

Community Connections

SPRING
2022



Our Latino Community

Supporting our growing Latino community through the many challenges they are facing resulting from the pandemic, several visionary organizations have stepped up to fill the gap.



Recognizing John Gifford

John Gifford's experience in the planning and administration of estates and trusts extends over forty years. CFHV will celebrate his contribution and service to philanthropy in the Hudson Valley.

The Garden Party Is Back!

Our signature event, the Garden Party, is returning; a sure sign that our communities are springing back from the pandemic. The event, to be held at Boscobel on Sunday, September 18th, is a cause for celebration as we gather under the tent to acknowledge the service and philanthropy of local community and business leaders. Watch for your Save the Date Card, or check our website for information on ticket purchases.

Save The Date: September 18, 2022

Helping our Latino Community Rise Over Adversity

Throughout the pandemic, nonprofits, faith-based organizations, and community programs have filled the gaps in creative and impactful ways. Across our region, members of the Latino, Hispanic, immigrant, and refugee communities have faced challenges in accessing resources. This led local leaders and emerging organizations to come to CFHV with solutions. Three such organizations; Casa Comunitaria de Recursos (House of Community Resources), Casa De Dios y Puerta del Cielo (House of God and Doors to Heaven), and Reunite Migrant Families presented Community Foundations of the Hudson Valley with separate but collaborative proposals under our Community Grant and Jeannette F. Schlobach programs.

the early days of the pandemic. Casa De Dios y Puerta del Cielo provides nutritious, culturally appropriate food and seasonings to struggling families, individuals, people with disabilities, and veterans in Dutchess County. The goal is to help people recover from their crisis situations and feel supported.

Another effective organization, Reunite Migrant Families, welcomes immigrant and asylum-seeking individuals and families into our community by providing advocacy and ensuring basic needs are met. Led by Valerie Carlisle, Muriel Horowitz, and a devoted team of volunteers, Reunite Migrant Families receives referrals from Vega-Matthews, Perez, local pastors, and immigrant serving organizations to rally



Three groups stepping into the breach

The vision of Casa Comunitaria de Recursos' founder, Gabriela Vega-Matthews, is to bring tools to community members by providing information, education, civic knowledge, a central referral place for resources, and training requested by community members. Most of all - in a time when many feel vulnerable and marginalized - there is a need for a supportive place where the community can grow and support one another. Vega-Matthews works closely with Pastor Edith Perez of Casa De Dios y Puerta del Cielo, a faith-based organization that CFHV connected with during

resources needed to keep families safe and healthy while they await their asylum hearings, reconnect with family, and explore pathways to citizenship. Carlisle shared her gratitude for funding, but more importantly, for the pastors and people she has been able to work with. "We've been assured that our emergency assistance means so much to these people facing a crisis, but the fact that we care means even more. COVID-19 and hostility toward immigrants has made life difficult these past years. All they desire is to work, provide for themselves and their families, and to become US citizens."

Constructive support in a time of great need

These three organizations have helped many this year, including reuniting a Guatemalan teen with a local family member; supporting a mother of young children who became critically ill with COVID while her older child, who was completing her studies at Dutchess Community College, also had to cover her mother's cleaning jobs to provide for her younger siblings; helping a man with COVID and renal failure who couldn't afford his medications; and assuring a newly arrived Venezuelan woman received imperative oral surgery.

A recent and extensive collaboration has been working to meet the needs of a 10-year-old boy from Honduras who is confined to a wheelchair. There has been a huge common effort with the delivery of food and diapers, advocacy for school needs, transportation to specialists and hospitals, a trip to an embassy in Boston for documents, and help with translation. Having trusted, representative, and collaborative partners to be the voice of the community and meet the needs as they arise is critical. Cristin McPeake, CFHV's Vice President, Programs noted, "Investing in Latino leadership and shared, community-led programming is critical for change. We are fortunate to have an empowered community and passionate, dedicated leaders in the Hudson Valley."

The emerging organizations highlighted here are a piece of a larger landscape of churches and organizations uplifting our immigrant and refugee community. Other partners include Grace Immigrant Outreach, Iglesia Pentecostes, In Care Of, Casa Comunitaria, United Way of Dutchess and Orange Region, Poughkeepsie City School District, Dutchess Interfaith Council, Ulster Immigrant Defense Network, Adelante, Rural Migrant Ministry, Catholic Charities, Vassar College, Vassar Temple, Worker Justice Center of NY, Grannies Respond/ Abuelas Responden, and many others.



Recognition and Professional Education on Tap for May 24th

The Community Foundations 2022 Professional Advisors' Breakfast will celebrate John Gifford's commitment to Hudson Valley philanthropy.

Following our recognition of John, we are offering a continuing education session with Prof. Sam Donaldson. Sam is a Professor of Law at Georgia State University in Atlanta, an author, and a popular speaker on a wide variety of topics. His session titled ***"Solving Your Client's Puzzle: Tax and Estate Planning Amidst Uncertainty"*** will bring advisors up to date with this informative and entertaining recap of important developments in the federal income, estate, and gift tax laws.

Registration fee (breakfast included):

\$75/\$50 for members of Hudson Valley Estate Planning Council and NYS Society of CPAs.

Educational session qualifies for 3.5 CLE and CFP credit hours. CPE and CTFA accreditation are pending.



Scan this QR Code to register for visit the url below.

communityfoundationshv.org/events

Co-sponsors of the event include:
Hudson Valley Estate Planning Council
and Community Foundation of Orange
and Sullivan Counties



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Springing into Action

It's a cliché, but the longer and warmer days of Spring signal new beginnings and rebirth in the Hudson Valley. You and your support for our work have helped our community through two Covid-challenged years. Given effective vaccines and testing, we are looking forward to connecting with you in person.

In May our professional advisors breakfast will honor the incomparable John Gifford, Esq. John is an invaluable ambassador. Aside from referring clients to us as they consider charitable giving as part of their estate plans, John is a former trustee, and his role has continued as our legal advisor. In addition to recognizing John, we are also offering a continuing education session with Professor Sam Donaldson.

In September, the Garden Party returns, and we will be celebrating at Boscobel in Garrison. I invite you to join us under the tent as we cheer the impact of local philanthropy. Our honorees - Tay Fisher, Fred and Anne Osborn, and Joan Sherman - are all inspiring examples of the impact that generous, every day people have in our community.

I'm reluctant to end on a somber note, but as we witness the bravery of the Ukrainian people in the face of Russia's invasion, many of you have supported humanitarian relief efforts from your donor advised funds. We are grateful for all that you are doing to help.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sally J. Cross".

Sally J. Cross, CFRE
President & CEO