

Community Connections

WINTER
2023



Getting to the heart of it

Community Grants are the Foundations' most accessible and broad-based competitive grant program offered. They are the heart and soul of our programs, and the process gives our staff, and the committee volunteers, the opportunity to see and respond to the current needs in our community with general operating and program support grants of up to \$5,000. The requests received this past year exceeded expectations with both their innovative solutions and in the funds available to grant. Thanks to our growing Community Grant endowment funds, annual community champions, Garden Party supporters and generous donors, CFHV granted over \$130,000 to 42 organizations.

Dutchess County

Abilities First, Inc., Arts Mid-Hudson, Center of Compassion, Common Ground Farm, Community Action Partnership for Dutchess County, Inc., Dutchess County Pride Center, Dutchess Outreach, Fareground Community Kitchen, Inc., Finish Strong Wellness Center, Howland Chamber Music Circle, Hudson Valley ReEntry Network, Mediation Center of Dutchess County, Inc., Mid Hudson Aquatics Inc, Mid-Hudson Discovery Museum, Inc., People USA, Ramapo for Children, Rebuilding Together Dutchess County, Unshattered, Wassaic Project, YIT FOUNDATION

Community Foundations of the Hudson Valley
Grant Recipients along with President and Chief
Executive Officer, Sally Cross, and Vice President of
Programs, Cristin McPeake.

Putnam County

Ecological Citizen's Project, Garrison Art Center, Manitoga/
The Russel Wright Design Center, Philipstown Behavioral
Health Hub in partnership with the Village of Cold Spring,
Putnam History Museum, Second Chance Foods

Ulster County

Afghan Circle of the Hudson Valley, Arm of the Sea
Productions, Inc., Catholic Charities of Orange, Sullivan,
and Ulster, Center for Creative Education, Circle of Friends
for the Dying, Hudson Valley LGBTQ Community Center,
Maya Gold Foundation, Old Dutch Church, People's Place,
Phillies Bridge Farm Project, Inc., Resource Center for
Accessible Living, Inc., Rosendale Theatre, TRANSART and
Cultural Services, Inc., Ulster County Community Action
Committee, Inc, Ulster Immigrant Defense Network, Inc,
Ulster Literacy Association



The President's Corner

What inspires you?

I'm inspired by you - your stories about why you choose to give back to better our community, and about the difference your gifts make. Do you have a charitable inspiration story that you would like to share? We'd love to hear it.

Equally inspiring are the stories of grant recipients who tell us the difference your support has made in their work. At our December celebrations for Community Grant Recipients, we heard from many, the impact that you helped make possible.

These grants offer flexible funds for an organizations' current needs. The work that they support is as diverse as our region - from social services to arts and culture, to helping Hudson Valley residents at every stage of life. Please read over our recipients list and see where you could make a world of difference.

In this issue, we also attempt to demystify Donor Advised Funds (DAFs). DAFs are the fastest growing form of charitable giving in the United States, with more than one million DAFs nationwide. You may not be one of the 200 DAF advisors at the Community Foundations of the Hudson Valley, but you may know someone who is. Our staff would be happy to discuss how a DAF can help simplify and organize your giving.

While I am on the topic of generosity and inspiration, I would like to welcome and introduce you to the new members of the Community Foundations team but also bid a very fond farewell to our Finance & Operations manager, Alaina Voulgaropoulos. Alaina has been with Community Foundations for the past three years and has been a maestra with our database, a superb right hand woman to our CFO and just a kind, thoughtful and efficient operations professional. We will all miss her immensely.

Sally J. Cross, CFRE
President & CEO

New kids on the block

In 2022, CFHV welcomed four new members to the Poughkeepsie office. Elisabeth Giglio (Program Assistant), Amanda Perez (Executive Assistant), Margareth Tan Gorman (Database & Finance Assistant), and Todd Thomas (Systems & Communications Manager).

Elisabeth provides deliverables and technical assistance to all things grants and scholarships. Amanda is responsible for the overall administrative functions of the Poughkeepsie office and supports the CEO and Board of Trustees. Margareth assists CFO Darcy Kelly with gift and data entry, processing of vendor payments and financial reporting. Todd is responsible for all internal and external communications and marketing, and oversees the operational management of all internal systems, vendors and database procedures.



CFHV kindly welcomes the new kids to the team!

A DAF... what is it?



Donor Advised Funds (DAFs) are growing and giving at record rates. In fact, there are nearly 1.3 million DAF accounts and donors granted an estimated \$45.7 billion to nonprofit organizations from their DAFs in 2021 (National Philanthropic Trust, The 2022 DAF Report, 2022). That's a lot of charitable giving! Despite their growing popularity, there remains several points of confusion about DAFs. The Community Foundations of the Hudson Valley has been a sponsor of DAFs since 1985 so we're here to shed some light on them!

"A Donor Advised Fund is a great strategy that provides the donor an immediate charitable tax deduction but allows them time to plan their short-and long-term charitable giving."

LENA S. RIZKALLAH, JD, CRPC®, FINANCIAL ADVISOR

Donor Advised Funds are a charitable giving account established by you, the donor at a 'sponsoring' public charity, who invests and manages the fund and assures it is used for charitable purposes. DAFs allow you to make a charitable gift to your fund and receive an immediate tax deduction. You can then recommend grants to charitable organizations of your choice, whenever you choose. Contributions to your fund may be made in cash or noncash assets such as stock. Distributions from IRA accounts (QCDs) are not allowed by the IRS. You, the fund's advisor, can name the fund whatever you like and you may choose to be anonymous.

When your nonprofit receives a gift from a Donor Advised Fund

The nonprofit organization receiving a gift, or grant, from a DAF will receive a payment from the sponsoring organization giving reference to the name of the DAF. Since the donor has already received a charitable tax receipt from the sponsoring organization, your organization only needs to, and should, thank the donor.

Here are some tips for nonprofit organizations receiving grants from DAFs:

- **Remember, behind every DAF is an individual donor who wants to be thanked and recognized! If the donor's contact information isn't known, send your correspondence to their attention to the sponsoring organization who issued the grant.**
- **Be sure to include DAF donors in mid or major donor stewardship plans and "soft credit" them in your database.**
- **DAF donors are already planning their gifts and may well be interested in learning about how they might designate a legacy gift to your organization.**

Whether you are a donor, nonprofit or professional advisor, the Community Foundations of the Hudson Valley Development staff can answer any questions you may have about Donor Advised Funds.

If you would like to find out more information about our Programs or setting up a fund, please call us at 845-452-3077 or email at info@communityfoundationshv.org



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**Inspiring and celebrating
local charitable giving and
civic engagement**

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Gratitude is in the Giving

Peak inside at this year's list of 2022/23 Community Grant Recipients and learn how you can make a difference.



Donor Advised Fund Myths Debunked

If you ever wanted to clear up the hoopla surrounding DAFs and the advantages in using them...this one is for you!



The Scholarships Portal is Open!

Visit our website for more information, resources, guidelines and links to apply.

