



Grants in Action:

Elizabeth I. and Louis J. Matt Animal Protection Fund

In 2006, Betty Matt, an animal lover at heart, established a fund through a charitable roll-over gift providing for the care and support of animals in need. Main Street Community Foundation (MSCF) has made 17 grants from this fund since its inception totaling \$21,700.

Most years, a request is made for an animal protection related program through the annual grant cycle. However, this past spring, no such request was made. This gave MSCF the opportunity to determine how to grant the annual distributable amount of \$5,870.

Utilizing a volunteer intern, Kevin Kryzwick (see his article on page 3), MSCF conducted a needs assessment of the various animal welfare facilities in the region. The following grants were awarded to benefit animals in need:

- \$500 to the Town of Burlington Animal Control
- \$1,000 to Plainville Animal Control
- \$500 to Plymouth Animal Control
- \$3,870 to Southington Animal Control specifically to construct a dog run

Apples & Arts - A Collaborative Public Art Project

Larger-than-life apples are on display around Southington to promote a thriving and healthy community. In celebration of the 50th anniversary of Southington's Apple Harvest Festival, Apples & Arts, a collaborative public art project will benefit Bread for Life, Southington Community Services, United Way of Southington and Southington Community Cultural Arts (SoCCA).



A \$2,750 grant from the Bradley Henry Barnes and Leila Upson Barnes Memorial Trust supported Apples & Arts. The "All of Us Different, All of Us the Same" apple (seen here) will be on display at the Barnes Museum for the next few months. The apple was designed and painted by Mary DeCroce, Hannah Francis and Jason Soltys.



Thanks to you,
Main Street
Community Foundation
has awarded

\$1,172,145

in scholarships and grants
through the first six months
of 2018. For a full list of grants
awarded from all funds to date,
visit [mainstreetfoundation.org/
grants-awarded](http://mainstreetfoundation.org/grants-awarded).

REMINDER:
January 15, 2019

Grant and scholarship
applications will be
available online at
mainstreetfoundation.org

Lighting Up The Lock Museum of America

The Lock Museum of America in Plymouth has created an entertaining way for the public to learn about the history of lockmaking – *an adventure room*. In 2017, the Museum opened The Lock Museum Adventure, an interactive game where puzzles and riddles are deciphered to open locks and antique safes to solve a mystery within five rooms in the Museum.

As this game becomes more popular, more and more visitors are coming to the Museum, which preserves the history of lockmaking, especially its contribution to the industrial heritage of central Connecticut, and houses the largest collection of locks and keys in the United States. To enhance visitor experience and make the exhibits more attractive and easier to see, a **\$1,500 grant from the Bristol Brass General Grant Fund** was awarded to the Museum to provide new LED lighting for display cases.

“A town’s identity is often defined by its culture and history,” stated Susan Sadecki, President & CEO of MSCF. “It is important to keep history alive by providing funding to local organizations such as the Lock Museum of America.”



Men & Boys' Fund

In 2016, Main Street Community Foundation established the Men & Boys' Fund, a community-based endowment, in response to needs identified through community conversations. It's a simple concept - the Fund partners with local organizations to improve the quality of life of local men and boys through grantmaking. Filling small needs can have a big impact on a boy or man's life.

Through the first nine months of 2018, five immediate response grants totaling \$929 have been awarded to support local men and boys with rental assistance, clothes for a job interview, driver's permit fees and educational opportunities. In May, the Men & Boys' Fund held its first fundraiser and proceeds from the event will support program grants that will be awarded this fall.

Only a growing group of committed volunteers and an outpouring of community generosity made fulfilling these needs possible. Now we are hoping you will join in making an even greater impact as 2018 nears its end. Consider joining us as a volunteer and/or making a donation to help your neighbors.

To learn more, visit mainstreetfoundation.org/men-boys-fund or call Main Street Community Foundation at 860.583.6363.

Women & Girls' Fund

The Women & Girls' Fund held a *Community Lunch & Learn* this summer with 50 individuals in attendance representing 30 organizations. This annual event provided an overview of the grant process, as well as best practices in applying for a grant using the Foundation's online system. Additionally, perhaps the most important component of the program was the facilitated discussion of the current critical needs and issues impacting local girls and women.



Some of the needs the organizations in attendance identified included:

- Pay equity
- Education opportunities due to income disparity
- Supportive housing
- Trauma-informed community approaches
- Affordable childcare
- Early childhood literacy
- Development of motor skills in young children
- Budget cuts resulting in scaled back programming and the need to re-evaluate fundraising programs
- Board member recruitment
- Lack of grant writing resources

SAVE THE DATE!

The Annual WOW Event will be held on **Tuesday, April 23, 2019**. The Women & Girls' Fund would like to invite you to join us as a sponsor or an attendee of this annual inspiring and uplifting event. To learn more about sponsorship opportunities, call Main Street Community Foundation at 860.583.6363 or visit www.mainstreetfoundation.org/women-girls-fund.



People of Vision

An Interview with Jarre Betts

MSCHF's Vice President of Programs will be retiring from the Foundation on December 31st after dedicating 18 years to its advancement and growth.

How did you initially hear about the Main Street Community Foundation (MSCF) and why did you want to work here?

I had heard of it because my brother, Tom (Barnes), was involved as a Founder. Then Bob Merriman asked me to be on the distribution committee. I had been serving on that for quite a while when focus groups started for the Women & Girls' Fund (WGF) and I got involved with that. While serving on the WGF Advisory Board, Cheryl Dumont-Smith (the former President) announced they were looking for someone to work part-time in the office.

How has your role evolved?

When I began at MSCF in 2001, we were a small staff of just Cheryl, myself and a part-time accountant in a two-room office. I worked part-time until 2007 when Cheryl left and I served as Interim President for a short time. Once Susan Sadecki (the current President & CEO) was hired, I went down to working four days a week. I've been involved with the scholarships and grant-making processes the whole time I've been with the Foundation and I've seen that grow tremendously. Now we're a staff of six with our own big office in Bristol!

What has been your favorite thing about working at MSCF?

The opportunity to meet other people – the staff are amazing; being able to get to know all of the local non-profits and companies; the volunteers we work with and our Board of Directors. It's the people. They're all very passionate.

What is one thing you want the community to know about MSCF?

I would want people to understand that you can start a fund, no matter what your income level. If you feel strongly about an organization or a field of interest, you can create an endowment and you can make an impact on that cause forever.

What is your proudest moment/accomplishment?

Just being a part of the growth of the Foundation and seeing it get bigger. (Jarre is too humble to mention that while she has been a part of MSCF, grantmaking has gone from \$165,000 in 2001 to \$1.7 million in 2017.)

What are your plans for after December 31st?

I'm not telling! I have lots of different ideas of things I'd like to try but I don't want to get tied down to one. I don't know how people say they're bored when they retire – there's so much out there to do!



Inside View

By Kevin Kryzwick

Kevin worked as an intern at MSCF during the Summer of 2018. Kevin wrote the following article upon completion of his internship.

This summer, I had the pleasure of working with the amazing staff of the Main Street Community Foundation. It was an experience that not only enriched my knowledge of philanthropy, but also enhanced my appreciation for it.

My relationship with MSCF started in 2015 as I aspired to earn the rank of Eagle Scout. As a part of my goal, I needed to complete a service project that had a lasting effect on my community, so I decided to take on the rather expensive task of building Burlington's first sand volleyball court. The project was estimated to cost \$6,800, an amount beyond the Eagle Scout budget, and an amount too large to handle by myself. After talking with my project mentor, he suggested that I contact the Main Street Community Foundation to ask for help. Although the Foundation's President & CEO, Susan Sadecki, had concerns, she agreed to take a leap of faith, and the Malerbo Volleyball Court Fund was established. Ultimately, the fund accumulated \$7,800 in donations and the volleyball court was built. I was awarded the rank of Eagle Scout, and I could not have been more happy and grateful for what MSCF had done for me.

Fast forward three years to my first year at Fairfield University as a business major. I reached out to Susan again, this time with the hope to come in as a volunteer and give back to the organization that had helped me so much. I started my internship in May and was immediately welcomed into the MSCF Family. I was given projects that were valued by the Foundation, which gave me a great sense of pride. My duties included reformatting over 20 years of grant history for easy retrieval of information and data analysis. I also had the opportunity to conduct a needs assessment for the various animal welfare facilities within the Foundation's service area. It was my job to research each facility as well as their prospective projects and create an educated recommendation for the allocation of funds left over from the general grant cycle. On top of all this, I learned the fundamental workings of a community foundation by shadowing different members of the staff.

Through my time at the Main Street Community Foundation, I observed how hard the staff works and the joy they exude knowing they are making a true impact on the world around them. Through my internship and prior relationship with MSCF, it is easy to see how they better the world by more than just awarding grants. They are a beacon of change and growth within so many people's lives, and I am so honored and grateful that they helped change mine.

How you can help your community as you plan your year-end charitable giving...

- 1) Match your favorite cause with action... By giving to an existing Main Street Community Foundation fund
- 2) Direct your giving... By starting your own fund or building one into your estate plan
- 3) Strengthen the Foundation's role as a funder, leader, convener and advocate... By giving to our Friends Campaign
- 4) Help others in your community... By giving to the Money In Motion Fund

Donations can be sent by mail or made online at mainstreetfoundation.org. Remember – if you are aged 70% or older you can donate up to \$100,000 from your IRA to a qualified public charity, such as MSCF, to satisfy all or part of your annual minimum required distribution.

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OUR VISION

To be widely recognized as the comprehensive center for leadership and philanthropy in the communities of Bristol, Burlington, Plainville, Plymouth, Southington and Wolcott.

OUR MISSION

To enhance the quality of life for both present and future generations in the communities we serve.
We accomplish our mission by encouraging and promoting:
Gift Planning
Prudent Stewardship of Assets
Effective Grantmaking
Community Leadership

OUR CORE VALUES

Excellence, integrity, inclusiveness and transparency in all we do.

Main Street Community Foundation, Inc. is a public charity committed to partnering with individuals, families and businesses who wish to build permanent charitable connections, now and for generations to come. We support and better the communities of Bristol, Burlington, Plainville, Plymouth, Southington and Wolcott, Connecticut. Since 1995, the foundation has provided opportunities to donors to support the causes they believe in and to help further their desire to give back and improve their community.

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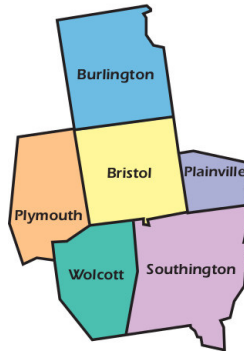
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Excellence. Accountability. Impact.™

Confirmed in Compliance with National Standards for U.S. Community Foundations.



Get regular updates on community news, grant awards and application deadlines at www.facebook.com/MainStreetCommunityFoundation

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