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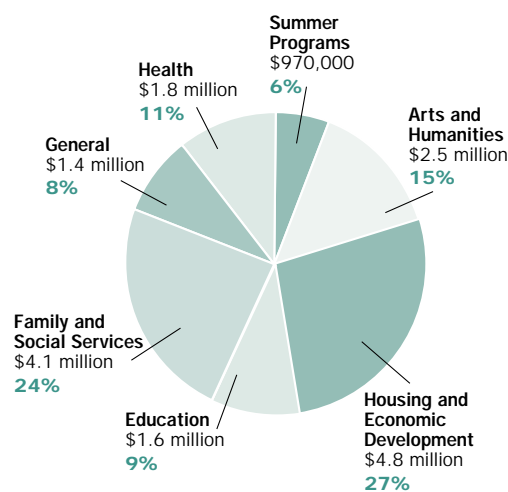
The Numbers Are In

Our upcoming annual report will highlight what a gratifying year 2004 was for the Hartford Foundation. Generous individuals contributed \$21.8 million to the Foundation, creating 40 new funds and making 942 additional gifts to existing funds. This brings to 866 the number of funds created by individuals, families, and organizations since 1925. Two giving circles sponsored by the Foundation grew, with a combined total of 150 members and nearly \$700,000 in assets.

Grantmaking and related program activity totaled \$25.1 million, with a broad array of nonprofits receiving grants. A concerted focus on evaluation resulted in several illuminating reports. One, the Child Care Enhancement Project of the Brighter Futures Initiative, showed that children attending 14 preschool programs in Hartford that received funding from the Foundation to implement a new curriculum made dramatic gains toward school readiness. Another, focusing on our Nonprofit Support Program, showed that an overwhelming majority of agencies served by NSP significantly improved their ability to deliver effective programs.

As the Foundation enters its 80th year of serving the Greater Hartford community, we will continue to ensure that all of our work with donors, nonprofits, and community leaders results in long-lasting impact on the region's quality of life — whether that can be measured by numbers or not.

2004 GRANTS BY PROGRAM AREA



This chart represents the Foundation's grantmaking by program area from our unrestricted funds; other grants are made from a variety of restricted funds.

To view the full list of grants awarded by the Foundation in 2004, please visit www/hfpg.org/grants.

Nonprofit Support Program Hits the Mark

"No one knows us as well as the Nonprofit Support Program. Sometimes they know we need something even before we do." This is according to Bob Eckert, executive director of the Lutz Children's Museum.

Such praise is common for the Nonprofit Support Program (NSP). But, to determine its true impact, the Foundation recently commissioned an independent evaluation of the NSP. Researchers conducted focus groups and a survey of consultants, grantees and national experts. The evaluation confirmed the anecdotal evidence. The report stated that NSP strengthens nearly all elements essential to an effective nonprofit, including financial management and agency automation. All grantees that received financial management assistance from NSP reported significant improvement in their organization's ability to manage effectively, and 89% of agency automation grant recipients said staff productivity and the organization's ability to deliver programs and services had substantially improved.

There were also suggestions to expand current offerings — specifically in the areas of board governance and program evaluation. NSP staff are researching ways to best implement these suggestions.

For more information about the Nonprofit Support Program, visit www.hfpg.org/nsp. A summary of the report is available at www.hfpg.org/reports.



Yolande Spears of The Bushnell and other nonprofit leaders discuss their plans to develop social business ventures as part of the Greater Hartford Community Wealth Collaborative. This pilot project is sponsored by the Foundation's Nonprofit Support Program. For more information about the project and the participating agencies, visit www.hfpg.org/nsp (click on Our Services).

The National Institute of Senior Centers recently presented a leadership award to the Foundation in recognition of its partnership with area senior centers to expand services and programs. Chris Hall, director of special projects and initiatives, was on hand to accept the award.



Tackling Homelessness from More than One Angle

Even as signs of revitalization are visible throughout the City of Hartford, the chronic problem of homelessness remains a sobering reality for many residents. In Connecticut, 33,000 people experience homelessness in a year — 13,000 of them are children.

The Foundation is helping to address this problem in Hartford with grants for both short-term, emergency services, as well as efforts to develop long-term solutions. In November 2004, the Foundation awarded nearly \$500,000 to four agencies to meet the needs of homeless people and those at risk of homelessness. These included the Immaculate Conception Shelter & Housing Corporation, My Sister's Place, the Salvation Army of Greater Hartford, and South Park Inn.

"Short term solutions help stem an increase in homelessness," said Rick Porth, vice president for grantmaking at the Foundation, "but the long term solution must include options for permanent, affordable housing and support services."

To that end, Rick is serving on Mayor Eddie Perez's task force on homelessness, and the Foundation has awarded \$450,000 over three years to the Corporation for Supportive Housing to develop supportive housing in the Capitol Region. Supportive housing has proved to be a cost effective means of helping homeless individuals find and maintain permanent housing. Over the next three years, 1,000 units will be created in Connecticut, 250 of which will be located in the Capitol Region.

Spirit of Woman's Exchange Lives On Through New Fund

A well-known shop with a social mission in West Hartford is gone, but its impact lives on. For over 100 years, the Woman's Exchange sold handcrafts as a way to help women enter the workplace. The venture — first in Hartford and then in West Hartford — was successful for many years, but with changing times the store experienced difficulties. In April 2004, the board of the Woman's Exchange of West Hartford made the difficult decision to close the shop.

The many volunteers and friends of the organization wanted to continue helping women gain footholds in the workplace. They found a way to do that by creating a fund at the Hartford Foundation. The fund, which totals over \$163,000, will provide grants for training, support, and education of women in the workplace.

"Although times have changed, the concept of women helping women is still relevant," said Peggy Mix, co-president of the Woman's Exchange board. "We are delighted that our mission will carry on through this fund."

For information about creating a fund at the Foundation, call 860-548-1888 or email giving@hfpg.org.



Sandy Wood (center), vice president for philanthropic services, accepts a check from Margaret Mix (left) and Maureen Starkel (right), board co-presidents of the Women's Exchange. With them are attorneys Scott Wilson (far left) and Barbara McGrath (far right) from the Connecticut Urban Legal Initiative, Inc.

Giving Circles Award Grants

Two “giving circles” administered by the Hartford Foundation recently awarded grants to strengthen the Greater Hartford region. Giving circles are groups of people who pool their dollars and come together to address critical issues facing their community.

The Catalyst Endowment Fund, which has entered its second decade, and the newly-organized Latino Endowment Fund both enjoyed a year of stimulating discussions and tough grantmaking decisions.

During 2004, Catalyst members examined issues of land use, taxation, and concentrations of poverty in the region which were raised in a report sponsored by the CenterEdge Coalition called Connecticut Metropatterns. Catalyst awarded grants totaling \$45,000 to: the Corporation for Supportive Housing to create permanent supportive housing for people who experience chronic homelessness; and to Connecticut Public Broadcasting for a documentary entitled “Regionalism: A Commitment to Place,” which will examine the benefits and challenges of collaboration among Greater Hartford’s cities and towns.

The Latino Endowment Fund awarded grants to promote leadership development totaling \$22,500: to the Hispanic Health Council for a youth leadership program; to the National



Catalyst Members gathered to discuss issues of land use, taxation, and concentrations of poverty in the region and awarded grants for programs that address these pressing issues.

Society of Hispanic MBAs to enable nonprofit leaders to attend the leadership training program; and to enable two nonprofit executives or board members of Latino organizations to attend a program on performance measurement, co-sponsored by the Hauser Center on Nonprofits and Harvard Business School.

For more information about these giving circles, visit www.hfpg.org/catalyst or www.hfpg.org/latino.

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Lutz Museum Gears Up for a New Generation

The Lutz Children’s Museum is all about learning and having fun. But, it was in serious need of some internal reflection and an external facelift.

For 52 years the museum has offered hands-on exhibits, classes, and special programs for kids ages two through 12 and their families. Housed in a former schoolhouse in Manchester, the museum is now better equipped to create a dynamic learning environment and serve as a unique community resource — thanks to a renovated building and a new strategic plan. Both projects were supported by the Hartford Foundation.

The building renovations include a new roof and windows. The strategic plan will enable the museum to better serve what Bob Eckert, museum executive director, calls “a new generation.”

“The museum has really blossomed recently, and there are so many



opportunities available to us,” said Eckert. “We need to be selective and purposeful in choosing which opportunities to pursue. The strategic plan will help us do that.”

The museum also participates in the Nonprofit Support Program’s financial management program, which helps agencies manage their financial systems effectively. For more information about the Lutz Children’s Museum, visit www.lutzmuseum.org.

Foundation Bids Farewell to a Friend

Millard Pryor touched the lives of many residents of Greater Hartford. A shrewd businessman, he was also one of the region’s most influential philanthropists. Believing that “a strong artistic community is a major tool in creating the economic environment,” he supported the arts by enthusiastically fundraising for several of the area’s cultural institutions, and serving on many of their boards. In 1975, Millard and his wife, Claire — his partner in philanthropy — established a fund at the Foundation. Millard passed away in March 2005. Respected by everyone who was involved with the arts and philanthropy in the region, he will be deeply missed — but his legacy will live on.



Millard and Claire Pryor