



Building a
Foundation
of Legacies

Building a Foundation of Legacies



Sharon L. Closius & John J. Zaprzalka

Dear Friends,

The Valley is a true testament of community spirit. One of the core missions of community foundations is to support and encourage local pride and civic engagement. It is critical to the health of the region to have people from different walks of life, different ages, and different ethnicities work together to help ensure the collective wellbeing of our beloved Valley.

It's those who came before us who built the Valley's reputation of being home to hard-working, faith-filled, family-centered citizens. There is a history of people who put others ahead of self, who work together for the greater good. As your community foundation, we hope to inspire you, your friends, family, and colleagues, to keep these enduring qualities alive.

It's in recognition of this tradition that we are pleased to present our 2014 annual report "Building a Foundation of Legacies."

Each fund at the Foundation has a story of a donor wanting to give back and make a permanent impact. Whether it's helping a student pursue higher education, aiding a key nonprofit sustain its critical work, or supporting the purchase of books at the local library, our funds are making a difference in the Valley today and will do so for years to come.

In 2014, Valley Community Foundation (VCF) established 10 new funds and awarded just over \$1.3 million in grants to those making a difference in our region! In addition, we received \$1.8 million in gifts from individuals and organizations, which together with a great investment return, our assets grew from \$17.7 to nearly \$19.5 million.

We are the Valley's only permanent philanthropic vehicle able to bring people together and collectively build a foundation of legacies that will forever make a difference. It is truly an honor for us to serve the Valley community as VCF's Board Chair and CEO.

John J. Zaprzalka
Board Chair

Sharon L. Closius
President & CEO

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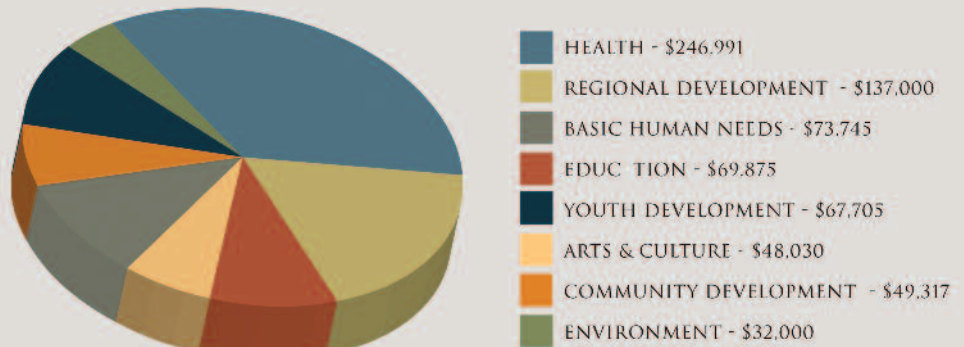
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For Good • For Ever • For the Valley

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 2014



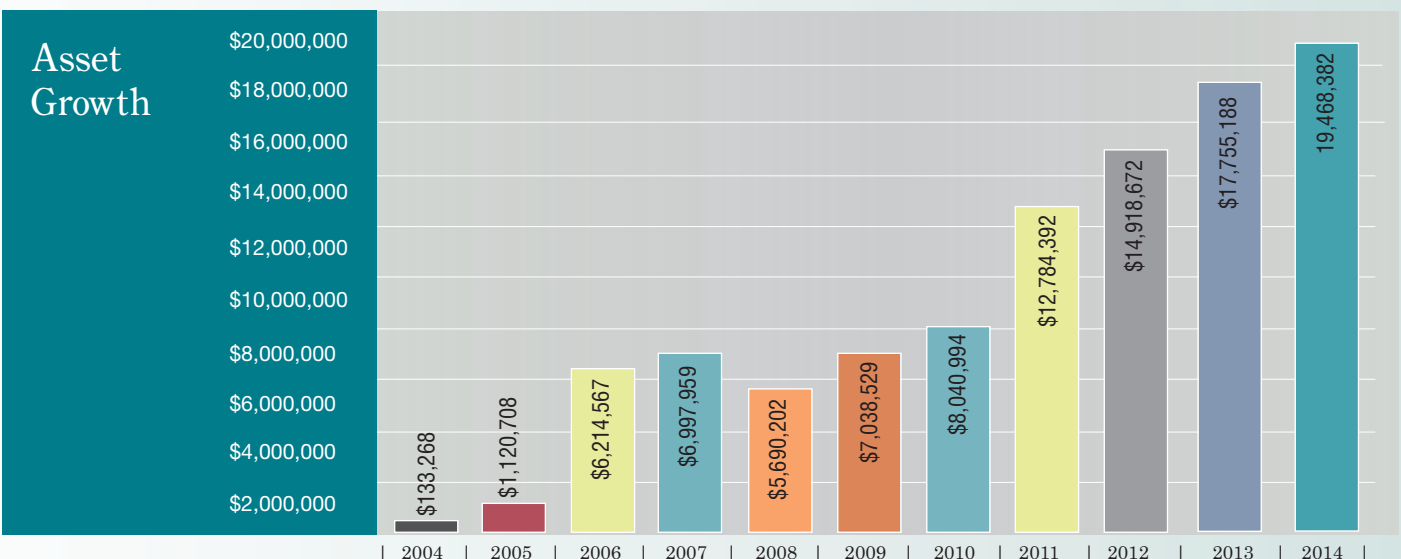
GRAND TOTAL \$724,663

Note: This data reflects grants made through the Responsive, Revolving Response, and Community Grants process, and includes multiyear grants. See page 22 for further details.

NEW FUNDS IN 2014:
10

2014 GRANTS AWARDED:
\$1,316,585

2014 CONTRIBUTIONS:
\$1,829,036



Coming Together for Something Big

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR



Howe Avenue Fire

Less than a week into 2014, a fire ripped through Howe Avenue in Shelton's downtown area leading to a building collapse, a broken water main, several destroyed businesses and dozens of displaced residents. Other firefighters from the Valley and its surrounding towns, led by Echo Hose Hook & Ladder Co. 1, responded and braved bitterly cold temperatures to extinguish the flames. The structure was destroyed and ultimately collapsed onto itself but, despite the devastation, no lives were lost.



Photo courtesy of the Valley Independent Sentinel

The fire left 30 people homeless and ruined seven businesses. Many residents living above those businesses lost everything they owned. Valley nonprofit organizations responded immediately and collaborated with unprecedented urgency. TEAM, Inc. was the first nonprofit organization on the scene and set up a station to provide information on services and assisted with coordinating response efforts. Echo Hose and the Connecticut Red Cross helped victims of the fire find immediate, short-term housing while TEAM worked with city and state officials to coordinate critical services and identify more permanent housing options.

Nearby hotels provided free immediate housing. Echo Hose, along with BHcare, My Sister's Place and other local nonprofits and businesses, collected food and clothing for those who lost their homes. Conti Storage, a local storage facility, made 11 units available to store donated nonperishables and clothing until residents found more permanent housing. Spooner House provided new mattresses to the victims. The City of Shelton collaborated with restaurants to provide meals for the individuals and families. Boy Scouts Troop 23 held a can and bottle drive. Additional organizations also contributed gift cards to Stop & Shop and Walmart.

Events like this can cripple a nonprofit's budget. A combined partnership of local funders also helped to bring much needed financial support to TEAM's relief efforts. The Valley Community Foundation, Valley United Way, Griffin Hospital, and the Katharine Matthies Foundation provided a total of \$27,500.

TEAM sustained relief efforts to help families become self-sufficient again, many of whom were already disadvantaged. The organization was able to place all of the fire victims in stable housing within six months and additionally covered the cost of security deposits for all the victims.

Disasters like these are defining moments, especially in the Valley community, where organizations and their leaders collaborate with the common goal of collectively impacting those affected by tragedy.



Photo courtesy of the Valley Independent Sentinel

"It was a humbling experience to see our staff respond to this event with such compassion. They built professional relationships with the clients who now found themselves without homes, worked extra hours to accommodate the victims' schedules and went well beyond their roles at TEAM. I am so proud and grateful to have been a part of the many organizations that helped make an impact in the lives of those so closely affected by this fire." - Suzanne Reilly, Director of Family Support Services, TEAM, Inc.

Coming Together for Something Big

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR

Baseline Community Indicators Report

For nearly 20 years, the Valley has come together to collect quality of life data throughout the region including the Healthy Valley Report in 1996, the Mt. Auburn Report in 2001, the Yale-Griffin Prevention Research Center's Community Health Profile and the Valley Cares, Quality of Life Report in 2010. Early in 2014, the Valley Council for Health & Human Services approached the Valley Community Foundation (VCF) with a request to fund an update to the 2010 Valley Cares Report.

In mid 2014, VCF initiated community conversations to discuss the need for a common-source document which would expand the scope of the Valley Cares Report, and provide a comprehensive review of demographic, economic, health and education issues shaping the Valley communities. An advisory committee was formed in the fall comprised of key stakeholders and nonprofit organizations to discuss critical focus areas affecting the Valley

community and to define the scope of a baseline report. VCF committed financial resources to support the collection of the data and the production of a baseline indicators report as the first step in its strategic initiative work.

The Town of Beacon Falls and Burrough of Naugatuck were added as a result of their interest in participating in this collaboration, and their inclusion in the region's recognition for the All-American City Award in 2000. These communities were added to the five core Valley towns of Ansonia, Derby, Oxford, Seymour and Shelton.

The report represents the start of a multi-year process, which will culminate in 2016 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 report 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 region.



Photo: Baseline Community Indicators Report Committee –

Seated, left to right: Beth Comerford, Sharon Closius, Ken Roberts, Laura Downs, Kurt Miller, Mark Abraham, Lynne Bassett Perry
Standing, second row: Karen Spargo, Suzanne Reilly, Reina Marasco, Valerie Knight-DiGangi, Tom Long, Jack Walsh, Fran Scarpa,
Mary Nescott, Christine Marr, John Ready, Michael Wynne, Mary Buchanan, David Morgan, Joanna Rogalski
Missing from photo: Arthur Bogen, Jimmy Ryan, John Saccu

Beyond Grantmaking

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR

One of the distinctions of a community foundation is its varied grant distribution programs. Our Funds carry out donor charitable intentions, respond to needs, and anticipate community opportunities.

Valley Community Foundation (VCF) is the beneficiary of a large unrestricted gift from a Fund at the Community Foundation for Greater New Haven (TCF) which allows our Board to design a multi-faceted grant program. The largest and most competitive program is our annual Responsive Grant Program, which VCF does in partnership with TCF. Organizations apply for a grant either for single year or multi-year support. The benefit of awarding a multi-year grant to a nonprofit is to provide a stable source of support, allowing the organization to do the proposed work without having to re-apply for annual funding during the course of the project or program.



“It's all about the impact. We take our role very seriously and do our best to ensure that today's grantmaking dollars can and will make a positive impact in the community, not just tomorrow but for months and years to come.”

Lynne Bassett Perry
Chair, Program Committee
Valley Community Foundation

This year, VCF takes you beyond grantmaking to see what happens after a grant is awarded. Here is how three different Valley nonprofits have turned VCF grant dollars into positive change for the Valley Community.

CT Brownfields Land Bank



In 2013, CT Brownfields Land Bank (CTBLB) was approved for a three year multi-year grant of \$46,500. CTBLB has addressed an unmet need by becoming the first land bank in the state solely dedicated to working to remediate and redevelop the abundance of brownfields and other environmentally damaged sites located in the Valley region and Route 8 corridor.

During its first year, CTBLB engaged in educational outreach to local officials and stakeholders. It succeeded in establishing dialogue with State Environmental and Economic Development staff and private developers, as well as with representatives from the Environmental Protection Agency and the CT Department of Public Health. As a result of these efforts, CTBLB hopes to obtain contaminated land in Ansonia and Derby for remediation and eventually redevelopment.



Beyond Grantmaking

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR

Healthy Eyes Alliance



In 2013 the Healthy Eyes Alliance (HEA) was approved for a multi-year grant of \$20,400 to support their important program focused on ensuring healthy eyes for preschool children from low-income communities in the Valley. In year one, HEA provided vision screening, referral and follow up services to 75 children participating in the Ansonia School Readiness Program.

HEA also attended the annual Children's Health and Safety Fair in Shelton where they provided participants with eye screenings, eye health information and eye glasses that simulated the four major eye diseases.

Prior to all screenings, informational packets, including an explanatory letter, were sent home to parents informing them of the screenings and their importance in their child's health. At the completion of the screenings, all parents received a result form that explained any recommended next steps in the treatment process to identify and correct potential vision problems.

TEAM's Valley Diaper Bank Initiative

In 2013, TEAM, Inc., the federally designated anti-poverty agency serving the Valley region, solidified their Valley Diaper Bank (VDB) initiative to connect families via a basic human need (diapers), with solutions that lead to well being, self sufficiency, and full participation in the community. Valley Community Foundation (VCF) approved a \$45,000 multi-year grant to support this effort.

According to the National Diaper Bank Network, some families resort to cleaning out or drying soiled disposable diapers and reusing them in order to meet their diaper needs. Leaving children in diapers longer between changes can pose health issues to the child, adding yet another stressor to a parent struggling to make ends meet. This can eventually lead to lower self-esteem and depression among parents who are not able to provide adequate diapers. In nearly two years of operation, TEAM's VDB has seen 382 families and distributed more than 142,758 diapers to 443 Valley children in need!



Prior to TEAM's VDB initiative, there was a significant diaper resource deficit in the Valley. TEAM had been struggling to systematically address diaper need in the Valley since the ARRA/Stimulus Act in 2010, but it wasn't until it received VCF's multi-year grant funding that it was able to leverage increased donations for this critical project.

These organizations are just a few examples of the wonderful work that is happening throughout the Valley with VCF's grantmaking support.

Building Community

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR

A community that is informed, healthy, and philanthropic is one that is unified in its purpose—to ensure that everyone works together for the common good. As we partner with our donors, Valley Community Foundation (VCF) is helping to keep the Valley community alive and thriving. Here are just a few examples of how VCF is steadily building a foundation of legacies.

Building an Informed Community



VCF knows how vitally important it is to keep the community current on various topics that impact the Valley Region. To that end, VCF's bimonthly newsletter, Legacy Matters was distributed throughout the Valley to more than 1,000 households and businesses in 2014. Readers learned about issues such as homelessness, disaster management, food insecurity, preventive health management, and the history of valley philanthropists. Keeping residents informed helps to bring the Valley communities even

closer and more connected together. Look for regional economics, recreation, land conservation and civic vitality to be addressed in coming issues.

In 2014, VCF continued to expand its technical assistance program for Valley nonprofits, and, together with The Community Foundation for Greater New Haven (TCF), offered several engaging and informative workshops throughout the year. From Grantwriting 101 to Strategic Planning, Preparing a Fund Raising Plan, and Communicating Impact, Valley NPOs received tips and techniques about how to make their agencies even stronger and more sustainable in the future.

Building a Healthy Community



We partnered with a wide variety of Valley nonprofits to continue to make the Valley a healthy place to live, work and play in 2014 and beyond.

VCF helped to build awareness about community health and wellness issues through its sponsorship grant program. VCF supported participants Pounding the Pavement for Pink as they raised funds to support Seymour's Pink's Breast Care Initiative; Pedaled for the Parent Child Resource Center; or learned about drug and alcohol abuse prevention at BHcare's Piece of the Prevention Puzzle Workshop. Oxford residents ran/walked to help support area Veterans; Head Start teachers in Ansonia learned how to serve as positive role models for their students' health and wellbeing; and residents from Derby, Shelton, and beyond ran in the annual Thanksgiving Commodore Hull Road Race to support the Lower Naugatuck Valley Boys and Girls Club.

We proudly supported these and other efforts to strengthen the Valley's wellbeing.



Building Community

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR

Building a Philanthropic Community: The Great Give 2014



An exciting way that Valley Community Foundation (VCF) has worked to help build philanthropy in the Valley is through The Great Give®, an online 36-hour giving event that benefits nonprofits serving the Greater New Haven region. The Great Give helps nonprofits diversify their donor base and raise their profile among the community.

The Great Give 2014 was another huge success: Valley donors raised more than \$192,000 in donations for 29 Valley nonprofits! TCF has hosted this event for four years; this was VCF's third year participating in the event.

Building community is a joint effort between effective nonprofits and donors. In addition to gifts from donors, VCF distributed \$25,000 in matching funds and grant prizes to incentivize giving. Excluding prize money, nearly \$60,000 from 654 donations came from donors who live or work in the Valley; those gifts supported 85 nonprofits who participated in The Great Give.

The following is a list of nonprofit recipients supported by Valley donors during the 2014 Great Give event:

Agency on Aging of South Central Connecticut, American Foundation for the Blind, American Red Cross – Connecticut, Animal Haven, Ansonia Public Schools, Area Congregations Together, Arts for Learning Connecticut (formally known as Young Audiences of Connecticut), Audubon Connecticut, Ball & Socket Arts, BHcare, Boys & Girls Club of the Lower Naugatuck Valley, Bridges: A Community Support System, Center Stage Theatre, Christian Community Action, Christian Counseling and Family Life Center, Citywide Youth Coalition, Columbus House, Connecticut Center for Child Development, Connecticut Food Bank, Connecticut Mental Health Center Foundation, Continuum of Care, Creative Arts Workshop, Crossroads, DataHaven, Derby Community Endowment, Dwight Hall at Yale, Elm City ChamberFest, Elm City Dance Collective, Elm City International, Elm Shakespeare Company, Father McKenna St. Vincent de Paul Shoppe, Friends Center for Children, Friends of the Ansonia Nature Center, Gateway Community College Foundation, Greater New Haven Community Chorus, Griffin Hospital, Higher Heights Youth Empowerment Programs, Housatonic Council, Boy Scouts of America, Hygeia Foundation, Leadership Education and Athletics in Partnership, Legacy Theatre, Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, Literacy Center of Milford, Literacy Volunteers of Greater New Haven, Lower Naugatuck Valley Parent Child Resource Center, Mary A. Schmecker Turtle Shell Fund, Mary Wade Home, Massaro Community Farm, Moving With HOPE, Music Haven, Neighborhood Music School, New Haven Chorale, New Haven Ecology Project (Common Ground), New Haven Farms, New Haven Healthy Start, New Haven Legal Assistance Association, New Haven Reads Community Book Bank, Inc., New Haven Symphony Orchestra, Oxford Historical Society, Inc., Partnership for Strong Communities, Project Access of New Haven, Rape Crisis Center of Milford, Seymour Pink, Shelton High School Robotics Team, Shelton Historical Society, Shelton Land Conservation Trust, Site Projects, Solar Youth, Squash Haven, TEAM, Inc., The Community Foundation for Greater New Haven, The Salvation Army (Greater Valley Corps), True Colors, Valley Arts Council, Valley Community Foundation, Valley Emergency Medical Services, Valley Independent Sentinel (Online Journalism Project), Valley United Way, Valley YMCA, West Haven Community House, Whitney Players, Women's Health Research at Yale University, WorkPlace, WPKN.

Making a Difference Your Way

NEW FUNDS IN 2014

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 its purpose. Our commitment is to ensure your wishes are carried out. We offer various types of funds to reflect your different philanthropic goals and ambitions.

DONOR ADVISED FUNDS make it easy for you to actively participate in your charitable giving. You recommend what qualified nonprofit organization you want to support anywhere in the United States. You can have a single advisor or you can have an advisory committee, such as family members, or colleagues for a cause. This fund takes the place of establishing a private foundation.

DONOR DESIGNATED FUNDS are ideal when you want to support one or more of your favorite nonprofits in perpetuity. This is not just a monetary gift; it is a gift of stability for the organization. You can also designate a fund to give scholarship money to one of our local schools.

PREFERENCE FUNDS address an area of your personal interest in the community, such as early childhood education, hunger, or homelessness or a specific community, such as Ansonia, Derby, Oxford, Seymour or Shelton.

SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS support the educational advancement of students based on the specifications of your choice. A selection committee, usually within the school system, reviews applications and makes the selection based on your criteria.

UNRESTRICTED FUNDS ensure that your charitable giving is addressing the most pressing needs and opportunities in the Valley both now and in the future.

PERMANENT ORGANIZATION ENDOWMENT FUNDS AND ORGANIZATION FUNDS are established by nonprofits to benefit their organization. The difference between these two closely named fund types is that one is a permanent component fund of VCF and the other is a fund that is solely invested in the Foundation's investment portfolio. Nonprofits have different needs for ensuring their endowment or reserve fund is properly managed, and VCF is here to support those needs

In 2014, ten funds joined the VCF family. Each was established for a different reason and each will help address a different 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 that meets your philanthropic goals.

Seymour-Oxford Nursery and Child Care Association, Inc. (SONCCA) Fund



The Seymour-Oxford Nursery Child Care Association (SONCCA) was organized in 1985 to meet the ever-increasing needs of Seymour and Oxford families by providing high quality, affordable before and after school programs for school-aged children while their parents either worked or participated in training programs. SONCCA's licensed centers are located in the following schools: Bungay School, Chatfield /LoPresti School, and Seymour Middle School in Seymour and Quaker Farms School in Oxford. SONCCA is supported by grant funds, parent fees and private contributions.

SONCCA has continued to expand throughout the years and many families remain connected even as children age out of the organization's program. Former students, now young adults, come back to work at SONCCA as volunteers and interns. Some parents have contributed their time and talents through service on the Board of Directors. These bonds of friendship, community, and support result from member families' satisfaction with SONCCA's staff and programming.

In an effort to ensure the organization's sustainability, the SONCCA Board developed a reserve fund and began to explore several investment options, which included savings accounts, CDs, mutual funds as well as the Valley Community Foundation.

Making a Difference Your Way

NEW FUNDS IN 2014

“We were very interested in working with an organization that understood what we were trying to achieve and was centered here in the Valley,” said Executive Director, Arlene Swatson. “We have watched VCF’s development over the past several years and felt that the investment strategy closely resembled our goals. After careful consideration, our Board came to the conclusion that VCF would be the best partner for us.”

VCF’s funds are invested with The Community Foundation for Greater New Haven (TCF), which has more than \$460 million in charitable assets and operates a very diversified long term approach to fund management. The assets are managed with a “total return approach” to generate enough current distributable revenue to respond to charitable needs, while providing for long term growth. SONCCA Board Chair, Bob Greenfield said, “Having a stable funding source allows our staff to continue to do new and exciting things with our students. It’s a win-win for all involved.”

Kathleen and Mariano Adamo Community Service Fund



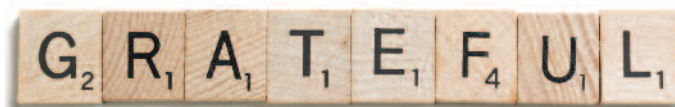
What makes a volunteer so special? Is it the countless gifts of time and self? Or perhaps it is the dedication, commitment, and consistency to go above and beyond without being asked? Kathleen and Mariano (“Molly” or “Sonny” as he was known to family and friends) Adamo embodied these qualities throughout their lives. Now their children, Lynn Adamo Giordano and Christopher Adamo have created the Kathleen and Mariano Adamo Community Service Fund at VCF to honor the community spirit of the Valley that their parents cared so deeply about.

“Our parents were born and raised here,” said Lynn. “They never left Benz Street. That’s the thing about the Valley: everyone knows everyone here. Even if you weren’t related, you were family.” Mariano owned Adamo’s Package Store on Beaver Street, and served for 20 years as a mailman in Ansonia until his retirement in 1996. Kathleen was a veteran registered nurse who initially worked for Yale-New Haven Hospital and then later at Griffin, retiring in 2002 as the Hospital’s director of quality management.

“Helping others was always important to our parents. It’s also become important to us, and this Fund gives us the ability to remember them by honoring volunteerism in the Valley.”

Mariano was a member of the Webster Hose Volunteer Firefighters, as well as the St. Michael’s Men’s Society in Ansonia. Kathleen was an active PTA member, a volunteer with the annual Relay for Life, and served as the volunteer Parish Nurse at Holy Rosary Church. It was this combined commitment to giving back and helping others that led Lynn and Chris to VCF. “We wanted to do something that would have more impact, and be more meaningful,” said Lynn. “Our mom passed in 2005, and then dad in 2007. They were well-known, loved, and respected throughout the Valley. Even now, people still come up to us and say how wonderful they were. Having this Fund at VCF, with its strong reputation within the community, helps us to make sure that their legacy won’t ever be forgotten.”

The Adamo Community Service Fund will honor those in the Community that are doing something to help others. “It really is about those throughout the Valley who are doing good work,” said Lynn. “We have the flexibility to choose any Valley nonprofit and provide them with an award from this Fund. It will specifically recognize a volunteer who is providing outstanding service to a nonprofit organization in the Valley. Helping others was always important to our parents. It’s also become important to us, and this Fund gives us the ability to remember them by honoring volunteerism in the Valley.”



Making a Difference Your Way

NEW FUNDS IN 2014

Walter and Bonnie Drozeck Fund



Where does a Brooklyn native and his Wallingford bride settle after getting married? Why Shelton, of course! College sweethearts, Walter and Bonnie Drozeck met in the 60's at the University of Bridgeport, married shortly after graduation, and moved to Shelton in 1966 to start a family. Shelton provided the Drozecks with affordable housing at the time and still allowed them to be within close proximity to their families. For the past 49 years, however, Shelton has been much more than home.

"Shelton was a great place to live then," Walt said. "And it still is." In fact, giving back to Shelton was one of the key philanthropic objectives they concentrated on during their estate planning process. So where do you turn when you are working on your estate plan and want to give back to the Valley to ensure your philanthropic goals are met, both now and in perpetuity? Why the Valley Community Foundation, of course! "Many of our friends had already worked with VCF to establish funds and found it to be an easy process," Walt said. "As people we knew began to pass away, we saw their families establish funds in their name as a way of leaving a legacy and helping the Valley. We thought about it for a while and felt this was something we were inspired to do." Bonnie agreed. "We wanted to be able to have an impact on our community – both now, by establishing this fund, and later on through our estate."

Both Walt and Bonnie shared passionate careers in education: Bonnie taught physical education for 32 years; the last 21 in Shelton, while Walt taught elementary education in Fairfield. The two have been actively involved within the Shelton community from the very beginning. From a neighborhood babysitter's club, to the Cub Scouts, to the Women's Club, to Walt's service as a Shelton Alderman, the Drozecks have always kept their community top of mind.

The Drozecks have contributed to many of Shelton's nonprofits throughout the years. Their Fund at VCF will benefit nonprofit organizations based in Shelton, wherever a need presents itself. "We

have lived in the same house near the Trumbull and Monroe town lines for the past 49 years," Walt said. "Shelton has been very good to us. Now we want to give back to our community. Establishing this Fund and directing a portion of our estate to it, allows us to do just that."

Griffin Family Memorial Fund



Losing someone dear is never easy. On May 5, 2012, the Griffin family of Oxford suffered an incredible loss when then 31 year old William Griffin Jr., or Billy as he was known to those closest to him, succumbed to an addiction to drugs that unfortunately so many people struggle with today. The Griffins lost a son, brother, uncle, grandson, nephew, cousin, and friend to many. In the days immediately following Billy's passing, the outpouring of support from the community and beyond surrounded the family with a blanket of love. Out of this inconceivable tragedy has arisen both hope and commitment to honor Billy's life by educating young people about the dangers of drug addiction.

"We wanted the kindness of others and the numerous monetary gifts and contributions we received to help pay tribute to Billy's memory in the community where we were raised and he lived his entire life," said his sister Nicole Griffin. "The Valley Community Foundation was suggested by a family friend as a vehicle to establish a Fund in his memory. Our family has roots in the Valley, specifically in Oxford. It is because of that lifelong connection to Oxford that the Valley Community Foundation was the clear choice for creating the Griffin Family Memorial Fund."

Making a Difference Your Way

NEW FUNDS IN 2014

The goal of the Fund is quite simple: to support drug awareness programs that educate Oxford's youth about drug abuse and the consequences of addiction. "We originally were thinking about a scholarship at Oxford High School, but VCF provided us with several different options and really listened to what we were trying to accomplish," said Nicole. "It became clear to our family that what we really wanted to do was to remember Billy by letting others know how to stay drug-free. That's why we have created this Fund."

The Griffins hope to tell Billy's story to Oxford High School students, to share with them the irreparable damage drugs can do to a person and his/her family. "We also want these young people to know the good parts of his life; about his quick wit and huge smile," said Nicole. "Billy was truly a kind young man with so much potential. If one student thinks twice about abusing drugs because of Billy's story, we will have accomplished our goal."

Michael R. McMahan Scholarship Fund



Shelton High School (SHS) mourned the untimely loss of an alum in the summer of 2007. Michael McMahan, a graduate of the class of 2005, tragically passed away in an automobile accident at the young age of 19. His parents, Michael Sr. (Mike) and Monica, created a scholarship at SHS to honor the memory of their son and to benefit graduates who shared his passion for the Italian language and culture.



"Initially piqued by his interest in his grandfather's heritage, Michael began studying the Italian language as a freshman at SHS," said Monica. Proud of his heritage, Michael became excited about learning the language from Mr. Mortalie and Mrs. Ryan, who were known for their engaging classes at SHS. As a result of his growing passion for the Italian culture, Michael travelled to Puglianello, Italy, as part of former Derby Mayor Marc Garofalo's Sister City Program in 2002. He immersed himself in the Italian way of life and developed his language skills by learning the regional dialect. Michael returned to Italy again in his junior year to spend time with his host family, and was honored by Puglianello Mayor, Tonino Bartone, for being a model representative of the Sister City Program. He was the youngest person on the trip.

"This scholarship is in memory of our son, who had compassion for his family, a passion for music, language, and art, and a kind and gentle spirit."

Pleased with previous interactions with VCF through the Nicolari-Gura Scholarship Fund, the McMahons established the Michael R. McMahan Scholarship Fund at the Foundation to ensure that Michael's legacy will live on and impact generations to come.

"Michael did a lot of things in his 19 years," said Mike. "He participated in soccer and track, and kept busy with his guitar, art, dancing, skiing, hiking, and biking. He took art classes with Shelton art teacher Bob Boroski, coached the Boys Gymnastics team and participated in gymnastics at Polly's School of Gymnastics in Stratford. He also broke the pole vaulting record at SHS (which had been held for 20 years when he exceeded it,) and which he held for the past 8 years until it was recently broken. He truly brought passion to whatever he did." "This scholarship is in memory of our son, who had compassion for his family, a passion for music, language, and art, and a kind and gentle spirit," said Monica. "This Fund will honor his legacy long after we are gone."

Making a Difference Your Way

NEW FUNDS IN 2014

Gary & Francesca (Riggio) Scarpa Fund for Center Stage Theatre



Act 1, Scene 1. Nice, outgoing Valley boy meets nice, outgoing New Haven girl, each with a passion for the dramatic. Courtship ensues, resulting in marriage and family. Act 1, Scene 2. Valley couple embarks on theatrical adventure spanning nearly 40 years, including the creation of the Youth CONNecTion, a summer theatre group comprised of high school and college students, and eventually the Valley's premier performing arts organization, Center Stage Theatre. Act 1, Scene 3. In 2014, well known, loved, and respected Valley couple establishes the Gary and Francesca (Riggio) Scarpa Fund for Center Stage Theatre to provide a solid base of funding support for Center Stage now and in the future.

When the Scarpas began performing and directing all those years ago, little did they know that their journey would eventually include philanthropy. "Our work with young people has always included community outreach," said Gary. "Now we are grateful that Center Stage is the recipient of a tremendous outpouring of giving from so many different individuals, corporations, and foundations. In order for us to continue our dream of providing live, affordable, and accessible theatre in the Valley, we wanted to take this next step and create a fund that will help to support Center Stage in perpetuity. We couldn't think of a better way to honor and thank everyone who has been there for us through all of these years."

This Fund is the Scarpa's gift to the community. "It is because of the support of our community that Center Stage has grown and flourished," said Fran. "This tide of support truly helped to guide us to where we have wanted to go. This is not just about putting a show on a stage; it's about helping to positively impact the quality of life in the Valley."

The majority of Center Stage's audience is from the Valley, but its reach continues to grow. The Scarpas have had several opportunities to move, but are committed to remaining in the Valley. "This is our home," said Gary. "We want to keep improving our space, and providing quality shows throughout the years." So what does Act 2, Scene 1 look like? "Having this Fund available helps us to keep the possibilities endless," said Fran. "We couldn't have scripted a better story."

Alexander George Wilson, Sr. Scholarship Fund



A rich tradition for service and community has been passed down in the Wilson family for generations and will now benefit graduating students of West Haven High School for years to come. Alexander George Wilson Sr. owned a plumbing and heating business and started as a career firefighter for the City of West Haven in the mid-60's. He and his wife, Eileen, had five children. Two of their sons, Alexander Jr. and Gary, would also join the fire service, as would grandson, Alexander III, years later. While raising his children, firefighting and running a business, Wilson also served in the National Guard for 15 years, was a member of the Elks Club, and President of the Polish American Political Club.

After spending years growing the profitability of the Polish American Political Club, Wilson stepped down from his role as president in 1989 due to his declining health. Rather than accepting money that was raised at an event to honor his service, he established the Alexander George Wilson Sr. Scholarship Fund, which would be awarded to a college bound male and female student from each graduating class of West Haven High School.

Generations of the extended Wilson family and their friends put in a tremendous amount of effort to plan several events in an effort to

Making a Difference Your Way

NEW FUNDS IN 2014

raise money during the first year the scholarship fund was created. Picnic fundraisers evolved into a dinner dance, which then led to the first annual Wilson Golf Classic in the spring of 1990. Alexander George Wilson Sr. witnessed the first scholarships awarded to two seniors of West Haven High School's class of 1990 just months before he passed away.

The scholarship fund was kept at a local credit union for more than twenty years and was not earning much interest. Annual fundraisers planned by the family replaced the amount awarded each year, but they became increasingly difficult to sustain. The Wilsons researched their options and means in which the fund could be invested and, after speaking with VCF, agreed that the Foundation was the best decision based on the consistent returns and their ability to administer the scholarship to West Haven High School.

"More than two decades after the first scholarships were awarded, we endowed the Fund at VCF so it could be professionally managed rather than keeping the money in a savings account and spending a considerable amount of time organizing fundraisers," said son, Alexander G. Wilson Jr. "While the recipients of this scholarship may never know what my father did for West Haven, our family is proud that his legacy will live on forever."

John and Laura Zaprzalka Family Fund



Once the Valley captures your heart, you want to give back to it, acknowledging how much your life has been enriched by this community. Just ask John and Laura Zaprzalka, who have established the John and Laura Zaprzalka Family Fund at the Valley Community Foundation. "We really wanted to do something to support the Val-

ley," said Laura. "It's been a great place to live and raise our family. Creating this Fund will help us to work toward our goal."

Laura was born in New York and lived in a few states before settling in Cheshire, CT. After college, she began working at Apicella, Testa and Company, an accounting firm in the Valley, where she met John. They were married a few years later and, after living in Shelton a short while, set up their home in Seymour. As a former New Yorker, Laura didn't understand the closeness of Valley residents. She was amazed that neighbors not only knew one another but even knew each others' extended families. She came to realize how comfortable she felt in the community and knew it was a special place. "I never felt like anywhere was truly my home," she said. "But I now feel that way here in the Valley. I appreciate its intimacy, people's generosity of spirit and their desire to help one another."



Raised in Shelton, John and his siblings took advantage of the many opportunities offered in the Valley: afternoons during the school year at the Boys and Girls Club; summers swimming at the Derby Recreation Camp; Boy Scouts; Little League and too many others to note. "In these organizations, I would find many Valley individuals who gave of themselves by volunteering their time, money and talents, giving to make the community a better place to live, work and play," said John.

Through his years of service first as Board member and then as Board Chair for VCF, John has learned first hand the benefits of Community Foundations. "I firmly believe in the community foundation model," said John. "Especially its sense of place based philanthropy – being able to give back to the community we care so much about. Creating this Fund allows us to establish our family's giving patterns so they will continue long after we are gone." Laura agreed. "We feel so fortunate to do our part to help the Valley, both now and in years to come."

"We really wanted to do something to support the Valley. It's been a great place to live and raise our family. Creating this Fund will help us to work toward our goal."

Education is Forever

NEW FUNDS IN 2014



Derby High School Scholarship Funds

A clear mission for the Derby Public Schools: make a true investment in the children of Derby from pre-school through college by bringing in grant dollars to introduce new resources, and running operations as efficiently as possible. To this end, Derby Public Schools found a solid partner with VCF.

Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Matthew Conway, met with VCF President & CEO, Sharon Closius, to review available options for the long-term investment of Derby High School scholarships and awards. "For years, Derby High School alumni, family and friends have established scholarships to honor those close to the Derby community," Matt said. "They looked to us for guidance to support our students' endeavors over the long term. I discussed with our Board members what would be best for Derby and decided that creating an easy way for people to give to or set up a scholarship fund is what we needed."

Mark Izzo, Derby Public Schools Business Manager, agreed. "From a business and process perspective, partnering with VCF made perfect sense. We were presented with a plan to aggregate our resources and invest them in a way that would be monitored, controlled, and given the opportunity to grow over time."

The assets will be professionally invested and



managed, which, over time, will make even more dollars available to students, rather than sitting in a savings account or CD. Now, as part of VCF's investment pool, Derby High School's assets will receive oversight of both the school's administration and the VCF Board of Directors.

"This is a win-win relationship where we will be able to benefit Derby High School students pursuing higher education; anyone can now help support our graduating students," Matt said. "With the rising costs of education, we want to be able to do all that we can for our students now and for years to come. This partnership will allow both Derby Public Schools and VCF to serve as entrusted community stewards with the students' best interests always in mind."

NEW FUNDS ESTABLISHED IN 2014 BENEFITTING DERBY HIGH SCHOOL

- Louis "Neni" Gaetano Derby High School Scholarship Fund
- Derby High School Endowed Scholarship Funds
- Derby High School Non-Endowed Scholarship Funds

"For years, Derby High School alumni, family and friends have established scholarships to honor those close to the Derby community."

Education is Forever

NEW FUNDS IN 2014

Shelton High School Scholarship Funds

Shelton High School is another Valley educational institution to entrust the management of Scholarship and Award Funds to VCF. The purpose of this partnership is to build a substantial scholarship and recognition program to recognize Shelton High School students for their hard work as they pursue higher education.

Dr. Beth A. Smith, Headmaster of Shelton High School, said, “Shelton High School is a learning community with high academic and behavioral expectations. We believe it is important to celebrate student achievement and to recognize those students who have met our standards. It is my firm belief that this move will achieve the goal of sustainability for our awards programs, which will continue to benefit the students of Shelton High School.”

School leaders routinely communicate to students the importance of community service and of giving back to their community. Shelton High School’s donors who have continuously supported student recognition programs, are a true testament to the importance of not only caring for current students but the future generation as well.

This partnership with VCF is a major step of collective public philanthropy to support the quality of Shelton’s education programs. Shelton’s Superintendent of Schools, Freeman Burr, envisions a collection of philanthropic funds that will be dedicated to impacting the quality of education in Shelton. The funds provide financial support broken down into four pillars of investment: student award and scholarships; teacher creativity, innovation and resources; early childhood; and quality time, such as before and after school programs and summer programs. This framework will allow interested members of the community to fund specific areas that they are passionate about and want to support.

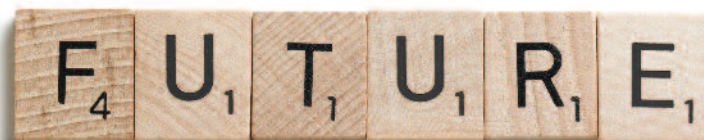


Instead of earning little interest in a savings account, Shelton High School’s scholarship and award funds will now be professionally managed. Donors will have a choice to set up a permanent award or one that will be spent down over time. Criteria and selection processes will remain between the donor and the school, and Shelton High School will continue to coordinate the selection committees and recipient notification.

VCF has the ability to make giving to the Shelton schools easy. We can now assist those who want to give back to the community and benefit Shelton students by accepting a wide variety of giving options, allowing school administration to focus on school matters. Through this partnership with Shelton High School, VCF will work to ensure the scholarship and award funds remain a viable philanthropic vehicle benefitting Shelton students for years to come.

NEW FUNDS ESTABLISHED IN 2014 BENEFITTING SHELTON HIGH SCHOOL

- Stephen and Emily Chuckta Memorial Scholarship Fund
- Domorod-Youd Shelton High School Scholarship Fund
- Lillian Pawlowski Fund
- Howard Tassitano Fund
- John J. Wabuda Memorial Scholarship Fund
- Shelton High School Endowed Scholarship Funds
- Shelton High School Non-Endowed Scholarship Funds



Funds of the Valley Community Foundation

FUNDS OF VCF

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.

Kathleen and Mariano Adamo Community Service Fund*
John and Paraskeve Vartelas 'AGAPE' Fund
Bassett Family Fund
Monty Blakeman 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 - Puglianello Sister City Fund
Walter and Bonnie Drozeck Fund*
Frey-Hershey Foundation Fund
Mario Garofalo Family Fund
Raymond Gildea Memorial Fund
David M. & Gail A. Grant Family Fund
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Jones Family Farms Fund
Kaplan Family Fund
Paul & Gloria Konwerski Family Fund
Edward and Laura Lane Family Fund
Robert C. Lang Fund
John Lauretto Memorial Family Fund
Mary Fund
William C. and Elaine N. Nimons Family Fund
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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. & Kenneth E. Schaible Donor Advised 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 & Sean Sullivan Charitable Fund
Sally & Dominick Thomas Fund
John Tyma Fund
Nancy Valentine Fund
Valley Bar Association Memorial and Commemorative Fund
Valley Pride Fund
Alphonso and Eulalia Vitello Family Fund
Warichar Family Fund
John and Laura Zaprzalka Family Fund*

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 allow you to name one or more organizations to receive an annual gift from your Fund.

Edward J. & 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. & Kenneth E. Schaible Fund for the Boys & Girls Club of the Lower Naugatuck Valley
Francis "Frank" M. Skoronski Memorial Fund
Donald W. & 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.

Anonymous
Birmingham Foundation Fund
Herbert M. Clark Fund
Derby Community Endowment Fund
Derby Public Library Endowment Fund

Funds of the Valley Community Foundation

FUNDS OF VCF

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
Recreation Camp Endowment Fund
Ritchie Fund for Plumb Memorial Library
Seymour-Oxford Rotary Club Fund
Seymour Pink Endowment Fund
Town of Seymour Endowment Fund
Seymour-Oxford Nursery and Child Care Association (SONCCA)*
TEAM, Inc. Richard J. Knoll Endowment Fund
TEAM Reserve Fund
Troop 3 - Derby BSA Alumni & 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

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.

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
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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.

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 Battaglini Memorial Fund
Stephen and Emily Chuckta Memorial Scholarship Fund*
Lou and Dolly DeFilippo Scholarship Fund
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Honorable Joseph P. Flynn and Family Scholarship Fund
Eugene Imperato Family Scholarship Fund
Francis Family Fund
Louis "Neni" Gaetano Derby High School Scholarship Fund
Geissler Family Scholarship Fund
Traci L. Haines Memorial Scholarship Fund
Arthur Hayes, Jr. Memorial Scholarship Fund
Patricia M. Kondrath Scholarship Fund
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Jesse McCord Lewis Memorial Scholarship Fund
Michael R. McMahon Scholarship Fund*
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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*

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.

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

*New fund in 2014

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*In addition, we thank the donors who made 654 gifts to our local nonprofits through the Great Give® 2014

Community Investments Grants

GRANTS

Responsive Grants

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 Public Schools - To sustain and further develop the work of the Human Relations Clubs of Ansonia and Derby. **\$16,600**

Ansonia School Readiness - Discovery - To support the continued implementation and enhancement of the Community Plan for Young Children. **\$25,000**

Area Congregations Together, Inc. - To provide general operating support for the provision of food, shelter and support services to Valley people in need. **\$50,000**

Boys & Girls Club of Lower Naugatuck Valley - To provide general operating support for cultural, recreational, physical, and educational programs to Valley youth, with a special emphasis on those children from disadvantaged backgrounds. **\$105,000**

Derby Early Childhood Council - To provide coordination services for planning, implementation and evaluation of programs aimed at examining the racial and economic barriers to student achievement and parent involvement in Derby. **\$20,000**

Griffin Hospital - To support the Valley Parish Nurse Program which provides health, educational and children's safety programs in the Valley community. **\$22,504**

Literacy Volunteers of Greater New Haven - To provide general operating support for adults to gain literacy skills in the Valley. **\$60,000**

Shelton Economic Development Corporation - To support a U.S. Economic Develop-

ment Administration grant match requirement to administer the Naugatuck Valley Corridor Economic Development District and to implement a new 5-year Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy. **\$40,000**

Shelton Historical Society, Inc. - To provide general operating support for the preservation of items of Shelton's history, educational programming and the maintenance of a museum and its collections. **\$45,000**

Valley United Way - To support the consolidation of software for managing fund raising campaigns, allocations & outcomes measurement and volunteer services onto one software platform and move the services onto a collaborative cloud based system. **\$20,000**

Visiting Nurse Association of South Central Connecticut - To support 24/7 on-call registered nurses to provide palliative care/home visits to clients in all Valley towns. **\$12,000**

WorkPlace, Inc. - To support WorkPlace Scholarships which provide job training and education funds for low-income individuals from the all Valley towns that cannot access public training funds. **\$15,000**

Revolving Response Grants

In 2014, VCF made grants up to \$10,000 which contributed to and supported nonprofits and organizations serving the Valley community. The Revolving Response Grants process is designed to promptly address the needs of our nonprofits through a simplified application process.

Ansonia Public Schools - To support an after school program, based on the Charger Club Program model, for forty 6th grade students who are reading below grade level and/or are struggling in math. This program is in partnership with the Ansonia

Nature Center and the Boys & Girls Club of the Lower Naugatuck Valley. **\$10,000**

Council of Governments of the Central Naugatuck Valley - To support an Economic Benefit Study of the Naugatuck River Greenway. **\$10,000**

Derby Senior Center - To support the purchase of two new computers and one new printer and to offer computer classes and to produce literature for members and the surrounding communities. **\$5,787**

Housatonic Valley Association - To support assisting the town of Seymour to improve river and stream health and reduce flood damage risk by building climate change resilience into its highway infrastructure. **\$10,000**

Junior Achievement of Western Connecticut - To support the expansion of programming at Irving Elementary School in Derby. **\$5,850**

Long Hill Burial Ground - To support the cutting of two dying trees and several overhanging tree branches. **\$1,500**

Seymour Fire Department - To support the purchase of portable radios to use during emergencies. **\$4,916**

Town of Seymour - To support the Culture & Arts Commission's Character Development Assemblies at Chatfield-LoPresti and Bungay Elementary Schools. **\$2,090**

Valley Emergency Medical Services - To support the purchase of training equipment, including a state of the art full body ALS mannequin trainer as well as new audiovisual equipment, for 34 paramedics. **\$5,500**

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

Community Investments Grants

GRANTS

Community Grants

This process supports smaller, volunteer and/or neighborhood grant awards of up to \$2,500.

Annual Thanksgiving Basket Committee - To support the cost to purchase perishable and non-perishable food items for distribution of Thanksgiving baskets to families in need. **\$1,000**

Ansonia Blockwatch - To support the cost of enlisting the participation of Ansonia citizens to become active blockwatchers. **\$1,700**

Ansonia High School Class of 2017 Advisory - To support the cost of the Class of 2017 Community Service Project and end of the year celebration. **\$1,750**

Ansonia Public Schools - To support the cost of purchasing materials for art clubs in Ansonia's Elementary and Middle School and to support a year end Gallery showing. **\$1,850**

Ansonia School Readiness - To support the cost of the Kindergarten kick-off event that was held January 2015 at the John G. Prendergast School. **\$2,025**

Ansonia Youth Outreach - To support the cost of providing weekend meals to 16 families for 32 weeks during the 2014-2015 school year. **\$2,500**

City of Derby, Bureau of Youth Services - To support the cost of Youth Mental Health First Aid, which will give community members, friends, teachers or anyone who works with youth a better understanding of mental health issues and learn to identify early signs and symptoms of mental health issues. **\$2,000**

Derby Historical Society - To support the cost of transportation for Valley school children so they can attend "A Day in 1762" field trip. **\$2,500**

Friends of the Derby Neck Library - To support the cost of purchasing an AED that will allow the staff to have access to lifesaving equipment for patrons of the library. **\$1,500**

Looking Up: A View from the Valley - To support the cost of producing a regionally-based, weekly TV series that takes a positive, apolitical and unique look at the Lower Naugatuck Valley. **\$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. Parent Child Resource Center is the fiduciary. **\$2,500**

Restoring Hope Ministries, Hope House - To support the cost of this program that promotes family focused activities and experiences through various venues designed to build strong family bonds and relationships. **\$1,590**

Seymour Historical Society - To support the cost of a tri-fold color brochure to promote the Historical Society that will be distributed to the media, visitor centers, chambers of commerce and other historical societies. **\$1,361**

Seymour Recreation Department - To support the cost of summer programs that are entertaining, physically active and educational for the Seymour Recreation Department summer camp which is comprised of children from grades Kindergarten through 7th grade. **\$970**

Seymour Soccer Association - To support the cost of providing Futsal training to the youth in the Town of Seymour and the

surrounding towns. Futsal trainings will help children develop their skills in the sport of soccer as individuals and as teammates. **\$2,000**

Shelton Historical Society, Inc. - To support the cost of establishing a youth group, Teen Time Travelers, which will learn, teach, and promote awareness of the Shelton Historical Society. **\$1,530**

Shelton Intermediate School - To support the cost of teaching students how to take pictures with a digital single-lens camera. **\$1,000**

Southford Falls Quilt Guild - To support the cost of "Saturday Sews" that is held at local churches and libraries. Members will produce themed quilts that when completed will be donated to charity groups or individuals in need of comfort and support. **\$2,500**

St. Mary - St. Michael Home - School Association - To support the cost for health education programs and screenings, CPR and AED training and an Automatic External Defibrillator. **\$2,500**

Valley Deaf Club - To support the cost of a brand new organization that will bring to the deaf and hearing alike many opportunities to socialize and become educated through ASL and deaf cultural classes. **\$2,000**

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**

Community Investments Grants

GRANTS

Sponsorship Grants

Nonprofit organizations can apply for support from VCF for special events, especially those events that inform the community of a particular issue.

Ansonia Cultural Commission - To sponsor the annual Ansonia Harvest Festival. **\$2,500**

Ansonia High School - To sponsor the Ansonia High School Club Fair in the Ansonia High School Media Center. **\$500**

Ansonia High School PTSO - To sponsor the 9th Annual Post Prom Event at the Connecticut Sports Center in Shelton. **\$750**

Ansonia Public Schools - To sponsor the Parent Connection Breakfast in the Ansonia High School cafeteria. **\$750**

Association of Fundraising Professionals - Fairfield County Chapter - To sponsor the Best of the State awards breakfast for National Philanthropy Day, hosted by the Fairfield and CT chapters of the Association of Fundraising Professionals at the Omni Hotel in New Haven. **\$800**

BHcare

- To sponsor the 26th Annual Bowl-2-Benefit the Umbrella Center for Domestic Violence Services, held at AMF Lanes in Milford. **\$1,000**

- To sponsor A Piece of the Prevention Puzzle: A Day of Prevention Workshops and Community Champion awards at Grassy Hill Lodge. **\$1,000**

- To sponsor the annual Holiday Gala at Grassy Hill Country Club. **\$1,000**

Boys & Girls Club of the Lower Naugatuck Valley

- To sponsor Girls Night Out, a program dedicated to girls ages 8-18 and their mothers or significant female role model an opportunity to spend some meaningful time together. **\$1,000**

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

Celebrate Shelton - To sponsor the community tree lighting at the Shelton Veterans Memorial Park. **\$1,000**

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

City of Ansonia - To sponsor the Ansonia 125 SummerFest at Nolan Field. **\$2,500**

Connecticut Partnership for Children - To sponsor the Diaper Dash 5K and Family Fun Run/Walk at Seymour High School. **\$500**

Derby High School PTO - To sponsor the Derby Post Prom event at the CT Sports Center in Shelton. **\$750**

Derby Historical Society

- To sponsor the Annual Silver Tea at Molto Bene in Ansonia. **\$250**

- To sponsor the 24th Annual Appeal & Thanksgiving Reception at Grassy Hill Lodge. **\$850**

Foundation For Life Inc. - To sponsor a bike and helmet give away event for underprivileged children at the Sports Complex of Shelton. **\$1,000**

Friends of Shelton Libraries - To sponsor a book launch of Steve Berry's historical suspense novel at the Hyatt House in Shelton. **\$1,000**

Griffin Hospital - To sponsor the Annual Gala at the Oakdale Theatre in Wallingford. **\$1,000**

Griffin Hospital/Valley Breast Health Care Fund - To sponsor the Women Making a Difference in the Valley luncheon at Grassy Hill Lodge. **\$1,000**

Housatonic Council, Boy Scouts of America - To support the "Scouting for Food" drive. **\$2,500**

International Institute of Connecticut - To sponsor the annual Naturalization Ceremony at the Klein Auditorium in Bridgeport. **\$1,000**

Junior Achievement of Western CT

- To sponsor the 29th Annual "Bowl for Kids" Bowl-A-Thon at the Nutmeg Bowl in Fairfield. **\$500**

- To sponsor the eighteenth Dr. George R. Dunbar Free Enterprise Hall of Fame at the Bridgeport Holiday Inn. **\$500**

- To sponsor the Fifth Annual JA High School Business Challenge at Fairfield University. **\$1,000**

Literacy Volunteers of Greater New Haven - To sponsor the Scrabble Challenge Fundraiser at Wilbur Cross High School in New Haven. **\$500**

Lower Naugatuck Parent Child Resource Center

- To sponsor the cost of hosting a back to school event, Food Trucks in the Valley, for kids and families in the Valley community. **\$700**

- To sponsor Fore! The Children Golf Tournament at Whitney Farms Golf Club in Monroe. **\$500**

- To sponsor the Annual Event Celebration in March at Race Brook Country Club in Orange. **\$500**

- To sponsor the 3rd Annual Pedal for PCRC community cycling event. **\$1,000**

Community Investments Grants

GRANTS

Moving With Health Oriented Physical Education, Inc. - To sponsor the 4th Family Fun Day at Willie's Field and B and B Cages in Shelton. **\$400**

New Haven Legal Assistance Association - To sponsor the 50th Anniversary Gala at the Omni Hotel in New Haven. **\$1,000**

Northeast Organic Farming Association of Connecticut, Inc. - To sponsor a Winter Conference at Western Connecticut State University. **\$1,000**

Oxford Freedom Run Committee - To sponsor the 6th annual Oxford Freedom 5K Run/Walk and the children's Rock Hopper Fun along Connecticut Route 67. **\$2,000**

Rape Crisis Center of Milford - To sponsor the 11th Annual Indoor Golf Classic at the Costa Azzurra Restaurant in Milford. **\$1,000**

Seymour Ambulance Association - To sponsor events in celebration of EMS week. **\$1,000**

Seymour Christmas Parade Association - To sponsor the Seymour Christmas Parade in downtown Seymour. **\$2,000**

Seymour Founder's Day Association, Inc. - To sponsor the 5th Annual Seymour Founders' Day in downtown Seymour. **\$2,500**

Seymour High School Prom Party - To sponsor the Seymour High School Post Prom Party at Seymour Middle School. **\$750**

Seymour Historical Society - To sponsor a speaker series for 2014. **\$3,000**

Seymour Pink, Inc. - To sponsor the 3rd Annual Pounding the Pavement for Pink 5K at the Seymour Community Center. **\$1,250**

Seymour Public Schools

- To sponsor a Teen Safe Driving Week at Seymour High School. **\$1,000**

- To sponsor a series of events for National School Bus Safety Month at Seymour Public Schools. **\$1,000**

Seymour Skate Park Committee - To sponsor the grand opening of the Seymour BMX-Skate Park at Ronald Randall Field. **\$800**

Seymour-Oxford Rotary Club - To sponsor the 4th annual pasta dinner to benefit the club's scholarship fund and other community service activities at Trinity Episcopal Church in Seymour. **\$500**

Shelton Exchange Club Foundation, Inc. - To sponsor the Winter Mini Golf Tournament at Molto Bene's in Ansonia. **\$750**

Shelton High School PTSO - To sponsor the 13th annual post prom event at the Sports Center in Shelton. **\$750**

Shelton High School Robotics Team - To sponsor the FIRST Lego League Regional Qualifying Tournament at Shelton High School. **\$1,000**

Shelton Historical Society - To sponsor the Vintage Vehicles Antique & Classic Car Show. **\$500**

St. Mary St. Michael School - To sponsor the Alumni Recognition Dinner at the Inn at Villa Bianca in Seymour. **\$250**

St. Joseph High School

- To sponsor the Post Prom event at the Rinks in Shelton. **\$750**

- To sponsor the annual Ladies Luncheon at Brooklawn Country Club in Fairfield. **\$250**

TEAM, Inc.

- To sponsor the 10th Annual Christmas Breakfast for Valley TEAM Toys 4 Kids in Seymour. **\$1,000**

- To sponsor a FoodFight program workshop for Head Start teachers and staff to learn how to transform their health and wellbeing, serve as healthy role models for their students and become agents of change in their schools and communities. **\$2,500**

- To sponsor the 7th Annual Men Who Cook fundraiser at Warsaw Park Ansonia. **\$1,000**

Town of Oxford - To sponsor the Oxford-Cultural Arts Commission's Gallery of Art at the Oxford Town Hall. **\$500**

Treasured Time - To sponsor the Extra Innings Softball Marathon, a 24-hour event, at the Ballpark at Harbor Yard. **\$500**

United Methodist Homes - To sponsor the 6th Annual Wesley Village 5k Road Race, Kids Race and Fun Walk. **\$250**

Valley Council for Health and Human Services - To sponsor the annual meeting and awards presentation at Grassy Hill Lodge. **\$1,000**

Valley Shakespeare Festival - To sponsor free outdoor productions of William Shakespeare's Much Ado About Nothing at the Shelton Riverwalk Veteran Memorial Park. **\$2,500**

Valley United Way

- To sponsor Read Across The Valley in pre-kindergarten and kindergarten classes in select venues in Ansonia, Derby, Seymour and Shelton. **\$1,500**

- To sponsor the Corporate Volunteer Council's 19th annual Back To School Clothes for Kids Project at Mead Elementary School in Ansonia. **\$1,000**

- To sponsor the Day of Action. **\$1,000**

Community Investments Grants

GRANTS

Recognition Grants

The VCF Board of Directors recognizes the contributions of outstanding individuals and organizations who 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

Bill Purcell - Grant to Lower Naugatuck Valley Parent Child Resource Center

Charles H. Flynn Humanitarian Award - Valley United Way

Joe Andreana - Grant to Boys & Girls Club of the Lower Naugatuck Valley

Gold Seal Awards - Valley Chamber of Commerce -

Bob Bradley (Gold) - Grant to Lions Club of Beacon Falls

Sue Coyle (Gold) - Grant to Center Stage Theatre

DiMatteo Foundation (Silver) - Grant to Area Congregations Together

George Logan (Gold) - Grant to Junior Achievement of Western CT

Dominick Thomas (Platinum) - Grant split between Boys & Girls Club of Lower Naugatuck Valley; BHcare Center for Domestic Violence; Valley United Way Youth Leadership Program

Good Scout Award -

Housatonic Boy Scout Council
Ned Miller - Grant to Lower Naugatuck Valley Parent Child Resource Center

Dr. John Ireland Howe Award -

Derby Historical Society
Ned Miller - Grant to Derby Historical Society

Raymond P. Lavietes Service to Youth Award -

Linda Welch - Grant to Boys & Girls Club of the Lower Naugatuck Valley

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

Women Making a Difference - Valley Women's Health Initiative -
Kayleigh Apicerno - Grant to Valley Shakespeare Festival

Marion Bradley - Grant to Valley Breast Health Care Fund

Nancy Cappello - Grant to Are You Dense

Senator Joseph Crisco - Grant to Friends of Ansonia Nature Center

Pam Petro - Grant to Area Congregations Together

Carolyn Shuster - Grant to St. Michael's Church, Naugatuck Evangelical Outreach Network.

For their Service -

Richard Knoll - in honor of his 34 years of dedicated service to TEAM and the Valley community. Grant to TEAM Inc. Endowment Fund

Six honorees of Boy Scout Troop 3 - in honor of Troop 3's 100 year Anniversary - Grant to Troop 3-Derby BSA Alumni and Friends Fund.

Donor Advised Grants

Grants from Donor Advised Funds are made by the VCF Board upon the request and with the participation of the Donor. The following is a list of organizations supported through Donor Advised Funds.

American Red Cross, Connecticut Chapter
Ansonia Public Schools
Ansonia Rescue Medical Services
Area Congregations Together, Inc. - Spooner House
BHcare
Birthright of Greater New Haven
Boy Scout Troop 3 Derby
Boys & Girls Club of The Lower Naugatuck Valley
Catholic Family Services of Ansonia
Center Stage Theatre, Inc.

Christ Episcopal Church
Clark Memorial Library
Connecticut Forest & Park Association
Connecticut Hospice, Inc.
Connecticut Partnership for Children, Inc.
Derby Day Care Center
Derby Historical Society
Derby Public Library
Elizabeth Shelton School PTO
Fair Haven Community Health Center
The Foundation School
Friends of the Ansonia Nature Center
Girl Scouts of Connecticut
Greater Valley Chamber of Commerce
Griffin Hospital
Griffin Hospital/Valley Breast Health Care Fund
Julian Taylor Fund
Junior Achievement of Western Connecticut
Housatonic Council, Boy Scouts of America
Long Hill Burial Ground Ltd.
Lower Naugatuck Valley Parent Child Resource Center
Mishkan Israel Day Camp
National Right to Work Legal Defense and Education Foundation, Inc.
Perry Hill School
Recreation Camp, Inc.
Ronald McDonald House
Salvation Army, Greater Valley Corps
Seymour High School
Shelton Economic Development Corp.
Shelton High School
Shelton Historical Society
Shelton Land Conservation Trust
Shelton Public Schools Mentoring Program
St. Vincent de Paul Society of Shelton, Inc.
Susanna Wesley School
TEAM, Inc.
University of New Hampshire
University of New Haven
Valley United Way
Valley YMCA
VARCA
Visiting Nurse Association of South Central Connecticut
Women's Business Development Council
Working Lands Alliance
Yale-New Haven Hospital, Office of Development

Community Investments Grants

GRANTS

Scholarships

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

Academy of Our Lady of Mercy,
Lauralton Hall
Ansonia High School
Ansonia Public Schools
Assumption School
Boys & Girls Club of the Lower
Naugatuck Valley
Bunnell High School
Culinary Institute of America
Derby High School
Emmett O'Brien Regional Technical School
Johnson and Wales University
Hamden High School
Oxford High School
Seymour High School
Shelton High School
St. Joseph Parish - Angel Fund
West Haven High School

Designated Grants and Organization Fund Transfers

Designated funds are established by a donor(s) to benefit specific nonprofit(s). These funds help secure sustainability. In addition, VCF holds the endowment and reserve funds of several local nonprofit organizations. The following is a list of organizations that received a grant in 2014 from a designated fund or as a distribution from their reserve fund.

Ansonia Public Schools
Assumption Church
BHcare
The Boys & Girls Club of the
Lower Naugatuck Valley
Connecticut Agricultural
Experiment Station
City of Derby
Derby Public Library
Griffin Hospital
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.
Recreation Camp, Inc.
Seymour Oxford Rotary Club
Seymour Pink, Inc.
Shelton High School
Town of Seymour
Trinity Cemetery Association
Trinity Episcopal Church
Valley YMCA

Unrestricted/ Preference Funds

Unrestricted and Preference funds allow the VCF Board of Directors to address a pressing need of an organization or community. In addition to the following organizations in 2014 these funds were used to support the Responsive grant program.

Area Congregations Together, Inc. –
Spooner House
Boys and Girls Club of The
Lower Naugatuck Valley
TEAM, Inc.

Financials/Investments

FINANCIALS

Stewardship of the Valley’s charitable assets has once 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 tightly connected through a solid affiliation throughout the past 11 years. The assets entrusted to VCF have been managed in cooperation with TCF since VCF’s inception in 2004. This relationship affords VCF the benefits of a diverse, long-term endowment model allocated across domestic and international segments of the market, which are accomplished through the retention of more than 30 sub-advisors.

This past year, TCF’s corporate arm was approved to become a Connecticut registered investment adviser for the purposes of continuing its investment management services to the nonprofit community. TCF decided in 2013 to voluntarily register under the Connecticut Uniform Securities Act as part of its continuous efforts to provide local nonprofits with the comfort of knowing that their endowment-like assets are managed according to the highest industry standards and best practices.

VCF is pleased to report a 8.6% return, net of the cost of the subadvisory expenses, against the market benchmark of 4.7% for the year ended December 31, 2014. We are equally proud that since VCF’s inception 11 years ago, the endowment has had an annualized return of 7.83%, net of subadvisory expenses, versus the market benchmark of 5.53%.



“VCF is proud to partner with TCF who manages our assets and endowments. VCF Funds benefit from participating in TCF’s solid commingled investment fund, and overall stewardship is achieved through TCF’s disciplined and integrated spending and investment policies.”

Bill Nimons,
Treasurer,
Valley Community Foundation

INVESTMENT PERFORMANCE

Annualized return, expressed as a %, net of investment management expense.

	Trailing 1 year	Trailing 3 years	Trailing 5 years	Trailing 7 Years	Trailing 10 years ¹
INVESTMENT PERFORMANCE ACTUAL	8.6	13.8	10.0	5.6	7.8
MARKET BENCHMARK ²	4.7	10.5	7.9	2.9	5.5
DIFFERENCE	3.9	3.3	2.1	2.7	2.3

¹ February 13, 2004, date of Affiliation Agreement with the Community Foundation for Greater New Haven.

² 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.

Financials/Investments

FINANCIALS

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

	2014	2013
ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 720,195	\$ 619,772
Investment at market value - component funds	13,066,177	11,899,105
Investment at market value - organization funds	5,557,536	5,094,270
Total investments	19,343,908	17,613,147
Other assets	124,475	142,041
Total Assets	\$ 19,468,383	\$ 17,755,188
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
Liabilities		
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$ 5,767	\$ 16,796
Organization funds	5,557,536	5,094,270
Grants payable	262,684	254,749
Total liabilities	5,825,987	5,365,815
Unrestricted Net Assets	13,642,396	12,389,373
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$ 19,468,383	\$ 17,755,188

FINANCIAL POSITION

	2014	2013
REVENUE		
Contributions	\$ 1,829,036	\$ 1,832,370
Less contributions to organization funds	(137,737)	(561,402)
Net contributions	1,691,299	1,270,968
Investment income	442,225	1,026,284
Realized and unrealized gain on investments, net of fees of \$94,563 for 2014 and \$118,661 for 2013	717,650	797,677
Total revenue, gains, and other support	\$ 2,851,174	\$ 3,094,929
EXPENSE		
Grants approved, net	\$ 1,316,585	\$ 1,375,388
Grants management expense and direct grant activities	199,915	262,329
Total grant and program expense	1,516,500	1,637,717
Less grant from organization funds	(162,689)	(165,130)
Net grant and program expense	1,353,811	1,472,587
Development, donor services and fund stewardship	155,489	109,303
Management and general	88,851	65,583
Total administration expense	244,340	174,886
Total Expense	\$ 1,598,151	\$ 1,647,473
Increase in Net Assets	1,253,023	1,447,456
Net Assets - Beginning of Year	12,389,373	10,941,917
Net Assets - End of Year	\$ 13,642,396	\$ 12,389,373



Board and Staff



Standing left to right: James White, Valerie Knight-DiGangi, Leon Sylvester, Donald Smith, John Ready, Drew Alden, Timothy Dillon, Beth Colette **Seated left to right:** Diane Stroman, Jimmy Ryan, John Zaprzalka, Alan Tyma, Lynne Bassett Perry, Sharon Closius

Missing from photo:

Susan Coyle, Rick Dunne, William Ginsberg, Bill Nimons and Karen Stanek



John Corrado,
VCF Intern

Special thanks to the entire staff at The Community Foundation for Greater New Haven for their operational support and expertise

VCF wishes to thank the following individuals for their time and contributions:



Outgoing Board Members

Joseph Pagliaro, Jr. and Liz Kennard



Community Grants Committee Members

Liz Kennard – Co-Chair, Karen Stanek – Co-Chair, Pablo Barriga, Lynne Bassett Perry, Janice Bonaparte, Beth Carson, Joy Demarchis, Aleta Miner, Rachel Nichols, Ray Oppel, Paul Roy, Leon Sylvester, Lorie Vaccarro, Jack Walsh

Responsive Grants Community Reviewers

Judy Augusta, Kate Cosgrove, Marc Garofalo, Ed Kisluk, Ruth Parkins, Jane Snaider, Jimmy Tickey

Leaving Your Legacy

How to Set up a Fund:

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 (VCF) offers several types of funds. You may contribute, at any amount, to an existing fund or open your own.

In just a few short steps, 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:

Call the office and we will work together to prepare the fund agreement that fits your philanthropic goals.

All donations to the Valley Community Foundation are tax-deductible. We look forward to connecting with you.

The Gates Society



For those wishing to remember the Valley as part of their estate plan, VCF has created a vehicle for legacy giving. Donors of the Gates Society have the sense of satisfaction that comes with making a commitment to the future of their community through a permanent endowment. Members will be listed in the Foundation's publications (unless donors prefer anonymity) and will be kept current on the Foundation's programs and activities.

Gates Society members inspire others to make a difference in their community. By contributing to the VCF, you will be contributing to the long-term wellbeing of the Valley today, tomorrow and forever.

The Gates Society is named to honor Ross and Frank Gates, brothers who created trusts in their family's name in the late 30's and 40's. The brothers were the last generation of a very prominent Derby family. They were part of the rich Derby and Valley history of industrial leaders with strong community service.

TCF was named beneficiary of the income of this very large trust. The documents gave broad directions for how their donation was to be used. They did express special consideration be given "to benefit residents of Derby and vicinity." Since Frank's death in 1954, TCF has been distributing the income from the Trust to benefit the residents of the Valley. In 2004, the Gates Fund seeded the formation of the VCF and now TCF undertakes its Valley philanthropy. Annually, VCF receives a substantial unrestricted appropriation from TCF to allocate and fulfill our mission to the Valley communities.

Members of the Gates Society include Jane Cohen, Walter and Bonnie Drozcek, Helen Dubrava*, Bob and Sheri Grier, Heidi Kaplan, and Dorothy Palazzi.

*deceased

