

Main Street Community Foundation has awarded more than \$1 million so far this year

Published: Thursday, 9 July 2020 12:40

@brianjohnsonBP

BRISTOL – The Main Street Community Foundation has awarded more than \$1 million in the first six months of 2020, its 25th year guiding charitable efforts in local communities.

Susan Sadecki, president and CEO of the Main Street Community Foundation, said while this year has brought considerable challenges, MSCF is continuing to meet community needs. Through the first six months of 2020, MSCF has distributed \$1,019,606 in grants and scholarships to support many worthy causes and organizations in the community.



Mike Orazzi | Staff Susan D. Sadecki, President & CEO of the Main Street Community Foundation.

“Our whole world has changed, so grant-making had to pivot in a way which we had not expected to address the needs in our communities, hence the covid-19 fund,” she said. “There has been an outpouring of support for that fund.”

This year, \$105,830 in grants has been awarded to support coronavirus relief and recovery efforts. Sadecki said the Main Street Community Foundation has mobilized resources since the pandemic outbreak to address the urgent coronavirus-related needs in the communities they serve. MSCF has made a total of 35 grants from multiple funds, including the newly established COVID-19 Response Fund.

“COVID-19 Fund has been very impressive in my eyes as a leader,” Sadecki said. “It has been incredible see the whole team and board respond to the community at the time it is needed most. This is why we established our foundation; we hope our founders are proud.”

This year, the Main Street Community Foundation awarded \$90,040 during its General Grant Cycle to 27 local organizations representing a broad range of programs and projects. The grants were awarded from endowed funds established by donors to support the local community and the causes they care about.

However, the general grants have been “paired down” this year as the Main Street Community Foundation directed more of its efforts to the covid-19 response fund.

“We actually deferred a few applications that weren’t addressing a particular basic need or newer programs where it was questionable how they would be able to operate in the future,” Sadecki said.

Other highlights this year include 10 grants totaling \$259,805 from the Bradley Henry Barnes and Leila Upson Barnes Memorial Trust to improve the health and wellbeing of Southington residents, \$228,742 in scholarships awarded to 153 students to further their educational and career goals, three grants totaling \$6,000 from the Plainville Community Fund to improve the lives of Plainville residents and \$153,760 in grants from donor advised funds benefiting organizations and programs important to our donors.

For 25 years, Main Street Community Foundation has been guiding charitable efforts with donors, strengthening nonprofits and improving the communities of Bristol, Burlington, Plainville, Plymouth, Southington and Wolcott through philanthropy.

Brian M. Johnson can be reached at 860-973-1806 or bjohnson@bristolpress.com.