



High-Impact Philanthropy

Through its strategic grant-making programs, the Community Foundation is committed to improving the quality of life in northwest Connecticut by supporting local initiatives in the arts, community development, education, environmental conservation, health and human services.

Our generous donors and fund-holders make possible more than \$1 million in grants to worthy nonprofits and scholarships to deserving students annually. In addition to grant support, we provide counsel and leadership training to area charitable organizations, and we promote nonprofit partnerships to help meet evolving community needs.

What's more, the Community Foundation works in partnership with donors and other funders to maximize the impact—or power—of local philanthropy.

Why establish a fund through the Community Foundation?

The Community Foundation of Northwest Connecticut is a local organization with a deep commitment to the welfare of the 20 towns it serves. Because we possess an in-depth understanding of the issues, opportunities and resources that shape our region, we are uniquely suited to help donors achieve their charitable goals.

Bringing together private philanthropy for the common good is the heart of community foundation work. When individual charitable funds are pooled, their capacity to grow and impact causes or communities is maximized by virtue of our unparalleled dedication to responsible stewardship.

Whatever your goals and whatever your means, we can help you make the most of your charitable giving. Your generosity can make an impact far greater than you may imagine. Call us at 860.626.1245 to learn more.

Together, we can bring more hope, caring and goodness into the world.

The Community Foundation of Northwest Connecticut, Inc., endeavors to enrich the quality of life for residents of northwest Connecticut by facilitating local philanthropy, convening stakeholders in community welfare, strengthening the regional nonprofit network and collaborating with other funders to ensure efficient resource deployment.

Serving:
Barkhamsted
Bethlehem
Canaan/Falls Village
Colebrook
Cornwall
Goshen
Hartland
Harwinton
Kent
Litchfield
Morris
New Hartford
Norfolk
North Canaan
Salisbury
Sharon
Torrington
Warren
Washington
Winchester/Winsted



Photography by Jennifer Almquist unless otherwise noted.

Leveraging the Charitable Impulse



Here for good.



Here for good.

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Leveraging the Charitable Impulse

The notion behind a community foundation is simple and inspired: create an endowment to benefit the common good, invest its assets prudently, administer it wisely and let the yield from the principal flow back to the community.

Since its humble beginnings in 1969 with a trust fund of \$15,000, The Community Foundation of Northwest Connecticut has built an endowment, comprised of over 260 individual funds, that exceeds \$60 million. But one thing remains constant: a commitment to invest in the common good by connecting people who care with causes that matter in northwest Connecticut.

Giving Back. Giving Smarter.

Did you know that you can plan for your future *and* support the communities or causes important to you? The Community Foundation offers a variety of ways for you to give back—and give smarter.

Ways to Give

For most people, the idea of charitable giving brings to mind writing checks to their favorite nonprofit organizations. But there are more powerful ways to support the common good—like starting a fund at the Community Foundation.



PHOTO COURTESY OF HOUSATONIC VALLEY ASSOCIATION



PHOTO BY MELISSA CHAMBERLAIN COURTESY OF LITTLE GUILD OF SAINT FRANCIS

What is an endowed fund?

An endowed fund is invested for long-term capital growth and, each year, much of the income is used to support the vital work of local charities or communities and to help deserving students further their education. Because the principal is preserved, an endowed fund continues to do good—in an everlasting, meaningful way. And when individual charitable funds are pooled, their combined capacity to grow, thrive and achieve the maximum impact substantially increases. That's the power of local philanthropy.

What are the most common types of funds?

Unrestricted Funds— allow your philanthropy to adapt throughout the years to address the most pressing community-wide issues. The flexibility of an unrestricted fund enables the Community Foundation to respond to broad-ranging and timely community needs and, equally important, to support long-term solutions.

Field-of-Interest Funds— support organizations that address specific issues. A field-of-interest fund is a good choice for donors who do not want to designate individual nonprofit organizations but who have preferences concerning program areas, needs or even geographical regions.

Donor-Advised Funds— eliminate administrative burdens and offer certain tax advantages while allowing donors to maintain ongoing involvement in recommending grants. Donor-advised funds provide flexibility in both the timing of grant recommendations and in the selection of grant recipients.

Agency Funds— are a simple and effective way to build capital for nonprofit organizations. Whether endowed or expendable, agency funds demonstrate an organization's stability and vision for the future. Additionally, these funds benefit from the Community Foundation's diverse investment portfolio and modest investment fees.

Designated Funds— allow donors to support the good work of specific nonprofit organizations. And because the funds are assiduously managed by the Community Foundation, donors are assured that grants provided to the named charities are being used effectively, thereby yielding the maximum impact.

Scholarship Funds— are a vital resource that can enable students to realize their educational dreams. Whether they provide financial support for students entering a specific field of study or educational institution, in recognition of academic achievement or to address financial need, scholarship funds are a meaningful way to express one's educational values. And donors have peace of mind knowing that the Community Foundation will adeptly manage the entire scholarship process.

Charitable Endowments— are planned gifts that allow donors to combine their charitable goals with financial security. A bequest could be the most important charitable gift you ever make. That's because a planned gift established through the Community Foundation becomes a powerful and true legacy—one that will ensure that your generosity becomes a lasting tribute.

The Community Foundation of Northwest Connecticut, Inc.

Founded | 1969
 Assets | \$71.6 million
 Geographic area | 20 towns in northwest Connecticut
 Funds under management | 271
 Total 2012 scholarships awarded | \$93,275.00
 Total 2012 grants | \$2,119,339.00
 Total 2012 grants and scholarships | \$2,213,064.00
 Number of 2012 grantees | 302
 Number of 2012 scholarship recipients | 120
 Number of 2012 gifts | 2,188
 Number of volunteers | more than 125
 Gifts received in 2012 | \$19.7 million

*Michael Adamo was the driving force behind the **Mary Ellen Adamo Scholarship Fund**, which assists area students attending Nutmeg Conservatory for the Arts. Mary Ellen devoted countless hours as a volunteer at the Conservatory, where her dedication and generosity touched the lives of countless students.*



*The **Dr. John S. Glenn Fund for Nurses** provides essential training for members of Charlotte Hungerford Hospital's health-care team. Helen Glenn, herself a retired nurse, established the fund to honor her husband's deep appreciation for the contribution nurses make to medical care.*