Fund
Herb Rollinson Fund
Shelton Congregational Church Fund
Mary Vartelas Stamos Fund
Torbi-Saldamarco Family Fund
Angelina M. and Valentina V. Vitali Fund
Selma L. and Harold B. Yudkin Fund

UNRESTRICTED FUNDS

You can help us support emerging issues and the most pressing needs in the Valley by creating an Unrestricted Fund. As the needs in our communities change over time, Unrestricted Funds allow VCF to address high priority issues.

UNRESTRICTED FUNDS

Cohen Community Fund
Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church of Ansonia Fund
Dorothy E. & Kenneth E. Schaible Community Fund
Valley Community Fund



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** In addition, we thank the Valley donors who supported 120 nonprofit organizations throughout Greater New Haven during The Great Give® 2015.*

Community Investments

Responsive Grant Program

VCF's annual Responsive Grants process is open to all requests for organizational support and projects that serve Ansonia, Derby, Oxford, Seymour and/or Shelton. These grants are generally awarded to address a nonprofit's operating, programmatic, or capacity building needs.

Ansonia and Derby Early Childhood Councils Collaborative - To support the implementation of the Ansonia and Derby Early Childhood Councils' community plans. **\$40,000**

BHcare - To support the design of a Family Justice Center which is a co-location of a multi-disciplinary team of professionals who provide coordinated services to victims of family violence. **\$10,000**

Center Stage Theatre Inc. - To support theatrical lighting upgrades and improvements in the theatre space. **\$18,000**

Derby Historical Society - To support the restoration of the exterior of the General David Humphreys House. **\$15,000**

Healthy Eyes Alliance - To support the Healthy Eyes for Connecticut Kids Project which provides free vision screening, referral and follow up services for preschool children in the Valley. **\$16,062**

Housatonic Council, Boy Scouts of America - To provide general operating support for scouting programs for Valley youth. **\$30,000**

Junior Achievement of Western Connecticut, Inc. - To provide general operating support for programming to give Valley young people the knowledge and skills they need to own their economic success, plan for their future, and make smart academic and economic choices. **\$30,000**

New Haven Legal Assistance Association Inc. - To support a school-based legal aid clinic co-located at TEAM/Head Start in the Valley. **\$8,000**

Online Journalism Project Inc. - To support the Valley Independent Sentinel. **\$40,000**

Rape Crisis Center of Milford, Inc. - To provide general operating support for educational programming to

end sexual assault and for comprehensive and culturally competent sexual assault victim services. **\$8,000**

Visiting Nurse Services of CT - To support a pilot program in partnership with Griffin Hospital to provide a pre-discharge visit for specifically diagnosed patients from the Valley to enhance transitional care (acute to home-based healthcare) and to achieve improved measurable health outcomes. **\$10,000**

Needs and Opportunities Grants

In 2015, VCF made grants between \$250 to \$10,000 which contributed to and supported nonprofits and organizations serving the Valley community. The Needs and Opportunities grants, formerly known as the Revolving Response grants, are designed to promptly address the needs of our nonprofits through a simplified application process.

Area Congregations Together, Inc. - To support the replacement of a freezer unit and ice machine for the Spooner House kitchen. **\$5,368**

Beacon Falls Congregational Church - To support the construction costs of a handicap-accessible bathroom, which will be ADA compliant. **\$5,000**

Christ Episcopal Church - To support the Samela Food Pantry. **\$5,000**

Derby Neck Library - To support new furniture, repairs and renovations to the Children's Room. **\$6,450**

Friends of the Ansonia Library - To support the restoration of the mosaic tile flooring in the main entrance of the library. **\$1,312**

Junior Achievement of Western Connecticut, Inc. - To support the cost of hiring a consultant to conduct a comprehensive internal assessment of current development programs. **\$2,200**

Lower Naugatuck Valley Parent Child Resource Center - To support the development of a new logo and website. **\$5,000**

Moving With Health Oriented Physical Education, Inc. - To support consultant costs for a website redesign and a digital communications plan. **\$4,000**

Community Investments

Naugatuck YMCA - To support the cost to replace the boiler to heat the pool, youth room, locker rooms, hot tubs and air handling unit. **\$2,500**

Oxford Ambulance Association - To support the purchase of a SimMan Essential patient simulation training manikin. **\$6,890**

Read to Grow - To support literacy services for families living in The Valley region. **\$9,500**

Salvation Army, Greater Valley Corps - To support the food pantry. **\$10,000**

Shelton Historical Society, Inc. - To support the costs to stabilize and support restoration efforts to the water damaged Brownson House. **\$10,000**

Storm Engine Company Ambulance Corps, Inc. - To support the purchase of a thermal imaging camera. **\$6,114**

TEAM, Inc. - To support the hiring of a consultant to help develop and produce a 3-5 year strategic plan. **\$4,000**

United Methodist Homes - To support the Music & Memory program at Wesley Village. **\$4,320**

Valley Parish Nurse Program - To support the annual Children's Health & Safety Fair, a "Distracted Driving" prom program, bike safety events and free screenings (A1c & Cholesterol) at Ansonia Day. **\$5,190**

Wesley Heights, Inc. - To support assisted living services to low income elderly residents of the Middle Court Apartments. **\$10,000**

Community Grants

This application process recognizes smaller, volunteer or neighborhood groups with grant awards of up to \$2,500.

Annual Thanksgiving Basket Committee - To support the purchase of perishable and non-perishable food items for distribution of Thanksgiving baskets to 50 families in need. **\$2,500**

Ansonia High School Quilting and Sewing Charity Club - To support AHS students in the creation of quilts for charity. **\$1,000**

Ansonia High School Class of 2018 Advisory - To support the AHS Class of 2018 to work with an organization, to develop and implement a community service proposal, and to showcase their efforts at an end of the year celebration. **\$2,500**

Ansonia School Readiness - To support the cost of a kick-off event for Kindergarten registration in Ansonia. **\$1,600**

City of Derby, Bureau of Youth Services - To support the Juvenile Board Supportive Education Program. **\$2,500**

College Access for All Kids, Inc. - To support a college campus tour for 45 to 50 middle/high school students from Ansonia. **\$2,500**

Colonial Youth Football and Cheer - To support the purchase of new uniforms and gear for the Colonial Eagles Inspiration (Special Needs) Cheer Team. **\$2,500**

Derby Historical Society - To support a one week summer day camp with a focus on local, state, and national history for ages 6-15. **\$1,500**

Friends of the Derby Neck Library - To support the artistic and creative experiences of children in the Valley in the summer. **\$1,500**

North Star - To support the cost of North Star's Annual Picnic in late June/July, North Star's Annual Holiday Party and North Star's monthly meetings. These events are for families throughout the Valley who have children/adults with disabilities. **\$2,500**

Oil Drum Art, Inc. - To support valley students who will paint prepped recycled 55 gallon oil drums with historical themes from their towns. **\$2,500**

Community Investments

Seymour Historical Society - To support the purchase of seven museum quality room darkening shades for the museum. **\$1,695**

Southford Falls Quilt Guild - To support the cost of "Saturday Sews" which teaches techniques for members to produce themed quilts that when completed will be donated to local nonprofits. **\$2,500**

Valley Deaf Club - To support the deaf/hard of hearing community by providing assistance for a recreational softball program and opportunities for social gatherings. **\$2,500**

Youth 2 Youth Peer Advocates - To support the cost of sending as many high school students as possible to the Youth 2 Youth National conference in RI. The Conference focuses on four areas with a comprehensive approach: drug education and information, personal growth, decision making environmental change and drug free fun. **\$2,500**

Sponsorship Grants

Nonprofit organizations can apply for support from VCF for up to \$2,500 for special events, especially those events that inform the community of a particular issue.

American Legion, John Collins Post 24 - To sponsor one boy and one girl from Derby High School for the Boys/Girls State Program. **\$600**

American Legion Post #174 - To sponsor one boy and one girl from Oxford for the Boys/Girls State Program. **\$600**

Ansonia High School PTSO - To sponsor the Ansonia Post Prom event. **\$750**

Area Congregations Together, Inc. - To sponsor the 18th Annual Walk for the Hungry and Homeless. **\$1,000**

Association of Fundraising Professionals - Fairfield County Chapter - To sponsor the annual National Philanthropy Day. **\$800**

Assumption Church - To sponsor the 2015-2016 season of Sundays at Five musical series. **\$1,000**

BHcare

- To sponsor the Greater Valley Substance Abuse Action Council's 25th anniversary conference. **\$1,000**

- To sponsor the 27th Annual Bowl-2-Benefit the Umbrella Center for Domestic Violence Services. **\$2,000**

-To sponsor the holiday gala "A Magical Evening... an Evening of Magic, Music, and More". **\$1,000**

Boy Scout Troop 3 Derby - To sponsor the 91st Annual Scout Gang Show. **\$250**

Boys & Girls Club of the Lower Naugatuck Valley

- To sponsor the John "Red" Larsen Golf Classic. **\$500**

- To sponsor the 14th Commodore Hull Thanksgiving Day 5K Road Race. **\$2,500**

Celebrate Shelton

- To sponsor the Shelton Community Tree Lighting at the Shelton Veterans Memorial Park. **\$1,000**

- To sponsor the "Downtown Sounds" Summer Community Concert Series at Shelton's Veteran Memorial Park. **\$1,500**

Center Stage Theatre. Inc. - To sponsor the annual Teen Musical Theatre Workshop. **\$1,000**

Connecticut Partnership for Children Inc. - To sponsor the Diaper Dash 5K and Kids Fun Run. **\$500**

Derby High School PTO - To sponsor the Derby High School Post Prom event. **\$750**

Derby Historical Society

- To sponsor the 25th Annual Appeal. **\$850**

- To sponsor the Annual Silver Tea. **\$500**

Emil Singer Post 10 American Legion - To sponsor one boy and one girl from Seymour to attend the American Legion Boy's State and Girl's State programs. **\$600**

Family and Children's Aid - To sponsor the 2015 Kids Cup Annual Golf Fundraiser. **\$500**

Griffin Hospital - To sponsor the annual gala. **\$1,000**

Housatonic Council, Boy Scouts of America - To sponsor the annual Scouting for Food Drive. **\$2,500**

Community Investments

Junior Achievement of Western Connecticut, Inc.

- To sponsor the 30th Annual "Bowl for Kids" Bowl-A-Thon. **\$500**

The Kidnetic Clubhouse

- To sponsor a Family Fun Day Mini Museum event. **\$500**
- To sponsor a Parent's Play Date. **\$500**

Literacy Volunteers of Greater New Haven

- To sponsor the 2015 Scrabble Challenge. **\$1,000**

Lower Naugatuck Valley Parent Child Resource Center

- To sponsor the Annual Awards Dinner. **\$500**
- To sponsor the 2nd Annual Food Trucks in the Valley. **\$700**
- To sponsor Pedal for PCRC. **\$1,000**
- To sponsor the 16th Annual "Fore! The Children" Golf Tournament. **\$500**

The Mary A. Schmecker Turtle Shell Fund

- To sponsor "In Love and Chocolate". **\$250**
- To sponsor the Soupstock Music and Arts Festival. **\$500**

Moving With Health Oriented Physical Education, Inc.

- To sponsor CT Bike For HOPE. **\$500**

Oxford Cultural Arts Commission

- To sponsor Oxford's FACE (Festival of Arts, Culture and Entertainment). **\$500**

Oxford Freedom Run Committee

- To sponsor the 7th Annual 5K Run 2 mile walk and children's Rock Hopper Fun Run. **\$1,500**

Oxford High School Booster Club, Inc.

- To sponsor the Oxford High School post prom event. **\$750**
- To sponsor a back to school movie night. **\$750**

Seymour Christmas Parade Association

- To sponsor the Seymour Christmas Parade. **\$1,000**

Seymour Founders' Day Association Inc.

- To sponsor the 6th Annual Seymour Founders' Day. **\$2,500**

Seymour High School Post Prom

- To sponsor the Seymour High School Post Prom event. **\$750**

Seymour Historical Society

- To sponsor eight programs presented by the Seymour Historical Society Educational Series. **\$2,500**

Seymour Oxford Rotary Club

- To sponsor a fall fundraiser benefitting area nonprofits. **\$500**

Seymour Pink, Inc.

- To sponsor the 4th Annual Pounding The Pavement for Pink 5K Run. **\$2,500**

Seymour Public Schools

- To sponsor Champion of Choices, an anti-bullying program at Seymour High School and Seymour Middle School. **\$2,500**

Seymour Tradition, Inc.

- To sponsor Smoke in the Valley 2015 on October 2nd and 3rd in downtown Seymour. **\$2,500**

Shelton Exchange Club Foundation, Inc.

- To sponsor the Annual Charity Golf Event. **\$500**
- To sponsor the 4th Annual Charity Indoor Mini Golf Tournament. **\$500**

Shelton High School PTSO

- To sponsor the annual Shelton High School post prom event. **\$750**

Shelton High School Robotics Team

- To sponsor the CT FIRST Lego League Robotics Qualifying Tournament Competition. **\$1,000**

St. Joseph High School

- To sponsor the annual St. Joseph High School Post Prom event. **\$750**
- To sponsor the St. Joseph High School Hall of Fame induction ceremony. **\$500**

St. Lawrence School

- To sponsor a presentation about internet safety for students and parents. **\$500**

St. Mary's Church

- To support the cost of purchasing a tent for the Summer Festival. **\$2,500**

Community Investments

TEAM, Inc.

- To sponsor the 8th Annual Men Who Cook fundraiser. **\$1,000**
- To sponsor the 50th Anniversary Gala Celebration. **\$1,000**

Treasured Time - To sponsor the Extra Innings Softball Marathon with the Bridgeport Bluefish. **\$500**

United Methodist Homes - To sponsor the Wesley Village 5k Annual Road Race and Fun Walk. **\$250**

Valley Breast Health Care Fund - To sponsor the Women Who Make a Difference event. **\$1,000**

Valley Council for Health and Human Services - To sponsor the Annual Meeting. **\$500**

Valley Parent University - To sponsor the Valley Parent University at Derby High School. **\$1,000**

Valley Shakespeare Festival - To sponsor four free performances of Shakespeare in the Park: "A Midsummer Night's Dream" at Veteran's Memorial Park. **\$2,500**

Valley United Way

- To sponsor the Annual Meeting, Community Gala, Campaign Underwriter Kickoff, and Harvest House. **\$3,500**
- To sponsor the High School Volunteer Council's Community Family Fun Day. **\$2,000**
- To sponsor the first Community Gala. **\$1,000**

Yale-Griffin Prevention Research Center -

To sponsor the 2nd Annual VITAHLS Healthy Cooking Competition. **\$500**

Central Connecticut Coast YMCA - To sponsor the Valley YMCA 7th Annual Sunset 5K and 2 Mile Fitness Walk. **\$2,500**

Recognition Grants

The VCF Board of Directors recognizes the contributions of outstanding individuals and organizations that have been acknowledged for their service to the Valley Community. These honorees receive a grant from the VCF Board to donate to a Valley nonprofit of their choice.

Mary Lou Cook Award - PCRC

Pam Lorenzo - Grant to VNA of South Central CT

Charles L. Flynn Humanitarian Award - Valley United Way

Ron Villani - Grant to BHcare to support the Umbrella Program

Gold Seal Awards - Valley Chamber of Commerce

Harry Burlakoff (Gold) - Grant to Treasured Time

Jimmy Ryan (Platinum) - Grant to Assumption Church

Frederick Serra (Gold) - Grant to the Boys & Girls Club of the Lower Naugatuck Valley

Valley Substance Abuse Action Council (Silver) - Grant to Valley Substance Abuse Action Council's Youth Program Red Watch

Robert Van Egghen (Gold) - Grant to TEAM, Inc.



L to R, Rep. Ben McGorty, Rep. Linda Gentile, Jimmy Ryan, Pam Mautte, Rep. Jason Perillo, Harry Burlakoff, Robert Van Egghen, and Fred Serra at the 2015 Gold Seal Award Ceremony

Community Investments

Good Scout Award - Housatonic Boy Scout Council
Iroquois Pipeline - Grant to Valley United Way

Dr. John Ireland Howe Award - Derby Historical Society
Martha Dulla-Andrea - Grant to Derby Historical Society

Raymond P. Laveties Service to Youth Award
William Miller - Grant to Boys & Girls Club of the Lower Naugatuck Valley

Joseph A. Pagliaro, Sr. Award - PCRC
Carol Pendagast - Grant to Lower Naugatuck Valley Parent Child Resource Center

Women Making a Difference - Valley Women's Health Initiative
Martha Dulla-Andrea - Grant to Valley United Way, Central Connecticut Coast Young Men's Christian Association, Inc.

Antoinetta Hallet - Grant to Boys & Girls Club of the Lower Naugatuck Valley

Anne Miller Lynch - Grant to Assumption School

Caroline O'Bar - Grant to BHcare to support the Umbrella Program

Sue Petrizzo - Grant to Griffin Hospital Development Fund to support Valley Goes Pink

Elizabeth Pisano - Grant to Seymour Ambulance Association

Ruth Tuccio - Grant to Pups Without Partners Greyhound Adoption

In Recognition for their Service
Boys & Girls Club of the Lower Naugatuck Valley - in recognition of all the hard work, time, and effort to send Brooke Grand to compete in the National Youth of the Year event.

Brooke Grand - winner of the 2015 Connecticut State Boys & Girls Club Youth of the Year

Sherrod McNeill - In honor of his receiving the 2015 CT National Distinguished Principal Award

Online Journalism Project - to support the Valley Independent Sentinel, in recognition for the time and effort it gave to The Great Give® 2015, particularly the 36-hour webcast.

TEAM, Inc. - In honor of TEAM's 50th Anniversary

Donor Advised Grants

Grants from Donor Advised Funds are approved by the VCF Board of Directors upon the request and with the participation of the Donor. Donor Advised Funds are one of the many ways fund holders can advise on an area they are passionate about while partnering with VCF to make an impact.

2015 Donor Advised Grant Recipients:

Ansonia Rescue Medical Services
 Area Congregations Together, Inc.
 BHcare
 Birthright of Greater New Haven
 Boy Scout Troop 3 Derby
 Boys & Girls Club of the Lower Naugatuck Valley
 Charlotte's Web of Prayer
 Christ Episcopal Church
 Citizens United for Research in Epilepsy (CURE)
 Clark Memorial Library
 Connecticut Forest & Park Association
 Connecticut Hospice, Inc.
 Derby Historical Society
 Derby Public Library
 Derby Public Schools
 Ephemera Society of America, LLC
 Friends of the Ansonia Library
 Greater Valley Chamber of Commerce
 Griffin Hospital
 Housatonic Council, Boy Scouts of America
 IRIS - Integrated Refugee & Immigrant Services
 Kids for Kids, Dancing for Life
 Long Hill Burial Ground Ltd.
 Long Wharf Theatre
 Lower Naugatuck Valley Parent Child Resource Center
 Mishkan Israel Day Camp
 National Right to Work Legal Defense and Education Foundation, Inc.
 Read to Grow
 Recreation Camp Inc.
 Seymour High School-Student Awards
 Shelton High School-Student and Teacher Awards
 Shelton Historical Society, Inc.
 St. Lawrence School
 St. Vincent de Paul Society of Shelton, Inc.
 Susanna Wesley School
 TEAM, Inc.
 The American Legion
 The Foundation School
 University of New Hampshire
 University of New Haven
 Valley Breast Health Care Fund

Community Investments

Valley Parish Nurse Program
Valley Shakespeare Festival
Valley United Way
VARCA
Visiting Nurse Association of South Central Connecticut
Women's Business Development Council
Working Lands Alliance

A GRANT STORY...



Griffin Hospital's Valley Parish Nurse Program (VPNP) plays a vital role in the Valley Community, providing health and safety education, health screenings and directing people to available services in the community.

VCF partnered with donor advised fund representatives from the Joseph A. Pagliaro, Sr. Family Fund as well as the D'Addario Family Fund to support this effort.



Top, Cathi Kellett;
Bottom L TO R, Carol Soisson, RN,
Daun Barrett, RN

Designated Grants and Organization Fund Transfers

Designated Funds are established by a donor(s) to benefit one or more specific nonprofit(s). In addition, VCF manages the endowment and reserve funds of several local nonprofit organizations.

Designated Grant and Organization Fund Transfer Recipients:

Ansonia Public Schools
Assumption Church
Boys & Girls Club of the Lower Naugatuck Valley
Central Connecticut Coast YMCA
City of Derby
Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station
Derby Public Library
Griffin Hospital, Health Initiative for Men
Housatonic Council, Boy Scouts of America
Lower Naugatuck Valley Parent Child Resource Center
Oak Cliff Cemetery Association
Planetree, a Subsidiary of Griffin Health Services, Inc.
Plumb Memorial Library
Recreation Camp Inc.
Seymour Oxford Rotary Club
Seymour Pink, Inc.
Town of Seymour
Trinity Cemetery Association
Trinity Episcopal Church

A GRANT STORY...



Lillian and Donald Smith

The Donald W. and Lillian C. Smith Family Fund benefits four of the family's favorite Valley charities: The Boys & Girls Club of the Lower Naugatuck Valley, the Seymour-Oxford Rotary Club, Trinity Episcopal Church and Trinity Cemetery Association, organizations they have supported all their life. Designated funds help the organization(s) secure long term sustainability.

Community Investments

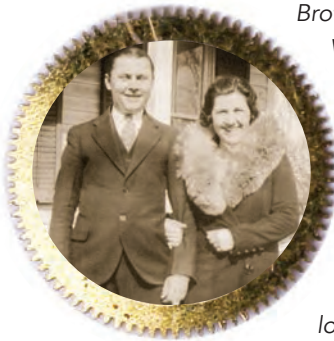
Scholarships

Scholarship Funds provide awards and scholarships to students chosen through a selection process at individual high schools, elementary schools or community organizations.

Scholarships Provided through:

Academy of Our Lady of Mercy, Luralton Hall
 Ansonia Public Schools
 Ansonia Rotary Club
 Assumption School
 Boys & Girls Club of Lower Naugatuck Valley
 Bunnell High School
 Derby Public Schools
 Emmett O'Brien Regional Technical School
 Hamden High School
 Oxford High School
 Seymour High School
 Shelton High School
 St. Joseph Parish - Angel Fund
 West Haven High School

A GRANT STORY...



Joseph and Pauline Warichar

Brothers Don and Joe Warichar, wanted to have more impact with the scholarship fund they established in honor of their parents, Joseph and Pauline Warichar. They worked with VCF to create a pilot scholarship program at Derby High School, changing their 1-year scholarship to a scholarship that would be renewable for up to 4-years for the recipient. Ben S., the 2015 scholarship recipient said, "It is an honor to be chosen as a recipient for the Joseph and Pauline Warichar Memorial Scholarship. It is heartwarming to know that a family from my hometown is so generous to help someone pursue his dreams."

Unrestricted and Preference Funds

Unrestricted and Preference Funds allow the VCF Board of Directors to address a pressing need of an organization or community.

Unrestricted and Preference Fund Recipients:

Ansonia School Readiness
 Area Congregations Together, Inc.
 Catholic Charities Archdiocese of Hartford
 Derby Historical Society
 Friends of the Ansonia Library
 Housatonic Council, Boy Scouts of America
 Junior Achievement of Western CT
 Shelton Historical Society

A GRANT STORY...



A United Methodist Homes resident enjoying the Music & Memory Program

VCF's unrestricted and preference fund support enabled United Methodist Homes to launch Music and Memory at Wesley Village in Shelton. This program provides training to elder care professionals, as well as family members, to create and provide personal playlists that help residents struggling with dementia to reconnect with the world through music triggered memories.

Stewardship of Charitable Assets

Despite a turbulent and volatile year in the global markets, stewardship of the Valley's charitable assets again generated positive net investment returns in excess of the market benchmarks.

The Valley Community Foundation (VCF) and The Community Foundation for Greater New Haven (TCF) have been connected through a solid philanthropic partnership throughout the past 12 years. The assets entrusted to VCF have been managed in cooperation with TCF since VCF's inception in 2004. This access to TCF's commingled investment management program through TCF's Corporation, which has been a Connecticut registered investment adviser since 2014, affords VCF the benefits of a diverse, long-term endowment model allocated across domestic and international segments of the market through the retention of 39 world-class sub-advisors across nine asset classes.

VCF is pleased to report that, despite a down year where many market indices and benchmarks produced negative returns, the organization reported a 2.6% return, net of the cost of the sub-advisory expenses, against the market benchmark of (0.8) for the year ended December 31, 2015. We are proud that since VCF's inception, the endowment has had a consistent annualized return of at least more than 2% above the market benchmark, after the costs of producing that return.



"VCF is proud to partner with TCF, who manages our assets and endowments. Our successful investment program exists because of a strategic asset allocation framework designed by TCF. VCF funds benefit from participating in TCF's solid

commingled investment pool, and overall stewardship is achieved through TCF's disciplined and integrated spending and investment policies. Because of this unique partnership, VCF's funds are strongly positioned to meet the charitable needs of today and in the future."

*Bill Nimons
Treasurer, Valley Community Foundation*

INVESTMENT PERFORMANCE					
Annualized return, expressed as a %, net of sub-advisory investment expense.					
	TRAILING 1 year	TRAILING 3 years	TRAILING 5 years	TRAILING 7 years	TRAILING 10 years
Investment Performance Actual	2.6	9.9	8.5	11.3	6.8
Market Benchmark ¹	(0.8)	6.0	6.0	9.0	4.2
Value Added	3.4	3.9	2.5	2.3	2.6

1. The market benchmark is equal to the rate of return produced by specific market indices representing the asset classes contained in the asset allocation model, with such market indices weighted in accordance with that model.

Past performance is no indication of future results.

Fiscal 2015 in Review

Financial Position

Assets

Cash and cash equivalents
Investments at market value - component funds
Investments at market value - organization funds

Total investments
Other assets

Total assets

Liabilities and Net Assets

Accounts payable and accrued expenses
Organization funds
Grants payable

Total liabilities
Unrestricted net assets

Total liabilities and net assets

2015

2014

\$622,904
13,571,349
5,609,592

\$720,195
13,066,177
5,557,536

19,803,845
103,142

19,343,908
124,475

\$19,906,987
\$19,468,383

\$3,085
5,609,592
396,702

\$5,767
5,557,536
262,684

6,009,379
13,897,608

5,825,987
13,642,396

\$19,906,987
\$19,468,383

Statement of Activities

Revenue

Contributions
Less contributions to organization funds

Net Contributions
Investment gain, net

Total revenue

Expenses

Grants approved, net
Grants for program management and direct grant activities

Total grants expense
Less grants from organization funds

Net grant expense

Development, donor services and fund stewardship
Management and general administration

Total administration expense

Total expense

Increase in Net Assets
Net Assets - Beginning of Year

Net Assets - End of Year

\$1,685,694
(67,375)

\$1,829,036
(137,737)

1,618,319
425,112

1,691,299
1,159,875

\$2,043,431
\$2,851,174

1,447,659
227,936

1,316,585
199,915

1,675,595
(165,965)

1,516,500
(162,689)

1,509,630

1,353,811

177,284
101,305

155,489
88,851

278,589

244,340

\$1,788,219
\$1,598,151

255,212
13,642,396

1,253,023
12,389,373

\$13,897,608
\$13,642,396

Councils, Committees and Volunteers

Board of Directors

John Zaprzalka, *Chair*
 Alan Tyma, *Vice Chair*
 Bill Nimons, *Treasurer*
 Lynne Bassett Perry,
Secretary
 Susan Coyle
 Tim Dillon
 Rick Dunne
 William Ginsberg
 Robert Lesko
 Jimmy Ryan
 Donald Smith, Jr.
 Karen Stanek
 Diane Stroman
 Leon Sylvester

Board Advisory Council

Walter Archer III
 Bill Bassett
 Al Cameron
 Jamie Cohen
 Peter Francini
 Dave Grant
 Liz Kennard
 Ernie Luise
 Michael Marcinek
 Frank Michaud Jr.
 Ned Miller
 Bill Miller Jr.
 Dan Onofrio
 Fred Ortoli
 Ellen Pagliaro
 Joseph Pagliaro, Jr.
 Mary Pepe
 David Rifkin
 Ned Rydzy
 Ed Santa
 Kenneth Schaible
 Janice Sheehy

Marianne Smythe
 Gregory Stamos
 Fred Stanek
 Thomas Sutnik
 Patricia Tarasovic
 Jack Walsh
 Thomas Welch

Development Committee

Susan Coyle, Co-Chair
 Joseph Pagliaro, Jr.,
 Co-Chair
 Robert Lesko
 Lynne Bassett Perry
 Kathy Riddle
 Diane Stroman
 Marianne Smythe
 Leon Sylvester
 Alan Tyma

Program Committee

Lynne Bassett Perry,
Chair
 Bill Nimons
 Jimmy Ryan
 Donald Smith, Jr.
 John Zaprzalka

Community Grants Committee Members

Liz Kennard, Co-Chair
 Janice Bonaparte
 Beth Carson
 Aleta Miner
 Fred Ortoli
 Ray Oppel
 Paul Roy
 Lorie Vaccarro
 Jack Walsh

Responsive Grants Community Reviewers

Judy Augusta
 Rich Bshara
 Kate Cosgrove
 Marc Garofalo
 Jane Hull
 Ed Kisluk
 Ruth Parkins
 Jimmy Tickney

Finance Committee

Bill Nimons, *Chair*
 Diane Stroman
 John Zaprzalka

Governance Committee

Jimmy Ryan, *Chair*
 Tim Dillon
 Donald Smith, Jr.
 Karen Stanek
 Alan Tyma

Partners in Philanthropy

The Valley Community Foundation (VCF) partners with The Community Foundation for Greater New Haven (TCF) to carry-out its mission in Ansonia, Derby, Oxford, Seymour and Shelton. This relationship provides VCF with access to the strength of TCF, which was established in 1928 and is one of the oldest and largest community foundations in the United States and remains the largest grantmaker to nonprofits serving a twenty-town region in the heart of central Connecticut. VCF shares a CFO and uses TCF's investment expertise, programming and development knowledge. This strong relationship provides VCF with an immediate support structure that allows it Board of Directors to focus on leadership and development.

VCF thanks the following outgoing Board members:

L TO R, Tim Dillon, Rick Dunne, Leon Sylvester



VCF Board and Staff

L TO R, SEATED:

Bill Nimons, Alan Tyma, Sharon Closius,
 John Zaprzalka, Lynne Bassett Perry

L TO R, STANDING:

Jimmy Ryan, John Ready, Jennifer Magri,
 William Ginsberg, Valerie Knight-Di Gangi,
 Diane Stroman, Beth Colette, Andrew Alden,
 Donald Smith, Jr.

NOT PICTURED:

Susan Coyle, Robert Lesko, Karen Stanek

VCF wishes to thank The Community Foundation for Greater New Haven staff and all the volunteers for their time, contributions and expertise.

Your Impact, Made Easy

Our mission is to connect private philanthropy to the long-term public good of the Valley. Fulfilling your charitable wishes is central to our mission.

We will help you tailor your giving to fit your charitable goals and your personal situation. You may choose to give now or give later. Either way, we will ensure that your legacy and interests will be honored today, tomorrow and forever.

Our staff and board have deep local knowledge that helps determine the areas of greatest need and where our grants can be most effective.

Your gift benefits from being part of a larger whole. Our funds are managed as part of The Community Foundation for Greater New Haven's (TCF) diversified investment portfolio. Over time, as the endowment grows, so do your funds and your ability to award grants. By investing your charitable gift with us, you are increasing the long-term impact of your gift.

The Valley Community Foundation offers several types of funds as referenced throughout this report. You can support an existing fund or establish a new fund with the use of cash, appreciated securities, IRA distributions and much more.

You can help your community for generations to come by creating a permanent endowed fund.

STEP 1:

Tell us how you would like your fund to be used. Would you like your gift to be flexible so that it can address any community problem or opportunity? Or, is there a specific charity or cause that you would like to support? Would you like to be involved in the grantmaking?

STEP 2:

Tell us what you would like to name your fund. This will be your legacy: One hundred years from now, your fund will still be making gifts. Or, you may set up the fund anonymously if you prefer.

STEP 3:

Contact the office by calling (203) 751-9162 or visit us at 253-A Elizabeth Street in Derby, CT and we will prepare the fund agreement that fits your philanthropic goals.

All donations to the Valley Community Foundation are tax-deductible.



“COMING TOGETHER IS THE BEGINNING;
KEEPING TOGETHER IS PROGRESS;
WORKING TOGETHER IS SUCCESS.”
— Henry Ford



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