

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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Director of Programs & Community Relations

Nicole Downes
Accountant

Samantha R. Rajotte
Program Associate



A Newsletter for Friends of the Main Street Community Foundation

Spring 2013

GRANTS IN ACTION

Grant Supports Technical-Based Education and Career Pathways

In April 2013, 18 guidance and career counselors representing every high school in Bristol, Burlington, Plainville, Plymouth, Southington and Wolcott attended a workshop at the Connecticut Center for Advanced Technology (CCAT) in East Hartford funded by the Main Street Community Foundation. The all-day workshop focused on STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) and manufacturing related careers and education in Connecticut. This professional development opportunity was made possible through the Foundation's Money in Motion initiative, a new community leadership approach undertaken by the Foundation's Board of Directors to identify community issues and develop collaborative solutions.



joined with other individuals, groups and businesses to initiate activities to help address key issues in the communities served by the Foundation: Bristol, Burlington, Plainville, Plymouth, Southington and Wolcott. Since mid-2012, a subcommittee of the Board of Directors committed themselves to exploring ways to alleviate the shortage of skilled technical workers in our communities as well as enhance the success of students pursuing post-secondary educational opportunities. David Gaignard, Technology Education Teacher at Plainville High School who attended the April workshop stated that "it is apparent that the Foundation is committed to the current and future success of Connecticut's workforce."

The Money in Motion committee first convened superintendents and other school representatives from all local school districts as well as guidance and career counselors to discuss current

programs and future opportunities. The committee has also convened business owners and professional associations to grasp their needs and current initiatives in the area of technical-based education. All groups were in agreement that students have not been as exposed to careers in manufacturing and other technical fields as they could be, and overall feedback regarding this initiative has been extremely positive.

To specifically address the perception of manufacturing careers, and the education needed to be successful in one, Main Street Community Foundation funded the CCAT-led workshop for area guidance and career counselors so they could bring pivotal information on careers and education



"Grants in Action" continued on page 3

PEOPLE OF VISION

An Exceptional Woman Honored

Jarre Betts is an exceptional woman. In her personal life as well her professional life, she has demonstrated just that by dedicating herself to positively impacting and influencing the community. Jarre, Main Street Community Foundation's Director of Programs & Community Relations, was one of seven women honored by the Queen Ann Nzinga Center on March 23, 2013 at the Center's fourth annual Exceptional Women Celebration.

The Exceptional Women Celebration honors Women's History Month and features live musical performances, poetry, dance and tributes to the honorees. The Queen Ann Nzinga Center serves Bristol, New Britain and Plainville by promoting positive youth development through educational and performance based programs.

Congratulations, Jarre, on this very special honor and thank you for all the work you do to better our communities!



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WOMEN & GIRLS' FUND

Annual Event Gathers 400 in Support of Women and Girls

Four-hundred people gathered at the Aqua Turf Club on April 22 for the 12th annual Wonder of Women (WOW) event hosted by the Women & Girls' Fund at the Main Street Community Foundation. The attendees enjoyed a fun night out in support of women and girls living in our local communities. A fabulous silent auction included over fifty donated items ranging from jewelry to gift certificates to an original painting. The highlight of the evening was indeed the remarks from Grace Killelea, this year's funny and inspiring guest speaker.

"Grace was the perfect selection for this year's WOW event. She truly embodies the mission of the fund which is to improve the quality of life for all women and girls in the communities we serve," stated this year's WOW event co-chairs, EJ Conlin and Sandi Perillo.



Guest Speaker Grace Killelea, center, with WOW Event Co-Chairs Sandi Perillo and EJ Conlin.

For over 15 years, Grace has been keenly focused on developing, supporting, mentoring, and connecting women. She is Founder and CEO of Half The Sky Leadership, a company dedicated to helping women advance and thrive as leaders. As a keynote speaker, Grace has inspired thousands of women to transcend their perceived limitations for business and personal success.

The Women & Girls' Fund at Main Street Community Foundation focuses on advancing opportunities for women and girls in Bristol, Burlington, Plainville, Plymouth, Southington and Wolcott. This year's WOW event raised close to \$50,000 and the Fund expects to increase this year's fall grant awards as well as to continue to build its endowment. Last year the Fund distributed \$25,000 in program grants to eight organizations in the local communities.

Many thanks to all sponsors and attendees and especially this year's four presenting sponsors: Barnes Group Inc., First Niagara, KPMG LLP, and MassMutual. To see a full list of sponsors, visit www.mainstreetfoundation.org.

We hope you will join us for next year's WOW event to be held on April 28, 2014!



Women and Girls' Fund of the Main Street Community Foundation

AN INSIDE VIEW

New Year Brings New Board Leadership

At February's annual meeting, Janis L. Neri of Southington was elected to serve as Chairman of the Main Street Committee Foundation for 2013-2015. Other officers elected are John A. Letizia as Vice Chair, Robert Caiaze as Secretary, John D. Scarriff as Treasurer and William J. Tracy, Jr. as Past Board Chair.

In addition to new officers, the Foundation's Board of Directors welcomed four new Board members.

They are:

David Aldieri of Bristol, a certified appraiser and licensed real estate agent who is an owner of Aldieri Associates, Inc. located in Bristol. He has served on the Main Street Community Foundation Finance Committee since 2009, is a past president of the Bristol Rotary Club, a current board member of Bristol Boys & Girls Club and Family Center and member of various community committees.



Todd Burton of Wolcott, the Assistant VP and Regional Manager for Thomaston Savings Bank. He has served on the Main Street Community Foundation Asset Development Committee since 2011 and is active in various community activities in Wolcott. Todd also represents his employer on several community, civic and professional organizations.



Kristine Dargenio of Plainville, she was the lead organizer in Plainville to design and fundraise for the building of a skate park at Norton Park. Kris is active on several Plainville community committees including the YMCA/Healthy Plainville Coalition, Project Graduation and Plainville Downtown Beautification Committee. She is the past president of the Plainville Junior Women's Club.



Jeffrey Sonenstein of Burlington, the President of Globe Travel Service in Bristol. Jeff has served on the Main Street Community



Foundation Scholarship Committee since 2008. He is also a past chair of the Central CT Chambers of Commerce and member of numerous community committees.

We look forward to working with this dedicated and diverse group of people who give generously of their time, talent and treasure.

Foundation Welcomes New Staff

Nicole Downes joined Main Street Community Foundation in January 2013 as the Accountant. She has a Bachelor of Science in Accounting from Post University and a Master of Science in Accounting from UCONN. Nicole has four years of non-profit accounting experience and is currently an adjunct professor at Tunxis Community College where she teaches accounting classes. Nicole oversees the financial administration of funds and is the principal communicator for financial matters and staffs the Audit, Finance and Investment Committees. Nicole resides in Torrington.



New Funds to Benefit the Community

Main Street Community Foundation welcomed the following new funds in 2013 to bring the total funds established since the Foundation's founding in 1995 to 172:

- Wally Barnes Fund for Community Leadership Initiatives
- Calvanese Foundation Green & White Fund for Behavioral Health
- Samuel Goodsell Park and Playground Fund

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

Thank you to the donors who established these funds.

Nonprofit Capacity Building Program: 2013 Nonprofit Education Series

The Foundation has partnered with two local organizations to offer its **Nonprofit Education Series** for the fourth consecutive year. Deborah Polydys, principal of Strategic Management Resources LLC, a business advisory firm in Southington, and the Association of Fundraising Professionals Connecticut Chapter (AFP) will offer workshops and web/audioconferences, respectively, on topics of interest to enhance the development and knowledge of nonprofit professionals and volunteers. There will be a total of four workshops with Deb Polydys and three web/audioconferences with AFP, each independent of the others.

All sessions with Deb Polydys and AFP will take place 1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. at Tunxis@Bristol, located at 430 North Main Street in Bristol, CT. All sessions are offered at no charge to local nonprofits.

Remaining workshops and web/audioconferences for 2013 are as follows:

- **Tuesday, June 18 - Online Success Strategies, Tools & Trade Secrets 101 - Presented by AFP**
- **Thursday, September 12 - You Have Your Strategic Plan. Now What? - Presented by Deborah Polydys**
- **Thursday, October 10 - Harness The Power of Proactive Communications To Educate & Influence Your Community - Presented by Deborah Polydys**
- **Thursday, November 7 - Effective Campaigns: The Design, Content and Delivery of Effective Email Campaigns - Presented by AFP**



For more information or to pre-register, contact Samantha Rajotte, Program Associate at samantha@mainstreetfoundation.org or at 860-583-6363. Information is also available at www.mainstreetfoundation.org.



"Grants in Action" continued

back to their students and school districts. The pre- and post-workshop evaluation survey results were astounding; they showed that the guidance and career counselors did take many things away from the course in terms of STEM related careers. "This was an incredibly valuable experience. Knowing there is such a demand in the manufacturing industry, and there is such a clear and available pathway into it is a real eye opener," stated Larry

Hochman, Career Counselor at Bristol Eastern High School.

If you would like to make a positive difference in the community and support Main Street Community Foundation's community leadership initiatives, contact the Community Foundation to learn how.



Your Gift Makes a Difference!

Thank you! Main Street Community Foundation surpassed its goal for the 2012 Friends Campaign, which supports the ongoing work and community leadership activities of the Foundation. Thank you for your continued support!

As you plan your 2013 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

Thank you!