



For Immediate Release

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Hartford's Greater Together Community Fund Announces Inaugural Awardees

Hartford, CT - The Hartford Greater Together Community Fund at the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving has made its inaugural grants to eight community organizations to address pressing needs in Hartford.

Grants ranged from \$500 to \$5,000 and totaled \$25,000. Eligible organizations had to be based in Hartford and had to submit a proposal in one of three categories: food insecurity, education, or housing.

The Fund, established by the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving in 2019, is directed by an advisory committee made up of Hartford residents representing a multitude of backgrounds, experiences, and identities. The Fund's goal is to support residents in taking ownership around the needs in their town, encouraging broad and inclusive civic engagement and anchoring the Foundation in Hartford.

"Our committee has a great opportunity via the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving to provide funding support to Hartford's nonprofits," said Lara Langer, Co-Chair of the Hartford Greater Together Community Advisory Committee. "These organizations are at the forefront of supporting our city's communities, and their work is especially critical at this moment as we transition out of the pandemic shutdown. I'm very proud of the efforts made by our committee to complete our first grant cycle. I am also grateful to our awardees for representing the best Hartford has to offer as resources of growth, safety, and education."

"Our committee is incredibly proud and excited to fund these excellent Hartford programs," said Andrea Comer, Co-Chair of the fund's advisory committee. "Each of the programs selected truly embodies our vision of the Hartford community supporting itself in sustainable, collaborative and empowering ways. We are so incredibly grateful to all of the applicants, and we look forward to seeing all of our awarded programs blossom and continue to make our city a place of promise for all residents."

The advisory committee plans a second grant cycle for fall 2021 that will focus on the areas of health, criminal justice, or childcare.

Awardees are:

Food Insecurity:

The Hartford Catholic Worker, \$3,500 to provide food assistance to families in the north end of Hartford.

Gifts of Love, \$2,500 to support the organization's Hartford facility, which includes a food pantry, clothes closet, linen closet, and household and furniture items.

La Boduegita de la Gente, \$3,500 to provide assistance for rent, bills and food to those in need.

Education:

Free Center, \$5,000 to create an outdoor classroom, which will enhance their community gardening and summer enrichment program.

Hartford Promise, \$2,500 to support its work with the Hartford Public High Schools.

Literacy Volunteers of Greater Hartford, \$2,500 to support its efforts to improve language and digital literacy skills of Hartford adults enrolled in ESOL and Basic Literacy/pre-GED classes.

Non-Profit Accountability Group (NAG), \$500 to develop an anti-racism program designed by marginalized identities for people in power whose work impacts the lives of Hartford residents.

Housing:

Make The Road Connecticut, \$5,000 to help distribute federal dollars targeted for rent relief for undocumented community members.

Further information about the Greater Together Community Fund can be found at <http://www.hfpg.org/HartfordCF>, and questions re the Hartford advisory committee can be sent to hartfordgreater2gether@gmail.com.