

WHO WE ARE

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.

Vision, Mission, and Core Values

OUR VISION

To be widely recognized as the comprehensive center for 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 is a member of the Council on Foundations and is confirmed in Compliance with National Standards for U.S. Community Foundations



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

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Main Street
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

MAIN POINTS

A Newsletter for Friends of the Main Street Community Foundation

Fall 2012

GRANTS IN ACTION

A New Home for the Southington Family Resource Center

"Wow! This is school!" four-year-old Olivia exclaimed as she arrived at the Southington Family Resource Center located in Room 17 at Hatton School.

Home daycare provider Sue Cyr recounted Olivia's first impression of the classroom as she explained, "I could take the children in my care to the park to run around, but until this classroom opened I was not able to give them the opportunity to have a school experience." Krista Pringle, the center's director, added, "The work we do here is beneficial to everyone. It doesn't matter what a family's socio-economic background is, because everyone benefits from receiving help with parenting and school readiness skills."

The center had been operated mainly out of a small room at Derynoski School for the past four years. But the space was suitable only for storage and as an office; staff had to travel from one school to another for classes and other programs. "We were working out of the trunk of our

cars," Pringle said. "We spent most of our day traveling, setting up programs, and then breaking down." Pringle lobbied Superintendent Joseph Erardi for more space, and took him on a visit of the family resource center in Plainville.

a centralized location and it would not affect the program. Many families were coming to the program based on the days that were best for them, not whether they were at an elementary school close to home or not.



L - R: Sue Cyr, home day care provider, with Southington Family Resource Center Director Krista Pringle and Olivia, Joey and Evan in the Center's book nook.

Staffing changes in the Southington elementary schools resulted in classroom space becoming available at Hatton School. Pringle said that she realized that many families were willing to travel to

A \$3,655 grant from the Douglas and Noreen Schumann Special Interest Fund at the Main Street Community Foundation provided the funding to furnish the classroom. Child-sized tables and chairs, brightly colored floor mats, bookcases, a cozy reading nook and shelves full of instructional materials adorn the room. A wall of windows and a door that allows participants direct access to the classroom from the parking lot create a welcoming, cheerful environment.

Sue Cyr used to bring the children in her care to the Kelly School Gymnasium to participate in programs. "This feels more like school than the gym did. The programs at the gym were great, but there was a lot we weren't allowed to do - arts and crafts, computer classes, snack time. Also, the children in my daycare do not have access to a

"Grants in Action" continued on page 3

PEOPLE OF VISION

Community Benefits from VISTA Service Learning Projects

Charity and generosity are two of the values that brought together a small team of eight students from Tunxis Community College and the Main Street Community Foundation. The students, participants in a VISTA service learning project in their Spring 2012 sociology class taught by Professor Marie Clucas, PhD, took on a

project to benefit the immediate response funds at the Foundation.

The students identified that as of the 2010 census data, there is a higher than state average unemployment rate in four of the six towns served by MSCF. This is one of the reasons for the increase in immediate response fund requests from social service agencies looking to assist families and individuals in need with a one-time grant.

VISTA Coordinator Susan Dantino suggested a service learning project to add resources to the immediate response funds at Main Street Community Foundation. After speaking with Foundation staff and learning that one way of disbursing immediate response funds is through gift cards, the students decided to hold several gift card drives around Tunxis Community College and

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COMMUNITY

FOUNDATION



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IN THE COMMUNITY

Duck Parades into MSCF

Main Street Community Foundation's Board of Directors took up a collection and purchased a duck for Ducks on Parade in Central Connecticut, a public art project that brought together local artists, businesses and community organizations.

"Grant" was painted by **Brian Troccolo**, an art teacher at Chippens Hill Middle School in Bristol. Designed with a patchwork quilt pattern, Grant reflects the six communities the Foundation serves as well as the types of grants awarded by the Foundation.

Grant has a permanent home with MSCF at 200 Main Street in Bristol. If you are in the area, stop by and view this incredible work of art.

For more pictures of Grant, visit facebook.com/MainStreetCommunityFoundation.



Many thanks to Michael and Susan Brault for providing the "comfy ride" so MSCF could participate in the Mum Parade.

Special thanks to Premier Signs for donating the car magnets.

Foundation Honored with Award

During Bristol Community Organization's 40th Anniversary Dinner on May 24, 2012, Main Street Community Foundation received the Outstanding Community Partners Award for its continued support of community projects and the assistance given to individuals and families.



Susan Sadecki, MSCF's President & CEO, spoke to Plainville Girl Scout Troop #66081 about how MSCF helps the community as well as the qualities of a strong leader.

AN INSIDE VIEW

Val Dumais Elected to Board of Directors

The Main Street Community Foundation has elected Val Dumais of Plainville to the Board of Directors. He is the current



Val Dumais

chairperson of the Plainville Economic Development Agency and is a member of the Plainville Rotary Club. "Val Dumais brings great insight to the Board about the emerging needs and issues in the Plainville community," said Susan Sadecki, President & CEO of the Main Street Community Foundation. Dumais, who was employed at Cigna Healthcare for 31 years and retired as the Vice President of National Accounts, is a long-time Plainville resident and has been a civic leader in the community for many years. In addition to his current roles, Dumais is a former Town Councilman and the former chairperson for the Plainville Insurance Commission. He has served on the Board of Directors for the United Way

of West Central Connecticut, the Board of Managers for Wheeler Regional YMCA and the Plainville Board of Education.

Annual Reception Appreciates Foundation Donors

Food, music and nearly 70 Friends made for a delightful June 21, 2012 gathering at the home of Dennis and Eileen Cleary in Wolcott. The annual Friends Reception has been a wonderful opportunity to



Dennis & Eileen Cleary

thank the Foundation's many donors and volunteers, especially all those who support our annual Friends Appeal. Attendees enjoyed meeting friends and colleagues who support and value the foundation's work and mission. Sincere appreciation to Dennis and Eileen for their generosity and hospitality that made this year's Friends Reception a memorable event.

New Funds to Benefit the Community

Main Street Community Foundation welcomed the following new funds in the first nine months of this year to bring the total funds established since the Foundation's founding in 1995 to 169:

- Hap Barnes Fire Safety Trailer Fund
- Bristol Eastern High School Athletic Fund
- City of Bristol Treasurer's Fund for Financial Awareness
- Estela Wilderness Education Fund
- Clement J. Roy Scholarship Fund
- Glo Sessions Fund for Art Education

For full descriptions of the funds, visit www.MainStreetFoundation.org

Thank you to the donors who established these funds.

"Grants in Action" continued

computer. I can take them to computer classes here." Little Clickers, one of the programs at the Southington FRC, is specially designed to develop children's comfort and control in using a computer, while building their pre-reading and pre-math skills at the same time.

In addition to Little Clickers, fall programs at the center include: Messy Monsters (an art experience class for children and their favorite adult), Big Cook/Little Cook, Playgroup, Calling All Characters (story time with a related craft) and Raising Readers Parent Club. The programs

"People of Vision" continued

the community to not only contribute to the Foundation's immediate response funds but also raise awareness about the effects of the economic downturn on individuals. At the end of the project, over \$600 in gift cards and donations were donated to benefit the immediate response funds at the Foundation during a ceremony at Tunxis.

Nearly \$100,000 Awarded in Scholarships

MSCF awarded close to \$100,000 in scholarships to 83 area students during the Foundation's annual Scholarship Reception at the Bristol Public Library on June 27. Attended by more than 160 people, the reception celebrated the donors as well as the recipients



2012 scholarship recipients were honored at this year's annual Scholarship Reception.

and featured special guest speaker Stacey Tank, a former scholarship award recipient and current Senior Vice President & Chief Corporate Relations Officer of Heineken USA. Scholarships are available annually to students from the towns of Bristol, Burlington, Plainville, Plymouth, Southington and Wolcott as

are designed to help pre-school age children develop literacy, numeracy, communication and fine motor skills. Children learn how to function successfully within a classroom environment by sharing with others, following directions, cleaning up after themselves and transitioning from one activity to another. Programs also serve to assist adults in the development of parenting skills and to create an awareness of the school readiness skills children are expected to have upon entering a preschool or kindergarten program.

The collaboration between Tunxis Community College and Main Street Community Foundation did not end at the conclusion of the gift card project. The Fall 2012 sociology class taught by Professor Marie Clucas, PhD, will also be partnering with the Foundation on another VISTA service learning project. The team of three students will interview organizations in the Foundation's service

well as other communities who are at varying levels of their academic careers.

MSCF Accredited for Another Five Years

MSCF received notification in early October that it has again met the nation's highest philanthropic standards for operational quality, integrity and accountability. The notice comes from the Community Foundations National Standards Board, a national accreditation organization based in Arlington, VA. MSCF received its first National Standards for U.S. Community Foundations accreditation in 2007. Main Street Community Foundation was one of the first community foundations in Connecticut to receive such designation. The accreditation renewal process occurs every five years and requires community foundations to perform a comprehensive evaluation of existing policies, materials and financial changes which may have occurred since the previous accreditation. The program is designed to provide quality assurance to donors and nonprofits, as well as to legal and financial advisors.

Morning programs at the center are so popular that they fill before the registration deadline and usually have a long waiting list. Pringle shared the results of a recent survey, "We received 187 responses. Families feel that working parents are not provided with enough opportunities to participate in programs with their children based on the current program schedule. In January, we will address that need by offering evening playgroups and Raising Readers workshops." Sue Cyr nodded in agreement, "The program should continue to be expanded."

area that focus on families in crisis, food and nutrition and basic needs. As a result of the interviews, a wish list from each organization will be established and posted on Main Street Community Foundation's website so that it will be available for anyone who is interested in supporting local nonprofit organizations.

Save the Date

January 8, 2013 Women & Girls' Fund Annual Meeting at Thomaston Savings Bank in Bristol at 5:30 p.m.

January 15, 2013 MSCF grant applications and scholarship applications are available online at www.mainstreetfoundation.org

April 22, 2013 Women & Girls' Fund annual Wonder of Women (WOW) event at the Aqua Turf Club in Southington at 5:30 p.m. featuring guest speaker Grace Killelea

Your Gift Makes a Difference!

Kindly consider adding Main Street Community Foundation to your list of supported non-profit organizations this year as you plan your 2012 year-end charitable giving. Send your gift today by mail or give online at www.MainStreetFoundation.org

Thank you!