

# MAIN POINTS

YOUR COMMUNITY. YOUR LEGACY. YOUR WAY.



Fall 2024

### 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.



## Over \$6,000 Awarded to Support Senior Women Due to Generosity at WOW 2024 Event

Due to the generosity of Wonder of Women (WOW) event attendees, MSCF recently awarded \$6,053 from the Women & Girls Fund to local organizations for the purchase of personal care items for senior women in Bristol, Burlington, Plainville, Plymouth, Southington and Wolcott. This \$6,053 was donated to the Pass the Purse Initiative at WOW; small purses were placed on each table and attendees were encouraged to 'Pass the Purse' and donate what they could.

**The Plymouth Community Food Pantry** was one of the grant recipients. "Your research has motivated us to create a personal care section within the Pantry for seniors," said Larry Chiucarello, Director of the Food Pantry, referencing a community conversation held by MSCF to identify priority areas of need, one of which was services for senior women. "We have surveyed our customers and hope to have it up and running, containing the requested items, within the next few months."

These grants, which were awarded based on the percentage of senior women in each community, not only made an immediate difference, but are inspiring long-term change.

"We are currently working with outside vendors to expand and maximize this effort to purchase personal care items for senior women and help educate them to improve their health and wellness," said Donna Belval, Director of the **Wolcott Senior Center**, which was another one of the grantees.



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.

# MSCF is proud to announce that we have been deemed a **Civically Engaged Organization (CEO)** by the Office of the Connecticut Secretary of the State!



To create a vibrant community where everyone has equitable and inclusive opportunities to prosper, more people need to be empowered to vote and get involved in community change. This pledge encourages MSCF to educate residents on how to improve their civic literacy. To find out what you can do, including how to engage with your government and community, visit [Civics101.CT.gov](http://Civics101.CT.gov).

The November General Election will be here soon! Are you vote ready? Check out [MyVote.CT.gov](http://MyVote.CT.gov) for important voter information: Be sure you are registered at your current address, educate yourself on early voting, obtain an absentee ballot if needed, check your polling place, and **VOTE BY NOVEMBER 5!**

## New Funds Join MSCF Family

Since April 2024, six new funds have been established. The funds all have different purposes but the donors have one common mission: Make their community a better place by supporting the causes they care about. The new funds established are:

- **Jeffrey C. Holdsworth Memorial Scholarship Fund** (Scholarship Fund)
- **Jeanne E. Radcliff Fund for Global Studies** (Scholarship Fund)
- **Jeanne E. Radcliff Fund for the Community** (Unrestricted Community Fund)
- **Philip E. Rancourt, Jr. Compassion in Action Memorial Fund** (Donor Advised Fund)
- **Rulkowski Family Charitable Fund** (Donor Advised Fund)
- **Brenda J. Tella Scholarship Fund** (Scholarship Fund)



Thank you for making a difference in your community!

For the stories of all named funds at the Foundation and to donate online, scan here.

# 2024 Community Grants: Helping Neighbors, Improving Lives, Creating Connections



From January 1, 2024 through September 30, 2024, Main Street Community Foundation has **distributed \$1.8 million** in grants to support many worthy causes and organizations in your community. Here are a few of this year's recipients:

## Burlington

Hoopla, a downloadable library service, has been available to Burlington Public Library patrons since 2021. With this service, library cardholders can access four titles per month through the Burlington Public Library, including eBooks, Audiobooks, comics, magazines, movies, and music. Hoopla quickly became a popular service among patrons, increasing the annual circulation of items from 594 in 2021 to 2,396 in 2023. Despite that, Jodi Papazian, Burlington Library Director, said, "With the cost of books and other materials continuing to rise, Hoopla was becoming a service that we were potentially going to need to cut."



In light of this potential cut, patrons reached out to the library to tell them that Hoopla was one of their most valuable resources. So, to maintain access to the service, the Library applied for a grant from MSCF - and they were awarded \$6,000, made possible with distributions from the **Burlington Community Fund** and the **James R. Parker Trust**.

Not only does Hoopla make borrowing books from the library easier than ever, the digital aspect of the service makes them more accessible to all patrons. Audiobooks are easily available on the service for those who rely on them, and the nature of eBooks makes modifying the font to something larger very easy for those who need large print books. As Papazian said of the grant and the Library, "Libraries are more important than ever. The resources that we provide our patrons will foster a love of learning as well as emphasize our value to our communities. The grant funding through Main Street Community Foundation has allowed the library to continue offering this service while we work to ensure future funding through our town budget and Friends contributions."



## Plymouth

A \$530 grant was awarded to the Terryville High School Career Center from the **Plymouth Century Club Fund**. This fund provides support for creative and innovative instructional practices that are not funded by the Plymouth Board of Education's annual budget. The "Brewing Bulldogs" operation at Eli Terry Jr. Middle School and STEM supplies for kindergarten classrooms at Plymouth Center School were selected for funding this year.



## Bristol

Recently, MSCF awarded a \$3,000 grant to the Bristol Child Development Center for the expansion of their Little Chef program. This program is a hands-on culinary and gardening experience for both students and their families, where they gain cooking and gardening skills as well as learn nutritional recipes with local produce. Little Chef has allowed the Bristol Child Development Center to establish and maintain relationships with local farmers, which has enriched the educational experiences of the students. The program has recently expanded, having been added to the summer camp (children ages six to ten), the infants & toddlers program (twelve weeks to two-year-olds), and in-school cooking events, a farm celebration, and enhanced recipes and resource bags for families.

MSCF staff visited the Bristol Child Development Center and saw the Little Chef program in action. Campers were engaged in making salsa while learning how to safely chop tomatoes and peppers with child-friendly knives.

The grant to Bristol Child Development Center was awarded with distributions from the **Pat & Bob Wollenberg Family Fund for the Community**, the **Fuller and Myrtle Barnes Fund for Education**, and the **Karen and Kim Murphy Family Charitable Fund**. With the overwhelmingly positive feedback for the Little Chef program in its first two years, Maegan Adams, Executive Director, and Jo Lopez-Lynch, Education Coordinator are looking forward to using this grant to further expand the program. "Our Little Chef program has emerged as a standout feature of our Center, consistently capturing the enthusiasm and participation of our families. We are thrilled to continue this vital work, thanks to the generous grant support from Main Street Community Foundation. This grant not only acknowledges our efforts but also empowers us to continue offering high-quality learning opportunities for our children and families through strong community partnerships. It is an honor and privilege to serve our community in this capacity."

## Plainville

MSCF awarded the Wheeler Regional Family YMCA a \$1,000 grant from the **Plainville Community Fund**. This grant will support YMCA's Adaptive Fitness Program, which provides an accessible and structured exercise program for people with physical disabilities. The program gives individuals an opportunity to safely enjoy exercise while also building strong relationships and improving their wellness, independence, and self-esteem.



## Southington

A \$12,000 grant, awarded to the Mulberry Gardens of Southington, will provide updated exercise equipment for the Good Life Fitness program. This program gives residents at the assisted living facility the opportunity to participate in this highly individualized fitness program, under the supervision of certified exercise physiologists. This grant was awarded from the **Bradley Henry Barnes and Leila Upson Barnes Memorial Trust**.



## Wolcott



Thy Eagle's Nest is a nonprofit located in Wolcott that provides new and gently used clothing, furniture, and household items to families and individuals with low to moderate incomes. They were awarded a \$2,590 grant from the **Bristol Brass General Grant Fund** and the **Nana Jane's Fund** to purchase a chair lift that will provide second floor access for clients with restricted mobility to participate in a variety of classes held there.



**Additionally, \$334,874 in scholarships were recently awarded to local students pursuing educational opportunities in a variety of areas and at different stages of their academic careers.**





MEET US  
**ON  
MAIN  
STREET** The Main Event  
30th Anniversary  
Celebration

**Save The Date:**  
**Saturday, September 13, 2025**  
**at the Aqua Turf Club**

Partner with MSCF and be a sponsor! Your sponsorship of the Foundation's 30th anniversary will allow us to continue our important community leadership work while meeting the needs of the local communities for the next 30 years and beyond. Sponsorships are available and opportunities for support include a \$1,000 Hometown Sponsor all the way up to a \$30,000 Circa 1995 Visionary Sponsor. Program Book advertising is also available. Contact Susan Sadecki, President & CEO, at 860.583.6363 for more information.

S A V E T H E D A T E

**Philanthropy is for everyone. Here's how you can help your community as you plan your year-end giving...**

**Match your favorite cause with action** – Give to an existing MSCF fund or find an organization on MSCF's Community Wish List to donate or volunteer

**Direct your giving** – Start your own fund or build one into your estate plan

**Strengthen the Foundation's role as a funder, leader, convener and advocate** – Give to the annual Friends Campaign

**Help others in your community** – Give to the Money In Motion Fund

**Donations can be sent by mail or made online today at [www.mainstreetfoundation.org](http://www.mainstreetfoundation.org).**

*Remember – if you are aged 70 ½ or older you can donate up to \$100,000 from your IRA to a qualified public charity, such as MSCF. This can also help with age-specific required minimum distributions.*



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MAIN  
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CFNS  
Confirmed in  
compliance  
with Community  
ACREDITED  
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[www.mainstreetfoundation.org](http://www.mainstreetfoundation.org)

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