

YOUR COMMUNITY UPDATE *Spring 2019*

10 YEARS OF CHAMPIONING EXTRAORDINARY NONPROFITS

Since 2009, FCCF's Center for Nonprofit Excellence (CNE) has been the premier capacity-building and professional development resource for our region's nonprofit sector. Through educational workshops, webinars, professional development resources and networking opportunities, CNE annually helps hundreds of nonprofit leaders, staff, board members and volunteers increase their effectiveness to make a lasting impact in the communities they serve. This November, FCCF will host a 10th Anniversary Celebration for CNE with key stakeholders. Stay tuned!



Top 10 highlights from 10 years of the Center for Nonprofit Excellence:

1. Created a **nonprofit hub** unlike any other in the region for nonprofit learning, sharing and connecting.
2. Partnered with **Sacred Heart University's Center for Nonprofits** to create curriculum that offers basic skills training for frontline nonprofit staff.
3. Launched the **Executive Leadership Program (ELP)** with champion donor Dan Levinson, to bring a best-in-class peer learning group to Fairfield County.
4. Established the **Susan M. Ross Fund for Great Leadership** which underwrites a portion of the ELP, helping nonprofits thrive through executive leadership development.
5. Evaluates **mergers and awards grants for transition costs**, allowing organizations to build sustainability and expand services.
6. Empowers nonprofit boards with tools for fundraising, strategy and collaboration, through **Board Chair Roundtables**.
7. Partnered with generous corporate donors like **Newman's Own Foundation, JPMorgan Chase, Wells Fargo, Savings Bank of Danbury, First County Bank and Pitney Bowes** to strengthen nonprofits.
8. Helped mission-critical grantees increase their impact through pro bono consulting and training from **Harvard Business School Community Partners**.
9. Trained more than **300 Fairfield County nonprofits to use Results-Based Accountability™**, a framework for measuring impact and communicating value to funders.
10. Equipped **800+ regional nonprofits with the tools and training to raise \$7.6 million** to date through Fairfield County's Giving Day, launched in 2014 with the support of champion sponsor **Bank of America**.

Your generous support of FCCF's Center for Nonprofit Excellence makes an exponential impact in our community. Learn more at FCCFoundation.org/CNE



The CNE's Executive Leadership Program, founded in 2013, has benefited 28 Executive Directors through its peer learning group and one-on-one coaching. Modeled after best-in-class corporate programs, the ELP offers an affordable way for nonprofits to develop strong leaders.



"CNE allows us to connect with different organizations and align missions, so we can maximize donor dollars through collaboration and shared best practices. Because of the CNE's professional development opportunities, the delivery of services gets that much better."

MATTHEW QUINONES
CEO of Stamford Public Education Foundation

BRAVE. *you.* BOLD.

IMPACT, INSPIRATION AND GENEROSITY AT THE FUND FOR WOMEN & GIRLS LUNCHEON



"Your win is my win. I really believe that. Every time a woman laughs out loud, lives out loud, loves out loud, I get more permission to do the same. That's how, to me, the human spirit is supported in that energy of community and connection."

TRACEE ELLIS ROSS

Actress, Producer & Activist



Thank you to Stamford Health, as our VIP Reception Sponsor for the 2019 luncheon, which raised more than \$600,000 to support women & girls programming across Fairfield County.

THANK YOU! On April 4th, more than 800 of you came together to raise nearly \$600,000 at our 2019 Fund for Women & Girls Luncheon.

This year's luncheon theme of "Brave. Bold. You." celebrated the courageous heart you bring to our shared work of empowering women and girls. Our keynote speaker Tracee Ellis Ross, star of the acclaimed ABC series *black-ish*, energized us with her invitation to embrace our collective power and shine our unique light. And Family Economic Security Program (FESP) students Rebecca and Rich DelValle inspired us with their personal journey of overcoming challenges to attend college and build marketable job skills.



Rebecca DelValle is graduating from HCC in May, and is pursuing her Bachelor's and MBA. Her husband Rich is working towards a certificate. FESP supports them both, empowering them to create a better future for their six children.

"Going back to school in my late 30s was the boldest and bravest thing I'd ever done," said Rich, now working in manufacturing technology. "FESP has enabled us to accomplish more than we ever imagined."

Since its founding in 1998, your commitment to FCCF's Fund for Women & Girls has been a powerful force, fueling more than \$7 million in grants to support sustainable solutions that lead to economically secure, safe and healthy women and girls in Fairfield County.

Your unwavering dedication continues to drive innovative models like the Sexual Violence Prevention Collaborative of Fairfield County, launched by FWG in 2018. Independent research, to be unveiled this fall, is underway to assess the needs of women and girls in our region, and The Fund is positioned to develop new investment areas for 2020 and beyond.

For program participants like Rebecca DelValle, the support can be transformational. Financial aid and wraparound services through FESP enabled this mom of six to enroll in Housatonic Community College's Honors Program, and this fall she is preparing to start a bachelor's degree in business management.

"Hardship doesn't give you the luxury to dream," says Rebecca. "With the Family Economic Security Program, you've given us that gift."

Your support is changing lives and building future generations of independent, strong female leaders. Thank you! [Learn more at FCCFoundation.org/FWG](http://FCCFoundation.org/FWG)



Tricia Hyacinth (right), Director of FCCF's Fund for Women & Girls, presented the 2019 Anne S. Leonhardt Award to Vicki Craver (left), former FWG Co-Chair and Co-Founder of Impact Fairfield County, a women's giving circle. The award recognizes philanthropic visionaries who strengthen our community and improve the lives of residents across Fairfield County.

INVESTING IN THE FUTURE OF NONPROFIT LEADERSHIP IN FAIRFIELD COUNTY

Charles MacCormack, President Emeritus and former CEO of Save the Children, knows how crucial a strong nonprofit sector is to a vibrant society. And he knows the key to helping nonprofits maximize their impact is supporting their organizations in developing sustained leadership.

“In my years with Save the Children, we granted hundreds of millions of dollars,” recalls Charlie. “If we didn’t build leadership and capacity in a grantee organization, we found the funding didn’t have the same impact and often the program would fade away.”

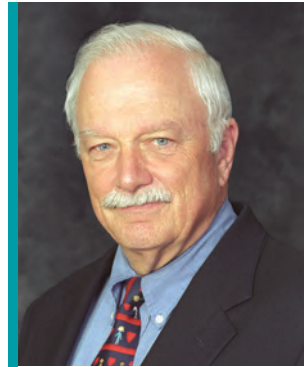
His late wife Susan Ross, former President & CEO of Fairfield County’s Community Foundation, also recognized this truth when she launched FCCF’s Center for Nonprofit Excellence (CNE) in 2009. Upon her retirement in 2011, colleagues established The Susan M. Ross Fund for Great Leadership to continue supporting CNE programming.

Today, the Fund helps underwrite the costs of the CNE’s Executive Leadership Program, a peer learning group that builds morale and collective strength. Nonprofit leaders also benefit from the CNE’s trainings, convenings, advocacy days and more.

“I’m sure the program more than pays for itself in terms of increased impact and funding that attendees can then generate for their organizations,” says Charlie.

Today, Charlie’s largest single annual charitable contribution is to the Susan M. Ross Fund for Great Leadership. As a member of FCCF’s Future Society, he’s also made plans through his estate to create a Donor Advised Fund to support nonprofits for generations to come.

“Susan believed in this work passionately,” says Charlie. “For me, this is an ideal way to sustain her spirit of commitment, insight and dedication to Fairfield County.”



“I’ve found that even more than granting funds, investing in sustained leadership is absolutely key to the impact of nonprofits. The business world knows this well; the nonprofit world needs the same opportunities. It means a lot to me that the sector remains strong.”

CHARLIE MACCORMACK
Future Society Member

Thank you for creating lasting change in our neighborhoods by helping nonprofits thrive. Learn more at [FCCFoundation.org/CNE](https://www.fccfoundation.org/CNE)

BUILDING CIVIC ENGAGEMENT THROUGH A “GET OUT THE VOTE” CAMPAIGN

Amplifying the voice of the under-represented is a powerful way to effect lasting change. That’s why, in 2018, Fairfield County’s Community Foundation launched a civic engagement grants program called Get Out the Vote to encourage registration and participation from historically disenfranchised voters.

Built around the theme “Use Your Voice. Register. Vote.” the program offered \$1,000 mini-grants, a bilingual voter registration toolbox and a peer brainstorming session to support nonprofits and other groups in nonpartisan registration and outreach efforts.

An enthusiastic response from 30 nonprofit organizations prompted the Community Foundation to nearly double its initial program budget. In total, 18 grants were awarded to diverse

organizations across Fairfield County, helping grantees like Make the Road CT reach more new voters.

“We are excited to be able to register voters in Bridgeport, particularly LatinX community members, recent Puerto Rican refugees and newly naturalized citizens,” said Barbara Lopez, director of Make the Road CT.

At events hosted by nonprofits on September 25, 2018 for National Voter Registration Day, more than 10,000 people were newly registered or pledged to vote in the midterms.

“It’s key to help people understand how important their voice is,” said Juanita James, FCCF President & CEO. “So many people think ‘It doesn’t matter,’ but they need to understand their vote counts.”



Grantees & FCCF staff gather on National Voter Registration Day to plan future Get Out the Vote efforts.

Thank you for energizing and educating the community to participate in our democratic process. Learn more and review the complete list of grantees at [FCCFoundation.org/Vote](https://www.fccfoundation.org/Vote)

PRESERVING A FAMILY LEGACY OF GIVING BY CREATING A DONOR ADVISED FUND

Amalia and Nicola Giuliani, Italian immigrants who settled in Greenwich, were known for their hospitality and generosity. These family values and a deep belief in giving back inspired their youngest son, Father John, to establish The Amalia & Nicola Giuliani Foundation for Religion & the Arts in honor of his parents and older brother.

Father John, a Bridgeport priest who started shelters and soup kitchens across Fairfield County, led the Giuliani Foundation for 36 years, making generous grants to local and international nonprofits. He was supported by a caring Board of Directors that shared his beliefs and values.

At nearly 90 years old, Father John along with his Board members sought another charitable vehicle to continue this tradition of philanthropy. Fairfield County's Community Foundation offered the solution of a Donor Advised Fund

to preserve the Giuliani Foundation's meaning and values.

"From the first meeting, we received a warm welcome and our needs were instantly heard," recalled Gregory Hauck and Dennis Torres, former board members of the Giuliani Foundation. "We just knew this was the place."

A key factor in the transition from private foundation to Donor Advised Fund was the ability to make socially responsible investments, a need that FCCF embraced by creating a custom portfolio.

"FCCF showed they very much support our passion and values," shared Gregory and Dennis. "The transition was seamless, and we are thankful this wonderful legacy will continue."

[Learn more about establishing your Donor Advised Fund at FCCFoundation.org/DAF](https://www.fccfoundation.org/DAF)



"My mother's gift of hospitality and my father's gift of generosity are values that beautifully resonate in the culture at FCCF. I don't see this transition solely as a transference of funds, but also a transference of soul, an organic development of my family's legacy."

FR. JOHN GIULIANI

The Amalia & Nicola Giuliani Foundation for Religion & the Arts

THROUGH SCHOLARSHIPS, A TRADITION OF PHILANTHROPY ENDURES

One of Bridgeport's most celebrated patrons of the arts, Ruth Carlson Horn inherited a vibrant spirit of philanthropy from her father. Today, the Ruth Carlson Horn Scholarship Fund at Fairfield County's Community Foundation continues the family history of giving back.

When Ruth's father, William Carlson, emigrated to America in 1907, he had never attended school and couldn't read, write or speak English. Yet he and his brother Philip found opportunity in Bridgeport, opening a wagon shop and making their fortune by inventing a truck body that revolutionized the industry.

To give back to the country that gave them everything, William and his brother Philip established the Carlson Foundation. William made generous

donations to institutions like the University of Bridgeport, the Jewish Community Center and more.

Ruth, widowed at a young age, found solace in continuing this philanthropy. A founding member of the Greater Bridgeport Symphony, she left an indelible mark on the city's cultural history by bringing noted composers, musicians and fine art to the region.

She also continued the mission of the Carlson Foundation, striving to pass along her deep love of the arts and help young people pursue their studies. The Ruth Carlson Horn Scholarship helps students in the Greater Bridgeport area achieve higher education. The work was both rewarding for Ruth and beneficial to the scholarship recipients, recalls Ruth's granddaughter, Kim Elstein Atkinson.



William Carlson, left, and his daughter Ruth Carlson Horn, right, were devoted supporters of the arts and education in Bridgeport.

"Ruth invited them to her home, and made lifelong connections with some," says Kim. "The scholarships help keep her legacy alive, and I'm happy to represent the fourth generation of the family in continuing the tradition of supporting cultural and educational enrichment."

Thank you for helping Fairfield County youth reach for their dreams of higher education and meaningful careers. [Learn more at FCCFoundation.org/Thrive](https://www.fccfoundation.org/Thrive)

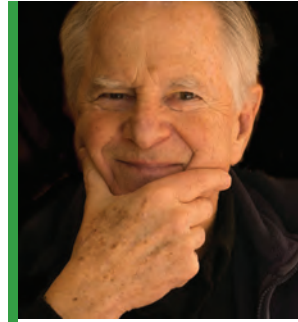
A GIFT THAT INSPIRES OTHERS TO MAKE AN ENDURING IMPACT

Leader. Fundholder. Ambassador. Of all the roles Mike Harris has played at Fairfield County's Community Foundation, one of the most critical has been inspiring others to make planned gifts.

Mike, a retired Greenwich attorney who practiced for five decades in Trusts & Estates, has been an enduring presence since FCCF's founding in 1992. Mike served as FCCF's Board Chair and continues to support FCCF as a member of our Emeritus Board and Professional Advisors Council. Mike has dedicated countless hours to strategy, fundraising and building capacity for local nonprofits.

Now, Mike has taken his personal giving to the next level by joining FCCF's Future Society and making a charitable bequest that will fuel grants in perpetuity. By sharing his story, he hopes others will also be inspired to explore options for planned giving at the Community Foundation.

*As visionary philanthropists, your generous planned gifts are making an impact for future generations in our community. Thank you! **Learn more at FCCFoundation.org/Future***



"Helping people find ways to make an enduring impact in our community has always been at the heart of my work, and I appreciate that FCCF is one of the few organizations that considers Fairfield County as a whole. It's deeply fulfilling to know my gift can both make a direct difference for coming generations and inspire others to give."

MIKE HARRIS, ESQ.
Future Society Member



"My clients have benefited from the freedom FCCF gives them to shape their personal philanthropic goals, and the security of knowing their legacy is in the hands of professionals who understand their wish to serve others. It's a win-win for the client and the community!"

JEVERA KAYE HENNESSEY, ESQ.
Emeritus Professional Advisor

PROFESSIONAL ADVISORS HELP DONORS SHAPE THE FUTURE

Over its 27-year history, Fairfield County's Community Foundation has received bequests and gifts from charitable trusts, retirement accounts and life insurance totaling more than \$47 million in today's dollars. These planned gifts are the cornerstone of our endowment which sustains critical, impactful support for nonprofits in our region.

For many, including future gifts in their planning can be a powerful way to support the community in perpetuity, while meeting financial and philanthropic goals. Donors can ensure that their favorite nonprofit or causes

are cared for in years to come. From Donor Advised Funds or scholarship funds to unrestricted gifts, planned gifts from generous donors creatively structured by professional advisors help shape the future of Fairfield County.

FCCF's Professional Advisors Council – comprised of financial and legal professionals – were instrumental in developing over 50% of the planned gifts we've received to date.

Learn more and connect with our Professional Advisors network at FCCFoundation.org/PAC

NEW FUTURE SOCIETY MEMBERS

Mike Harris (featured above), is a member of our Emeritus Board and Professional Advisors Council who values the impact Fairfield County's Community Foundation has had on addressing the greatest needs of Fairfield County. He will leave an unrestricted bequest that will support our work in years to come.

Charlie MacCormack (featured on Page 2), is a long-time friend of FCCF and notable local philanthropist. He has created a Donor Advised Fund in his estate plans to instill his philanthropy in the next generation of his family and ultimately benefit his favorite charities.

RECENT FUTURE SOCIETY GIFTS

Evelyn Bausman left a bequest to a scholarship fund established in memory of her daughter Jane, supporting student athletes at Greenwich High School who love the arts.

Gary Allen Smith paid forward a bequest from his dear friend Tom Carroll, adding it to the Thomas E. Carroll Fund at FCCF to help Bridgeport students pursue their educational dreams.

Ernest A. Wiehl, Jr., a lifelong volunteer who served as Chairman of the Bridgeport Hospital Foundation and the Fairfield Library Board, left a bequest to FCCF to uplift the region he loved.

JOINING THE FUTURE SOCIETY IS EASY!

Join a visionary group of like-minded philanthropists and create lasting community impact. Become a member by telling us you have made a bequest in your will or trust of cash, securities or other assets to FCCF or one of our funds. Or tell us you have named FCCF as beneficiary of your retirement account, annuity or insurance policy.

To learn more, ask for a Future Society brochure or download the brochure at FCCFoundation.org/Future or call (203) 750-3200 for more information.

GIVING DAY 2019: ONCE AGAIN, YOUR GENEROSITY BREAKS RECORDS. THANK YOU FOR POWERING THIS DAY OF PHILANTHROPY!



FCCF board member Mark Riser, second from left, ran one mile in each of Fairfield County's 23 towns and cities to raise awareness for nonprofits.

On February 28th, you raised a record-setting \$1,719,685 on our sixth annual Fairfield County's Giving Day! Family, friends, neighbors, co-workers and businesses – 11,742 of you in total – came together to “give where you live and work,” raising funds and awareness to support 415 nonprofits on this momentous day of generosity, kindness and community spirit.

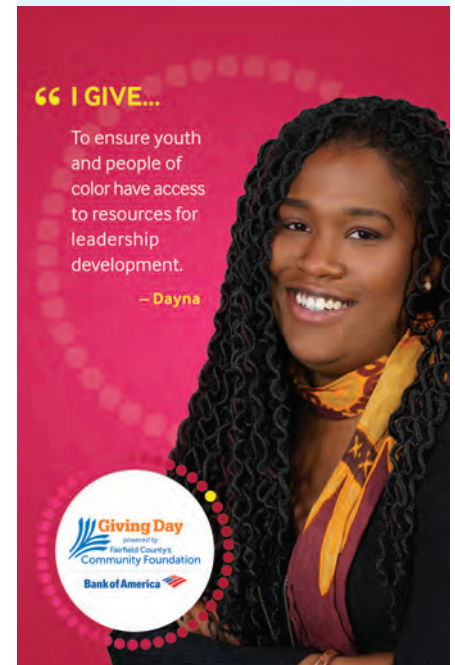
Since Fairfield County's Community Foundation launched Giving Day in 2014 with the support of champion sponsor Bank of America, this 24-hour giving marathon has become our region's biggest philanthropic event of the year, raising more than \$1 million annually for local nonprofits.

In six years, the collective power of more than 76,000 small donations has touched lives. Giving Day contributions have brought art programs to schools and community centers, empowered teens with leadership training, funded meals for seniors and much more.

“It is incredibly rewarding to think that over the past six years, Fairfield County's Giving Day has raised over \$7.6 million for more than 800 local nonprofits,” says FCCF President & CEO Juanita James. “We are overjoyed and humbled by the community's outpouring, and eager to start planning for Giving Day 2020.”

Thank you for supporting our Community Impact Fund which fuels Giving Day.
Read about Giving Day key findings at FCCFoundation.org/Giving

FCCF's new *Why I Give* video contest, funded by champion sponsor Bank of America, invited supporters to create and share a video on why they donate to their favorite nonprofit to help raise awareness for Giving Day participants. Fairfield Center Stage was the winner of the 2019 video contest, receiving a \$2,500 grant on Giving Day.



On February 28, 2019, nonprofit partners and community members celebrated Fairfield County's Giving Day at The Klein Memorial Auditorium in Bridgeport.

 **Fairfield County's Community Foundation**
203.750.3200

FCCFoundation.org

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