



Building tomorrow's workforce, together.

OVERCOMING THE CHALLENGE of deeply entrenched inequities, a competitive labor market, and rising costs of living requires our business community to unite. By investing in equitable access to a quality education, developmental supports, and career pathways for our youth, we can build a stronger workforce and sustained economic growth for our region.

As a local impact and funding partnership, the Business Collaborative for Education Equity works to reduce educational disparities among vulnerable pre-K through 12+ students, their parents and guardians, and teachers and staff. Members support scalable, evidenced-based initiatives through donations, volunteerism, mentorship and internships, and more.



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As a proud member of the Collaborative, I have experienced firsthand the power of pooling resources, expertise, and knowledge to benefit broader social and systems change in a more impactful and accelerated way. It is simply inspiring how we are helping to transform the lives and futures of students, and propelling meaningful progress for the collective benefit of our community.

KIM DEPRA
VP and Director of Marketing & Communications,
The Ashforth Company

Meet our members



Partnering for Sustainable Education Equity

Since its founding in 2020, Business Collaborative members have raised more than **\$2 million** to build resilience and opportunity for all students in Fairfield County – from responding to pandemic needs, to fostering scalable solutions to help shape a more equitable future.



Strategic Grantmaking

More than **\$1.1 million*** has been granted to date to initiatives ranging from classroom projects and summer academic programs to innovative solutions for sustainable change.

**As of Spring 2024*



Advancing the Field

The 2023 research report **Building Tomorrow's Workforce** identified collaborative cross-sector ways to address barriers facing Fairfield County's opportunity youth and business community.



Systems Change

The Collaborative fosters multi-year relationships with high-performing grantees to advance **cradle-to-career systems change, innovative pilot programs, and to grow programs that work.**

Become a Member

Ready to take your philanthropy further? As a member of the Business Collaborative, your organization will be able to learn and network within a synergistic peer community, make smart decisions around social impact, and leverage Fairfield County's Community Foundation's expertise and capacity to drive more systemic, sustainable change. Getting started is simple:

1. **Make an annual contribution.**
2. **Select a member representative.**
3. **Talk with us to get started!**

Get in touch

For more information, contact Rebecca Mandell, Director of Corporate and Foundation Relations, at RMandell@FCCFoundation.org or Liz Hoagland, Director of Education and Workforce Development, at LHoagland@FCCFoundation.org.