

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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 Newsletter Editor - Susan D. Sadecki • Contributions by Jeanine Audette, Kimberly Lewis and Samantha Rajotte
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A Newsletter for Friends of the Main Street Community Foundation

Fall 2015

PEOPLE OF VISION



Dr. Joan Wallace

Fund Turns a Dream into a Reality

One moment, one award, changed her life. She had a dream and set a goal. "When I received the Eva M. Bissell Scholarship at Southington's Lewis High School in 1947, I decided

that I wanted to provide a scholarship someday," explained Dr. Joan Wallace.

In 2014, Dr. Wallace made that dream a reality. Through an IRA charitable rollover gift, she established the *Dr. Joan T. Wallace Prize for Highest Achievement in English at Southington High School* at Main Street Community Foundation to recognize and promote excellence in all areas of the English Language Arts. A scholarship will be awarded annually to the graduating senior at Southington High School with the highest GPA in English/Language Arts who is pursuing post-secondary education at a college or university.

Dr. Wallace is a lifelong learner and lover of the English language, especially its literature. "The scholarship I received was not enough

to fully fund my education, but it certainly helped," she said. "My parents struggled through the Great Depression. They had four children and could not afford to send me to college. I had to pay my own way." Dr. Wallace worked at a department store and babysat to make her first tuition payments. "At the time, I paid \$21 quarterly, which may not seem like a lot now." According to the US Census, the average annual family income in 1947 was \$3,000. "My biggest costs, in addition to the tuition, were bus transportation, books, and clothing."

Over the course of the following three decades, Dr. Wallace earned her advanced degrees at Central Connecticut State University and the University of Connecticut. She achieved those milestones while working, raising five children, and volunteering in her community. After she earned her A.S. in Business, she worked as a clerk and assistant to the Business Manager at CCSU until 1957. She began her teaching career in the 1970's while pursuing her B.A. and M.A. degrees. During this time, she gained valuable experience in 7th through 12th grade English classrooms. Upon earning her PhD from

the University of Connecticut in 1987, she became Southington's first Coordinator of English Language Arts and served in that position until her retirement in 1997.

"One of my goals was to visit every classroom in every school over the course of the eleven years I served as Coordinator of English Language Arts. I worked directly with students on reading, writing, and test taking strategies." Dr. Wallace led curriculum and staff development initiatives that were focused on achieving Connecticut Mastery Test goals. She empowered teachers by including them in decision-making throughout the process.

Dr. Wallace is very committed to the Southington community, both professionally and personally. The Main Street Community Foundation was able to provide a vehicle for Dr. Wallace's long-term philanthropic goal. By establishing a merit based scholarship fund with criteria that she deemed important, she will help other students carry on the same tradition of self-determination and excellence.



THE MAIN EVENT: CELEBRATING OUR COMMUNITY ROOTS



We had so much fun celebrating the Foundation's 20th anniversary

on September 12, 2015, at Hill-Stead Museum in Farmington! Over 220 people attended the farm-to-table gathering. Proceeds from the event will support the Money in Motion Fund at the Foundation to advance community



leadership initiatives. Presenting sponsors were Barnes Group Foundation

and Merrill Lynch Wealth Management. THANK YOU to all of the sponsors; the attendees; the local businesses who supported the event through ads and donations; and the Main Event Committee for making this event a success! Appreciation goes out to Tunxis Plantation Country Club for providing the hydrangeas for the centerpieces and Gresczyk Farms for the locally grown vegetables.

For more photos of the memorable evening, visit the Foundation's Facebook page, www.facebook.com/MainStreetCommunityFoundation.



Live Auction Bidders



MSCF founders from left to right: Ed Lorenson, Jeanne Radcliff, Terry Fletcher and John Smith.



Susan Sadecki with the co-chairs of the event, Dawn Nielsen, left, and Kris Dargenio, right. Thank you to the co-chairs of the event!

If you wish to no longer receive a print newsletter, contact the Foundation office to be removed from the mailing list. Thank you.

www.mainstreetfoundation.org
 fax 860.589.1252
 tel. 860.583.6363
 P.O. Box 2702
 Bristol, CT 06011-2702
 120 Halcyon Drive



WOMEN & GIRLS' FUND



Fund Keeps Woman's Spirit of Giving Alive

Donna Borysewicz was losing her courageous battle with a chronic disease. A Plymouth resident, Donna, despite the many challenges she faced, was always the first to lend a helping hand, share her infectious laugh, offer words of support and always a hug. Jeanine Audette, a member of the Women & Girls' Fund Advisory Board and one of Donna's dearest friends, suggested establishing a fund at Main Street Community Foundation in her honor.

While the mission of the Women & Girls' Fund (WGF) is to help local women and girls obtain the skills they need to lead successful lives, the WGF established an immediate response fund in 2002 to help women and girls going through challenges in their lives that need assistance. The immediate response fund has helped women going through medical emergencies; seniors who need help fixing an unexpected issue in their home;



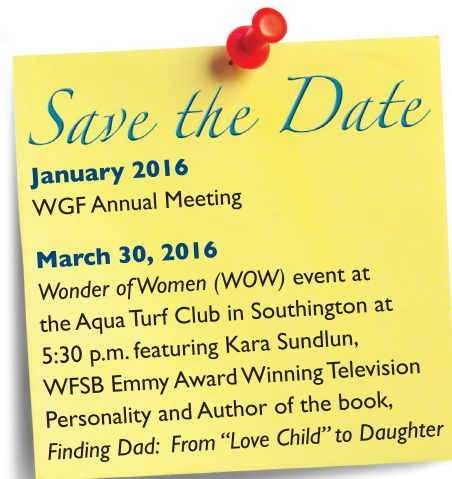
Donna Borysewicz

and girls who would benefit from attending summer camp. The stories are endless and often heart wrenching. Donna, with support from her family, decided she wanted to establish a fund to support the Women & Girls' Immediate Response Fund. In 2014, the Immediate Response Fund awarded over \$3,500 in grants to support local women and girls in need of immediate assistance. The *Donna Borysewicz Fund for Women* will keep her spirit and passion for helping others, especially women and children, alive forever.

This is not the first time that a named fund has been established to support initiatives identified by another fund at the Community Foundation. In 2011, in celebration of the

Women & Girls' Fund's 10th anniversary, the Barbara Hackman Franklin Fund for Women and the John & Gloria DiFrancesco Fund for Women and Girls were established in honor of those named in the fund by their families. Both funds provide distributions to support initiatives identified by the Women & Girls' Fund, which awarded over \$36,000 to 12 local organizations in 2014.

Consider honoring an individual, or family, you cherish by establishing a fund to ensure their legacy will be honored in perpetuity.



THE WOMEN & GIRLS' FUND WILL BE CELEBRATING 15 YEARS IN 2016!

INSIDE VIEW

Friends Enjoy the Foundation's New Home

Every dollar you donate and every minute you volunteer improves the quality of life for present and future generations in your community.

Foundation supporters who have done just that were honored on June 25 at the Foundation's annual Friends Reception. Hosted by the Board of Directors, the reception was held at the Foundation's new office – 120 Halcyon Drive in Bristol. Guests were treated to culinary creations by Brenda Antuna of Martino's Italian Market in Bristol.



2015 Friends Reception

"Everything the Foundation has accomplished was made possible by our many donors and volunteers, especially those who support the annual Friends Campaign," Susan Sadecki, President & CEO of the Foundation said. "So many people give their time, talent and treasure to ensure that our communities thrive, today and in the future."

Please make a donation to our annual Friends Campaign as you plan your year-end charitable giving.

10 Choose MSCF as their Philanthropic Vehicle

Immediate needs, community development and higher education. Local families and individuals established 10 new funds to support those charitable interests and more in the first nine months of 2015.

"The variety of causes these new funds address show the benefits of working through a community foundation," says Susan Sadecki, President & CEO. "Our new fundholders have a vision; we look forward to helping them fulfill it."

The newly established funds, which bring the total funds established since the Foundation's founding in 1995 to 204, are:

- Stanley P. Bitel Memorial Fund
- Donna Borysewicz Fund for Women
- Mama Sandy Caggiano Fund
- Jeffrey Downes Memorial Truck Driving Scholarship Fund

- David Greenleaf Academic Achievement Award
- Kristen's Kause Fund
- Malerbo Volleyball Court Fund
- The One Ride
- Jean Sorey Fund for Single Parent Families
- Eva Wickwire Volunteer Scholarship Fund

For the stories of these funds, as well as the other funds, visit www.mainstreetfoundation.org.



Thank you for making a difference in your community!

GRANTS IN ACTION

20 GRANTS IN 20 DAYS

Celebrating 20 Years of Giving in Your Community...by Giving Back

You may have heard – this year is Main Street Community Foundation's 20th anniversary! In recognition of this milestone, the Foundation's Board of Directors decided to give presents back to your communities by surprising 20 nonprofit organizations with \$1,000 grants.

These surprise grants, part of a special grant program *20 Grants in 20 Days*, were awarded to nonprofit organizations located in and impacting the communities of Bristol, Burlington, Plainville, Plymouth, Southington and Wolcott.

"The grants were awarded from the Bristol Savings Bank Fund, which was the very first fund established after the Foundation was founded in 1995," stated Susan Sadecki, President & CEO of the Foundation.

"Distributing 20 grants from this Fund is a great way to give back while recognizing our community roots."

During the month of June, members of Main Street Community Foundation's staff and Board of Directors met with community leaders in the six communities to discuss 501(c)(3) organizations that are making an impact in your town and on your neighbors.

"The Foundation's Board of Directors took the community leaders' thoughts and began their own intense deliberation process," stated Sadecki. "The resulting grants will make a great impact on you and your neighbors."

The number of grants each community was awarded was based on the city or town's population size. The grant awards were made in numerous areas including arts and culture; health and human services; the environment; education; and community development. The use of the awards is at the discretion of each organization.

The **Bristol** organizations that were selected to receive grants are:

- Bristol Community Organization, Inc
- Bristol Veterans Council
- Connecticut Lions Eye Research Foundation, Inc.
- Imagine Nation A Museum Early Learning Center
- Parent and Child Center at Bristol Hospital, Inc.
- Saint Vincent DePaul Mission of Bristol, Inc.
- Shepard Meadows Therapeutic Riding Center, Inc.

The **Burlington** organizations that were selected to receive grants are:

- Burlington Land Trust, Inc.
- Lewis S. Mills High School Crew Booster Club, Inc.

The **Plainville** organizations that were selected to receive grants are:

- PARC Inc. Plainville
- Plainville Community Food Pantry, Inc.
- Plainville Historical Society, Inc.

The **Plymouth** organizations that were selected to receive grants are:

- Plymouth Community Food Pantry
- Town of Plymouth Volunteer Ambulance Corps

The **Southington** organizations that were selected to receive grants are:

- The Arc of Southington Inc.
- Bread for Life, Inc.
- Margaret C. Griffin Child Development Center of Southington
- United Way of Southington, Inc.

The **Wolcott** organizations that were selected to receive grants are:

- Wolcott Crossroads, Inc.
- Wolcott Resource Center

To see more photos and to learn a little more about the grantees, visit the Foundation's Facebook page at www.facebook.com/MainStreetCommunityFoundation.

GRANTS IN ACTION

