

# Main Street Community Foundation awards more than \$160,000 in grants

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BRISTOL – The Main Street Community Foundation has awarded more than \$160,000 in grants to local organizations.

The grants, which total, \$165,635, were awarded through the Main Street Community Foundation's spring competitive grant cycle.

"A total of 49 organizations working to improve the lives of Bristol, Burlington, Plainville, Plymouth, Southington and Wolcott residents were awarded the grants," said Samantha Rajotte, scholarship & program officer with the Main Street Community Foundation.



Brian Johnson Staff Susan Sadecki, president and CEO of the Main Street Community Foundation.

Rajotte said that the Main Street Community Foundation "strives to bolster a variety of causes in the communities it serves, such as the arts, historic preservation, and youth athletics."

"It also assesses and supports other pressing needs in the communities, such as food insecurity, lack of resources for homeless and low income individuals, or people in domestic violence situations," she said.

Susan Sadecki, president and CEO of the Main Street Community Foundation, said that the general grant cycle this year saw a shift from emergency pandemic response to letting nonprofits once again submit applications for grants for a variety of projects that were important to them.

"We're still responding to the emerging needs in the community such as food insecurity, especially with rising costs and inflation, but we allowed applicants to not restrict themselves to a specific cause," she said.

Sadecki said that many items requested were those that had been postponed while emergency needs were addressed during the pandemic.

"We are fortunate that with the number of funds established over our 27 year history, we are able to assist with many of the program enhancements that our applicants are looking to put forward in what is hopefully a post-covid environment," Sadecki said.

Rajotte said that the annual spring general grant cycle supports all of these causes with distribution from more than 30 endowed funds that were established by donors to support what they are most passionate about.

"Grant applications for this cycle are submitted once a year, and they are thoughtfully reviewed by 24 local residents that make up the Community Foundation's volunteer Distribution Committee," she said. "The

Committee not only reviews all proposals, but also conducts site visits, and makes the final funding recommendations to the

Foundation's Board of Directors. All of this is to ensure that the grants awarded are feasible and align with the donor's intent."

Since its establishment in 1995, the Main Street Community Foundation has awarded grants and scholarships totaling more than \$23.4 million and is one of the leading grant-makers in the region.

The following grants were awarded in the 2022 General Grant Cycle:

. American Clock & Watch Museum - \$2,400, awarded through the Bristol Brass General Grant Fund, for the restoration of 3 stained glass windows from the E. Ingraham Clock Company to be displayed in the Ingraham Memorial wing.

. Animal Rescue Foundation, Inc. - \$3,000, awarded through the Elizabeth I. and Louis J. Matt Animal Protection Fund, for spay and neuter surgeries and emergent medical care for shelter cats and dogs.

. Army's Legacy Animal Rescue - \$1,000, awarded through the Elizabeth I. and Louis J. Matt Animal Protection Fund, for spay and neuter surgeries for homeless dogs in foster care.

. Boys & Girls Club of Bristol - \$6,000 for the "Be A Star" Mental Health Awareness and Bullying Intervention program, awarded through the Douglas and Noreen Schumann Special Interest Fund and Dumont Family Charitable Fund.

. Brian's Angels Homeless Outreach - \$2,000 to assist homeless clients to secure state issues identification cards, awarded through the Gnazzo/Reidy Charitable Fund.

. Bristol Adult Resource Center - \$3,650 for a commercial freezer for the Hidden Café, presented by the Pat & Bob Wollenberg Charitable Fund.

. Bristol Child Development Center - \$4,963 for operating support for summer day camp, provided to children ages 5-10 years old, presented by the Bristol Savings Bank Fund & Turkus Family Fund.

. Bristol Choral Society - \$1,700 for replacement of concert attire for members, presented by the Gnazzo/Reidy Charitable Fund.

. Bristol CT Little League - \$3,470 for the installation of irrigation system for Field 2 in Forestville, awarded through the Malerbo Children's Field Maintenance Fund.

. Bristol Girls Little League Softball - \$6,000 for the installation of safety netting along fencing to protect spectators, awarded through the Malerbo Children's Field Maintenance Fund.

. Bristol Historical Society - \$2,500 for archival boxes and shelving to ensure proper preservation of collection items, awarded through the Stephen and Katherine Saman Memorial Fund.

. Bristol Police Department - \$2,460 for care and maintenance of the Bristol Police emotional support dog and sensory kits to assist people in crisis, awarded through the Bristol Brass General Grant Fund & Tedesco-Gallant Charitable Fund.

. Bristol School Readiness Council - \$2,052 for mini voice amplifiers to improve student's language and speech development, awarded through the Fuller and Myrtle Barnes Fund for Education.

. Burlington Volunteer Fire Department - \$1,600 for two portable battery-powered light towers to illuminate an active scene and improve safety conditions, awarded through the James R. Parker Trust.

- . Community Counseling Centers of Central CT - \$2,050 for the Therapeutic Arts Group for teen girls, given through the Douglas and Noreen Schumann Special Interest Fund.
- . Early Childhood Collaborative of Southington - \$6,000 for the Conscious Discipline trauma-informed, social emotional program offered to families and childcare providers in Southington, presented through the KAWFY Memorial Fund.
- . Grace Baptist Church - \$3,420 for the Grace Pantry program to provide fresh food items including meat and produce, presented through the Edward W. and Audrey K. Mink Memorial Fund & Ronald F. & Emilie P. Duhaime Family Fund.
- . Healing Meals Foundation - \$3,440 for the Healthy Meals program providing nutritious, organic meals to low-income residents living with a serious health condition in the Foundation's service area, presented by the Pat & Bob Wollenberg Family Fund for the Community.
- . Human Resources Agency of New Britain - \$4,438 for operating support for the addition of a Bristol-based coordinator for the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program, awarded through the Bristol Savings Bank Fund.
- . Junior Achievement of Southwest New England, Inc. - \$3,500 for financial literacy, workforce readiness and entrepreneurship programming at Joseph A. DePaolo Middle School in Southington, awarded through the KAWFY Memorial Fund.
- . Junior Women's Club of Wolcott - \$2,000 for essential household items for women and children from Wolcott transitioning from a domestic violence emergency shelter to permanent housing, awarded from the Bristol Brass General Grant Fund.
- . Literacy Volunteers of Central CT - \$5,000 to the Greater Bristol Literacy Project serving low to moderate income residents in Bristol, Plainville and Burlington, awarded from the Bristol Brass General Grant Fund.
- . Lewis S. Mills High School Crew Booster Club - \$4,000 to Oars for the Kailey Prenoveau Memorial Boat, awarded from the James R. Parker Trust.
- . New Britain Museum of American Art - \$2,500 for the Access to the Arts program for Wolcott upper elementary public-school students, awarded from the Fuller and Myrtle Barnes Fund for Education.
- . Operation Fuel, Inc. - \$5,000 – Emergency energy assistance for low-income residents in the Foundation's service area, presented from the Bristol Savings Bank Fund & Bristol Brass General Grant Fund.
- . Plainville Community Food Pantry - \$2,940 for operating support for the intervention, outreach and referral program, presented from the Jim & Eleanor Frawley Community Fund.
- . Plymouth Community Food Pantry - \$5,000 for the Healthy Options Program Plus program to provide non-perishable dairy and produce to program clients, awarded from the Bristol Savings Bank Fund & Jaspersohn Family Memorial Fund.
- . Plymouth Volunteer Ambulance Corps – \$2,377 for the replacement of an Automated External Defibrillator (AED), presented from the Bristol Brass General Grant Fund & Karen and Kim Murphy Family Charitable Fund.
- . Productions for Change - \$1,870 for the creation of a promotional video for St. Vincent De Paul Mission of Bristol, presented by the Angela and Al Caruso Family Charitable Fund & Formagioni-Lodovico Family Fund.
- . Reach Out and Read - \$4,000 for the "Bristol Rx for Success!" literacy Initiative for children ages 0-5 in collaboration with local pediatric clinics, awarded by the Fuller and Myrtle Barnes Fund for Education &

Bristol Brass General Grant Fund.

- . Shepard Meadows Equestrian Center - \$4,500 for scholarships for military veterans to participate in horsemanship programs, awarded from the Bristol Brass General Grant Fund & Terry and Marguerite Fletcher Family Fund.
- . Southington Community Cultural Arts - \$2,798 for two potter wheels for the pottery program, awarded from the KAWFY Memorial Fund.
- . Southington Girls Softball League - \$2,000 for upgrades to Field 1 including drainage and grading, awarded from the KAWFY Memorial Fund and JoAnn & David Mills Family Fund.
- . Southington Public Schools – Family Resource Center of Southington - \$5,000 for Full STEAM Ahead school readiness program, awarded from the KAWFY Memorial Fund.
- . St. Vincent DePaul Mission of Bristol - \$5,175 for technology and related supplies for new Resource Room for use by clients, awarded from the Smith Family Charitable Fund.
- . Tabernacle Christian Church - \$4,000 for the Giving Back Food Pantry program to provide groceries and fresh foods to food-insecure residents of Southington and surrounding areas, awarded from the Bristol Brass General Grant Fund and KAWFY Memorial Fund.
- . Terryville Plymouth Little League - \$5,000 for concession Stand renovation and repair, awarded from the Bristol Brass General Grant Fund.
- . Terryville Public Library – 1,000 for the "Books before Kindergarten" literacy program, awarded from the Hamzy Family Charitable Fund.
- . The Children’s Museum, Inc. - \$2,500 for the Science Achievement for All program for K-8th grade students in Bristol public schools, from the Fuller and Myrtle Barnes Fund for Education.
- . The Family Center/Imagine Nation, A Museum Early Learning Center - \$5,000 for the Imagine Nation Inspires Life-Time Learners program including in-person workshops and community outreach program, awarded through the Bristol Brass General Grant Fund and Jay & Elizabeth Tyrrell Fund for the Arts.
- . The Palace Theater Group - \$2,500 for a Sschool performance of My Fair Lady at the Palace Theater for high school students from Bristol, Southington and Wolcott, awarded from the Bristol Savings Bank Fund and Southington Arts Council Legacy Fund.
- . The Salvation Army - \$5,000 for the Creative Arts and Music (CAM) Academy for Bristol youth, awarded from the Douglas and Noreen Schumann Special Interest Fund and Margaret Haberman Memorial Fund for Music.
- . Town of Burlington – Animal Control - \$752 for dog beds for the shelter, awarded from the James R. Parker Trust.
- . United Way of West Central Connecticut - \$3,000 for six new laptops for the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program, awarded from the Bristol Brass General Grant Fund and Pat & Bob Wollenberg Family Fund for the Community.
- . Veterans Strong Community Center - \$5,000 for operating support for direct outreach services for veterans in the communities served by the Foundation, awarded from the Bristol Brass General Grant Fund, Paige Wartonick Laferriere Memorial Fund and Becker Family Fund.
- . West Cemetery Association of Bristol CT - \$1,000 for operating support for technical assistance with application for the Stage Register of Historic Places, awarded from the Stephen and Katherine Saman

Memorial Fund.

. Wheeler Clinic - \$5,000 for operating support for a Peer Specialist in the Walk With Me program, a behavioral health treatment program for LGBTQ+ adolescents, awarded from the Bristol Brass General Grant Fund.

. Wolcott Citizens Against Substance Abuse (CASA) - \$1,500 for the CASA Family Togetherness Night program, awarded from the Pat & Bob Wollenberg Family Fund for the Community and Douglas and Noreen Schumann Special Interest Fund.

. Zion Lutheran Evangelical Church - \$2,980 for shelving and equipment for the Meals for Neighbors food pantry and soup kitchen, awarded from the Ciccarelli-Vitale Community Advancement Fund.