



Hartford Foundation
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Newsletter



Students attending a Trio New College Network program in New Jersey. Trio is expanding into Hartford this year thanks to a Hartford Foundation grant.

Hartford Foundation Awards \$1.1M in Grants to Support Employment Opportunities for Residents Facing Barriers

As part of our [efforts to dismantle structural racism](#) and advance social and economic mobility, the Hartford Foundation [seeks to increase stable employment opportunities](#) for Black and Latinx adults and youth facing barriers to employment. We recently announced **three major grants totaling \$1.1 million** that will advance this goal by providing access to quality employment for residents of Greater Hartford.

A three-year, \$300,000 core support grant has been awarded to Literacy Volunteers of Greater Hartford (LVGH) to strengthen its work with immigrants whose literacy rates or limited English proficiency make it difficult to secure employment. The flexible funding provided through core support enables LVGH to strengthen their programming and invest in innovative approaches based on their knowledge of the community and its emerging needs.

We've also awarded a three-year, \$300,000 core support grant to Trio New College Network, a community-based college success nonprofit currently operating in Detroit, Newark, and Camden, that is now expanding into Hartford. Trio will serve low-income working adults looking to attain college degrees around their busy work and family schedules. They partner with Southern New Hampshire University to offer flexible online courses designed to build the type of workplace-relevant skills that employers are looking for.

These core support grants were awarded in partnership with Liberty Bank Foundation, through a \$50,000 grant from Liberty to the Hartford Foundation's Action Fund for Racial Justice. Liberty's goal is to support low- and moderate-income families as they improve their economic situation and quality of life.

In addition, the Foundation recently awarded a \$500,000 grant to YWCA Hartford Region that will provide employment opportunities for Black and Latinx women in our region, especially those who face the greatest barriers to education and employment. The YWCA program focuses on increasing completion or attainment of post-secondary degree or credentialing, and increasing hiring or job retention.

Each of these grants addresses a significant gap in our region's workforce development sector and aims to reduce employment disparities. We believe that all residents of Greater Hartford should have access to employment that provides a sustaining wage, and we believe these grants will help move us closer to that goal.

Hartford Foundation Board Elects New Officers and Welcomes a New Member

The Hartford Foundation Board of Directors has elected new officers for 2023. Andrew Worthington, who joined our board in 2015, will serve as board chair. Dr. Mark Overmyer-Velázquez will serve as vice chair, while Marlene Ibsen has been reappointed treasurer. All three bring a wealth of experience, both within the Foundation and in the community, to these new roles.

In addition, the Foundation is happy to announce a new board member, Alan Mattamana.

Mattamana is a partner at Fairview Capital, a board member of Connecticut Health and Education Facilities Authority (CHEFA), a former board member of YMCA of Greater Hartford and Hartford Stage, and a resident of West Hartford. He currently serves on our HFPG Impact! Committee.



City of Hartford and Hartford Foundation Announce 3-Year Commitment to 'Love Your Block' Initiative

Love Your Block, now in its 5th year, is a program that provides grants to resident- or nonprofit-led projects that beautify or clean up Hartford neighborhoods. The program was started by the City of Hartford as part of their Love Hartford initiative, with the Hartford Foundation joining as a partner in 2021. Last year, we invested \$526,724 toward this effort, including project material costs as well as artist and resident stipends. In December, the Foundation announced that we will invest **an additional \$299,000 over the next 3 years** to support the resident engagement components of Love Your Block, with the aim of increasing neighborhood connectedness. This funding aligns with two of our strategic outcomes: promoting **Civic and Resident Engagement**, and increasing the number of residents living in **Higher Opportunity Neighborhoods**.

[Read more about our support of Love Your Block.](#)

The City of Hartford will begin accepting grant applications for Love Your Block 2023 projects on February 14. Residents and nonprofits with project ideas are encouraged to apply. **[Visit our Grant Opportunities page to learn more.](#)**

[Watch our video about Love Your Block and Hartford's neighborhood beautification efforts.](#)



Grant Opportunity: 2023 RFP Calendar

Our 2023 RFP Calendar is now online! This calendar lists currently open RFPs, as well as upcoming grant

opportunities. [Browse the calendar](#) to find opportunities for your nonprofit, and [sign up to be notified](#) when new RFPs and grant opportunity information sessions are announced.

Action Fund for Racial Justice: What We Accomplished in 2022

We launched the **Action Fund for Racial Justice** in 2021 to bring together Greater Hartford residents to help with the long-term work of dismantling structural racism. Last year, thanks to the generous support of the community, we awarded **31 grants totaling \$526,263** from the Action Fund to local nonprofits. [Learn more.](#)



Last Chance to Apply for Scholarships!

Each year, the Hartford Foundation's **Scholarship Program** offers 250+ scholarship awards for Greater Hartford students planning to attend 4-year, 2-year or vocational schools, as well as graduate students and adult learners. We have many scholarships still available, but the **deadline is this Thursday, February 2nd at 11:59 p.m.**, so time is running out.

[Browse our Scholarship website and apply now!](#)

Questions? Email hartfordfoundation@hfpg.org.



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