A Life Redeemed; An Inspiring Story

Senghor Headlines Convening in New Haven

Ensuring successful reentry of the formerly incarcerated and reducing recidivism are as much about inspiration as about programs. On September 8, The Community Foundation partnered with local nonprofit EMERGE CT to present best-selling author Shaka Senghor, a leading voice in criminal justice reform who, after nineteen years in prison for killing a man, transformed his life for the better. Senghor shared his story of perseverance, redemption and benevolence with a diverse crowd of almost 250 guests, including formerly incarcerated individuals. The evening included a moving and spirited dialogue with Senghor moderated by Community Foundation board member Flemming L. Norcott Jr., retired Justice of the Connecticut Supreme Court. Guests received a copy of Senghor’s book, Writing My Wrongs: Life, Death, and Redemption in an American Prison.
“A Closer Look” Launches on giveGreater.org®

Donors Invited to Learn about the Region’s Issues

From October 2016 through September 2017, The Community Foundation will be highlighting different areas of nonprofit services provided throughout Greater New Haven. Using giveGreater.org® as the platform, The Foundation is asking the community to take “A Closer Look” at some of the issues that impact the health and wellbeing of Greater New Haven and the nonprofits that are working to address those issues. October’s focus is on nonprofits operating in the social justice space. Visit giveGreater.org® to learn why they exist, what they provide and what their impact has been in the region. “A Closer Look” will run each month, excluding the months of May and December.

Instagram Campaign Underway

We’re using social media to raise awareness of the issues and challenges faced by Greater New Haven’s formerly-incarcerated and immigrant populations.

Portraits, accompanied by personal stories of trials and successes, will be posted weekly to Instagram: @lifeafterincarcerationgnh and @immigrantexperiencegnh

Below is a post about Angelica:

“I am undocumented... One of my biggest dreams is to finish university... I will be the first generation in having a degree in my family. I think most people don’t see our struggle. They just think we came here to work and steal jobs from Americans. But that’s not true. We came here to build a better America. We came here to have better opportunities to have the American Dream. We love this country. It’s part of our lives. Just give us the opportunity to show you we are the people that you need for this country.”
Stone Family Fund Honors Late Husband

History of Family Philanthropy Preserved
The death of Lou Stone, as a result of an accident on Thanksgiving morning in 2013, was felt not only among his family and friends, but across the entire Greater New Haven community. Lou was a well-known and highly respected businessman and philanthropist who devoted a considerable amount of time and talent to organizations serving the community’s most vulnerable. To honor her husband’s life, Susan Stone created a donor advised fund because it affords the greatest flexibility. It enables her to support organizations for which Lou cared greatly and to fund causes about which she cares, such as alleviating hunger, providing educational opportunities and fighting climate change.

Donor Advised Funds are Powerful Force for Giving
Donor advised funds (DAFs) enable donors to The Community Foundation stay actively involved in decisions as to their grantmaking. The New York Community Trust had the first donor advised fund in 1931. Now donor advised funds are the fastest growing, charitable giving vehicle in the country. The first DAF at The Community Foundation was created in the early 1970s when Samuel Gingold made plans for his private family foundation to become a donor advised fund. His wife, Rose, and his daughter made grant recommendations until their deaths.

Some Facts About DAFs at The Community Foundation:
- 31% of new funds created in the last 5 years are donor advised funds
- 14% of total grantmaking in the last 5 years was from donor advised funds
- $12M in grants were distributed from donor advised funds in the last 5 years
- Over the last 5 years, an average of 663 donor advised grants have been made annually

We will be sharing more information about our history with donor advised funds and their impact in our community. Stay tuned!

If you’d like to learn more right away, visit cfgnh.org/daf or call 203-777-7067.
Professional Advisors and The Community Foundation: Perfect Partners

Many attorneys, bankers, accountants and financial planners have found The Community Foundation to be the ideal vehicle through which their clients can achieve their philanthropic objectives. We are proud to partner with the professionals listed to build effective philanthropy in Greater New Haven.

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For more information, visit cfgnh.org/advisors

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Noble Wealth Advisory Group

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Bette Lynn Paez LLC

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Davie, O’Sullivan & Priest LLC

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The Pellegrino Law Firm PC

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Brenner, Saltzman & Wallman LLP

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Beers, Hamerman, Cohen & Burger PC

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Brenner, Saltzman & Wallman LLP

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U.S. Trust, Bank of America

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Sette & Parnoff PC

Fay Sheppard, CRPC®, MBA
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Lindberg & Ripple

Mark Sklarz, Esq.
Day Pitney LLP

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Susman, Duffy & Socoloff PC

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Law Offices of Michael Smith & Associates

Gregory J. Stamos, Esq.
Law Office of Gregory J. Stamos

Fred Stanek, Esq.
Welch, Teodosio & Stanek

Carolyn Staub
Planning Partners

Thomas M. Sutnik, Esq.
Law Offices of Thomas Sutnik

Salvatore Tartaglione
The Aegis Group at Morgan Stanley Smith Barney

Andrew H. Testa
Apicella, Testa & Company PC

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Cohen & Thomas

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Ryan & Tyma

Paul A. Veiga, CFP
U.S. Trust, Bank of America

John H. Welch Jr., Esq.
Welch, Teodosio & Stanek

Mark Sklarz, Esq.
Day Pitney LLP

Laura M. Sklaver, Esq.
Susman, Duffy & Socoloff PC

Professional Advisor Events

The Foundation kicked off the summer with professional advisor partners at Stony Creek Brewery in Branford (photo below). The June event was sponsored by The Community Foundation, The Jewish Foundation of Greater New Haven, Branford Community Foundation, Guilford Foundation and The Madison Foundation. In addition to networking events like this, The Community Foundation offers consultative services, onsite presentations, planned giving services, a free monthly e-newsletter and special seminars to assist professional advisors in meeting the charitable goals of their clients. The next seminar is scheduled for November and features Michael Miller, CEO of Colonial Consulting, The Community Foundation’s longtime investment advisor.

For more information, contact Dotty Weston-Murphy at 203-777-7081.

Appreciated stock make great charitable gifts. Learn more at cfgnh.org/securities

Thank You

Photo Judy Sirota Rosenthal
Federation Is a Central Resource for Communal Planning, Outreach and Jewish Education

From Connecticut to Israel, and everywhere in between, the Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven (JFGNH) provides an extensive array of educational and social services. The Federation, which welcomed Judy Diamonstein as its new CEO in January, achieves its mission through the values of tikkun olam (repairing the world), tzedakah (charity and social justice) and Torah (Jewish learning). Services include: aiding day schools and providing childcare, scholarships, a Jewish educator for children with special needs and Holocaust education. The Community Foundation has awarded more than $500,000 from donor advised and unrestricted funds over the years to JFGNH.

Chorus Sings its Way into Community’s Heart

For over 40 years, central Connecticut has enjoyed harmonized melodies — thanks to the Wallingford Chorus. The Chorus was formed to celebrate the Town of Wallingford’s tercentenary in 1970, and has continued to serenade the town ever since. The Chorus performs two concerts a year, one in May and one in December at Church of the Resurrection, with rehearsals every Tuesday at Lyman Hall High School. It is supported by individual donations and has received funding from The Community Foundation through our Arts Fund and The Great Give.

Lending a Helping Hand, Home and Abroad
Foundation Board Awards $1.3M Multi-Year Grant

After six years, New Haven Promise (NHP) is embarking upon the second stage of its development with the opportunity to adjust its relationships, programs and priorities to the changing needs of our community. As a leading NHP funder and with a seat on the NHP board of directors, The Foundation has an important role to play in this process. In September, The Foundation awarded a $1.3M 3-year grant to provide NHP with the opportunity for programmatic growth and organizational sustainability. More than just a scholarship organization, NHP is positioned to be a catalyst for economic growth and development in New Haven by creating a pipeline of educated and employable young people who are committed to their community.

New Haven Promise Impact 2010–2016

✓ after five years, the 4-year high school graduation rate has increased from 58% to 75% and college enrollment for students from New Haven public high schools has increased from 56% to 64%
✓ provided invaluable scholarship benefits for more than 1,000 students and their families in New Haven
✓ contributed to building a stronger college-going culture in our community by reaching over 6,000 students and their families in New Haven schools each year and 12,000 city residents through social media platforms
✓ developed stronger connections for New Haven’s most accomplished and best educated students with Connecticut’s institutions of higher education and with local institutions and employers

New Haven Promise Facts

• New Haven Promise was established as a separate independent nonprofit organization in 2016
• more than 90% of 2016 New Haven Promise scholars come from families in which neither parent attended college
• since its founding, New Haven Promise has been The Foundation’s largest and highest profile programmatic commitment
DONOR ADVISED FUNDS MAKE GIVING EASY

You can think about a donor advised fund as an investment account for organizing your personal charitable giving. Instead of writing lots of checks to multiple individual nonprofits, you can make one or more larger contributions to your fund. Then, decide on the nonprofits you want to support. Learn more at cfgnh.org/daf or call 203-777-7067.

For expanded information about this issue, visit cfgnh.org/2016SummerNewsletter