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# Main Street Community Foundation says accreditation shows high standards

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Apr 3, 2025



Susan Sadecki, President and CEO of Main Street Community Foundation  
FILE

BRISTOL – The Main Street Community Foundation has again achieved a three-year accreditation from the Community Foundations National Standards program, which establishes legal, ethical, effective practices for community foundations.

Samantha Rajotte, scholarship & program officer with the Main Street Community Foundation, said that the Community Foundations National Standards program accreditation is “the nation’s highest standard for philanthropic excellence.”

The foundation has been continually in compliance with these national standards since its first accreditation in 2006, and will now remain accredited until its renewal in 2028.

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“This distinction is a significant accomplishment that indicates MSCF’s commitment to transparency, quality, integrity, and accountability as it carries out its mission,” she said.

The accreditation program is made by and for community foundations and requires community foundations to document their policies for donor services, investments, grantmaking and administration. Accredited community foundations must meet the program’s 26 national standards, including how the foundation honors the charitable intentions of its donors and identifies and addresses community opportunities and needs.

There more than 900 community foundations nationwide, Rajotte said. Of those, more than 550 have received accreditation.

Susan Sadecki, president and CEO of the Main Street Community Foundation, said that while there are federal and state laws that all community foundations must adhere to, this voluntary accreditation process “demonstrates MSCF’s willingness and commitment to go above and beyond those requirements and illustrates its dedication to excellence.”

“This is critically important to our donors,” said Sadecki. “When people make a charitable bequest or establish a fund, they are putting their trust in us. They are counting on us to manage their gift wisely and honor their charitable wishes. The National Standards accreditation assures our communities we adhere to the best practices in our field.”

Main Street Community Foundation was founded by a group of community leaders in 1995 and their work has continued for 30 years through gift planning, stewardship of assets, grantmaking and community leadership.

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MSCF offers a range of charitable funds, allowing donors to advance a cause, support an individual organization, provide flexible support for community needs or recommend individual grants. Sadecki said that, in addition to affirming the organization’s philanthropic services, the accreditation “validates Main Street Community

Foundation’s grantmaking practices for the nonprofit community.”

For more information on National Standards for U.S. Community Foundation, visit [www.cfstandards.org](http://www.cfstandards.org).

To learn more about MSCF, visit [mainstreetfoundation.org](http://mainstreetfoundation.org) or call 860-583-6363.