



Fairfield County Community Foundation

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Fairfield County Community Foundation Awards \$3 Million in Grants *Fairfield County organizations receive \$2 million in funding*

NORWALK, May 7, 2009—The Fairfield County Community Foundation and its donors awarded more than \$3.1 million in grants to nonprofit organizations in Fairfield County and beyond at a recent meeting of its Board of Directors. Organizations serving Fairfield County received more than \$2.1 million in grants.

Over \$2.5 million in grants were made from donor advised funds at the Foundation to nonprofit organizations in Fairfield County and across the country. The Foundation awarded more than \$600,000 in competitive grants to organizations which serve Fairfield County residents.

“The economic downturn has placed unprecedented pressure on local nonprofits as the need for services has soared and donations have drastically decreased,” said Susan Ross, president and CEO. “The services that many of these organizations provide are critical to the health of our neighbors and communities, and without them, people in need have nowhere else to go.”

Competitive grants were made to nonprofits in the following cities and towns:

Greater Bridgeport: \$250,715

Connecticut Center for School Change: \$44,215 for the Urban School Leaders Fellowship, a Foundation program designed to train future principals in the Bridgeport, Stamford, Norwalk and Danbury school districts.

Connecticut Legal Services: \$40,000 for legal services for the poor.

Housing Development Fund: \$38,000 for foreclosure assistance and affordable housing development.

Bridgeport Public Education fund: \$25,000 for the MAACS college preparation program.

Operation Hope: \$24,000 for transitional housing benefitting homeless families.

Center for Women and Families: \$20,000 for services to domestic violence victims.

Connecticut Community Boating: \$15,000 for the summer sailing program.

Cardinal Sheehan Center: \$10,000 for the summer camp program.

Discovery Museum: \$10,000 for summer workshops.

Original Works: \$10,000 for the summer arts camp.

ABCD: \$7,500 for the library special events program.

Burroughs Community Center: \$7,000 for the summer youth travel program.

Danbury: \$64,215

Connecticut Center for School Change: \$44,215 for the Urban School Leaders Fellowship, a Foundation program designed to train future principals in the Danbury, Bridgeport, Stamford and Norwalk school districts.

Regional YMCA of Western Connecticut: \$20,000 for summer programs for youth.

Greenwich: \$16,800

Community Centers, Inc.: \$10,000 for the summer youth program.

YWCA of Greenwich: \$5,000 for the summer day camp program.

Neighbor To Neighbor: \$1,800 for the food pantry.

Norwalk: \$94,065

Connecticut Center for School Change: \$44,215 for the Urban School Leaders Fellowship, a Foundation program designed to train future principals in the Norwalk, Danbury, Bridgeport and Stamford school districts.

Carver Center: \$20,000 for the summer enrichment program.

Domestic Violence Crisis Center: \$20,000 for services to domestic violence victims.

Family & Children's Agency: \$8,000 for the Summer Stars program.

Norwalk Education Foundation: \$1,850 for Classroom Innovation Grants.

Stamford: \$153,215

Connecticut Center for School Change: \$44,215 for the Urban School Leaders Fellowship, a Foundation program designed to train future principals in the Stamford, Norwalk, Bridgeport and Danbury school districts.

Person To Person: \$24,000 for the emergency financial assistance program.

Food Bank of Lower Fairfield County: \$20,000 for food distribution.

Boys and Girls Club of Stamford: \$20,000 for the Summer Fun program.

Stamford Achieves: \$20,000 for the summer academic enrichment program.

Yerwood Center: \$20,000 for the summer Middle School Transition program.

Person To Person: \$15,000 for the summer camp program.

Stratford: \$5,600

Sterling House: \$5,600 for the Sterling Park Day Camp.

Westport: \$10,000

Interfaith Housing Association: \$10,000 for executive training consulting.

The Fairfield County Community Foundation promotes the growth of community and regional philanthropy to improve the quality of life throughout Fairfield County. Individuals, families, corporations and organizations can establish charitable funds and contribute to existing funds. The Foundation also provides philanthropic advisory services, and develops and leads initiatives to tackle critical community issues. It is in compliance with the Council on Foundations' national standards for community foundations. The Foundation has awarded over \$100 million in grants to nonprofits in Fairfield County and beyond. For more information, visit www.fccfoundation.org.