



Reaching Out

A REPORT FROM THE BRANFORD COMMUNITY FOUNDATION, 2010

BRANFORD COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Meeting
Community
Needs

*"We cannot live
only for ourselves.
A thousand fibers
connect us with our
fellow men..."*

Herman Melville

A Message from the President...

The Branford Community Foundation was established 30 years ago. The impetus behind the establishment was a desire to create a public service, community-oriented vehicle which would be both responsive and anticipatory to the needs of the community.

The Board of Directors is pleased that the Foundation's income has been put to effective use in Branford. This annual report will indicate the recipients of grants in the past year. Often, local problems can be resolved locally by leadership, organizing and combining available resources. Our seed money has sometimes been the stimulation essential to success. But our Foundation must not remain static; only with a dynamic approach to the financial resources we manage and to the grants we authorize can we fulfill our mission and help meet community goals.

The next years promise to be even more exciting than our first thirty. The Branford Community Foundation is a vital institution in our community, whose future is linked to all those who have been memorialized, those who have contributed, and those who have been helped by the Foundation. While we seek your continued support, we also plan to broaden our base and expand our horizon of service.

Eunice Lasala, President

PLEASE PLAN TO JOIN US FOR OUR

30th Anniversary Celebration

Thursday, September 30

at the Pine Orchard Club, Branford
Social Hour, Dinner & Entertainment

Watch for your invitation soon!

TREASURER'S REPORT: 2008-2009 Financial Information



BRANFORD COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Meeting Community
Needs

P.O. Box 462
Branford, CT 06405
(203) 488-6063



Eunice Lasala, President

Patricia C. Andriole,
Vice President

John E. Donegan,
Secretary

Francis X. Conlon,
Treasurer

Christian P. Edmonds,
Assistant Treasurer

DIRECTORS

Claire C. Bennett
Victor J. Cassella
Sheila Giordano
Laura Massey
Jeffrey Torello

Logo design by Martha Link
Walsh; Newsletter design by
Words by Jen.

Statement of Financial Position December 31, 2009 and 2008

	2009	2008
ASSETS:		
CURRENT ASSETS:		
Cash	\$289,849	\$236,631
Accrued interest income	3,430	1,956
Total current assets	293,279	238,587
LONG-TERM ASSETS:		
Investments	922,825	645,142
Total Assets	\$1,216,104	\$883,729
LIABILITIES:		
CURRENT LIABILITIES:		
Grants payable	\$0	\$0
NET ASSETS:		
Temporarily restricted	—	—
Permanently restricted for High School Scholarships	136,745	152,800
Unrestricted:		
Unappropriated	863,697	541,283
Appropriated - by Board for scholarships	215,662	189,646
Total Net Assets	\$1,216,104	\$883,729
Total Liabilities & Net Assets	\$1,216,104	\$883,729

Statement of Activities & Change in Net Assets Year Ended December 31, 2009 and 2008

	2009	2008
REVENUES, GAINS & OTHER SUPPORT:		
Contributions	\$198,148	\$29,617
Income on long-term investments	18,426	29,871
Net gain on long-term investments	169,709	(305,162)
Total revenues, gains, and other support	\$386,293	\$(245,674)
EXPENSES:		
Charitable giving:		
Grants	\$29,650	\$15,600
Scholarships	14,700	15,565
Program Expenses	1,400	22,608
Total giving	45,750	53,773
Administrative:		
Professional fees	2,631	3,013
Postage	204	816
Dues	275	—
Printing	2,617	1,082
Web site expenses	597	2,450
Administrative	1,472	870
Fidelity bond	373	138
Total administrative expenses	\$8,169	\$8,369
Total expenses	\$53,919	\$62,142
Change in net assets	332,375	(307,816)
Net assets at beginning of year	883,729	1,191,545
Net assets at end of year	\$1,216,104	\$883,729

**For a complete copy of our
audited financial statements
please visit our web site:
branfordcommunityfoundation.org**

FUND FOCUS: Robert J. Massey, Sr. Family Foundation, LLC

The Robert J. Massey, Sr. Family Foundation is proud to be a contributor to the Branford Community Foundation. The Family Foundation was established by the children of Robert and Jean Massey to continue the philanthropic spirit long ago instilled in their heart and soul. “Service before self,” “see it through to the end” and always supporting the local community of Branford were pretty commonplace growing up in the Massey family. Robert Sr. (better known as Bob), the founder of Massey’s Plate Glass & Aluminum, Inc. located in Branford, CT now under the reins of the second generation: Bob Jr., Laura and Julie. Long-time Branford residents Robert and Jean, now retired, spend their time between their home in the Indian Neck section of town and in Dennisport, Massachusetts on Cape Cod.



While the business of the family is glass, the essence is service and charity. As a volunteer fire fighter for the town of Branford, Bob is now in his 58th year and continues to serve as the Volunteer Assistant Fire Chief in charge of gear. The Branford community, in all aspects, is a major focus of the Massey family and through the Branford Community Foundation the spirit continues in supporting their endeavors focusing on the Branford community. ■

FUND FOCUS: Dr. Thomas H. G. Aitkin Trust

The Branford Community Foundation was the recipient of a charitable remainder trust from the estate of Thomas H. G. Aitkin. Dr. Aitkin requested that the \$150,000 trust be used by the Foundation to preserve and promote the improvement of the quality of life in the Branford community. This is the second trust left to the Branford Community Foundation by Dr. Aitkin.

Dr. Aitkin was a distinguished medical entomologist, malariologist, arbovirologist, and a world-recognized leader in tropical health. Dr. Aitkin retired from Yale in 1983 as a senior research scientist. He died in 2007 at the age of 94. At that time, Dr. Aitkin bequeathed \$144,500 to The Branford Community Foundation. The Board of the Foundation is most grateful to Dr. Aitkin and his family for his generosity. ■

OUR FUNDS*

- General Fund (\$520,881)
- Andriole Family Fund (\$26,289)
- H. Allen Carol Fund (\$15,213)
- Clark Family Fund (\$7,026)
- A. Peter and Fae Delfini Memorial Fund (\$9,893)
- Robert Dow Scholarship Fund (\$9,005)
- Darin G. Etzel Fund (\$100,295)
- Ellen McDonnell Ferguson Fund (\$45,112)
- PJ Ferriolo Memorial Fund (\$23,946)
- Vincent S. Giordano, Sr. Construction Ind. Memorial Scholarship (\$30,957)
- Donald W. Grigley Memorial Fund (\$16,255)
- Harry and Abbey Johnson Fund (\$5,202)
- William and Barbara Lyons Fund (\$121,797)
- Kendra Martin Scholarship Fund (\$5,763)
- Robert J Massey, Sr. Family Fund (7,802)
- Mobeck Family Fund (\$11,098)
- John and Carol Moss Fund (\$8,234)
- D. William Owens, Jr. and Robert M. Owens Scholarship (\$8,925)
- Carol D. Redden Scholarship Fund (\$35,402)
- Mari-Ellen Reed Fund (\$13,918)
- Austin Ryer Fund (\$8,053)
- John B. Sliney (\$8,207)
- Eleanor Taylor Fund (\$5,895)
- Donald and Mary Lou Welch Fund (\$7,717)
- Linda Edsall Winward Scholarship Fund (\$18,470)
- Linda Edsall and Walter Winward Fund (\$7,904)

*2009 Year End Totals

2010 Branford Community Foundation Contributors

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 Mr. & Mrs. Truett Allison
 Joseph Altrui
 Mr. & Mrs. Ernest Anderson
 Dr. & Mrs. John Anderson
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 Lee Jacobus
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 & Gabrielle Jewett
 Winnifred Judge
 Kenneth Kaminsky



Branford Counseling Center

The Branford Counseling Center is a Municipal Mental Health Center and Youth Service Bureau. It oversees all social services for Branford, and provides emergency assistance to residents. In 2009, the BCF bestowed a \$5,000 grant to the Center for basic needs. The Counseling Center is extremely grateful to the Branford Community Foundation for its continued generosity.



Branford Eagle Online Journalism Project

“The Branford Eagle is grateful for the \$1,000 gift the Foundation awarded us last year. We have put the funds to good use. Our newly-hired contributing reporters, Sally E. Banner and Diana Stricker, were the key recipients of the funds. Their award-winning work gave readers of the Branford Eagle the very best reporting in town.”
 —Marcia Chambers, Editor

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 Dr. & Mrs. Marvin
 Zimmerman
 Katherine Zodda



Branford Festival, Father of the Year

Each year the Branford Festival offers a Father of the Year Essay Contest. In 2009, winner Logan Brandriff, a third grade student, wrote about his father, Rich Brandriff. The Branford Community Foundation donated a bicycle and helmet from Zane's Cycles to the essay winner. Shown in the photograph are Logan with his father, Rich, and his mother.



The Branford Food Council Inc.

The Branford Food Council supplies groceries to Branford families in need. Thanks to the Branford Community Foundation and other donations in 2009, the Food Council helped an average of 151 families per month, distributed an average of 19,300 pounds of food per month, provided 169,445 meals for the year, including complete holiday dinners, and gave out 5,405 dozen eggs.

GRANT FOCUS: Community Dining Room

2009 GRANTS

The Foundation's continuing commitment to our community was reflected by the number and size of our grants in 2009 which supported:

- Branford Community Dining Room
- Branford Counseling Center
- *Branford Eagle*: Online Journalism Project
- Branford Festival, Father of the Year
- Branford Food Council
- Camp Hazen
- Smoke Detector Program
- Soundview Family YMCA
- VNA Community Healthcare

In addition, 17 Branford High School seniors received scholarships for their education from memorial funds the Branford Community Foundation holds and manages. These scholarships totaled \$14,200.

The Community Dining Room celebrated its 25th year of service! From its inception, the CDR's mission has been to provide nutritional food support, referral services and volunteer opportunities to the Branford and shoreline communities.

This past fall, the Community Dining Room received a \$5,000 grant from the Branford Community Foundation. These funds were especially important due to the challenging economic times. With increasing unemployment, family budgets are being stretched beyond their limits. Parents and individuals began coming to the CDR in search of social services information and assistance. Clearly, the need for support has moved into the middle-class sector of our society. Hard-working families are now in need of food support to help them save precious dollars to pay for utilities, housing bills and increasing grocery costs.

Food in the refrigerator for after-school snacks or a family dinner can help a great deal in a weekly budget. Identifying this need, the CDR began a new program for individuals and families who have lost their jobs: Wednesday Night Take Out. This program provides quality meals for families who cannot come to the CDR daily lunch program and struggle to feed their children and keep them healthy. Branford Community Foundation dollars have directly helped fund this program, which provides about 75 dinners each Wednesday.

Our Tuesday Family Dinner brings families together to share a meal and educational experiences. Working with Read to Grow and other educational groups, Tuesday dinners include story hour, free book distribution, crafts experiences and cultural nights. Combined with a good, nutritious dinner children are healthy, well fed and ready to learn. Parents stretch their food budgets with the help of this program, serving approximately 50 dinners each week.

CDR programs include daily lunch, Saturday breakfast, Tuesday Family Dinner, home delivery and our Wednesday Night Take Out. We also provide community service opportunities for youth and vocational training for persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

The Community Dining Room is an important part of the Branford social service network, helping assure a quality standard of living for all our neighbors. ■



GRANT FOCUS: Soundview Family YMCA

Even with the downturn in the economy and ensuing caution among donors, we had success moving the Soundview Family YMCA forward. It is something the shoreline area residents have wanted for a long time and we had over 200 people join us for a festive groundbreaking ceremony in June of last year. Attendees joined us on-site to see our dream start to take its physical shape. Fundraising for Phase I is complete, bringing in a total of \$9.2 million.

Sophisticated donors understand the importance of having local support from individuals as well as community organizations and businesses. Being the recipient of a grant from the Branford Community Foundation helped leverage confidence in the reality of our project.

The original plan of the Soundview Family YMCA was to build a 53,000 square-foot facility to better serve the needs of families in Madison, Guilford, Branford, North Branford and East Haven. However, we are building the new facility in two phases, which allows the community to see tangible evidence of a vision realized, while giving the staff and volunteers the opportunity to secure additional pledges. Our board worked hard to prioritize the project based on the wishes of our donors and community need. Phase I consists of a 35,000 square-foot building that includes two swimming pools, a teen /older adult center, a multi-purpose room, an aerobic room, a spinning room, men's, women's and family/special needs locker rooms, a fitness center with state-of-the-art equipment, a child-watch room and meeting room. Phase II will include a gymnasium and childcare spaces in 20,000 square feet.

The facility is almost complete, with staff moving into their new offices in the middle of June. Membership sales have been ongoing since mid-March with more than 1,700 people joining so far. Charter memberships (the first 500 families to join) sold out in five weeks! Our charter members began using the facility in July, and all other members will begin in August. A gala grand opening ribbon cutting ceremony is planned for Friday, August 13th and Saturday, August 14th. ■



About the Branford Community Foundation

The Branford Community Foundation, founded in 1980, is a public, nonprofit, tax exempt, charitable trust. It provides an administrative, philanthropic service—a means by which public-spirited citizens may make gifts or bequests, the income from which is distributed for educational, cultural, health, social and civic needs.

OUR MISSION

- To provide a permanent endowment and to meet unforeseen and important community needs.
- To enhance the self-sufficiency of recipient agencies in order to make Branford an even better place to live.
- To provide initial support for new and innovative projects of special merit and to provide leadership and resources for the community.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

For more information about the Branford Community Foundation and how to apply for a grant or set-up a fund, visit our website, branfordcommunityfoundation.org.

Kendra Martin Scholarship Fund *by Kendra Martin*



Growing up I always knew that I wanted to attend college. I was raised in Branford, attended our public schools, and after graduating from Branford High, went off to pursue my college dream. I returned home to Branford after graduation and entered the working world. Shortly after, my father abruptly passed away due to cancer.

That truly put my life into perspective. Suddenly, past and future life events were measured by “with Dad” and “without Dad.” I immediately thought of what I wouldn’t be able to share with both of my loving parents, such as getting married and having children. But it took me a little longer to see all the joys that I was lucky to share with both parents. I hadn’t before realized how very fortunate I was to have had both of my parents’ unconditional love, tremendous support, and amazing encouragement in the years leading up to and during my college education.

A special young lady in the Branford Community Youth Mentoring Program helped me see that. I am her mentor and she is a friend that always makes me smile. She, too, lost a parent due to illness, but at a much younger age. Becoming more involved in community work made me increasingly aware of the challenges others face as well as the many opportunities to help. I quickly turned to the Branford Community Foundation to establish a scholarship fund for a graduating Branford High School senior in a one-parent or no-parent home.

I am thrilled to be awarding my third annual scholarship this year, and I hope to build the fund to continue to grow the scholarship for many years to come. ■



Camp Hazen YMCA

Camp Hazen YMCA is an independent YMCA, located on the shores of Cedar Lake in Chester. Celebrating its 90th year, it has remained committed to building strong kids, strong families and strong communities. Each year over 10,000 youths participate in camping activities. The BCF’s 2009 grant of \$750.00 helped Camp Hazen YMCA provide need-based financial assistance for eight Branford youths to have the Hazen experience.



VNA Community Healthcare

The BCF supports VNA Community Healthcare’s Health and Wellness programs. Our Parkinson’s Exercise Class meets twice weekly and helps individuals maintain strength and manage symptoms. Our most expensive cost for the group is the cost of instructors. With two supportive and knowledgeable instructors, we are thrilled to have them continue with this program. It would not be the same without them and the BCF’s support.