



# BRANFORD

## Community Foundation

Annual Report  
**2018**

Footen Park | Photo by Ashley Abel Photography

## Our letter from Board Chair & Executive Director

The Branford Community Foundation (BCF) has grown from its small initial endowment begun in 1980 to one that has since invested more than \$1 million back into the community. Our careful fiscal management has helped us grow our permanent endowment to over \$2.2 million in assets. Despite some recent bumps in the financial markets, our prudent spending policies ensured our ability to support our mission of connecting people who care with causes that matter to them. We are committed to increasing our endowment in order to meet the multiple needs of our community.

This year, in order to improve the transparency and effectiveness of our competitive grant making, we revised our procedures and updated our grant application, moving from a quarterly to an annual deadline for those seeking a grant. Through this new process, we received 24 applications requesting 3 times the amount of funding that we had available. We were able to provide 10 grants ranging from basic needs, such as meals for kids, to arts and culture.

Our commitment to the James Blackstone Memorial Library renovation continued in 2018, the second year of our four-year grant totaling \$100,000. The Library broke ground in early 2019 and we watch with great anticipation as the renovations progress! In addition, BCF provided \$33,850 in scholarship awards to 27 graduating seniors from Branford High School.

BCF also realized our long-time goal of hosting a Branford-wide celebration in 2018. On July 13th, we presented Hometown Harmonies, A Celebration of Our Community, under the big tent at the Owenego Beach and Tennis Club. Over 700 people attended, and the tent overflowed with mission, music, and merri-ment.

The amazing show featured a powerful progression of singers, including elementary school students as well as Broadway performers. We were proud to publicly recognize Eunice Lasala, our guest of honor, for her lasting and continuing impact on Branford.



*Hometown Harmonies | Photo by Kelley Fryer / Zip06*

These accomplishments do not belong to us, however. They belong to you, our supporters and our community. You understand the value of long-term community investment and the importance of making an effective and lasting impact on the health and vitality of Branford. Thank you for taking this journey with us and for believing in our work. We cannot do it without you.

Most sincerely,



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Heather Hackley".

Heather Hackley, Chair



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Liza Janssen Petra".

Liza Janssen Petra, Executive Director

The mission of the **Branford Community Foundation** is to connect people who care with causes that matter, for the purpose of preserving and promoting the quality of life in the Branford Community, now and for generations to come.



Cathyann Roding Retirement Celebration | Photo by Colin Sheehan Events

## What the Branford Community Foundation Funds

Although the Branford Community Foundation remains flexible in grant-making decisions, the Board of Directors traditionally addresses needs that fall into the categories listed below.

### BASIC NEEDS

food, emergency financial assistance, fuel and heat support, shelter

### ENVIRONMENT

public spaces and land, recycling, animal and wildlife support

### HEALTH

mental health services, senior services, social services, health education, substance abuse prevention

### YOUTH

access to summer camps, children in need, early childhood education

### EDUCATION

literacy, job training, collegiate scholarships

### CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

historical preservation, volunteerism, community events and enhancements

### ARTS

music, dance, theatre, visual arts, community performances

How to Give

Create a permanent legacy in Branford by establishing a named fund for yourself, your family, or a loved one. The minimum amount required to establish a fund is \$10,000. To help reach your philanthropic goals, we offer an “Acorn Fund” option, which allows interested donors 5 years to reach the \$10,000 minimum.

If you are not ready to create a charitable fund but want to contribute to our efforts to enrich the quality of life in Branford, provide a direct donation of any amount at any time to the general fund or any one of our existing charitable funds. These gifts can be made in honor or memory of a loved one or in recognition of a special occasion.

Finally, consider a gift to our operating fund, which allows us to maintain our visibility in the community; provide leadership around community issues; raise new dollars to invest back into the organizations that serve Branford; and provide excellent stewardship for our existing funds.

Gifts can be accepted from cash, stock or other assets; bequests; or planning a future gift through your IRA or insurance policy.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS & AMBASSADORS

Directors

Heather Hackley, Chair  
Stephanie Donegan Dietz, Vice Chair  
Logan Reed, Treasurer  
Kathleen Fox, Secretary  
Stephanie Farber, Immediate Past Chair  
Jennifer Alexander  
Rita Berkson  
David DeGrasse  
Bobi Gill-Brooks  
Robert Mobeck  
John Mooney  
Melodie Lane O'Connor  
Logan Reed  
Colin Sheehan  
Ryan Torello

Ambassadors

Pat Andriole  
Susan Barnes  
Claire Bennitt  
Patricia Bloomquist  
Victor Cassella  
Jeff Clark  
Chris Edmonds  
David Etzel  
Robert Gill  
Sheila Giordano  
Eunice Lasala  
Barbara Lyons  
Kendra Martin  
Greg Nobile  
John Opie  
James Perito  
Fran Walsh

Liza Janssen Petra, Executive Director  
Jennifer Mullett, Foundation Coordinator  
Robin Wolek, Bookkeeper



“Our agency is so thankful.”

“The consistent support we receive from the Branford Community Foundation means children and families on the Shoreline can count on having access to high-quality, community-based mental health care. Our agency is so thankful. It means more opportunity to promote health and wellness in Branford and surrounding towns.

- Alice M. Forrester, PhD, CEO, Clifford Beers

Summary Statements

Contributions to the Branford Foundation rose 43% to \$190,234 in 2018, while grants and awards for program expenses increased 14% to \$155,154. While a healthy increase in distributions, the Foundation’s ability to fund local charities will be constrained somewhat by poor investment results due to general market turmoil, which trimmed more than \$120,000 from assets. The Foundation ended the year with \$2.27 million in assets; down 7.4% from 2017’s record \$2.45 million as a result of the market conditions. Once again, the Foundation kept prudent control over operating expenses, which fell 8.3% to \$62,753, the lowest level since 2015.

Our Finance Committee works with the professionals at the Community Foundation for Greater New Haven to preserve and grow our endowment. BCF’s individual funds are pooled and invested in a diversified portfolio.

THE BRANFORD COMMUNITY FOUNDATION SUMMARY STATEMENTS

|                                     | FY Ending Dec 2017<br>(unaudited) | FY Ending Dec 16 |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------|
| ASSETS                              |                                   |                  |
| Cash & Cash Equivalents             | \$80,392                          | \$31,667         |
| Other Current Assets                | \$611                             | \$962            |
| Long Term Assets                    | \$2,191,067                       | \$2,420,396      |
| TOTAL ASSETS                        | \$2,272,070                       | \$2,453,025      |
| LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS            |                                   |                  |
| Current Liabilities                 | \$3,102                           | \$35,041         |
| Foundation Net Assets               | \$2,268,968                       | \$2,417,984      |
| TOTAL LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS      | \$2,272,070                       | \$2,453,025      |
| REVENUE, GAINS & SUPPORT            |                                   |                  |
| Contributions                       | \$190,234                         | \$132,745        |
| Investments Income                  | \$(121,343)                       | \$375,062        |
| TOTAL REVENUE, GAINS & SUPPORT      | \$68,891                          | \$507,807        |
| EXPENSES                            |                                   |                  |
| Grants Awarded And Program Expenses | \$155,154                         | \$136,205        |
| Operating Expense                   | \$62,753                          | \$68,392         |
| TOTAL EXPENSES                      | \$217,907                         | \$204,597        |
| Change In Net Assets                | \$(149,016)                       | \$303,210        |
| Net Assets, Beginning Of Year       | \$2,417,984                       | \$2,114,774      |
| NET ASSETS, End of Year             | \$2,268,968                       | \$2,417,984      |



Photo by Bill O'Brien

Grant  
Highlights

CAMP TOTOKETT—  
A LIFE-CHANGING CAMP FOR  
BOTH CAMPERS AND COUNSELORS

The Branford Community Foundation (BCF) was delighted to support Camp Totokett, a week-long camp for at-risk youth held at Killams Point in Branford, with a \$6,000 grant in 2018. Camp Totokett paired 43 kids from New Haven with more than 50 local youth counselors for an invaluable experience in service, social justice, and leadership.

“Camp Totokett is an experience like no other,” says Cole Chase-Beach, who has volunteered as a camp mentor for several years. “It has become a truly life-altering tradition for me. I can honestly say that Camp Totokett has allowed me to view life in a different light and be grateful for my existence as well as the existence of those around me.”

Camp Totokett provides a nurturing and supportive environment that offers children much needed respite from challenging homes or life events. The camp offers a week of fun and games, including arts and crafts, swimming and fishing, while also providing a safe place for campers and counselors alike to develop meaningful friendships. Children between ages 5 to 12 are paired with teenage counselors for a one-on-one companionship and mentorship that fosters a lifetime of positive memories.



“We were impressed with the number of Branford youth who volunteer to serve as counselors,” says Liza Janssen Petra, BCF Executive Director. “While sometimes underappreciated, the skills and experiences a mentor receives are just as valuable as those received by the camper. Student volunteers see first-hand the hardships faced by some of the campers, including poverty, hunger, and health issues. The long-term benefits carry far beyond the five days of camp—it becomes a touchstone of personal growth and meaning that participants carry for a lifetime.”

Tim Dinneen, Director of Camp Totokett, agrees. “There is no doubt that this experience affected the young adult counselors at the deepest levels,” he says, “broadening their perspectives, fostering empathy and compassion, and developing their leadership.”

The BCF grant supported daily transportation, new sets of water shoes for campers, and meals. Camp Totokett, in its 23rd year, sustains itself with a 100-person, all-volunteer staff and fundraising from a variety of sources.

LIST OF GRANTS

|          |   |
|----------|---|
| \$33,850 | <b>Branford High School Scholarships</b> to 29 Branford High School graduates pursuing higher education.  |
| \$25,000 | <b>James Blackstone Memorial Library Capital Campaign</b> to encourage smaller donations from community members to support their critical renovation (\$100,000 over four years).                         |
| \$10,000 | <b>Branford Counseling Center</b> for security deposit and rental subsidies assistance for families living on the brink of homelessness.  |
| \$8,840  | <b>Leadership initiatives and sponsorships</b> including the Shoreline Nonprofit Conference and technical assistance grants.  |
| \$6,100  | <b>Literacy Volunteers</b> for volunteer tutor recruitment, training and support for adults seeking English as a Second Language (ESL) training.  |
| \$6,000  | <b>Camp Totokett</b> to support Branford High School students who volunteer to pair with children affected by HIV/AIDS during a one-week camp session.  |
| \$5,000  | <b>Branford Early Learning Center</b> to offset the costs of enrichment programs throughout the year to children from low-income families.  |
| \$4,000  | <b>Orchard House</b> to support “Feed the Need to be Needed,” a collaboration with Community Dining Room that enables Orchard House members the opportunity to bring food to homebound residents in need. |
| \$3,500  | <b>Read to Grow</b> to support Books for Kids program in Branford, which distributes 1,600 books to over 400 Branford children.   |
| \$3,000  | <b>Clifford Beers Guidance Clinic</b> for intensive case management services to children and families living in Branford who are experiencing behavioral health disorders.                                |
| \$2,500  | <b>Feed Branford Kids</b> to support meals for 200 children per week.   |
| \$2,000  | <b>Shoreline Arts Alliance</b> to support a presentation of live theatre for free to the shoreline community.   |
| \$2,000  | <b>Branford High School</b> to establish a Robotics Club.   |
| \$1,000  | <b>Project Graduation</b> to support all-night event for graduates to keep them safe and entertained on graduation night.   |

10  
competitive  
grant awards

\$111,557  
in grants,  
scholarships and  
leadership  
initiatives

29  
Scholarship  
Awards

Over  
\$190,000  
in contributions

“ exciting additions ”

“Having an all-night event can be difficult because it means keeping 150 teenagers entertained when they are starting to get tired, so being able to offer enough activities is crucial. You grant allowed us to have 3 Segways through the evening, which were exciting additions because most of the teenagers had never ridden one before.”

Christine Bjork, Branford Project Graduation

List of Funds

Unrestricted Funds

These funds provide the most flexibility to respond to the changing needs of the community.

- Dr. Thomas H.G. Aitkin Fund
- Andriole Family Fund
- Peter Borgemeister Fund
- H. Allen Carroll Fund
- A. Peter and Fae Delfini Memorial Fund
- John E. Donegan Fund
- Darin G. Etzel Fund
- Tom & Carol Gagliardi Fund
- Branford Community Foundation General Fund
- William T. Gorman Family Fund
- William C. and Barbara R. Lyons Fund
- Robert J. Massey, Sr. Family Foundation
- Mobeck Family Fund
- John & Carol Moss Fund
- Virginia Page-Page Family Legacy Fund
- Jane W. Rosenthal Fund
- James F. Ryan Fund
- Jacqueline Ulrich Fund

Designated Funds

**Brain Injury, Brain Illness and/or Mental Health Fund\***  
Supports individuals, organizations, programs and initiatives for the treatment, care and improvement in the quality of life for those affected by traumatic or acquired brain injury, brain related illness or mental health.

**Clark Family Fund**  
Supports the Branford Counseling Center and the Branford Land Trust.

**Stephanie & Leonard Farber Fund**  
Supports the operating costs of the Branford Community Foundation.

**Donald & Carla Grigley Memorial Fund**  
Supports capital improvements to the Volunteer Services Center.

**Guilford Savings Bank Charitable Fund**  
Provides scholarships, general needs and operating support for the Branford Community Foundation.

**Thomas C. Hooker Memorial Fund**  
Supports basic needs such as food, shelter and emergency financial assistance for those in need.

**Lasala Family Fund for Animals**  
Supports the care and protection of wild or domestic animals.

**Joyce & Robert “Pat” Mailhouse Fund**  
Supports athletics and cultural arts.

**Nobile Fund for Cultural and Artistic Innovation**  
Supports early stage innovation in cultural and artistic organizations creating opportunities for emerging artists and cultural programming.

**Deirdre Baker Schiffer Fund**  
Supports environmental issues, education and protection of the environment.

**Torello Family Fund\***  
Provides a scholarship to a student who excelled in athletics and the balance is unrestricted.

**Donald & Mary Lou Welch Fund**  
Supports children-in-need and the conservation and protection of wetlands.

**Linda Edsall Winward and Walter Winward Fund for Music Programs in the Branford Elementary and Middle Schools**  
Supports music programs in the Branford Elementary and Middle Schools.

**Scholarship Funds**  
*These funds are for Branford Students pursuing higher education:*  
**Philip A. DeLise Memorial Scholarship Fund**  
Provides a scholarship to a graduating Branford High School student who has displayed academic excellence, community service, good citizenship and strong character.

**Robert Dow Scholar-Athlete Scholarship Fund**  
Provides a scholarship to a graduating Branford High School student-athlete who demonstrates leadership, sportsmanship and academic achievement.

**PJ Ferriolo Memorial Scholarship Fund**  
Provides a scholarship to a graduating Branford High School student interested in aeronautics.

**Vincent S. Giordano Sr. Scholarship Fund**  
Provides two scholarships to graduating Branford High School students pursuing an interest in the construction and building industry.

**Kendra Martin Scholarship Fund**  
Provides a scholarship to a graduating Branford High School student with demonstrated financial need and strong commitment to volunteering in the community.

**D. William Owens Jr and Attorney Robert M. Owens Scholarship Fund**  
Provides a scholarship to a graduating Branford High School student pursuing an education at Yale University or Boston College.

**Jim and Carol Redden Memorial Scholarship Fund**  
Provides a scholarship to a graduating Branford High School student attending a two- or four-year college or university. The scholarship can be renewed for up to 4 years.

**Mari-Ellen Reed Memorial Nursing Scholarship Fund**  
Provides a scholarship to a graduating Branford High School student interested in pursuing a career in nursing.

**Christopher and Robert Reynolds Scholarship Fund**  
Provides a scholarship to a graduating Branford High School student.

**Cathyann Roding Performing Arts Scholarship Fund**  
Provides a scholarship to a graduating Branford High School student that has contributed to the performing arts program.

**Austin Ryer Memorial Scholarship Fund**  
Provides a scholarship to a graduating Branford High School student.

**William Schwanfelder Scholarship Fund**  
Provides a scholarship to a graduating Branford High School student attending a post secondary college or university focusing on earning a BS in mechanical, electrical or chemical engineering.

**John B. Sliney Scholarship Fund**  
Provides two scholarships to graduating Branford High School students.

**Celia Whorf Wheeler Scholarship Fund**  
Provides a scholarship to a graduating Branford High School student.

**Linda Edsall Winward Scholarship Fund**  
Provides a scholarship to a graduating Branford High School student with an interest in teaching, International affairs or cultural diversity or child development.

\* represents a new fund

Donor Highlights

CATHYANN RODING PERFORMING ARTS SCHOLARSHIP FUND

In a fitting tribute to a valued educator, the Cathyann Roding Performing Arts Scholarship Fund was established with a sold-out celebration where alumni filled the stage to sing in Cathyann’s honor.

Organized by former student Colin Sheehan, the 2017 event reunited leads of memorable spring musicals and gathered a huge choir of students with lives lifted by Cathyann during her 32 years at Branford High School (BHS). For over three decades, Cathyann gifted the Branford community and local non-profits by inspiring students to deliver top-notch concerts, musicals and benefits.

“She’s given so much to the community, and has raised so much money for local organizations, that I knew I wanted to start a scholarship fund in her name that would live on forever,” says Colin. An incentive option provided by BCF helped reach the fund’s \$10,000 establishment goal.

“When I reached out to the Branford Community Foundation, they gave me a great incentive: a \$2,000 contribution if we reached our goal of \$8,000 over five years. We raised what we needed on the night of her fundraiser. It just shows how much people in the community love Cathyann,” says Colin.

The restricted scholarship allows Colin and Cathyann to assist BCF and Branford High School in awarding scholarships. Recipients are graduating seniors who have excelled in the performing arts (dance, instrumental, voice or theatre) as part of a high school experience that will inspire them all their lives.

Cathyann feels very strongly recipients need not be on a path to study performing arts in college, explaining, “...if they were impacted and they made a difference in the program, that’s going to be carried forward in their lives, no matter the career they choose.”

Colin can attest to that. Following a decade of success in New York City entertainment management and production, he returned to Branford to found Colin Sheehan Events. The company assists non-profits with events to maximize fundraising. Colin also joined the BCF board of directors in late 2017.

“If it wasn’t for Cathyann, I wouldn’t have the drive to be doing what I’m doing,” he notes.

Cathyann is deeply humbled to know a BCF scholarship has been established which will continue her legacy of helping shape young lives through their high school performing arts experience.

“It’s one more of the amazing things that I can’t believe has happened,” she says. “It’s phenomenal. Moving on to college is such an expensive endeavor, and any help you can get to help toward that is fabulous; but the thing that matters more than the amount you receive is the recognition and confidence you feel when you’re selected for something.

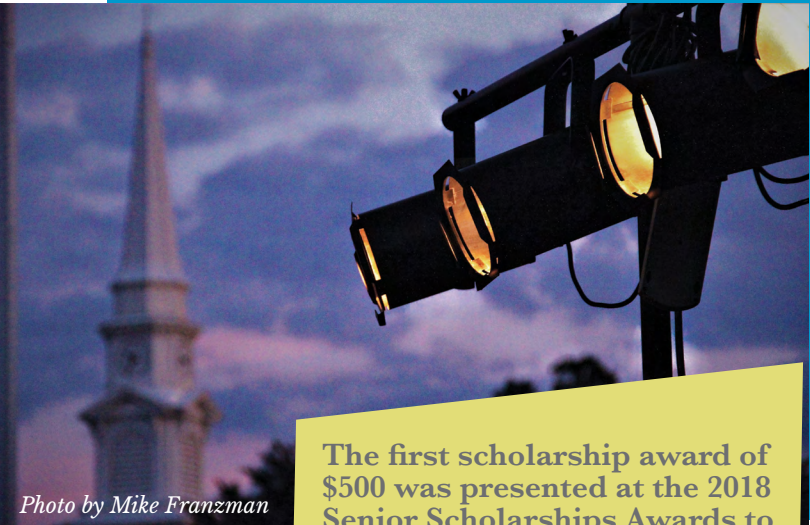


Photo by Mike Franzman

The first scholarship award of \$500 was presented at the 2018 Senior Scholarships Awards to Kathryn Pollard

2018 List of Donors

We extend our deepest gratitude to the following individuals, businesses, and foundations who made financial contributions to the Branford Community Foundation from January 1 to December 31, 2018.

|  |   |  |  |
|--|---|--|--|
| <b>\$10,000 and up</b><br>Anonymous<br>Carole Brown<br>Guilford Savings Bank<br>Catherine & John Seibyl<br>Jan Walzer & David Etzel<br>Celia & Robert Wheeler<br><br><b>\$5,000 to \$9,999</b><br>Francis & Colleen Acunzo<br>American Polyfilm, Inc.<br>Third Point, LLC<br>Polly A. & Alan S. Fitz<br>Stephanie Hodor<br>Anne & Creighton Hooker<br>Jeanette & Robert Mobeck<br>Karen & Ryan Torello<br><br><b>\$2,000 to \$4,999</b><br>Anonymous<br>Rita Berkson & Randy Reinhold<br>Stephanie Donegan<br>& William Dietz<br>Stephanie & Len Farber<br>Bobbi & Norm Gavin<br>Heather & Joseph Hackley<br>Virginia Page<br>Robert Reynolds<br>Mark Serchuck & John Casso<br>Progressive Benefit Solutions<br><br><b>\$1,000 to \$1,999</b><br>Marilyn & Victor Cassella<br>Mary Davis<br>Christine Donegan<br>Carol & Tom Gagliardi<br>Maureen & Peter Herbert<br>Kiki & Ted Kennedy, Jr<br>Melodie Lane & Curtis O'Connor<br>Susanne Lendler & Chip Marsh<br>Martha & Terry Maguire<br>Joyce Mailhouse<br>WoodWinds<br>Alicia & Jeff Torello | <b>\$500 to \$999</b><br>Elizabeth Alcorn<br>Penny Bellamy & Mark Simon<br>Sue Bender & Al Klevorick<br>Deb Conklin<br>Branford Rotary Club<br>Betty Ann Donegan<br>Carol Gesner<br>Dorothy & Robert Gill<br>Jean & John Kelley<br>Eunice & Tony Lasala<br>Kendra Martin<br>Linda & Anthony Milici<br>Beverly & George Olt<br>Elise & Logan Reed<br>Ann Rutherford & Bruce Lively<br>Janet & Jerry Ryan<br>Joe Schiffer<br>Colin Sheehan<br>David Silverstone<br><br><b>\$250 to \$499</b><br>Patricia Andriole<br>Nancy & Peter Berdon<br>F. Vining Bigelow<br>Donna & Peter Ferriolo<br>Kathleen & Parker Fox<br>Brenda & Joe Garrison<br>Shelley & Gordon Geballe<br>Josephine Giordano<br>Paula & Bill Grimm<br>Meg Kilgore<br>Mary Lowery<br>Susan & Michael Luchini<br>Marcia & Vincent Lynch<br>Kelley McDevitt & Stephen Hooker<br>Bonnie & Andrew McKirdy<br>Andrea Schieckel & Jonathan Clark<br>Pam & David Snetro<br>Betsy & Lawrence Stern<br>Marlene & Shepard Stone<br>Barbara & Peter Strauss<br>Mavis & Tony Terry | <b>\$100 to \$249</b><br>Aetna Foundation, Inc.<br>Holy Guacamole<br>Campus Customs<br>Van Wilgen's Garden Center<br>Pfizer Foundation<br>Nina Adams & Moreson Kaplan<br>Shelley & Frank Adkins<br>Jennifer Alexander<br>Patrick Alvino<br>Denise & Andrew Amendola<br>Tracey Amodio<br>Maryann & Bob Babcock<br>Susan Barnes<br>Grace Barrett<br>Claire Bennitt<br>Kate Berges<br>John Berman<br>Nan Birdwhistell & David Rothberg<br>Stacey & Robert Bland<br>Theresa & Stephen Bogan<br>Jane Bouley<br>Margaret Boyer<br>Michalah Bracken<br>& Mark Rosenthal<br>Viviane & William Briggs<br>Lea Brilmayer & William Horne<br>Mary Jo Brownell<br>Holly Hopkins & Daniel Bullard<br>Madelyn & John Burzenski<br>Jackie & George Cahill Jr.<br>Layna & Peter Cain<br>Carly & Scott Casper<br>Frances & David Cassano<br>David Ciarlelli<br>Martha & Jeff Clark<br>Cohen Bagel Company<br>Marilyn Collett<br>Barbara & David Colley<br>Marlyce & Richard Conroy<br>Linda & John Cronan<br>Joanne & Robert Dargan<br>Jennifer Davies<br>Natalie de Leuchtenberg Bowers<br>Marcia & Ron Delfini<br>Lois & Philip DeLise<br>Constance & Thomas Demchak<br>Dorothy Desi | Mary Kay & Vincent DeVita<br>William Dow<br>Sharon Drakos<br>Silvia & David Drewery<br>Stacie & Kyle Eagleson<br>Kristina & Theodore Ells<br>Valerie Engstrom<br>Linda Esposito<br>JoAnn & Richard Everson<br>The Fontana Family<br>Karen & Gerry Freedman<br>Ann Freeman<br>Janice Geier<br>David Gibson<br>Donna & David Gibson<br>Mary & Robert Grande<br>Joan & Jon Grossman<br>Elisabeth Haas<br>Margot Hardenbergh & Carl Wies<br>Mary & Bill Hitchcock<br>Mary & Harry Huben<br>Joan & Thomas Hughes<br>Jeanne Hyatt<br>Paula Inglese & Glenn Seseske<br>Janet & Donald Jackson<br>Liza Janssen & Noel Petra<br>Karen Jensen<br>Janet Kaminsky<br>Susan & John Katz<br>Eileen & Bruce Kazdan<br>Mary & Hugh Keenan<br>Marie & Dennis Kelly<br>Kimberly & Frank Kenna<br>Nancy Kim & David Henderson<br>Betsy Klarman<br>Leslie & John Klarman<br>Arthur Knowlton<br>Hedda & Gary Kopf<br>Joan Krochmal<br>Doreen Larson-Oboyski<br>Karen Laurel<br>John Lorenze<br>Ann Lynch<br>Barbara & William Lyons<br>Jill Marcus<br>Diane & John McGuire<br>Elaine & Christopher McLeod<br>Diane & Randy McNamara |
|--|---|--|--|

Roberta & James Mendillo  
Philip Mickelson  
Lynda & Michael Mollow  
Ina & Richard Montelius  
Patricia & John Mooney  
Trisha Morris & Jonathan Katz  
Janet Murphy & Henry Yorzinski  
Mary Nicholas & Richard Jennings  
Jane & Jack Novick  
John O'Connor  
Joanne & John Opie  
Renee Pallenberg  
Debra & Scott Palmer  
Donald Patenaude  
Anita & Jim Perito  
Anne Persico  
Sheri & Gus Peterson  
Jean & Joe Polka  
Betsy & Joe Regan  
Sandra & Gernot Reiners  
Betsy & Stan Robison  
Joyce & Michael Schiavone  
Malcolm Schwab  
Maria & Enzo Sella  
Constance & John Smith  
Cynthia Spinnler  
Arlene Steinlauf  
Marie & Harry Torello  
Rita Trayner  
Janet Vaill Day  
Thea & Ed Wassmer  
Jackie Wolf & Michael Hopkins  
Helen Wong & Frazier Bronson  
Christine Wood & Alan Forman  
Judith & Peter Young  
Keith Zeitlin  
Jane & Robert Zettergren  
Linda & Howard Zonana

Up to \$99  
Mama Dee's Italian Kitchen  
JJ's Food Truck  
The Ice Cream Guy  
Sally & William Abbott  
Irene & Edward Agonis  
Carol & Donald Albig  
Maryellen Albini  
Judith & Joseph Alessi

Eva & Truett Allison  
Marilynn & John Anderson  
Joan Armstrong  
Irene Ayres  
Theresa & Peter Baldino  
Barbara & Harold Barringham  
Mary Jane Barry  
Amy & Tim Barry  
Sydell Batter  
Wendy Bellmore  
Ronni Berman  
Dorothy & Klas Bjork  
Kenneth Bjork  
Pat & John Bloomquist  
Tricia Bohan & Al Ridinger  
Catherine & William Bokus  
Brian Borgerson  
Susanne Bowery  
Elizabeth & Charles Brainerd  
Linda & Carly Breslin  
Bonita & Brian Burke  
Traci Canavan  
Eugene & Susan Canavan  
Helen Carocci  
Joanne & George Caruso  
Keira Cervoni  
Karen & Alcide Clement  
Patricia & Frederick Cotton  
Catherine Cox  
Sunny & Richard Cretella  
Sharon Criscuolo  
Catherine & Andrew Criscuolo  
Barbara & Louis Criscuolo  
Gloria & Joseph D'Andrea  
MaryBeth & Louis DeLucia  
Doug Denes  
Larry Desbiens & Bill Marsland  
Bernadette DiGiulian  
Kim Dion  
Judith & Michael Donofrio  
Andrea Duffy & Diane Burns  
Michaela & David Dziura  
Betty & Frederick Eckert  
Valerie Erickson  
Kathleen & Michael Etzel  
Jean Farriacielli  
Kathleen & John Fleming  
Joyce & Paul Flinter

Nettie & Ralph Gagliardi  
Gargano Family Dentistry  
Linda & Vincent Giordano  
Nancy & Harvey Goldstein  
Suzanne Gueble  
Kathleen Hally  
Moirra & David Hambleton  
Frank Hird  
Alan Horwitz  
Elisabeth Hyde  
Lucie & Lawrence Iannotti  
Peg Johnson  
Patricia & Carl Johnson  
Nancy Kahl  
Eunice Kayman  
Kay Kazmaier  
Sharon Kearns  
Marilyn Kennedy  
Peggy King  
Ruth Knowlton  
Sandra & Michael Kraus  
Christine & Henry Kraver  
Mary & James Laske  
Tootsie & Jim Laske  
Alice & Tom Laurensen  
Dorothy & Terrance Lawlor  
Mary Lewis  
Penny Lowenstein  
                    & Mark Weremchuk  
William Ludwig  
Sharon & Douglas MacKinnel  
Alfred Mahan  
Jennifer Marks  
Carol Masotta  
Ethel & Michael Maturo  
Mary McDonald  
Mary Beth Michaelson  
& David Colbourn  
Bryan Mierzejewski  
Margaret & Donald Mitchell  
Jennifer & Craig Mullett  
Scott Nabel  
Maureen & Bill O'Brien  
Jean & John O'Connor  
Julia Ogren  
Nancy Orlando  
Phyllis Owens  
Angela Parente

Abby Patrizio  
Jamie Peterson  
Kevin Platt  
Carolyn Proctor  
Frances & Mark Rabinowitz  
Jeffrey Rasey  
Patricia Reilly  
Linda Richetelli-Pepe & Frank Pepe  
Diane Rosen  
Katherine Rowe  
Maryetta & Bob Russell  
Cheryl & Francis Ryan  
Melrene & Ron Savin  
Rochelle Schreibman  
                    & David Kaminsky  
Michele & Robert Sember  
Patti & Barry Sinoway  
Richard Slater  
Leila & Heidi Smith  
Susan Solomon  
Louise Stanton  
Alinor Sterling & Steve Mentz  
Gayle & Timothy Stevens  
Susan Stevenson  
Callista Stoddard  
Scarlet O'Hattas Red Hat Society  
Allen Trafny  
Malaine Trecoske & Tom Jarvie  
Lesley Ursini  
Ann Marie & Thomas Vailette  
Ruth Vergason  
Marie & Anthony Vitalie  
Mary Wallace  
Christine & Gary Wanerka  
The Weber & Lord Families  
Rhoda Winik  
Edward Zack  
John Zane  
J.E.F Zetterberg  
Marvin Zimmerman

We are also grateful for In Kind Services provided by Acara Partners, Tricia Bohan and the Owenego Beach & Tennis Club

We worked carefully to ensure the completeness and accuracy of this list. We apologize for any mistakes, and ask that you contact Liza Janssen Petra at 203-444-4898 or lpetra@branfordcommunityfoundation.org to correct any inconsistencies.

## Testimonials from Grantees

### “until today was inconceivable”

“At the start of this school year, the possibility of accomplishing as much as we have up until today was inconceivable; we could never have done so without our three coaches, our ten awesome, unique, and creative fellow team members; and especially you all at the Branford Community Foundation, whose dedication to our rookie year success has not gone unrecognized or unappreciated.”

- Christian Bjork, Daniel DeCerbo-O'Brien, Joshua Josephy-Zack, Co-Founders, Co-Captains, Branford High School / Walsh Intermediate School Competitive Robotics Club

### “a 65% increase of children's books”

“Thanks to your grant, Read to Grow was able to provide 3,868 books in 2018 to Branford children through the Branford Early Childhood Collaborative, the East Shore District Health Department, the Branford Counseling Center, the James Blackstone Memorial Library, Branford Public Schools, and at our own Read to Grow Book Place. This led to a 65% increase in the number of children's books that we gave to Branford children this year.”

- Kyn Tolson, Executive Director, Read to Grow

### “successful program and support”

“The tutors always state how much they enjoy their time and being there and helping ERACE have a successful program and support the teachers with the high number of students.”

- Meghan Fitzgibbons, ESL Program Manager at Literacy Volunteers.

### “remembered by all ... for years to come”

“During the “audience talk back” following the performance of Hamlet Abridged on the Branford Green, several children mentioned the sword duel. Seeing their interest, one actor retrieved a large case of real swords of various sizes and the actors offered an impromptu lesson on swords, from their history, sizes, uses, and how actors use them safely on stage. As each sword was presented, a wonderful rumble of excitement came from the crowd. This impromptu experience will be remembered by all in attendance for years to come.”

- Eric Dillner, Executive Director / CEO, Shoreline Arts Alliance

### “a big difference”

“It's much easier to keep individuals and families in their homes than it is to find them some place to live if they become homeless,” says Peter Cimino, Executive Director of the Branford Counseling Center. “Support from the Branford Community Foundation to provide rental subsidies makes a big difference in quite a few lives.”

- Peter Cimino, Executive Director, Branford Counseling Center



Stony Creek Trolley Trails | Photo by Ashley Abel Photography

---

**BRANFORD**

---

Community Foundation

[branfordcommunityfoundation.org](http://branfordcommunityfoundation.org)