

# How you can give back to your community forever and leave a permanent legacy

## Easy, proven ways you can:

Keep assets now and give generously later

---

Earn income for life, then make a charitable gift

---

Know your charitable wishes will always be honored

---

Care for your loved ones and give back to your community

---

Make a lasting impact that will leave the world a better place



Fairfield County  
Community Foundation





## The Fable of the Magic Coin Purse (and why it matters to you)



ong, long ago, a poor man in a poor village helped a traveling stranger. To thank him for his compassion, the stranger gave him a coin purse.

“This is a magic purse,” the stranger said. “It will never run out of gold coins as long as you spend them to help others.”

Indeed, it was true. The man helped his neighbors get through drought, famine, floods and other hardships, and the coin purse never ran out of gold coins.

He built a school and hired a teacher, brought a doctor to the village, and bought horses and wagons so farmers and tradesmen could travel to sell their harvest and goods. The purse never emptied.

The man died at a very old age, beloved by everyone in his now prosperous village.

To this day, descendants of descendants of those he helped tell his story, and give away their own coins to help others.



Your gift can be like a magic coin purse.  
It allows you to help your community and  
support your favorite causes forever. It may  
even inspire others to do the same.



You can give generously over time—  
and never run out of coins.

How forever,  
exactly,  
is “forever?”

Ben Franklin  
can explain . . .



**You know Benjamin Franklin** founded universities and the post office, helped draft the Declaration of Independence, shaped the foreign policy of the fledgling United States, published newspapers, invented bifocals and a heating stove, pioneered advances in science, and led discoveries about electricity.

Did you know his legacy also includes training new generations of trade professionals in his community of Philadelphia?

**Two centuries later, Ben Franklin is still making a difference**

In his 1790 will, Mr. Franklin left 1,000 pounds sterling to train “artificers”—craftsmen and tradesmen.

In 1993, his estate transferred nearly \$600,000 to the community foundation in Philadelphia.

Today, two centuries after his death, The Benjamin Franklin City Trust Fund and The Benjamin Franklin State Trust Fund have grown to nearly \$2 million.

The two funds support nonprofits that provide vocational training, and have awarded more than 700 scholarships to high school students who show outstanding potential in vocational education and want to become technicians, electricians and other skilled craft and trade workers.



In 1948, when Frances Hey walked into the teacher's lounge on her second day of school, fellow teacher Philip Ramer took notice. He struck up a conversation, and they married that summer.

In 1952, they moved to Norwalk where Frances taught history and Philip taught mathematics. She taught for 24 years, first at Center Junior High School, then Norwalk High School. She died in 1993.

Philip taught at Nathan Hale Middle School for 21 years. He died in 1994, nine months after his wife.

They had no children of their own.

"Frances truly loved all children and challenged them to the limits of their academic abilities," said a colleague. "Philip's students always did well when they went to high school and college."

Frances and Philip left a gift in their will to benefit the Norwalk region. The Ramer Fund was established at the Foundation with a \$611,000 bequest from Philip's estate.

Since 1995, the Ramer Fund has awarded 62 grants exceeding \$543,000 to nonprofit organizations that aid Norwalk children's education.

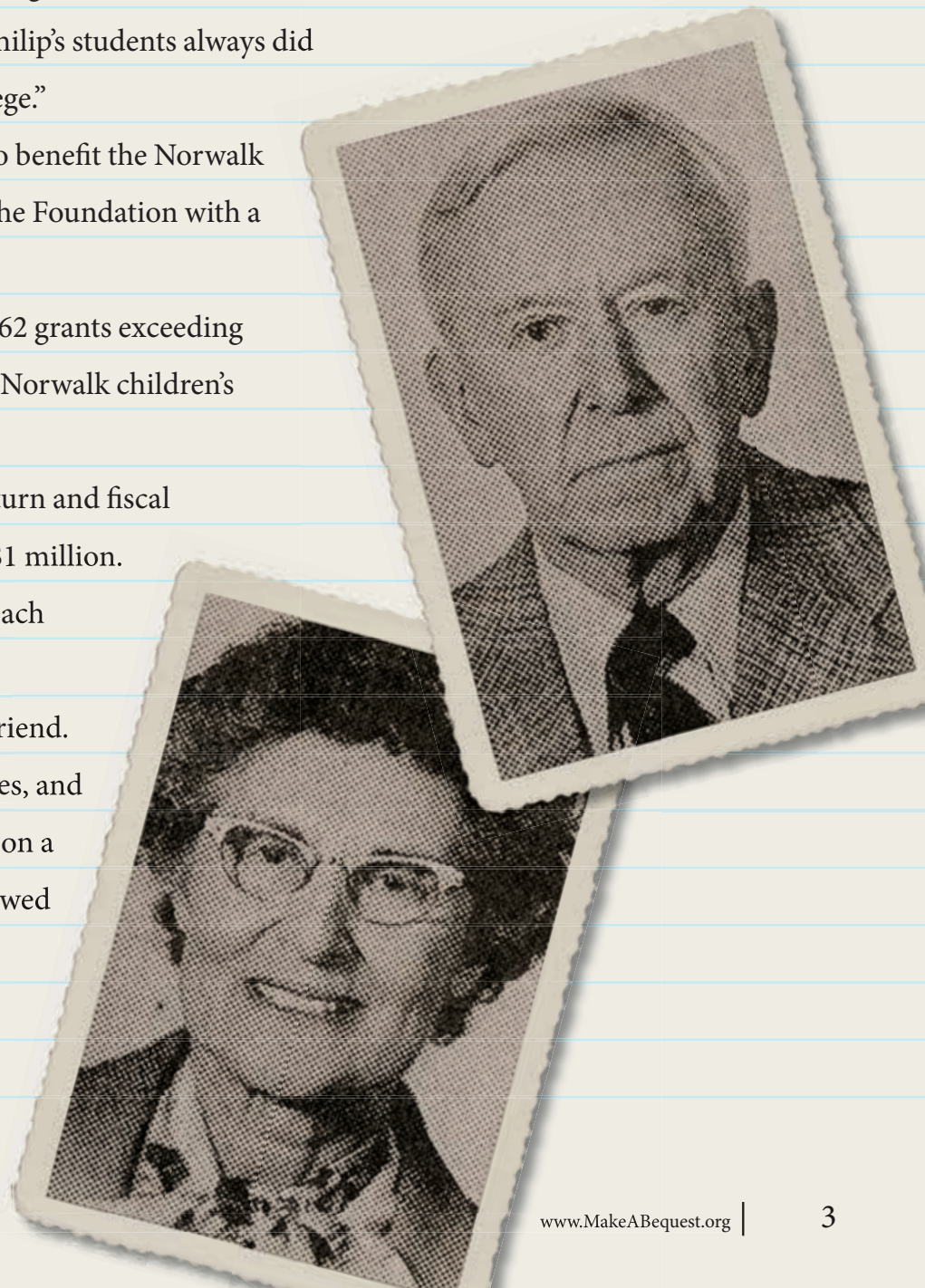
Thanks to the Foundation's investment return and fiscal stewardship, the fund balance now exceeds \$1 million.

Frances and Philip Ramer will continue to teach Norwalk's children forever.

"She and Philip were inseparable," said a friend. "They were avid supporters of Norwalk causes, and were proud of their students. Philip grew up on a farm. He used to say that as teachers, they sowed seeds for a brighter future for everyone."

They loved each other, their students and their community.

That's why they left a gift in their will.



## The most popular and easy gifts

**A bequest is the most popular gift.** It is easy to do and doesn't compromise your lifestyle. It allows you to make a generous gift after you or your survivor/s no longer need money.

You simply leave a gift in your will or trust to the Fairfield County Community Foundation, or to the fund you've established, or to another permanent fund at the Foundation.

You can leave a percentage of your estate, a fixed dollar amount, or a transfer of securities or other property. You specify how you want your gift to be used, and the Foundation will honor your charitable desires.

### Another popular way to give

Naming the Fairfield County Community Foundation as a beneficiary of a **life insurance policy**, an **IRA** or **retirement plan assets** is easy and can avoid a tax burden for your heirs.

If you leave an IRA or other retirement plan assets to your heirs, they will pay estate tax and income tax.

If you leave an IRA or retirement plan asset to charity, not a penny is taxed.

## You can make an impact far greater and more lasting than you might realize with a charitable bequest.

See how these remembered friends will give forever.

WONDERFUL, VISIONARY DONORS	YEAR FUND ESTABLISHED	BEQUEST AMOUNT	GRANTS MADE	BALANCE IN 2013
Maria Therese Holly	1984	\$ 51,967	\$ 67,881	\$ 111,081
Elizabeth Bissell Northcross	1991	\$ 464,870	\$485,289	\$ 991,375
Frances and Philip Ramer	1995	\$ 611,799	\$543,958	\$1,060,853
Edmund C. Spencer	1996	\$1,000,222	\$745,359	\$1,349,705
Nancy J. Pilgard	1999	\$1,872,772	\$739,261	\$2,145,389
Stella Margaret McHenry	2002	\$ 159,008	\$ 46,430	\$ 199,008
Elizabeth Matthews	2004	\$ 171,620	\$139,750	\$ 284,561
Robert B. Factor	2007	\$ 174,398	\$ 24,953	\$ 181,299

*Each of these visionary, compassionate donors gave us permission to use their generosity as an example of how a legacy gift can make a lasting impact forever.*

“Having lived in Fairfield County for 25 years, I was looking for a way to provide perpetual support for the region’s important causes.

My attorney suggested a bequest to the Foundation. I was impressed with the Foundation’s community knowledge and financial management.

I know my gift will be used effectively to continue making a difference long after I’m gone.”

*Linda M. Molnar  
Legacy Society Member*



## Gift sizes

Whether you choose to leave a bequest or an insurance policy, IRA or retirement plan assets, a gift less than \$25,000 will be directed to a permanent, endowed fund at the Foundation that matches your charitable interests or serves the greatest needs.

With any gift of \$25,000\* or more, you can establish and name a permanent fund at the Foundation, or direct your gift to an existing fund.

You and others could donate assets to the fund now, or wait until your estate is distributed.

The fund you establish and the grants it awards will forever bear any name you choose to honor. Or, of course, you can choose to give anonymously.

*\*Some types of funds may require a higher amount in order to effectively carry out your wishes.*

## Assets you can give

*Cash*

*Appreciated securities*

*Real estate*

*Personal property*

*Business interests*

*IRAs or retirement plan assets*

*Life insurance*

*Intellectual property  
(for example, patents,  
copyrights, royalties)*

*To decide which is best for you, please talk with us and your legal and financial advisors.*



## Gifts that pay you income for life

A charitable gift annuity allows anyone to become a generous philanthropist.

You make a gift to the Fairfield County Community Foundation and you—or someone you designate—receive fixed income payments for life. Some of the income is tax free.

Payments can begin right away, or at a later date of your choosing. The income you receive is based on your age (or the age of the person you designate).

In the hopefully far-distant future, the remaining balance will be placed into a permanent fund at the Fairfield County Community Foundation. It can be a fund you've established and named, or an existing fund you've designated.

We will steward the remaining money in the fund, and award grants in perpetuity that honor your charitable wishes.

### Benefits to you:

- Fixed income payments to you, or a person you designate, for life
- A portion of your annuity income is tax free
- Immediate charitable income tax deduction for a portion of your gift
- Possible tax advantages for capital gains, gift and estate taxes
- You can designate up to two people at least 65 years of age
- Establish and name your fund
- Future support to your community or favorite causes

### Guidelines and considerations:

- Tax laws change; please consult your financial and legal advisors
- Suggested minimum gift size is \$25,000
- Payments can begin at age 65 or later
- Gifts are irrevocable
- You can give cash, securities or other property

"I know the Foundation will direct my giving so it will always make the maximum impact.

I can't forecast the critical needs 30 or 60 years from now, but I know my gift will address them every year.

It is gratifying to know my gift will be used for maximum benefit, even when I am long gone to eternal rest!"

*Al Nickel*  
*Legacy Society Member*





**With a charitable remainder trust,** you make a charitable gift and receive income payments for life, or a fixed number of years.

At the end of the income period, the remainder of your assets will be placed into the permanent fund of your choice at the Foundation. It can be a fund you establish, or it can be another fund at the Foundation.

### Choose between two types of income

A **charitable remainder unitrust** will pay you, or a person you designate, a fixed percentage of the trust's assets, valued each year. The amount received will fluctuate along with the trust's balance. As the assets grow, so will the income payments.

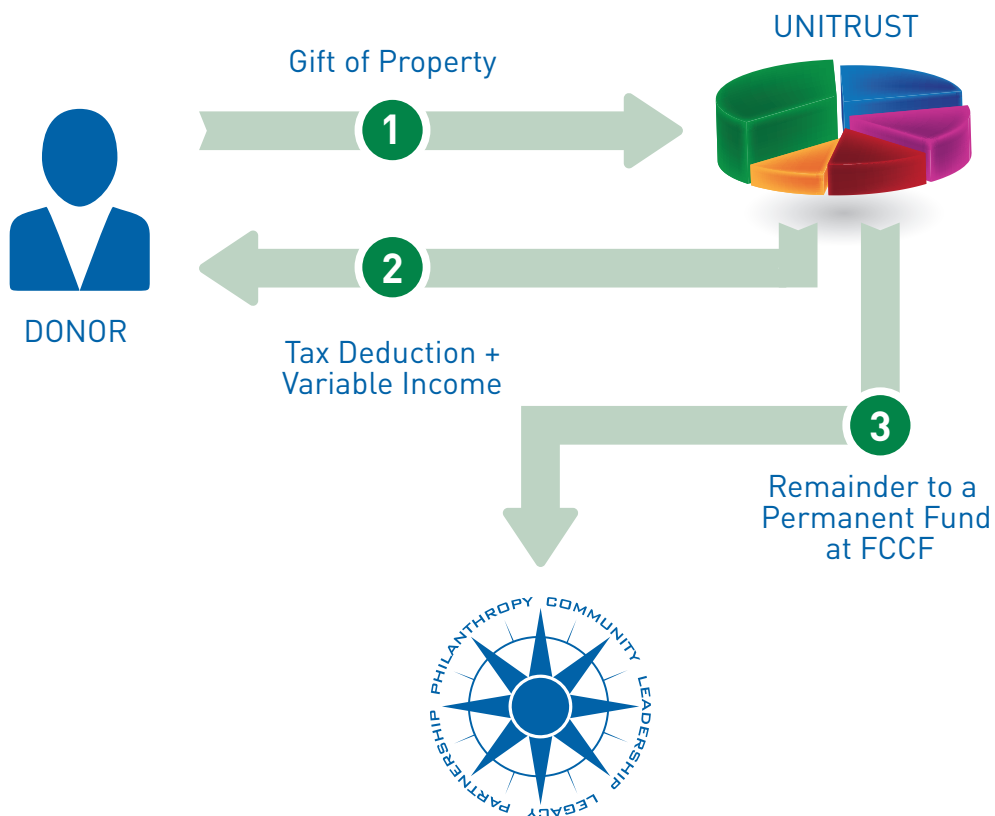
A **charitable remainder annuity trust** will pay you, or the person you designate, a fixed dollar amount, valued each year.

#### Benefits to you:

- Income for life, or a fixed number of years, for you or a person you designate
- Potential for increased income over time (with a unitrust)
- Possible tax advantages
- Future support to your community or favorite causes.

#### Guidelines and considerations:

- Tax laws change; please consult your financial and legal advisors
- Minimum gift size of \$100,000
- Cash, securities or other property accepted
- A charitable trust is irrevocable.



### *How to clarify your charitable values and passions*

*Which causes ignite great joy, inflame righteous anger, or break your heart?*

*What experiences or opportunities have been instrumental in your life?*

*Do you want to address the greatest needs as they change over time?*

*Do you want to leverage your gift by donating it to a collective fund, like the Fund for Women and Girls?*

When Doctor  
Ida Davidoff  
turned 95,  
she set a goal  
to create a  
“good ending”  
for herself



**She also wanted to create good beginnings for other women.**

When Melady Lozada moved from Columbia to Connecticut to create a home with her American husband, she set a goal to learn English.

Even though these women never met, their lives are intertwined.

Dr. Davidoff was a renowned marital and family therapist in New Canaan who believed women are the heart of society. “When families are healthy, society is healthy,” she’d often say. She met with her financial advisor to discuss her charitable giving options.



“Ida wanted to make sure what she and her late husband had earned over a lifetime would go to the kind of interests she had some control over,” her advisor said.

When Dr. Davidoff’s advisor told her about the Fairfield County Community Foundation, she realized her “good ending” could involve more than money. She could also carry forward her sense of social responsibility.

Dr. Davidoff established The Banyan Tree Fund of the Leo and Ida Davidoff Family to support, in perpetuity, the education of Fairfield County women and children, especially the disadvantaged.

A bequest in her will fully endowed the Banyan Tree Fund when she passed away at age 97. The first grant was awarded to Caroline House in Bridgeport, which teaches English to immigrant women and their children—including Melady Lozada and daughters Nataly and Jinandry (pictured above).

Within two years of study, Melady, Nataly, 5, and Jinandry, 4, became bilingual. That’s a good beginning.



“I trust the Foundation to use our fund’s assets wisely.

They will always be in the best position to decide how to help meet community needs as they arise.”

*Ann S. Mandel  
Legacy Society Member*

If you’ve made a charitable provision in your will or trust that includes the Fairfield County Community Foundation, we’ll invite you to join our Legacy Society.

You’ll meet a group of inspiring and interesting people like you who have chosen, through gifts in their will or trust, to leave a lasting impact that will make the world a better place.

You’ll be informed about Foundation activities and initiatives, and invited to events and gatherings.

We will also want to thank you, personally and in print, on behalf of all those whom you will ultimately help.

Of course, we will only thank you publicly with your permission. If you prefer to remain anonymous, just let us know.

You’re invited to join our Legacy Society

*Legacy Society members are invited to Foundation events and gatherings, including our popular Fund for Women and Girls luncheon (below).*



## Commonly asked questions

**Q. Is it easy to put a charitable gift in my will?**

**A.** Yes. This typically involves your attorney adding a simple amendment to your will.

**Q. What if I don't have a will?**

**A.** A surprising number of people never get around to this essential task. And then, one day, it's too late. If you'd like a referral to a qualified estate attorney, we can help. Call us at 203.750.3200.

Another option is to visit the website for the American College of Trust and Estate Counsel ([www.actec.org](http://www.actec.org)) and click on the "Fellows" tab to find estate planning attorneys in Connecticut, and then near you.

**Q. If I don't have a will, what happens to what I leave behind when I die?**

**A.** In Connecticut, if you die without a will and don't have any close family, your assets will pass to your closest next-of-kin.

The administrator of your estate will conduct a search for distant relatives, half-relatives, relatives of a spouse who pre-deceased you, even babies conceived by relatives before your death. If you do not have any next-of-kin, your estate will pass to the State.

**Q. How big is a typical legacy gift?**

**A.** Gifts to the Fairfield County Community Foundation have ranged from \$1,000 to \$7 million.

**Q. Let's say I want to help poor children in my community. How do I know which nonprofit organizations to give to?**

**A.** Option #1: You can ask us for recommendations. We are intimately familiar with the nonprofits working in and throughout Fairfield County. We know which are well run, fiscally responsible, provide sound programs and are reaping great results.

Option #2: Don't name a specific nonprofit. Rather, leave a bequest to the Foundation with instruction for its use, such as, "I intend this gift to feed, clothe and educate poor children in Fairfield County." We will ensure your wishes are honored.

**Q. If my gift will make a difference forever, how can I know what problems will crop up 10, 50, even 100 years from now?**

**A.** None of us can. The gifts that give the Foundation the most flexibility to address the greatest needs declare a purpose to "address the greatest needs."



### Q. Is there a minimum amount?

A. Any gift less than \$25,000 will be directed to a permanent fund at the Foundation that matches your charitable interests or addresses the greatest needs.

With any gift of \$25,000\* or more, you can give to an existing fund at the Foundation, or establish and name a permanent fund at the Foundation. That fund will forever bear any name you choose to honor. Or, of course, you can choose to give anonymously.

*\*Some types of funds may require a higher amount in order to effectively carry out your wishes.*

### Q. What if I wish to leave a gift to benefit a specific nonprofit?

A. That's easy to do with a "designated" bequest. You designate one or more nonprofits to receive annual grants from the fund you establish with a bequest.

If any of your designated organizations dissolve or change its purpose, the Foundation ensures your original charitable objectives are continued.

### Q. What kinds of assets can I leave?

A. You may leave a specific cash amount, financial investments (stocks, bonds, certificates of deposit, retirement fund accounts), a percentage of your estate or assets, real estate, other tangible assets or intellectual property. Please call us to discuss.

### Q. What is the best kind of fund to establish?

A. If you want to make sure your fund is always relevant to changing conditions, we recommend either a flexible fund ("Discretionary") or a preference fund ("Field of Interest").

The flexible, or discretionary, fund allows you to address the greatest current needs. The future, after all, holds unimaginable problems and solutions.

A preference, or field of interest, fund is devoted to a broadly defined cause, such as benefitting residents of a specific community, protecting the local environment, helping women and girls in our region, and so on.

## Want to learn more about easy, proven ways you can make a lasting impact?

Please contact Fiona Hodgson, Vice President of Development and Marketing, as well as your financial and legal advisors.

Of course, any conversation with us is confidential, at no cost, and with absolutely no obligation.

Phone: 203.750.3200

Fax: 203.750.3232

Email: [fhodgson@fccfoundation.org](mailto:fhodgson@fccfoundation.org)

Website: [www.MakeABequest.org](http://www.MakeABequest.org)



We are your  
place for making  
a difference

*The Foundation serves  
all of Fairfield County's  
communities:*

*Bethel  
Bridgeport  
Brookfield  
Danbury  
Darren  
Easton  
Fairfield  
Greenwich  
Monroe  
New Canaan  
New Fairfield  
Newtown  
Norwalk  
Redding  
Ridgefield  
Shelton  
Sherman  
Stamford  
Stratford  
Trumbull  
Weston  
Westport  
Wilton*

The Fairfield County  
Community Foundation  
helps informed and  
compassionate people  
like you give back to their  
community.

**We make your charitable  
giving** personally meaningful  
and effective in the community.

We listen to your charitable  
passions and goals, and introduce  
you to local, vetted nonprofits that  
match your interests.

In addition, we invite you to  
join community and nonprofit  
leaders, experts, and other donors  
to tackle our region's most critical  
problems.

Together, we exchange  
knowledge, combine strengths  
and take action to help protect the  
vulnerable, empower the aspiring,  
and preserve what we all love  
about Fairfield County.

We also provide grants,  
counsel and leadership training  
to hundreds of local nonprofit  
executive directors and board  
chairs, helping them make their  
organizations even more efficient  
and effective.

**Assets:** \$150 million

**Funds under management:**  
More than 500 charitable funds  
established by individuals, families  
and businesses

**Grants made:** Thanks to the  
generosity of donors and  
fundholders, the Foundation has  
awarded more than \$160 million  
to benefit Fairfield County and  
beyond.

"I've loved being  
involved with  
charitable causes  
since I was in my  
twenties. Knowing  
I can give back to  
the community  
in perpetuity  
is immensely  
gratifying. The world  
has been good to me,  
and my gift can help  
make this corner of it  
a tiny bit better."

*Juanita T. James  
Legacy Society Member  
President and CEO  
Fairfield County  
Community Foundation*







# When you choose to give back forever, you stand among giants. Meet a few of the visionary, compassionate people who will leave a permanent legacy.



“I weighed the value of the money to my heirs compared to the amount of good it could do for less fortunate people.

My heirs are already comfortable. But to the women who are disadvantaged in Fairfield County, my bequest could change their lives.

The Foundation is going to be there for a long time, and it has the infrastructure and expertise to continue my wishes long after I’m gone. Plus, I get daily pleasure from knowing I have made this gift.”

*Mary Waldron*  
Legacy Society Member



“We were both born in Stamford and, except for college, have lived in Fairfield County all of our lives. Our giving has been focused on educating our youth.

Society can only change when there is freedom and education. We enjoy knowing we can continue to invest in improving education, and therefore creating a better future.”

*William & Audrey Knobloch*  
Legacy Society Members



“Patricia and I knew the Foundation as a resource for helping us decide where to give. The knowledge it has accumulated regarding the needs of the community in Fairfield County is impressive.

The Foundation will take care of continuing my giving after I am no longer here—and I know it will do it well.”

*Jeremy Main*  
Legacy Society Member



**Fairfield County  
Community Foundation**  
383 Main Ave., Norwalk, CT 06851  
Phone 203.750.3200 • Fax 203.750.3232

Legal counsel by  **BRODY WILKINSON PC**  
ATTORNEYS AND COUNSELORS AT LAW

[www.MakeABequest.com](http://www.MakeABequest.com) | [www.FCCFoundation.org](http://www.FCCFoundation.org)