

Community

Connections

FALL 2024



2024 GARDEN PARTY EDITION



COMMUNITY
FOUNDATIONS
OF THE HUDSON VALLEY

From The CEO'S DESK



Dear Friends and Supporters,

As we reflect on our 28th Annual Garden Party, we want to take a moment to express our heartfelt gratitude. With 350 attendees and net proceeds totaling almost \$160,000, this year's event was our most successful yet! We are so grateful for the community's enthusiasm in recognizing the contributions of our honorees: Andrea L. Reynolds, Tim & Alicia Dean, and Rick & Nancy* Brownell.

Your generous support — whether as sponsors, attendees, or in-kind donors — played a crucial role in creating a wonderful opportunity for our community to come together and celebrate the spirit of philanthropy in our region.

This signature event of the Community Foundations continues to be a 'must attend' event in the Hudson Valley. The perfect weather, the stunning backdrop of Kirby Hill in Pawling, and the exquisite offerings all contributed to a memorable afternoon where we could salute our distinguished honorees in style. The net proceeds are divided by population among our three counties and will be distributed through our Community Grants Program, in progress now. To date, this event has distributed over \$2 million back to the community, a record you as supporters can be proud of. The Board of Trustees, Fund Holders, Donors, and staff all extend our sincere thanks for all you do to help us to improve lives.

In appreciation,

Laura Washington

Laura Washington
President & CEO



Community Matters 2



Red Hook Responds

Community Foundations of
the Hudson Valley
makes



more

Vital Community Services

- Arts and Culture
- Food Security
- Scholarships
- After School Programs
- Environmental Sustainability

... possible



The Brownell Family



The Dean Family



The Reynolds-Griffin Family

Garden Party Honorees Have Deep Roots in the Hudson Valley

Community Foundations of the Hudson Valley hosted its annual Garden Party event on Sunday, September 15, 2024. The net profits of this yearly event support the Foundations' **Community Grants Program** that distributes grant funds to nonprofits in Dutchess, Putnam, and Ulster Counties. Hundreds gathered to celebrate the remarkable contributions of this year's honorees: Tim and Alicia Dean for Dutchess County, Andrea L. Reynolds for Ulster County, and Rick and Nancy* Brownell for Putnam County. In recognition of their service, CFHV made a \$1,000 donation to the nonprofit of each honoree's choosing. The Deans chose the Dean Family Fund, which supports the Children's Home of Poughkeepsie; Andrea Reynolds directed her donation to the CFHV Trustees Endowment Fund, which supports the Foundations' grantmaking programs and expenses; while Rick Brownell and family, in honor of Nancy's love of flowers, chose the Garden Club of Orange and Dutchess counties.

In welcoming the audience, CFHV President & CEO Laura Washington emphasized the power of collective giving: "When you give through the Community Foundations of the Hudson Valley, you join a powerful network of like-minded individuals who are making a positive difference in our community. Giving and working together, we make more possible — more arts and culture, more food security, more scholarships, more after school programming, more environmental sustainability, more vital community services."

In addition to previous honorees and other supporters of CFHV, the Garden Party also welcomed representatives from several nonprofit organizations. Catherine Forbes, former Senior Director of Advancement at Cary Institute, described a recent collaboration with Art Effect and Scenic Hudson to develop an ecological tour of Poughkeepsie. Shane Stuart, Director of Development at the Mid-Hudson Discovery Museum, expressed gratitude for the regular contributions made by DAF donors. Johanna Carlin, Director of Individual Giving for Planned Parenthood, summed up the importance of CFHV's contributions to the community: "They show up for everybody."

As the day drew to a close, Garden Party Committee Chair Lisa Wilson captured the essence of the event: "The Garden Party is all about inspiration." The community came together not only to celebrate the honorees but also to renew their commitment to making a difference in the Hudson Valley, and ensuring a brighter future for all.

**Nancy Brownell was honored posthumously*



25 Van Wagner Road
Poughkeepsie, New York 12603

*Please remember us in your Wills, Trusts, and
Estate Plans*

Address Service Requested

Welcome

Community Foundations of the Hudson Valley would like to welcome our two newest team members, Stephen Gnojewski and Kate Farinato.

Stephen joins us as the Vice President for outreach and asset development efforts in Putnam County. Originally from the Midwest, Stephen fell in love with the Hudson Valley while working for the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation. Now a resident, he continues his career in philanthropy with CFHV and as volunteer Board President of Springside.



Kate, the Programs department's Grant Administrator, comes to us from Dutchess BOCES, where as their Program Assistant she supported the staff and students in furthering the Adult Learning Institute's program. Previously, she worked in interior design and for over ten years was the Senior Technical Colorist for J. Crew. Kate was born and raised in the Hudson Valley, studied in Boston and San Francisco, and returned to Dutchess County after an extended period in NYC.

We're thrilled to have Stephen and Kate on board!