



Hartford Foundation
FOR PUBLIC GIVING

Newsletter

February 2018



Our New Research and Evaluation Unit

The Hartford Foundation is proud to announce our new Research and Evaluation Unit. This team will support the Foundation and Greater Hartford region by providing research to inform action and by promoting high-quality evaluation practices to:

- Gauge progress and assess outcomes of Foundation initiatives;
- Inform the Foundation's priorities, strategies and operations;
- Cultivate learning among staff, Board, donors, grantees and partners.

The Research and Evaluation Unit will consult with the Foundation's issue area experts, local nonprofits, philanthropic and public sector partners, and regional and national experts. We will conduct, commission and share high-quality, impartial research that impacts our region and state.

This is part of our commitment to strengthening civic engagement. By sharing high-quality data, we can help residents, community groups,

policymakers and nonprofits have the tools to better understand and address the challenges facing our communities.

Visit hfgp.org/research to learn more.



Support for Hurricane Evacuees in Greater Hartford

Last year, after witnessing disasters such as the hurricanes in Puerto Rico, Houston and Florida, we created [the Respond-Rebuild-Renew Fund](#) to assist with immediate and long-term recovery efforts for unforeseen disasters. Thanks to generous donors, we were able to quickly build up the fund. Earlier this month, [we awarded a series of grants](#) to address basic needs of hurricane evacuees who were forced to relocate to Greater Hartford. Now, [we've awarded a \\$200,000 grant](#) to United Way of Central and Northeastern CT to help evacuees find stable housing and avoid homelessness.

Thanks to the donors who have supported this fund, we are now better prepared to respond, should disaster occur. If you'd like to learn more or donate to the Respond-Rebuild-Renew Fund, [click here](#).

Featured Fund

Playhouse Theatre Group Endowment Fund

In December of 2017, two board members of Playhouse on Park, Richard Rubenstein and Gaetano Albani, established a permanent endowment fund for the theater at the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving. [The Playhouse Theatre Group Endowment Fund](#) will provide a long-term source of funding for the theater and support its activities for generations to come.



"This is an incredible gift both Richard and Guy have given to Playhouse Theatre Group and we are eternally grateful," said Tracy Flater, Executive Director of Playhouse Theatre Group, Inc. "It also represents a major and appropriate milestone in our growth as we head towards our tenth anniversary season."

Playhouse on Park, a professional non-profit theater located in West Hartford's Park Road community, first opened its doors in the fall of 2009. It has since become a staple of the Greater Hartford arts scene and a resource for creative artists of all ages. Playhouse on Park's diverse programming has garnered critical acclaim from *The New York Times*, *The Hartford Courant*, and the Connecticut Critics Circle.

Featured Grant



\$302,000 Grant to Reduce Unemployment in South End

Southside Institutions Neighborhood Alliance's "Walk to Work" program will connect residents of Hartford's South End with jobs in their neighborhood.

[Learn more](#)

Listening Tour 2018



Vernon: Recap

On Monday, February 26, we held a Listening Tour event in Vernon, where residents shared what they love about their town, and discussed how we can work together to make their quality of life even better.

[Read our recap of the Vernon event](#)

Next Listening Tour event:

March 20

Granby Memorial High School

for residents of Granby and East Granby

GreaterTogether2018.org



Happy Black History Month!

As February comes to an end, we'd like to take a moment to wish everyone a Happy Black History Month. Here is Hartford Foundation donor Rick Rawlins [reflecting on his trip to the March on Washington in 1963.](#)

[See what else we're working on.](#)

Questions? Email us: hartfordfoundation@hfpg.org



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