Reinforce Importance of Community, Now More Than Ever

Many nonprofits supported by The Community Foundation — particularly in the social service and mental health areas — are heavily reliant on State funding and have been deeply and negatively impacted by the 2017 State budget. Against this backdrop of state budget reductions and federal policy shifts, The Foundation awarded $3,007,356 in responsive grants to 46 local nonprofits in October. Nonprofits providing direct services for children, veterans, immigrants, formerly incarcerated individuals and older adults were among those to receive support. “We know that many organizations are going to continue to lay off staff, freeze or reduce salaries, eliminate programs, and stop taking in new clients,” says Sarah Fabish, Vice President for Grantmaking and Scholarships. “Many of these grant awards are geared toward providing multi-year general operating support to give organizations the greatest flexibility and the ability to plan for the unknown.”

Grants Made Amid Unprecedented Challenges

Greater New Haven Rises to Challenges

More than 350 community members came together on November 29th to strongly and emotionally affirm Greater New Haven’s community values. Lea Gordon, President of Vice & CEO Will Ginsberg and nonprofit leaders Kica Matos, Michael Taylor and Alice Forrester, convened this conversation regarding how our community is responding to the challenges of 2017. Ginsberg ignited the conversation stating, “2017 has been dramatically different than anything seen before. Our watchwords this year has been COMMUNITY, NOW MORE THAN EVER — a call to our community to come together to face these challenges. Our community needs advocacy, not neutrality.” Panelists described the stress created for nonprofits by the state budget crisis and by changes in policy at the federal level. They called upon everyone to stand up for the values of an inclusive community. For photos or to watch the event, visit cfgnh.org.
Mission Related Investments (MRIs) Help Great Ideas Grow

An important part of strengthening our community is making capital available to innovative business ventures and nonprofit organizations that have the potential to grow. Knowing that philanthropic dollars often bridge the gap between the need for capital for emerging projects and what the private market will provide, The Community Foundation staff is making important connections between private foundations, individual donors and local entrepreneurs. Investments have been made to provide low-interest loans for housing and zero-interest second mortgages for New Haven teachers, as well as provide capital for expansion and to hire good employees in companies that farm sustainable food, help those with diabetes manage their health, and produce juices using a proprietary cold-press process. If you’re interested in discussing co-investment with The Foundation in mission-related projects, please contact Dotty Weston-Murphy at 203-777-7081.

The Foundation has created a separate wholly-owned and controlled subsidiary to carry out MRI work, known as The Community Foundation Mission Investments Company, LLC (TCF-MIC). A. F. Drew Alden serves as the CEO of TCF-MIC, while other Foundation staff support the mission-related projects. Please contact Stephanie Ostrander, Vice President for Investments and staff members as well as other experts. Foundation President & CEO William Ginsberg serves ex-officio as Chair of the TCF-MIC Board. The TCF-MIC Board of Directors is comprised of key leaders from across the community, including financial leaders, foundations, nonprofits, and other business leaders.

If you are interested in discussing co-investment with The Foundation in mission-related projects, please contact Dotty Weston-Murphy at 203-777-7081.

Special Entity Created for MRIs

The Foundation has created a special committee to oversee and control the activities related to its MRIs, known as The Community Foundation Mission Investments Company, LLC (TCF-MIC). The Board of TCF-MIC is made up of current and former Board Foundation staff members as well as other experts. Foundation President & CEO William Ginsberg serves ex-officio as Chair of the TCF-MIC Board. The TCF-MIC Board of Directors is comprised of key leaders from across the community, including financial leaders, foundations, nonprofits, and other business leaders.

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