



Hartford Foundation

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# Greater Together Community Funds

## **Orientation**

Fall 2019



# Hartford Foundation Staff

**Community Funds Team** – Here to help you establish your Community Funds Advisory Committee and grantmaking program

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# Outline

Welcome to the Hartford Foundation!

Introduction to the Community Funds Program

Starting Your Town's Community Fund Program

Next Steps – What Can You Do?



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# The Hartford Foundation for Public Giving

- Established in 1925 to serve as the community foundation for the Greater Hartford region
- Serving 29 towns, hundreds of nonprofits and more than 750,000 residents
- Endowed funds of over \$933 Million allowed the Foundation to make grants of over \$38 Million in 2018, and \$758 Million since 1925



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# Together for Good...

We are the community foundation for the Capitol Region of Connecticut - **your community foundation** - committed to bringing together resources, both human and financial, to improve the lives of all residents.

Our work is only possible through the dedication of our **partners**: donors, nonprofit agencies, professional advisors and community and business leaders.

The **Greater Together Community Funds** are an important part of fulfilling this mission...

## Our Mission

*Putting philanthropy into action to create lasting solutions that result in vibrant communities within the Greater Hartford region.*



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# Greater Together Community Funds

[hfpg.org/communityfunds](http://hfpg.org/communityfunds)



*To support the community in taking ownership around the needs in their town, encourage broad and inclusive civic engagement and anchor the Hartford Foundation in each town.*

# 29 Community Funds

**\$100,000 per town**

- \$50,000 Endowed Funds
- \$50,000 “Immediate Use” Funds

Opportunity for community fundraising and continued fund growth to support towns





# Accessing Community Funds

- **Establish a Town Advisory Committee** – of town residents that is inclusive, representative and reflective of all town residents
  
- **Establish a Participatory Decision Making Process** – to decide how grant funds will be allocated to meet the needs of town residents





# Advisory Committees

- Town resident, age 14 or over
- 5-15 members, reflective of town residents
- Cannot be an elected official
- Term limits; max of 6 consecutive years
- Conflict of interest policy
- Democratic and inclusive decision-making process
- Identify primary representative to work with Foundation



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# Roles

<b>Town Advisory Committees</b>	<b>Hartford Foundation</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Identify community needs</li><li>• Establish an inclusive grantmaking process</li><li>• Serve as liaisons to the Hartford Foundation</li><li>• Keep track of funds available for grantmaking</li><li>• Request support from Foundation staff as needed</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Maintain town funds</li><li>• Assist town residents to establish Advisory Committees</li><li>• Assist Advisory Committees to establish inclusive processes</li><li>• Approve grants, disburse funds</li><li>• Monitor funds and grantmaking</li><li>• Provide ongoing support as needed to assist each town</li></ul>

# Getting to Grants - Action Steps

Hartford  
Foundation  
Establishes  
Funds

Selection  
Committees  
Establish  
Advisory  
Committees

Advisory  
Committees  
Establish  
Grantmaking  
Process

Advisory  
Committees  
Implement  
Grantmaking  
Process

Advisory  
Committees  
Recommend  
Grants

Hartford  
Foundation  
Provides  
Guidelines/  
Support

**Town Residents Own the Process**

Hartford  
Foundation  
Disburses  
Funds

# Town Selection Committees

## Who's On Them?

- People that know the community
- May include non-residents that work in community
- Must include at least 51% residents
- Is anyone not here that should be?

## What Do They Do?

- Establish and implement an inclusive process to select the Advisory Committee members
- Select the first Community Funds Advisory Committee
- Coordinate with the Hartford Foundation for support and assistance
- Provide the Advisory Committee roster to the Foundation



# Forming an Advisory Committee that Reflects Your Whole Community

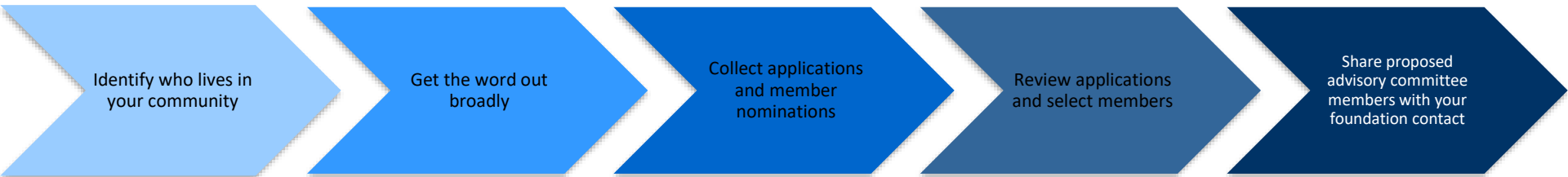
1. Identify  
who lives in  
your  
community

2. Get the  
word out  
broadly

3. Collect  
applications  
and member  
nominations

4. Review  
applications  
and select  
members

5. Share proposed  
advisory  
committee  
members with  
Foundation contact



Identify who lives in  
your community

Get the word out  
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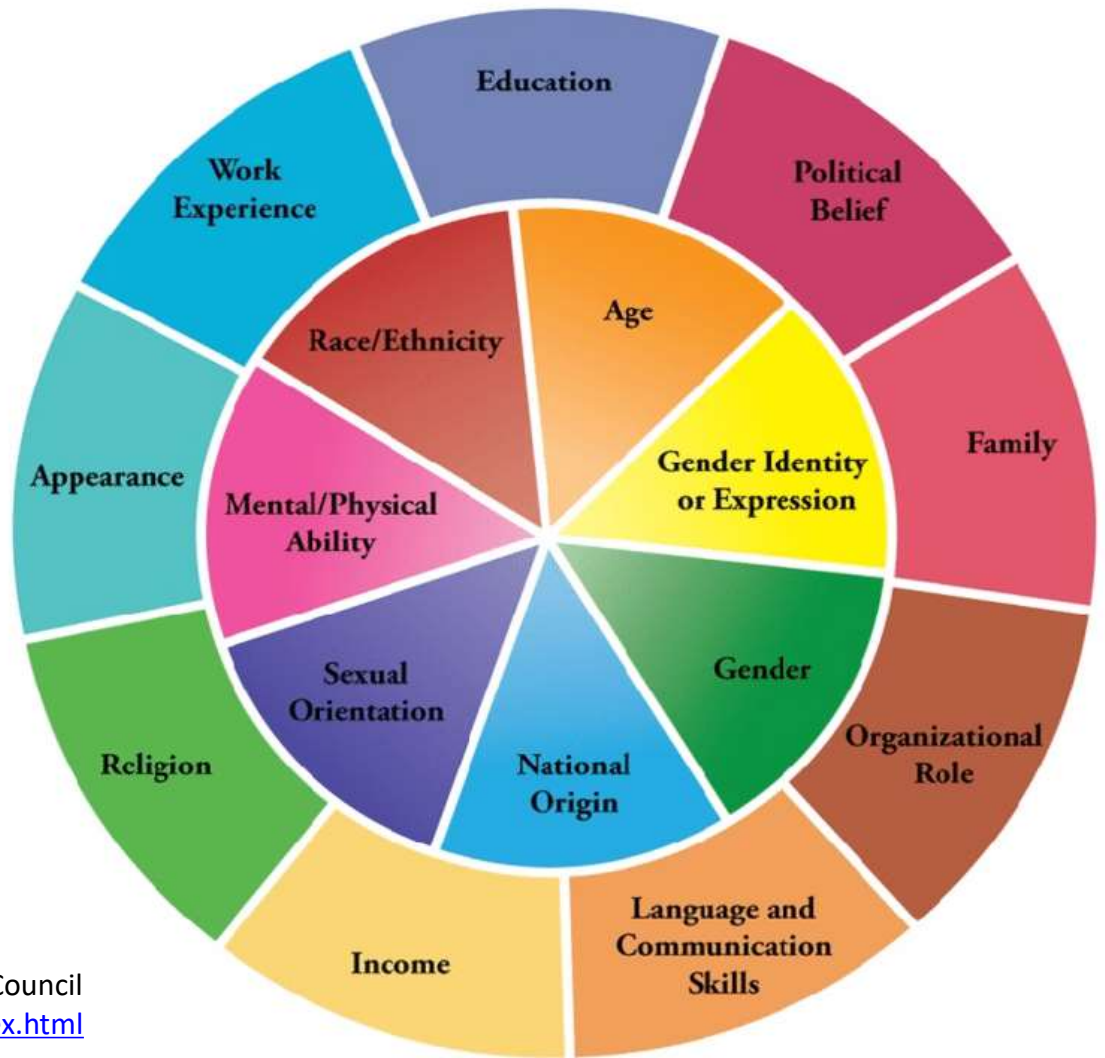
Collect applications  
and member  
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Review applications  
and select members

Share proposed  
advisory committee  
members with your  
foundation contact

# Think inclusively!

Who are the residents that make up your town?



# What Happens at the Kick-Off Events?

Interested residents gather to:

- learn about the Community Funds Program and how to form town Advisory Committees
- begin thinking about their individual roles
- start thinking about who else should be involved
- start forming a town Selection Committee
- review Selection Committee Tool Kits
- plan first Selection Committee meeting



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# Looking Ahead...

## What can I do?

- Keep the momentum going in your town!
- Reflect on your personal role in this process
  - Support the process, stay informed
  - Encourage other to participate
  - Serve on the Selection Committee or Advisory Committee ?



# Looking Ahead...

## What should we do next?

- Contact your Community Funds Liaison
- Find out if there is a date/time for your town's first Selection Committee meeting
- Include others who may not know about the fund but may be able to contribute
- Include your Liaison in your Selection Committee meetings



# Hartford Foundation Support

- Community Funds Liaison
- Meeting Attendance and Facilitation
- Tool Kits
- Contact Information for Interested People in Your Town
- Community Funds Website and Town Landing Page
- Group Training on Inclusion, Participatory Processes, Meeting Facilitation, etc.
- On-going Support, Guidance and Assistance

**We are here to help your town get off to a great start!**





**Thank You!**