

## 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](http://facebook.com/MainStreetCommunityFoundation)



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## PEOPLE OF VISION

### Southington's Bradley Barnes continues to have major impact on his town, 41 years after his death



Bradley H. Barnes in 1960

Bradley Barnes (1883-1973) and his family are long associated with Southington and Connecticut. His earliest known ancestor, Stephen Barnes, settled in Branford in the 1600s. His grandfather

Amon Bradley built the family home that is now the Barnes Museum, and his father Norman was a major industrialist in town.

In 1910, Bradley married childhood playmate Leila Holcomb Upson, daughter of a local grocery store owner.

Bradley was devoted to Southington. He was a trustee of Bradley Memorial Hospital, and served on the Southington Club, YMCA, and Chamber of Commerce.

When he passed away in 1973 (Leila had died 21 years earlier), Bradley cemented his legacy in Southington when he left the charitable Bradley Henry Barnes & Leila Upson Barnes Memorial Trust, now worth \$18 million.

#### Southington health study leads to \$635,000 for three local projects

Given the Barnes' commitment to health care, the Foundation commissioned and released "A Study of Community Health and Healthcare Needs" for Southington in September 2013.

Using the findings, the Foundation issued the Trust's first-ever request for proposals.

The first three grants under the Trust's new funding strategy, announced at a January 23 ceremony at the Barnes Museum, are:

- \$300,000 to the Southington YMCA, to purchase and install an elevator that would enable mobility-challenged people to use the swimming pool
- \$185,000 to Central Connecticut Senior Health Services, to implement a new electronic medical records system that would improve efficiency of care and quality for residents in Southington facilities
- \$150,000 to the Hospital of Central Connecticut, Bradley Campus, to purchase a portable echocardiograph machine that will expand services to nursing homes, physician offices and other locations in the Southington community.

Bradley Barnes' legacy of giving back to the community he cherished will continue forever.



## GRANTS IN ACTION

### Softball League Providing Girls an Array of Lessons

We have often heard that youth who participate in organized sports develop leadership skills, self-confidence and many other positive character traits that lead to success in life. Well, that is exactly what Bristol Girls Little League Softball (BGLLS) is hoping to achieve with a \$3,500 grant from the Women & Girls' Fund that was awarded in late 2013. It is the second year they were awarded funding to provide confidence building workshops and pre-season skills clinics to girls participating in the league.

BGLLS is a city-wide league that was formed eight years ago when softball

split from the better-known Little League and it is sustained on contributions of volunteer time, donations and grants. It is a league filled with passionate people who believe that sports can transform lives.

"We provide girls with a chance to play softball and to learn not only softball skills but also the life lessons that team sports provide," explained Brian Bender, President of BGLLS, who became involved with the league when his four daughters started playing.

The organization works to build every girl's self-confidence and teach them about teamwork, competitiveness and facing challenges. With funding from the



grants, BGLLS is able to rent fields and batting cage time as well as hire female instructors with softball experience for the pre-season clinics. The League is also able to expand its clinic offerings to accommodate four players per team

"Grants in Action" continued on page 3

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## WOMEN & GIRLS' FUND



Celebrating the greatest total amount of grant funds ever awarded, the Women & Girls' Fund of Main Street Community Foundation gathered for its Annual Meeting at Thomaston Savings Bank on January 7,

2014. More than 50 people attended the event, which featured the presentation of over \$30,000 to local organizations.

From its support of Bristol Girls Little League Softball and the Girl Scouts of Connecticut, to funding of the Good Life Fitness for Women program offered by Central CT Senior Health Services, the grants are intended to support female empowerment at any stage in life. Twelve grants totaling \$30,760 were awarded to programs that improve the lives of women and girls in Bristol, Burlington, Plainville, Plymouth, Southington, and Wolcott. For a complete list of grant

recipients and to learn more about the programs funded, visit the Women & Girls' Fund page on the Foundation's website.

Additionally, two of the grants awarded were partially supported by funds that were established to support initiatives



Women & Girls' Fund Grantees

identified by the Women & Girls' Fund: the Good Life Fitness grant was partially funded by the Barbara Hackman Franklin Fund for Women and a grant to the Bristol Technical Education Center to support the Bristol TEC Girls' Healthy Choices Program was partially funded by the

John & Gloria DiFrancesco Fund for Women and Girls.

The Annual Meeting also celebrated the election of Advisory Board members Angela Chapman, Susan Moreau, Lisa Palen and Sharon Stotz. Jeanine Audette was elected Advisory Board Chair for the next two years.

### WOW Event

The annual Wonder of Women (WOW) event will be held on Monday, April 28. The guest speaker, sponsored by ESPN, is Cari Champion, host of ESPN2's First Take.

The Fund would like to extend a special thank you to this year's sponsors who support women and girls in our communities: Barnes Group Foundation and MassMutual, as Premier Sponsors; KPMG LLP, as a Presenting Sponsor; and several others businesses, organizations and individuals whose contributions are most appreciated.

### "Grants in Action" continued

rather than the previous two. The league offers two pre-season clinics: one focused on general softball skills such as fielding, throwing and batting; and one focused on pitching mechanics and skills. Both are provided at no charge to players but to "pay it forward", the girls are asked to bring non-perishable food items to donate to a local food pantry.

"The grants from the Women & Girls' Fund has had a huge impact on the softball league," said Bender. "I and a lot of the volunteer dads were giving the girls instruction based on our baseball backgrounds. However, we quickly discovered that

there are completely different skills and techniques needed to play softball well."

Since its establishment, BGLLS, a girls-only league and a nonprofit, has steadily improved its level of instruction and program offering. The league has also attracted more girls - there were 185 participants in 2013 and the league is anticipating close to 200 players in 2014.

"We want to not only make these girls better softball players but also better people," stated Bender.

## 100 Years of Improving Local Communities



A century ago, a Cleveland banker and lawyer had an idea that would change philanthropy.

Frederick H. Goff created the first community foundation in Cleveland in 1914. He believed that pooling the charitable resources of local citizens into one endowment fund could positively impact the community forever.

Today, community foundations are improving the quality of life for millions of people worldwide. The Cleveland Foundation and Main Street

Community Foundation are two of over 700 community foundations in the United States, and there are over 1,500 community foundations throughout the world. Community foundations are for good - forever.

## AN INSIDE VIEW

### Looking Back on a Great Year at MSCF

Main Street Community Foundation has been a fixture in the communities of Bristol, Burlington, Plainville, Plymouth, Southington and Wolcott for 19 years, and it will continue to play an integral role in those communities forever. But before we look forward, let's look back on 2013, a year filled with growth and new beginnings.

### \$1.2 Million Invested in Our Communities

A near-record amount of grants were awarded by the Foundation in 2013. Over \$1.2 million was granted to area nonprofit organizations, charitable causes and local students last year, helping to improve the quality of life of residents in our communities.

"We were able to award this remarkable amount thanks to the community's very generous people," said Susan D. Sadecki, President & CEO of the Foundation. "We are honored to help our donors carry out their wishes and accomplish their goals - now and forever."

She added that the \$1.2 million in grants is the second largest total in the Foundation's 18-year history.

### 13 new funds established; \$1.8 million in total contributions

The Community Foundation received \$1.8 million from nearly 700 contributors in 2013. Forty-seven percent of the

contributions came in the form of 13 new funds, which are:

- Wally Barnes Fund for Community Leadership Initiatives
- Sid Bernard & Ed Miller Children's Fund for the Visual Arts
- Bristol Talks Teal Fund
- Caiaze Family Charitable Fund
- Calvanese Foundation Green & White Fund for Behavioral Health
- George & Maureen Carpenter Family Charitable Fund
- Friends of Bristol Parks and Recreation Fund
- Samuel Goodsell Park and Playground Fund
- JoAnn & David Mills Family Fund
- Al and Joan Monico Scholarship Fund
- Ralph Papazian Memorial Scholarship Fund
- Holly Scanlan Memorial Fund
- Jill Lynne Shackett Educational Scholarship Fund

### Community Foundation Realizes 14% Investment Return, Assets Grow to \$33 Million

The Community Foundation's assets grew to more than \$33 million by the end of 2013. "Thanks to wise spending policies and careful monitoring, the Foundation realized a 14 percent net return on its investments in 2013," Sadecki explained. "Our Board of Directors monitors the portfolio closely to ensure that we meet a goal of balancing current year grantmaking needs with long-term endowment growth."

### Annual Meeting Returns Four to Leadership

At the Foundation's Annual Meeting, held on March 7 at Tunxis@Bristol, the board of directors reelected four members with terms to expire in 2017. Those directors are: Valerie DePaolo of Southington; Val Dumais of Plainville; David England of Tunxis Community College; and Barbara Fontaine of Bristol. "The Board of Directors plays a crucial role in guiding the Foundation's work," said Sadecki. "We're grateful for their valuable expertise as we head into the next year."

For full fund descriptions, please visit [www.mainstreetfoundation.org](http://www.mainstreetfoundation.org)

### A Picture of Children & Families in Our Communities

6.4 percent of Bristol families live below the poverty level and impoverished families mean impoverished communities. 14.1 percent of families in Plainville use SNAP and thus are able to eat healthier. 9.5 percent of Plymouth residents face unemployment meaning less stability for children and families.

The needs of local children and families, and the challenges they face are outlined in a study that communities, individuals and service providers can use for program planning, evaluation and advocacy.

The study, supported by Main Street Community Foundation, examines emerging problems and trends in the towns served by the Foundation and how they compare to the state of Connecticut by looking at data related to early care and education, family economic security, health, housing, population demographics and school discipline. Findings included:

- Mirroring Connecticut, all six towns are facing an aging workforce and employers are struggling to find enough skilled workers.

- The unemployment rate in Bristol, Plymouth and Wolcott is higher than the state average.
- 12 percent of Bristol children live in poverty, compared to 10 percent in Plainville, 7.5 percent in Plymouth, 4 percent in Southington and Burlington and 2.5 percent in Wolcott. The statewide average is 12.6 percent.
- The percentage of students in 3rd Grade reading at or above goal is lower in Bristol (46.1 percent) and Plainville (53.7 percent) than the state (57 percent).
- At 41 percent, Bristol has the highest percentage of births to mothers enrolled in the state's HUSKY insurance program for low-income infants and mothers. In Plymouth, the rate is 33.5 percent; in Plainville, 27 percent; in Southington, 24 percent; in Wolcott, 23.5 percent; and in Burlington, 14 percent.

Eight community foundations in Connecticut, including Main Street Community Foundation, cofunded the study, which was conducted by New Haven-based research and advocacy group Connecticut Voices for Children.

A complete copy of the presentation is available for download on the Foundation's website under "News".



### Your Gift Makes a Difference!

As you plan your 2014 charitable giving, kindly consider adding MSCF to your list of supported non-profit organizations this year. Send your gift today by mail or give online at

[www.MainStreetFoundation.org](http://www.MainStreetFoundation.org)



Thank you!