



Pursuit of inclusive economic opportunity is paramount

The new Canal Boathouse at Long Wharf was the setting for the Foundation's Annual Meeting. Foundation leaders challenged our community to put our resources, talent and resolve to work to create opportunity for everyone. Board chair Khalilah Brown-Dean committed The Foundation to listening to the voices of those who are too often underrepresented and underserved. Foundation president & CEO Will Ginsberg urged the community to unify behind a shared vision of a regional economy that is both growing and inclusive.



The Great Give® 2019 rallies the community for the 10<sup>th</sup> time

Nearly 12,000 individual donors from Greater New Haven and beyond participated in the 36-hour online giving event held May 1-2. The \$1.8 million raised for more than 390 nonprofits surpassed the event's previous record set last year. A new prize was created in 2019 to commemorate the 10th Anniversary of The Great Give® and this \$10,000 was awarded to Whitney Players. Since 2010, giveGreater.org® has distributed approximately \$9.8 Million to local nonprofits.



Donor briefing series shed light on vital community issues

Companies choose to locate in Connecticut based on the skills of its workforce. Students need an education that will empower them to adapt to a rapidly evolving economy. These and other points were discussed during a briefing for donors with panelists Patricia Melton, president of New Haven Promise, David Salinas, founder & CEO of District New Haven and Wendy Waithe Simmons, former director of education and equity at Connecticut Voices for Children. The briefing was part of The Foundation's continuing work to engage local leaders in discussions about the need to build an economy that is both growing and inclusive.



Creating a future of opportunity

Community members gathered on September 25 for learning and collaborating on ideas for creating inclusive economic growth. The Convening opened with a spoken word performance, imagining a future of meaningful work and hope for all. Local, regional and national experts led discussions on supporting entrepreneurship, building career pathways for local jobs and increasing opportunities in neighborhoods where inequity persists. Tawanna Black, founder and CEO of the Center for Economic Inclusion in Minneapolis/St. Paul, (above) spoke of how business, government, philanthropy and the social sector have all embraced economic inclusion as a shared goal in the Twin Cities. A panel discussion about equity and inclusion in Greater New Haven ended the day.



Social activist and former congressman Gutiérrez challenges Latinx Community

Former U.S. Congressman Luis Vicente Gutiérrez headlined the Progreso Latino Fund's Forum in October and urged the crowd to get involved with the political process by helping with voter registration efforts. Gutiérrez along with Advisory Board co-chairs Tara Davila and Yadira Ijeh emphasized the need for Latinos to mobilize as a group in preparation for the 2020 election to insure that issues of importance to Latinos are not ignored.



Beautifying neighborhoods and supporting leaders

For years, the corner of Hazel Street and Shelton Avenue in New Haven's Newhallville neighborhood was an infamous blighted vacant lot known as "the mudhole." Now, it is an inviting public space, landscaped by neighbors working with Urban Resource Initiative (URI) at the Yale School of Forestry. The transformation, and the 25-year birthday of the Community Greenspace program, was celebrated in 2019 by program partners, residents and city officials along with its creator, The Foundation. Now lead by URI, the greenspace program has received over \$1 million from The Foundation in this quarter century and URI has completed more than 300 urban greenspace restoration projects throughout New Haven.



**\$34M in grants to strengthen the community and local nonprofits**

In 2019, The Foundation granted and distributed more than \$34M to local nonprofit organizations. This amount included more than \$2.9M in competitively awarded responsive grants to 43 local programs including many that align with the goals and objectives of The Foundation's work to promote a future of opportunity for Greater New Haven residents. In addition to grants, The Foundation offered a robust capacity building series attended by 1230 people representing 294 organizations.



**Banner year for local giving**

Nearly \$35M in gifts and transfers were made to The Foundation in 2019, a record year, especially for gifts from living donors. It was a banner year for new funds too with 37 created, and donor advised funds continued to be our fastest growing type of fund. Of the total, \$13.5M was repeat giving by fund holders. Many year-end gifts were made with appreciated stock and donors took advantage of the opportunity to make qualified charitable gifts from required distributions from retirement assets.



**Successful year for Valley leader**

The Valley Community Foundation (VCF) continues to grow and build its stature as a significant philanthropic leader. In 2019 VCF made grants totaling \$1,816,349 and attracted \$3,541,682 in new gifts including the establishment of 13 new funds. In addition, VCF led a community-wide project focusing on childhood poverty throughout its five-town region. Board Chair Lynne Bassett Perry (pictured) finished her term and new Chair, Don Smith, took over the helm in 2020.



**Shedding light on the value of care economy**

At its Annual Meeting, the Community Fund for Women & Girls highlighted the plight of millions of women who work long hours in roles that involve caring for the needs of the elderly, infirm and children. Many of these women, particularly for women of color, earn wages so low that they and their families live in poverty. Panelists Natália Tracy (Brazilian Worker Center), Elyse Shaw (Institute for Women's Policy Research) and Jessica Sager (All Our Kin) discussed the toll of this work on women and strategies for creating better opportunities.



**Statewide immigration collaborative strengthens efforts**

In 2019, The Foundation was awarded a \$100,000 grant to support the ongoing work of the Statewide Immigration Funders Collaborative. Overall since 2015 The Foundation has raised over \$500,000 from national funders to support this work. The Collaborative advocates for stronger protections from detention, deportation and abuse. Their work includes enhancing the capacity of immigrant serving and advocacy organizations, advocating for and promoting understanding of immigration policy and needs, and supporting undocumented immigrants and DACA-eligible residents across Connecticut.

The Community Foundation's assets were \$674 million as of December 31, 2019, posting a 16.7% net return for the year.



**Growing and protecting the community's endowment**

While the Corporation's 2019 net return marginally lagged the market benchmark for the year ended, the Commingled Fund performance has continued and consistently added value against its market benchmark of between 1% and 1.5% per year. As a perpetual endowment manager of charitable assets, the Foundation's global perspective requires meaningful diversification, the retention of world-class managers, and prudently seeking opportunity to complement the long-term asset allocation framework. In 2019, the "bullish" investment climate, particularly in the domestic US equity markets, was fueled by greater clarity as to Brexit, US/China negotiations, and the policy actions of the Federal Reserve.



Day of fun and information goes global

Twenty-five nonprofit organizations were on hand at the New Haven Healthy Start Family Fun and Fitness Day in August to provide lots of health information and resources to New Haven families. In addition to food and lively music, there were school backpack give-a-ways, raffles, Zumba sessions, a potato sack race and a bounce house. Families experienced a fire safety simulation from the Chief of the New Haven Fire Department. A group of physicians from Haiti visiting Yale New Haven Hospital joined the activities of the day, expressing gratitude for the model and life-saving information they could take back to their community.



Data spurs conversations and actionable steps

The Greater New Haven Community Index 2019 and the 2019 Valley Community Index present a wealth of data about the population in our region, showing where people are thriving and where the greatest challenges lie, through an in-depth look at demographics and population, economic opportunity, health, wellbeing and civic engagement. The data is important to inform community conversations and strategies. The reports are published by DataHaven and were created in collaboration with community partners including The Community Foundation for Greater New Haven, the Valley Community Foundation and an advisory committee of community leaders.



With community partners, The Foundation listens and learns at conference on accessible entrepreneurship

Creating an inclusive entrepreneurial ecosystem is a pillar of The Foundation's efforts to promote a future of opportunity for Greater New Haven. In June, The Foundation brought a team of local leaders to Pittsburgh for the "Advancing Inclusive Entrepreneurship" national conference hosted by Forward Cities, a learning network of 40 cities including New Haven. Representatives from The Foundation's staff and board were joined by Quinnipiac University School of Business professor Fred McKinney, Collab co-founder Caroline Smith, New Haven businesswoman and community leader Kim Harris and Shelton businessman Dominick Cerritelli.



New Haven Promise strengthens "To, Through and Back" commitment

Last year, the New Haven Promise (NHP) Council started with a group of 12 cross-sector business leaders committed to giving Promise Scholars vital work experience and increasing the private sector's hiring from NHP's diverse talent pool. The Council focuses on eight key employment clusters: Advanced Manufacturing, Architecture, Entrepreneurship, Finance, Healthcare and Biosciences, Legal/Court System, Marketing and Communications, and Technology, Coding and IT Services. Promise scholars are among our community's "best and brightest;" as they return to New Haven after college to find opportunity in these fields, our community future prospects grow ever-brighter.



Efforts to help Puerto Rico saw results

The Progreso Latino Fund contributed \$30,000 to the campaign led by the Puerto Rico Community Foundation to purchase solar packs in the aftermath of Hurricane Maria. The packs that generate 5 kilovolts and store another 20 kilovolts in back-up batteries provide solar power to 100 of the island's hospitals and health clinics. That effort restored Centro de Adiestramiento para Personas con Impedimentos (CAPI), an organization serving young persons with disabilities and the community health clinic of Salud Integral en la Montaña (SIM).