

MAIN POINTS

YOUR COMMUNITY. YOUR LEGACY. YOUR WAY



FALL 2026

Our Vision of Impact for the Community

Vibrant communities where people have equitable and inclusive opportunities to prosper, participate, and be inspired to give.

Our Mission

Inspiring donors and community partners to foster a sustainable legacy of impactful giving 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.



Students from the first cohort lead the ribbon cutting.

Increasing Access to the Trades for Plainville Students

Main Street Community Foundation (MSCF) recently collaborated with several other state and local funders to help launch a brand new program at Plainville High School. The Trades Academy is a four-year program designed to prepare students for successful careers in the skilled trades and debuted this fall. The program provides students with a hands-on, career-focused educational experience beginning as early as freshman year in trades such as carpentry, electrical, and HVACR.

In partnership with the Construction Education Center, also located in Plainville, students in the program will explore these trades and develop foundational skills in tool-use, safety, and problem solving. Additionally, they will gain experience in OSHA safety, construction math, blueprint reading, and other applicable practical skills, all through the nationally accredited NCCER (National Center for Construction Education and Research) curriculum. Students who complete the program will graduate with nationally recognized industry credentials.

There is a great need for skilled trade professionals in the region. With the help of MSCF, the State of CT, Farmington Bank Community Foundation, the Petit Family Foundation, the Community Foundation of Greater New Britain, and the American Savings Bank Foundation, Plainville High School will now be able to play a critical role in meeting this need.

Susan Sadecki, MSCF President & CEO, stated, "There are many ways to approach the workforce shortage. As local philanthropic funders, we have a shared commitment and belief that this academy will prepare students for high demand careers in fields that are essential to our local community and beyond."



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.

Community Endowments Celebrate Anniversaries

In MSCF's spring newsletter, we highlighted the anniversaries of two community endowment funds: the Women & Girls Fund and the Men & Boys' Fund. In this newsletter, we are featuring two other community endowments that are celebrating anniversaries this year: the Burlington Community Fund and the Plainville Community Fund.

All four of these funds rely on generous donors and committed volunteers. Thank you to those who have shared their time and talent to grow and promote these funds.

Burlington Community Fund



The Burlington Community Fund was established in 2011 and is celebrating its 15th anniversary. Grants distributed from this Fund support charitable projects and programs that enhance the quality of life for Burlington residents. Its establishment came from a group of committed community leaders in Burlington who came together to provide a permanent source of funding for their town.

The Fund was originally called the Burlington Bell Community Fund, paying homage to a bell in town; the bell, donated to the citizens of Burlington by Bob Merriman, still stands as a symbol for the fund, calling the community to action to help those in need.

MSCF has awarded nearly \$60,000 in grants from this Fund to support organizations and individuals in Burlington.

Plainville Community Fund

The Plainville Community Fund is celebrating its 20th anniversary. This Fund was established in 2006 by community leaders in Plainville who came together with a common and simple goal: to enhance the quality of life for Plainville residents.

The Plainville Community Fund is led by an Advisory Council that is comprised of Plainville residents from various backgrounds. The Advisory Council regularly assesses the needs in town, which inform the grantmaking.

Since its establishment, MSCF has awarded over \$175,000 in grants to support the community of Plainville.

Save the Date!

Join us for the 2027 WOW event, which will be held on May 5, 2027, at 5:30 pm at the Aqua Turf Club in Southington. The guest speaker will be Sherry Pocknett, the first Indigenous woman to be honored by the James Beard Foundation. More details to follow!



Plainville Community Fund Distribution Committee celebrates the Fund's 20th anniversary at their meeting in the spring.



Celebrating Men of Value and Purpose

MSCF celebrated a decade of the Men & Boys' Fund (MBF) with an incredible celebration on October 1! The 10th Anniversary MVP Celebration featured a look back on the impact grant distributions from the MBF have made on the community as well as guest speaker Tom Moore, who entertained and inspired the crowd.



Make a Lasting Impact

By donating to the Friends Campaign, you can be a key part of our mission! Through your support, you can make it possible for the Main Street Community Foundation to enhance the quality of life in the communities we serve.

Annually, the Foundation asks the community to invest in its work that has a lasting impact on the lives of many people – your friends – your neighbors – your family. Your donation to our annual Friends Campaign provides necessary administrative financial support to advance charitable activities of the Foundation to better serve your communities. As a Friend of Main Street, you will strengthen the Foundation's role as a community leader, grant maker, convener, and advocate.



Scan the QR code to donate online or mail your donation to:
Main Street Community Foundation,
P.O. Box 2702, 120 Halcyon Drive,
Bristol, CT 06011-2702

Continuing a Legacy to Terryville Students

In early 2026, Main Street Community Foundation was named the court-appointed Trustee for the Dr. Ralph F. Long and Pearl A. Long Trust-Foundation. The Long Trust-Foundation was established in 1990 by longtime Terryville resident Dr. Ralph F. Long and has been supporting Terryville scholars since that time.

This year, MSCF awarded \$210,000 from the Long Trust-Foundation to 43 students, 11 students were graduating high school seniors, and 32 students are currently enrolled in college. The scholarship is available to graduating Terryville High School seniors, and they can reapply every year of their undergraduate college career.

Dr. Long moved to Terryville in 1923, and it was here that he met and married his wife Pearl and began practicing family medicine in Terryville and Plymouth. The Longs were proud members of the Terryville community, and MSCF is proud to carry out their legacy.



Dr. Ralph Long

Hamzy Funds Double the Impact

In August, a ceremony was held at the new Northeast Middle School in Bristol to dedicate the Sgt. Alex Hamzy Gymnasium to forever memorialize and honor the life, legacy, and dedicated service of Sgt. Alex Hamzy.

After the ceremony, members of the Hamzy family – including Alex's sisters Donna Hamzy Carrocia and Rania Hamzy Audi, as well as Alex's wife Katie Scott-Hamzy – presented the Bristol Police Cadet Program with a \$6,800 grant distributed from the Sergeant Alex Hamzy Memorial Fund and the Rafi Hamzy Memorial Fund.



The grant will support the purchase of ten updated portable radios for use in the Bristol Police Cadet Program. These radios will provide cadets with safe, reliable, and professional-grade tools for training exercises, community outreach events, and program activities. The program currently serves up to 25 cadets.

The Sergeant Alex Hamzy Memorial Fund was established in 2022 after Alex was killed in the line of duty on October 12, 2022. A year prior in early 2021, the Rafi Hamzy Memorial Fund was established after Rafi passed away at the young age of 24 in 2020. Alex and Rafi were cousins. Both funds are donor advised funds where donors actively participate in the grantmaking process by recommending grants to charitable projects or organizations they wish to support.

Professional Advisors Are an Important Component to Our Mission

Community foundations are built on relationships, and few are more important than those MSCF shares with attorneys, CPAs, and financial advisors. At the Foundation, we believe philanthropy is most meaningful when it connects people to the causes they care about while responding to the evolving needs of our community. As your community foundation, we are here as your local philanthropic partner to offer community knowledge, charitable giving solutions, and personalized support that helps you to confidently guide your clients in achieving their charitable goals. We look forward to working with you to create lasting impact for your clients for generations to come.

Ways to Connect

- Sign up to receive our quarterly Professional Advisors E-Newsletter by sending an email to: office@mainstreetfoundation.org.
- Visit mainstreetfoundation.org/for-advisors
- Contact Dawn Nielsen, Director of Donor Services - Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday from 8:00 am to 4:30 pm. Email: dawn@mainstreetfoundation.org | 860-583-6363, ext. 158.

Bringing America 250 Celebrations to Your Communities

This year commemorates the 250th anniversary of the United States' independence. America 250 celebrations have been taking place all over the country, including in all six communities MSCF serves. MSCF is proud to support the America 250 initiatives by awarding grants totaling \$13,000 to help fund activities and celebrations in all six communities.

In order to create vibrant communities where people have equitable and inclusive opportunities to prosper, the Foundation believes in supporting projects, programs, and events that bring our communities together. Promoting civic health, like these America 250 celebrations, is an important aspect of MSCF's role as a Civically Engaged Organization (CEO). To this end, two MSCF staff members and a Board member are currently participating in CFLead's six-month long Community Foundations for Civic Health: Virtual Learning Series. Participants have begun their journey into learning how to better integrate civic engagement in community foundation work. Stay tuned for a civic health update in our Spring 2027 newsletter!



An America 250 celebration in Plymouth.

MSCF Takes Flight in Support of SoCCA

Southington Community Cultural Arts (SoCCA) is celebrating their 10th anniversary and MSCF was proud to be a sponsor of a custom dragonfly to commemorate this milestone. Sponsors were paired with local artists to create wooden dragonflies that were featured in Southington's Apple Harvest Festival parade.

The dragonflies honor Mary DeCroke, the founder of SoCCA, who battled cancer for 27 years. She connected deeply to the dragonfly, whose life cycle is one of struggle and transformation before emerging as the beautiful creature it was meant to be.

MSCF partnered with artist Bridgette Hearn, who created the beautiful mosaic-style dragonfly you see here. This dragonfly is making its permanent home at the MSCF office, so make sure to come by and see it for yourself!



Grant applications will be available online on February 1, and scholarship applications will be available online on January 15. All information is at mainstreetfoundation.org.



A total of \$578,593 in scholarships were awarded to local students in 2026.

2026 Grants: Helping Neighbors, Improving Lives, Creating Connections

From January 1, 2026 through September 30, 2026, Main Street Community Foundation has distributed \$2.57 million in grants and scholarships to support many worthy causes and organizations in your community.

View all awards by scanning the QR code.



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CFNS
Confirmed in
compliance
with Community
Foundations
National Standards.



www.mainstreetfoundation.org

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COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

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