

A scenic view of Branford Harbor. In the foreground, a dark wooden railing runs horizontally across the frame. Behind it, a path of tall green grass leads towards the water. The water is blue and calm, reflecting the sky. Several boats are visible in the harbor, including a small white boat with an outboard motor in the middle ground. In the background, there are more boats and a line of trees on the shore under a blue sky with scattered white clouds.

BRANFORD

Community Foundation

Impact Report 2023



Dear Friends,

The most important asset of the Branford Community Foundation is you – our dedicated and steadfast community of donors whose generosity truly enriches the quality of life in Branford. These have been challenging years, and your commitment to giving has been unwavering. The Branford Community Foundation has been able to step up and continue to meet the ever-growing needs of our community, thanks to you.

In this report, you will meet some individuals behind the numbers and learn about the Foundation’s impact on our community. Our grantees and donors are all heroes doing meaningful work out in the community. Behind the scenes, we’ve been hard at work. Our key accomplishments include:

Community Investment

Despite a volatile stock market, our endowment grew, through donor generosity, to \$3.1 million in the past year. We gave away nearly \$170,000 in 2022 in grants, scholarships, and sponsorships, which is approximately a 40% increase from our pre-COVID grant making level in fiscal year 2019.

Strategic Planning

We completed a post-pandemic strategic plan that provides our Board with a deeper understanding of the issues, challenges, and opportunities facing the community.

The outcome of the process is a 5-year roadmap with ambitious goals and defined strategies. Our priorities are to increase the size of our endowment, ensure our grantmaking addresses community needs, leverage and expand our leadership role in the community, and build the necessary organizational capacity required to execute our strategic plan.

ARPA Funding

The Town of Branford selected the Branford Community Foundation as their partner to create a recommendation for \$395,000 in federal funding to charitable organizations through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds earmarked for area nonprofits. The funds will help critical community services and organizations still recovering economically from the pandemic.

First Selectman James Cosgrove stated, “The Branford Community Foundation’s depth of experience in assessing the needs within our community will help ensure the effective use of the available funds.” The funding process starts in June, with award announcements in November.

As we look at all that has been accomplished this year, we are so proud. Together, we are truly creating a culture of giving and caring that will stand for future generations. Thank you for your investment and partnership in building a strong and connected Branford.

Gratefully,

Liza Janssen Petra
Executive Director

Stephanie Donegan Dietz
Board Chair



Jeannette Palluzzi went the extra mile.

It's hard to say which Jeannette Palluzzi loved more... sports or teaching.

As a student at New Haven Teachers College (now Southern Connecticut State University) in the 1950s, Palluzzi, known affectionately as J, played five different sports and was a proud member of the undefeated women's basketball team. She raised four sons playing, and eventually coaching, sports in Branford. For decades, she and her husband Alex, were fixtures in the stands at her sons' and grandchildren's games, meets and matches. J would often come to those athletic events with a pad and pen, keeping meticulous notes and statistics. Together, they were inducted in the Branford Sports Hall of Fame in 2015.

As a child, J's family relocated to Sao Paulo, Brazil when her father took a job there. She spent her

adolescent years in South America and returned to the New Haven area to go to college to become a teacher. She went on to earn a Master's degree and two 6th year degrees from Southern. She taught reading and English to speakers of other languages (ESL) in Guilford and Branford schools, ran the annual Branford Spelling Bee for 35 years, and mastered nine languages herself.

After 66 years of marriage, four children, ten grandchildren and five great-grandchildren, J and Alex passed away within a few months of each other in 2021, leaving a massive void in the close-knit family.

"I knew how great they were as parents," says their oldest son, Alex Palluzzi, Jr. "But I don't think I realized their impact in the community until people started saying to me, 'If it wasn't for your mom, I

wouldn't have gone to college. If it wasn't for your mom, I wouldn't have finished high school. If it wasn't for your mom, I wouldn't have gotten that job or I wouldn't have known what to do with my life.'"

The outpouring of gratitude and support from the community allowed J's four sons — Alex, Jr., Jake, Michael and Tony — to partner with the Branford Community Foundation in 2022 to establish a scholarship in their mother's name. The Jeannette L. Palluzzi Scholarship is awarded to a senior who earns the Connecticut Seal of Biliteracy and plans on attending a four-year college.

According to the Connecticut State Department of Education, the Seal of Biliteracy, affixed to the graduate's diploma and noted on their transcript, recognizes the tangible benefits of being bilingual and prepares students to be global citizens in a multi-cultural, multi-lingual world. It can be earned by students for whom English is their second language or students who become proficient in a modern language other than their native English.

The program was established in 2017, long after J Palluzzi had retired from teaching at the age of 72, but the Seal of Biliteracy represents one of her passions. During her teaching career, J had a reputation for always going the extra mile for her students. She and a colleague pioneered a computerized reading lab and shared the technology and expertise with other school districts. She often took new teachers under her wing to support them and when the state introduced the Beginning Educator Support and Training (BEST) program in 1989, J became a

mentor, master mentor and portfolio scorer. Her reputation as a teacher who helped students learn English helped to grow the Branford Public Schools ESL program that now serves hundreds of students with more than two dozen different languages spoken at home.

It's noteworthy that all four of J's sons found their way to working in public service and have been involved in organizing and coaching youth sports. Jake and Tony are teachers in Branford and Orange, respectively. Michael is a nurse in Chicago. And Alex, Jr. is the Director of Parks & Recreation in Branford.

Alex, Jr. knew the Branford Community Foundation could help the brothers to honor their mother. "I already had a relationship with the Branford Community Foundation through the recreation department, and I can't tell you how great the foundation has been to us," he says.

"I don't think I realized their impact in the community until people started saying to me, 'If it wasn't for your mom, I wouldn't have gone to college.'"

– Alex Palluzzi, Jr.

Photo: The Palluzzi Family



Honoring their heritage and homeland.

When Chiran Neupane came to the United States in 2007, he couldn't have foreseen a future in which his children and his parents might not be able to communicate with one another. The native of Nepal first arrived at Drury University in Missouri, before transferring to Bridgewater State University in Massachusetts to complete his degree. Now happily settled in Branford and working as a chemist with surgical device manufacturer Medtronic, Neupane and his wife, Rupa, have realized the challenge of raising English-speaking children in America while maintaining and honoring familial and cultural ties to their homeland.

Branford is home to more than 200 Nepalese families. The Branford chapter of the Society of Nepalese in America (SNA), established in 2012, provides a community to promote and preserve the culture and traditions of Nepal, while also using

their collective energy to support humanitarian causes. The organization regularly sponsors Red Cross blood drives, shares news and events that impact the Nepalese community at home and abroad, raises funds to assist those in need, and creates opportunities to socialize and bond with others.

With a \$1700 grant from the Branford Community Foundation (BCF), SNA is now focusing on helping its youngest members learn about their heritage and connect with older generations through a Nepalese Language Class.

As vice president of Branford's SNA and father of two small children, Neupane was excited by the prospect of a language class for children. He recalls an SNA gathering not long ago where he spoke with a family, including grandparents visiting from Nepal. The older couple was

disheartened and thinking of cutting their visit short because it was so difficult to connect with their grandchildren.

Neupane, who speaks 5 languages himself, says when SNA planned the first 9-week session in the fall of 2022, they expected about 25 students, arranged for two teachers and ordered some books from Nepal as well as class supplies. Instead, more than 50 children, ranging in age from 4 to 15, registered for the class and they needed additional teachers.

"It is wonderful that so many Nepali kids can know their mother tongue. It allows us to build a bridge between younger and older, to bridge the communication gap between our kids and their grandparents," Neupane says. "And, learning a second language is a great skill for later in life." The classes were each organized around a theme, such as a famous Nepali person or event. Conversational language skills and pronunciation were emphasized, but the Nepali alphabet, numbers and vocabulary were incorporated as well. The class has been a rousing success and SNA hopes to offer it continuously, so that students can become fluent enough to read books and talk regularly with grandparents.

The Nepali language class touched on several of the priorities of the BCF, including support for children's activities, recognizing diverse cultures within the community and recovering from the pandemic which caused so many immigrant and first-generation families to be even more isolated from their relatives.

"Our organization doesn't have an active steady source of income. We rely on donations and this was our first grant, so we were very happy to receive funding from the Branford Community Foundation," Neupane explains.

SNA also hopes to continue sharing their culture with the Branford community. Nepal, a democratic republic with about 30 million citizens, is a multi-lingual, multi-religious and multi-ethnic country sandwiched between India and the Tibet region of China. Its economy is largely based on agriculture, but, of course, tourism is an increasing influence as Nepal is located in the Himalayas and encompasses eight of the world's 10 highest peaks, including Mt. Everest at 29,031 feet. Native mountaineer Tenzing Norgay is credited, along with New Zealand climber Sir Edmund Hillary, as part of the first confirmed team to summit Mt. Everest in 1953, and a steady stream of mountaineers has followed. Since the Nepalese Civil War ended the last Hindu monarchy in the early 2000s, the country has been a peaceful state, and a major contributor to UN peacekeeping operations. It is considered the birthplace of Buddhism, though Hindus far outnumber Buddhists.

On July 15th, 2023, SNA will host the US-Nepal festival on the Branford Green to share the culture with anyone who would like to learn about Nepal. The event will start with a parade at 10:00 am and live music from 3:00 - 9:00 pm. The festival includes an art exhibition, a traditional crafts demonstration, and some delicious food testing. This event is free for everyone who wants to join.

Photo: Children participating in the Branford chapter of the Society of Nepalese in America (SNA).



A thriving new partnership.

A new partnership between the Branford Community Foundation (BCF) and GSB (Guilford Savings Bank) is helping both organizations do what they do better, while also helping the Branford community thrive.

It is no surprise that the collaboration developed out of the Covid-19 pandemic, which changed the way GSB, a nearly 150-year-old institution, showed its support for the community. While causing the cancellation of so many of the 2020 events and activities that might have received funding from the bank, the pandemic also left countless businesses, organizations and residents struggling to fulfill basic needs.

“It was then that our president, Tim Geelan, really brought to our attention the personal hardships that were occurring and that we could help. Suddenly, businesses were shutting down, people weren’t getting paychecks, basic needs weren’t being met,” says Renee Pallenberg, senior vice president of marketing for GSB.

The bank made the decision to repurpose about \$100,000 worth of funds that might have gone to sponsor events and distribute them to four local community foundations, including \$25,000 to BCF. The foundations provided a more direct link to those working on relief efforts at the height of the pandemic.

Since that decision in 2020, Pallenberg explains, the bank realized the benefits of having the partnership and the relationship has evolved. Originally the bank’s allocation was used in the Covid Recovery Fund to support families through the Women & Family Life Center and to support struggling non-profits. As those needs subsided, BCF was able to apply the funds to other grant opportunities and increasingly to sponsorships.

BCF Sponsorships are designated for one-time events or a series of events given by an organization to increase visibility or raise funds. In 2022, BCF helped to distribute \$25,000 for GSB to at least 20 different organizations, with sponsorships ranging from \$250 to \$2,500. Among the recipients were social services agencies like the Community Dining Room and Clifford W. Beers Guidance Clinic; school and youth organizations groups like Branford High School Performing Arts, Camp Rising Sun and the Soundview Family YMCA; and organizations like the Branford Historical Society, Shoreline Arts Alliance and the James Blackstone Memorial Library. The SARAH Foundation, supporting individuals with differing abilities, and the Women & Family Life Center, helping women and children in crisis, are also among the regional beneficiaries of GSB’s sponsorships.

The partnership between BCF and GSB centers around shared priorities. Both the bank and the foundation have identified priorities aimed at supporting families - particularly those struggling with basic needs, mental health concerns, or education. Other hallmarks of the Branford community - arts and culture, the natural environment, senior citizen engagement and social

justice - are also important concerns for both organizations.

“It is an honor to be designated by GSB as the organization to sift through applications and make decisions that reflect positively on both our organizations and our community,” according to Liza Janssen Petra, BCF’s Executive Director.

Meaningful philanthropy and servant leadership are two of the core values at the heart of GSB. Indeed, the bank often reinforces its financial support with personal support. The bank’s 136 employees are encouraged and given time to participate as volunteers in fundraisers and events that impact the community. Pallenberg says their silent auction team is renowned for helping out what is often the most stressful element of fundraising events.

“We bring six or eight volunteers to do registration, tallying and money management at the auction. There’s a level of trust, I assume, because we are bankers. But, also, it’s been happening for 12 or 15 years, so it’s many of the same people year after year,” Pallenberg explains.

And trust will be the cornerstone of the new relationship between GSB and BCF.

“The partnership works really well. We meet with them periodically to make sure our goals are in alignment, and the recent shift to sponsorships provide more of the exposure that we need,” she notes. “We want our communities to know that we support the activities that are important to them.”

Photo: GSB President Tim Geelan, BCF Executive Director Liza Janssen Petra, and GSB SVP of Marketing Renee Pallenberg.

BCF 2022...

...by the numbers.



BRANFORD COMPASSION CLUB

6 cats

spayed/neutered in the Town of Branford

CLIFFORD W. BEERS GUIDANCE CLINIC

18 local children & families

received mental health services

FEED BRANFORD KIDS

200 students

provided with weekend meals

READ TO GROW

1200 books

distributed to

300 children

SPECIAL OLYMPICS

48 residents

participated in programming

BRANFORD MICROFUND

7 loans

supported through car repairs, help with back payments, buying and registering cars



CHARLIE'S CLOSET

972 residents

received refurbished medical equipment



SOUNDVIEW YMCA

46 students

participated in the Y Be Fit afterschool program



GUARDIAN AD LITEM (GAL) PROGRAM

18 local children & families

supported through liaison services between the child and the Juvenile Probate and Superior courts

BLACKSTONE LIBRARY

150 residents

participated the Oceans of Possibilities Summer Reading Program

NEIGHBORHOOD MUSIC SCHOOL

15 seniors

received financial aid & tuition-free classes

THE CONNECTICUT HOSPICE

750 residents

benefitted from new pool safety measures

ORCHARD HOUSE

34 seniors

benefited from the new Sensory Room

NEIGHBORHOOD MUSIC

42 residents

participated in programs



LITERACY VOLUNTEERS OF GREATER NEW HAVEN

67 residents

participated in ESL training

LEGACY THEATRE

131 participants

with mobility impairment performed Peter Pan



WOMEN AND FAMILY LIFE CENTER

49 residents

served through the Guided Assistance Program

GRANT AWARDS

In 2022, Branford Community Foundation invested in the community through its grantmaking, sponsorships in partnership with Guilford Savings Bank (GSB) and designated charitable fund grants and scholarships.

\$1,000 Children in Placement, Connecticut Inc. to support the Guardian Ad Litem Program, providing crucial services to Branford children in the child welfare system.

\$1,200 Branford Compassion Club to cover the cost of neutering 6 cats.

\$1,500 Shoreline Arts Alliance to support a Resume and Interview Skills Workshop for Young Artists at Branford High School.

\$1,700 Society of Nepalese in America to support Nepali Language Classes.

\$2,000 Guilford Interfaith Volunteers to support repairs and refurbishment of donated medical equipment for distribution to Branford residents free of charge.

\$2,000 All the Kings Horses Equine Rescue, Inc to support Equine therapy.

\$2,000 Donor Advised Grant to support the Branford Land Trust with outreach and education.

\$2,200 Leadership Initiatives to support the professional development of leaders of local charitable organizations.

\$2,500 Read to Grow, Inc. to provide free books to Branford children receiving food from the Branford Community Dining Room, as well as to other organizations, including East Shore Health District.

\$2,500 Neighborhood Music School for scholarships and financial aid for Branford residents participating in NMS programs.

\$2,885 James Blackstone Memorial Library to support the 2022 Summer Reading Program: Oceans of Possibilities.

\$3,500 Helping Families Resettle- Branford Refugee Resettlement to support responsive community effort to relocate a refugee family to Branford.

\$4,000 Branford Arts & Cultural Alliance to support the Painted Doors of Branford project.

\$4,500 Branford Historical Society to provide a Witness Stones Project in Branford.

\$4,800 The Orchard House Medical Adult Day Center to support the development of a sensory room for Dementia and Alzheimer clients.

\$5,000 Feed Branford Kids to provide extra nutritional support to school age kids in Branford.

\$5,000 The Connecticut Hospice, Inc. to support the installation of an electric locking system at the front doors and upgrade the pool fencing.

\$5,000 Special Olympics Connecticut for purchasing new sports equipment, subsidizing athlete registration fees, and paying for bus transportation to competition events.

\$5,000 Legacy Theatre to support the Wheel Life Theatre Troupe providing access to the arts for artists of all abilities.

\$6,000 Branford Microfund to support an increase in the number of residents facing a sudden emergency beyond their immediate financial capability who need small loans.

\$6,000 Literacy Volunteers of Greater New Haven to train and support at least 10 volunteer tutors to teach at least 100 adult learners in English as a Second Language (ESL) literacy in partnership with Shoreline Adult Education.

\$6,000 Soundview Family YMCA to support the Y Be Fit afterschool program designed to increase activity and reduce obesity risk for students.

\$7,500 Clifford W. Beers Guidance Clinic, Inc for trauma-informed clinical services and non-reimbursable, case management and care coordination services for Guilford children and families.

\$10,000 Women & Family Life Center to expand the Guided Assistance Program.

\$46,800 Branford High School Scholarships to 35 Branford High School graduates pursuing higher education.

Competitive grants are awarded to qualified nonprofit and government agencies serving the town of Branford. For more information and the application form, visit our website: www.branfordcommunityfoundation.org.



Sponsorships

The Branford Community Foundation partnered with GSB to provide sponsorships for the following events in 2022:

- Branford Arts & Cultural Alliance Artisan Marketplace at the Branford Festival
- CT WaveRunners #LetHerRun
- Walsh Intermediate School What Memorial Day means to Me Essay Contest
- Mini Golf at Blackstone Library & Mini Golf: After Hours
- Branford Compassion Club - Animal Awareness Day
- Shoreline Chamber of Commerce Women of Excellence
- New Antioch Church Holiday celebration and musical concert
- 38th Annual Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Breakfast
- Branford Community TV Eighth Annual "Tour de Branford"
- BHS Spring Musical Anything Goes!
- Branford Festival Father of the Year Sponsorship
- Clifford W. Beers Guidance Clinic Builders of Hope Breakfast
- Branford Early Learning Center Celebrate Week of the Young Child
- Women & Family Life Center SHero Awards
- CT Hospice Lights of Love
- Roots 4 Relief Wishing Wheels Bike Drive
- Branford High School Project Graduation
- Branford Arts & Cultural Alliance Painted Doors of Branford
- The SARAH Project
- Community Dining Room Community Ice Cream Social
- Shoreline Theatre Company

Photo: Child participating in the Branford chapter of the Society of Nepalese in America (SNA).

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

Branford Community Foundation 2022 Financial Highlights

The Branford Community Foundation (BCF) is a small-town organization with big-city expertise, providing our constituents with personal attention and expert advice. BCF awarded nearly \$170,000 in grants, scholarships, and sponsorships during our 2022 fiscal year, which is approximately a 40% increase from our pre-COVID-19 grant making levels in fiscal year 2019.

BCF takes the stewardship of the assets entrusted to it very seriously and is pleased to report that assets increased by approximately 4.7% for the most recent fiscal year to over \$3.1 million, a highwater mark for BCF’s portfolio. The passion and generosity of BCF’s donors and partners led to \$240,000 in contributions this year. Although our contribution numbers decreased this year, they were 53% higher than our pre-COVID-19 contributions in fiscal year 2019.

We are so grateful for the incredible donor support the local community provides BCF. None of this would be possible without you.

BCF seeks to address the needs of today while upholding charitable legacies for generations to come, so we invest both for now and for the future. The prudent fiscal stewardship of our donors’ funds and legacies is our top priority. Our Finance Committee works with the investment professionals at the Community Foundation for Greater New Haven (CFGNH) to preserve and grow our endowment. BCF’s individual funds are pooled and invested in a diversified portfolio managed by CFGNH. BCF’s portfolio has grown at an annualized rate of 4.8% for the 5 years ending December 31, 2022, surpassing the market benchmarks selected for comparison. For the twelve months ended December 31, 2022, the portfolio’s investment performance was -3.9% meaningfully surpassing the portfolio’s market benchmarks for the same period, during an extremely challenging investment environment.

AS OF DECEMBER 31	2022	2021	% CHANGE
Total Assets	\$3,141,771	\$2,999,377	4.7%
Total Contributions	\$240,509	\$300,609	-20%
Total Grants	\$168,760	\$168,408	0.2%

Key financial Indicators are extracted from annual financial statements and exclude inter-fund gifts and grants. A copy of our Form 990 is available upon request.

2022 LIST OF BRANFORD COMMUNITY FOUNDATION CHARITABLE FUNDS

Unrestricted Funds: Helping to meet ever-changing community needs, including future needs that often cannot be anticipated at the time a gift is made.

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

Designated Funds: Earmarked for a specific nonprofit organization or purpose.

- Stephanie & Leonard Farber Fund
- Donald & Carla Grigley Memorial Fund
- Shoreline Village CT (SVCT) Legacy Fund

Donor Advised Funds: Donors have continued and ongoing involvement in the use of their gift.

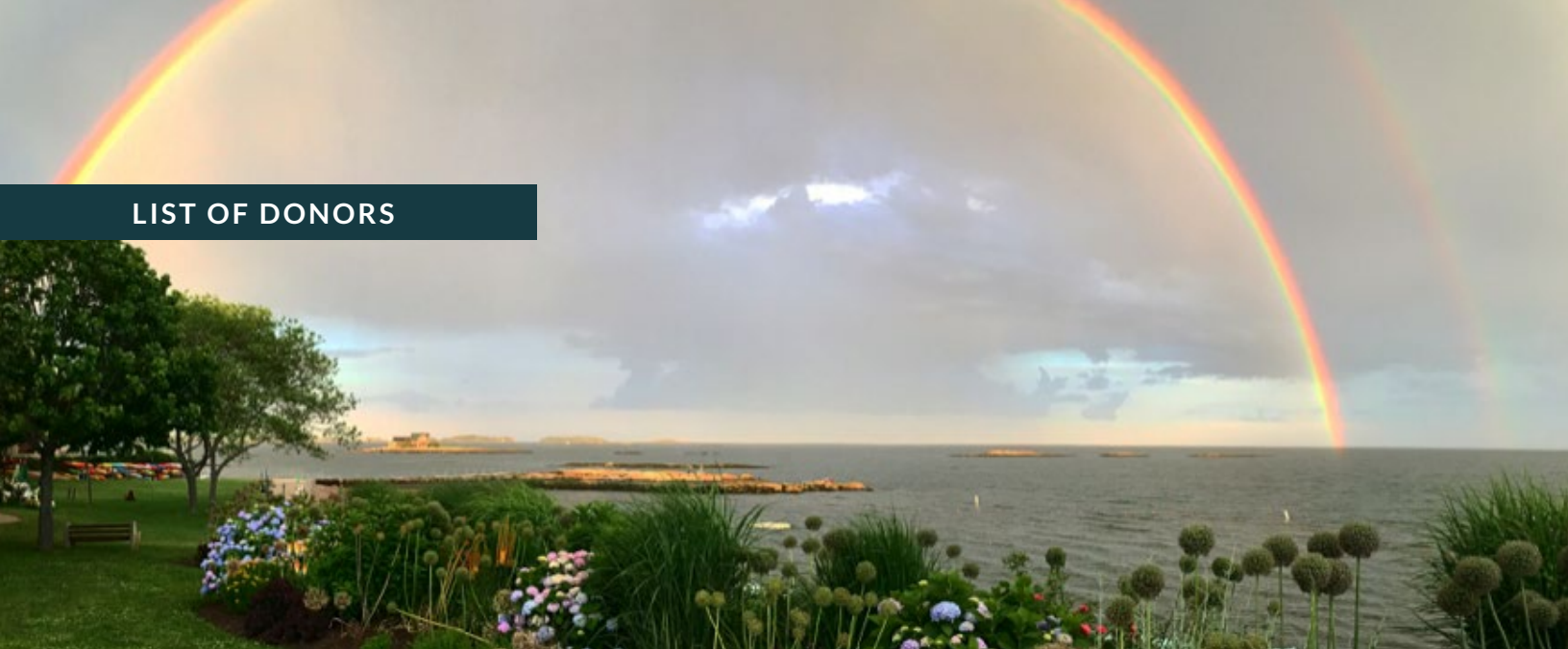
- Nobile Fund for Cultural and Artistic Innovation
- Deirdre Baker Schiffer Fund
- Todds Hill Preserve Fund

Field of Interest Funds: Supports an area of interest identified by the donor.

- Brain Injury, Brain Illness and/or Mental Health Fund
- GSB Charitable Fund
- Thomas C. Hooker Memorial Fund
- Lasala Family Fund for Animals
- Joyce & Robert “Pat” Mailhouse Fund
- Donald & Mary Lou Welch Fund
- Linda Edsall Winward and Walter Winward Fund for Music Programs in the Branford Elementary and Middle Schools

Scholarship Funds: Supports graduates from Branford High School.

- BACA Scholarship Fund for the Arts
- Philip A. DeLise Memorial Scholarship
- Bob Dow Scholar-Athlete Scholarship
- PJ Ferriolo Memorial Scholarship
- Vincent S. Giordano Sr Scholarship
- Kendra Martin Scholarship
- D. William Owens Jr and Attorney Robert M. Owens Scholarship
- Joyce Watson Potts & Carl E. Potts Scholarship
- Mari-Ellen Reed Memorial Nursing Scholarship
- Christopher & Robert Reynolds Scholarship
- Cathyann Roding Performing Arts Scholarship
- The Austin Ryer Memorial Scholarship
- William Schwanfelder Scholarship
- John B. Sliney Scholarship
- Celia Whorf Wheeler Scholarship
- Linda Edsall Winward Scholarship
- Margie L. Hughes Scholarship
- Joseph E. Higgins Jr 9-11 Memorial Scholarship
- Jeanette L. Palluzzi Scholarship
- Jim and Carol Redden Memorial Scholarship



LIST OF DONORS

We are so grateful for the incredible donor support the local community provides the Branford Community Foundation. None of this would be possible without you. 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, 2022.

\$10,000 AND UP

American Polyfilm, Inc.
Anonymous Donor
GSB
Jon Grossman
Anne & Creighton Hooker
Jeanette & Robert Mobeck
Home Care Plus, Inc.
Andrea Schieckel & Jonathan Clark
Jan Walzer & David Etzel
Celia & Robert Wheeler

\$5,000 TO \$9,999

Anonymous Donor
Lea Brilmayer & William Horne
Carole Brown
Polly A. & Alan S. Fitz
Karen & Alexander Palluzzi
Catherine & John Seibyl
Rita Trayner

\$2,000 TO \$4,999

Timothy Dineen
Joyce Mailhouse
Annetta & Louis Potts

Progressive Business Solutions
Ann Rutherford & Bruce Lively
Karen & Ryan Torello
Van Wilgen's Garden Center

\$1,000 TO \$1,999

Rita Berkson & Randy Reinhold
Terri & Roger Boissonneault
Kevin Cassell
Marilyn & Victor Cassella
Deborah & Donald Conklin
Stephanie Donegan & William Dietz
Betty Ann Donegan
Connie Drysdale
Rose Dufour
Stephanie & Len Farber
Pamela & John Griffin
Heather & Joseph Hackley
Kimberly & Frank Kenna
Joan Krochmal
Melodie Lane & Curtis O'Connor
Susanne Lendler Marsh & Chip Marsh
Kathy & Dale Maycen
Daniel M. Smith & Associates

Alicia & Jeff Torello
Helen Wong & Frazier Bronson

\$500 TO \$999

Susan & Bruce Ackerman
Elizabeth Alcorn
Patricia Andriole
Stephan Ariyan
Sue Bender & Al Klevorick
Christine Donegan
Shelley & Gordon Geballe
Martha Link & Fran Walsh, Jr.
Barbara Marks
Kendra Martin & Cormick Martin
Kelley McDevitt & Stephen Hooker
Margaret & Donald Mitchell
Park Group Solutions, LLC
Patricia Sanders
Nell & Art Slusark
Arlene Steinlauf
Marie & Charles Tiernan
Travelers Insurance Company
Mary & Frank Troncale
Thea & Ed Wassmer

\$250 TO \$499

Merle & Bob Berke-Schlessel
Nan Birdwhistell & David Rothberg
Susan Bryson & Laurence Nadel
Wanda Bubriski
Layna & Peter Cain
Jennifer Davies
Josephine Farricielli
Donna & Peter Ferriolo
Susie & Bob Fiskio
Linda & Vincent Giordano
Allison Grigley & Josh Geballe
The Holmes- Praecht Family
Susan & Michael Luchini
Cory Ludington
Marcia & Vincent Lynch
Susan & Ronald Miller
Patricia & John Mooney
Trisha Morris & Jonathan Katz
Dyana Rudden
Janet Ryan
Joe Schiffer
Colin Sheehan
Barbara & Peter Strauss
Mavis & Tony Terry
Lesley Ursini
Martha Wieler & Tiffany Davis
Jackie Wolff & Michael Hopkins
Nancy Young & Paul Ford
Myra & Joe Zelson

\$100 TO \$249

Abigail Adams
Nina Adams & Moreson Kaplan
Jennifer Alexander
Anthony Alfone
Patrick Alvino & Jeffrey Wolfson
Anonymous
Laura Baker
Judith Barron
Nancy & Peter Berdon
Kate Berges
Big Y Community Bag Program
Jane Bouley
Viviane & William Briggs
Patricia Brill & Joseph Piscitelli

Lauren Brown & John Herzan
Katherine Buckley
Victor & Lorraine Budnick
Marjorie & Benjamin Bunney
Jackie & George Cahill Jr.
Marybeth Canavan
Eugene & Susan Canavan
Ellie Cave
Nancy Childs
Martha & Jeff Clark
Madeline Clem
Marilyn Collett
Marlyce & Richard Conroy
Judith & Timothy Conroy
Catherine Cox
Leo Cristofar
Susan & Donald Crockford-Peters
Dorothy Cummings
Susan & Bob Dahill
Joanne & Robert Dargan
Natalie de Leuchtenberg Bowers
Marcia & Ron Delfini
Lisa & Brooke Delfini
Pamela Delise
Lois & Philip Delise
Cheryl DellaPietra
Dorothy Desi
Linda Discepolo
Kathleen & William Dornfeld
Silvia & David Drewery
Betty & Frederick Eckert
Valerie Engstrom
Linda Esposito & Anne Persico
Kathleen & Michael Etzel
Susan Fainstein
Calleva Family
Micheline & Joseph Fazzino
Cynthia Fitzgerald
Shirley & Robert Fleming
Christine & Joe Fontana
Kathleen & Parker Fox
Melissa & Tim Geelan
Janice Geier
Dorothy & Robert Gill
Scott Grant
Addie Graver

Paula & Bill Grimm
Elisabeth Haas
Margot Hardenbergh & Carl Wies
Caroline Henningsen
Hamlet Hernandez
Kate Higgins & Bill Leece
Mary Alice & Thomas Howley
Margaret Iacobellis
Lucie & Lawrence Iannotti
Janet & Donald Jackson
Liza Janssen & Noel Petra
Patricia & Carl Johnson
Joanne Kadziela
Nancy Kahl
Janet Kaminsky
Linda & Paul Karoff
Susan & John Katz
Leon Kier
Meg Kilgore
Nancy Kim & David Henderson
Arthur Knowlton
Eunice & Tony Lasala
Karen Laurel
Alice & Tom Laurenson
Dorothy & Terrance Lawlor
Barbara Leete
Patricia & Harold Levy
Penny Lowenstein & Mark Weremchuk
Grace & James MacBride
Shirley McCarthy
Bonnie & Andrew McKirdy
Elaine & Christopher McLeod
Jennifer & Craig Mullett
Patiricia Nielsen
Margaret & Stanson Nimiroski
North Italian Home Club
Margaret O'Brien
Joanne & John Opie
Debra & Scott Palmer
Donald Patenaude
Anita & Jim Perito
Anne Persico
Jean & Joe Polka
Sheila & Donald Potter
Jill & Edward Prete

Denise Rank
Christine Redden
Betsy & Joe Regan
David & Margaret Ricciardi
Betsy & Stan Robison
Hedda Rubenstein &
Michael Dimenstein
Carolyn Sasaki
Melrene & Ron Savin
JoAnn & Tony Scillia
Sea Mist LLC
Erica Smart & Christopher Cheney
Marlene & Shepard Stone
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Alberta & Nicholas Torello, Sr.
Marie & Harry Torello
Terry & Jeff Vailette
Christine Wood & Alan Forman
Xavier Realty
Judith & Peter Young

UP TO \$99

Ilrene Agonis
Maryellen Albini
Judith & Joseph Alessi
Tracie & Michael Alexander
Marilynn & John Anderson
Anderson- Krause Insurance &
Financial Services
Joan Armstrong
Gayle Aspinall
Theresa & Peter Baldino
Barbara & Harold Barringham
Amy & Tim Barry
Dorothy Bjork
Kenneth Bjork
Denise Boyle
Anita & Ralph Brancaccio
Cecilia Bratten
Linda & Carly Breslin
Michelle Burgess
Bonita & Brian Burke
Ann Calkins
Ann & James Casanova

Nichole & Fran Cipriano
Community Foundation for Greater
New Haven
Patricia & Peter Concelmo
Teri & Richard Conte
Dody & Paul Criscuolo
Christine Danilowicz
Margaret & Richard Dean
Janice DeMartino
Joseph DeMartino
Doug Denes
Larry Desbiens & Bill Marsland
Bernadette DiGiulian
Florence Distasio
Dorothy Donohoe
Karen & Roger Erickson
Kathleen & John Fleming
Joanne & Edward Fresco
Nettie & Ralph Gagliardi
Susan & Charlie Goetsch
Nancy & Harvey Goldstein
Kathleen Hally
Sharon Kearns
Marilyn Kennedy
The Klarman Family
Tootsie & Jim Laske
Mary & James Laske
Debra Laudano
Lois & Blake Lehr
Francesca Libby
Linda Lisk & John Seymour
Raymond & Bobbi Lombra
Alfred Mahan
Janet & Richard Mahoney
Charles Malonis
Jennifer Marks
Carol Masotta
Roberta & James Mendillo
Meriden Republican Town
Committee
Philip Mickelson
Lily Morse
Pat & Bob Mullins
Scott Nabel
Katherine & John Nelson
Monique Nemarich

Gerry Nicholson
Laura Noe
Trisha, P.J. & Riley Norwood
Jean & John O'Connor
Nancy Orlando
Rebecca & Calvin Page
Abby Patrizio
Sandra Riccitelli
Linda Richetelli-Pepe & Frank Pepe
Diane & Ronald Robinson
Carol & Mike Rosen
Katherine Rowe
Angela Rowley
Pam & Chad Roy
Diane Rubeo
Hope Ryan
Shirley Sabine
Bonnie Sanders-Newton
Diane & James Savastano
Karen Scialabba
Lynn Shaw
Kenneth Shellhammer
Cyd Slotoroff
Jene Smith
Susan Solomon
Louise Stanton
Carmen & John Tanski
Virginia Thompson
Richard Thompson
Lesla Tischler
Malaine Trecoske & Tom Jarvie
Marilyn & David Vailette
Kristin Vander Wiede
Teresa Vegliante
Marnie Weiner
Glenda Wenz
Debbie & Leo Whelan
Barbara Yamada
J.E.F Zetterberg

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 lpetra@branfordcommunityfoundation.org
or (203) 444-4898 to correct any inconsistencies.

2022 BRANFORD COMMUNITY FOUNDATION LEADERSHIP

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Stephanie Farber
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Margot Hardenbergh
Susanne Lendler Marsh
Barbara Lyons
Kendra Martin
Greg Nobile
Melodie Lane O'Connor
Logan Reed
Janet Ryan
Francis Walsh
Martha Link Walsh

Staff

Liza Janssen Petra, *Executive Director*
Jennifer Mullett, *Program Director*
Amy Paris, *Administrative Assistant*
Laima Nori, *Bookkeeper*

TESTIMONIALS

LEGACY THEATRE

During an Acting Class for the Wheel Life Theatre Troupe, an acting troupe for those with mobility issues, we were reading a scene from PETER PAN, and an actor said that they wished they could fly! We had recently had a workshop with the world famous Pilobolus dancers, and it occurred to me that a collaboration could make it possible for the very able-bodies dancers to “fly” our mobility-challenged actors in an adaptation of PETER AND WENDY. With the help of the BCF grant, Legacy Theatre was able to contract Pilobolus and make the collaboration and production happen! Thank you, thank you for making the acting troupe’s dreams literally come true!

READ TO GROW

Fei Qiu, a resident of Branford and a mother of two requests age-appropriate books for her children through our Books for Kids program often. “My children and I read before bedtime every night and most of the books we have come from Read to Grow,” says Qui. “Reading helps improve understanding and imagination and I am thankful to you for helping my children develop a good reading habit,” she adds. A regular at the Community Dining Room, Qiu uses the books she receives from BFK to read and makes crafts inspired by them with her children at home and at their school. “My children are always excited to choose books at the Community Dining Room available through your organization,” she reveals.

NEIGHBORHOOD MUSIC SCHOOL

Laura’s Branford class always makes me feel like ‘It’s a new morning’. I feel loose, relaxed and energized afterward. I feel like I can deal with this Parkinson’s thing. Seeing others in the ‘community’ of dancers feels that we are together in the struggle and together in the joy of playing and dancing. We use our bodies, our imaginations, and our creativity.



BRANFORD

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Thank you.

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