

Community Connections

50

Responding Today | Investing in Tomorrow

Winter 2019

1969 | 2019

A Pitch-Perfect Partnership



An anonymous donor and champion for the arts established the Poughkeepsie Boys' Choir Fund in 2000. Inspired by the Harlem Boys' Choir, the intention was to promote musical excellence for young men in inner-city Poughkeepsie. Fostered by the Catharine Street Community Center, the choir gained traction, including a performance for then senator-elect Hillary Rodham Clinton at Val-Kill.

When the Catharine Street program sunsetted, Community Foundations staff sought an alternative to fulfill the donors' wishes. *"Like any instrument, charitable funds may need a tune-up over time,"* said Cristin McPeake, Vice President of Programs. *"We were excited to identify a new avenue for achieving the fund's purpose."*

Around that time, Executive Director Kevin White of the Boys & Girls Club reached out to discuss resources and opportunities for the soon-to-be-opened Poughkeepsie Club. With the anonymous donor in mind, CFHV suggested choral group Cappella Festiva as a potential partner.

The two organizations came together to determine how they could bring programming to the Club – which would allow every interested student to participate.

With the donors' blessing, the collaborative plan moved forward. *"It was a pleasure to bring together the interests of the funder with the expertise of both organizations,"* said McPeake.

In its inaugural year, the program brought 35 students into contact with choral performance on a weekly basis. Comprising nearly half of the Boys & Girls Club afterschool participants, interest in the program continues to grow.

"Arts are essential to learning and development," noted Christine Howlett, Artistic Director of Cappella Festiva. *"But with limited resources, it can be challenging to make them available. We are thrilled to be part of this solution."*

"It is an exceptional opportunity to bring children into direct contact with the music, where they live. Thanks to this partnership, our kids experienced music all year long," said White.

Letter from The President and CEO



Dear Friends,

I often feel like the luckiest person in the Hudson Valley. My job is to help good people be generous, improving lives and communities throughout the region. Beyond that I may also be the most fortunate to work with, and for each of you.

Why? Because you express your commitment to community in myriad ways – through your generosity, your leadership, your volunteerism and your work. Because you have partnered with us to invest in the well-being of our community for 50 years. **Thank you.**

I hope you will join us as we reminisce on what our forebears set in motion – and dream on what we will create for the future. Our latest newsletter celebrates both past and present, while highlighting how we work together for the benefit of all.

Whether you're wondering how we can help to achieve your charitable aims (see A Pitch Perfect Partnership), how to strategically give (You Asked Staff), how friends like you are making a difference (Community Impact) or what we have achieved together in 50 years – you are at the center of our story.

Here's to you and our work together for all, forever!

March S. Gallagher, Esq.
President and CEO



Gerald Berlimer

Second Chance Foods, Inc.

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You Asked Staff:

“With changes to tax law, what’s the smartest way for me to give this year?”

Sally Cross, Vice President of Philanthropy answered:

Think it through >

What is your charitable giving plan? Who do you plan to support and for how much? What’s your tax situation? Will you be able to itemize deductions?

> The tax bill nearly doubled the standard deduction. Now you need more than \$12,000 for individuals or \$24,000 for couples in deductions to enjoy itemizing.

> Do your deductions, including state and local taxes (up to \$10,000), charitable gifts, home mortgage interest, and some medical expenses add up to the new threshold?

That said, are you itemizing?

Yes, then consider:

1. Giving appreciated securities. You won’t pay capital gains tax that would be due if you sold them, and you receive a charitable income tax deduction for fair market value at the time of your gift.
2. Giving cash. Your check or credit gift is eligible for a charitable income tax deduction, up to 60% of your Adjusted Gross Income.

No, then consider:

1. Giving from your IRA RMD if you are over 70 ½. You can give up to \$100,000 directly to a public charity, including the Community Foundations’ Fund for the Hudson Valley, or any designated fund (except donor advised funds). The amount that you give won’t increase your taxable income or your Medicare Part B premiums.
2. Recommending grants from your donor advised fund. If you don’t already have a Community Foundations donor advised fund, consider “bunching” this year. Give enough cash or appreciated stock to allow you to itemize your income tax deductions. Then you can complete your giving plan from your donor advised fund this year and in the future.

And always consult with your financial or tax advisor to determine the best approach for you.

Community Impact

Grants from the following funds supported 162 local, national and international nonprofits. For the full list, please look online at <http://bit.ly/FallGrants18>

- Adelante Donor Advised Fund
- Anonymous Donor Advised Fund # 1
- Anonymous Fund
- Applewood Farm Fund
- Melissa D. Bisaccia Memorial Donor Advised Fund
- Florence and Theodore Budnik Fund
- Bunnell Family Donor Advised Fund
- Carroll and Wieck Charitable Fund
- Thomas and Irene Chalmers Youth Development Fund
- Charlie Carroll Music Enrichment Fund
- City of Poughkeepsie PBA Charitable Fund
- Cross Hahn Family Fund
- The Dates Fund
- Jill Battistoni Dickett Memorial Fund
- William and Sadie Effron Fund
- Fischer Belville Fund
- Foundation for Community Health Fund
- Gellert Family Donor Advised Fund
- Clara Lou Gould Fund for the Arts
- Stanley and Bette Greenwald Fund

- Bernard and Shirley Handel Foundation Donor Advised Fund
- Hudson Valley Radiologists PC Fund
- Roberto and Nicole Hull Family Fund
- Hyde Park Rotary Clifford - Ulrich Fund
- Khurana Family Fund
- James and Elizabeth Manion Charitable Fund
- Dan and Mary Mullan Fund
- The Noel and Armanda Fund
- NoVo Fund
- John and Nancy O’Shea Charitable Fund
- Rainy Day Fund
- Rhinebeck Grange P of H 896 Fund
- Rhinebeck Rotary Club Fund
- Judith Riedeberg Memorial Donor Advised Fund
- William F. Ritcheske Donor Advised Fund
- Jerome and Stella Rossi Family Donor Advised Fund
- Stephen Saikin-Frank E. Lucente Fund
- Irving and Gloria Schlossberg Family Fund
- Jonah Sherman Family Fund
- Virginia L. Starke Donor Advised Fund
- Stevens Family Fund
- Stinchcomb Family Fund
- William and Marcella Teahan Memorial Fund
- Peter and Ermina Van Kleeck Family Fund
- Helen Mary Alice Watkins Donor Advised Fund

Nonprofit Spotlight:

SNUG is an evidence-based street outreach program drawn on the Cure Violence Model, which treats gun violence like a disease by identifying its causes and interrupting its transmission. The program focuses on youth between the ages of 14 and 24 who are at high risk for involvement with gun violence. The SNUG team develops and implements risk-reduction strategies to reduce that involvement with the goal of saving lives and helping individuals turn their lives around.



Their community outreach efforts include block parties, back to school picnics and community clean-up days. A program of Family Services, you can learn more by visiting FamilyServicesNY.org, or their Facebook page: [Family Services SNUG](#).



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50
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1969 | 2019

Founded in 1969, We are Now 69,900% Stronger

Founded in 1969 with a grant of \$100,000, the Community Foundations is now 50 years old and holds more than \$70 million in assets. Thanks to generous community members like you and the wisdom of our forebears, we are serving more people than ever before.

Together you and fellow community members have made:

- \$51,370,584** in grants awarded to **1,404** nonprofits
- 881** classroom enhancing grants to empower teachers and countless students
- \$4,617,661** in scholarship awards to **2,443** students
- 24** Garden Parties successful – celebrating philanthropy and awarding grants to local nonprofits
- 420** Field Trips providing experiential learning to **55,690** students



Thank you! More than numbers could quantify, you have improved lives throughout the region. Together, we can continue the vital work of *Responding Today, Investing in Tomorrow*. Help us by supporting our most flexible, region-wide grantmaking fund: the Fund for the Hudson Valley. Your gift to the Fund for the Hudson Valley will transform our community for all, forever.

