Dear Treasured Friend,

The most important asset of The Guilford Foundation is you – our dedicated and steadfast community of donors whose generosity truly enriches the quality of life in Guilford. These have been challenging years, and your commitment to giving has been unwavering. The Guilford Foundation has been able to step up and continue to meet the ever-growing needs of our community, thanks to you.

In this report, you will meet some individuals behind the numbers and learn about the Foundation's impact on our community. Our grantees and donors are all heroes doing meaningful work out in the community. Behind the scenes, we’ve been hard at work. Our key accomplishments include:

- **Community Investment**
  Despite a volatile stock market, our endowment grew, through donor generosity, from $6.2 to $6.5 million in the past year. We gave away $224,000 in grants, scholarships, and sponsorships this year, bringing our total investment in the community to well over $1.5 million since 2010.

- **Strategic Planning**
  We completed a post-pandemic strategic plan that provides our Board with a deeper understanding of the issues, challenges, and opportunities facing the community.

  The outcome of the process is a 5-year roadmap with ambitious goals and defined strategies. Our priorities are to increase the size of our endowment, ensure our grantmaking aligns with community needs, leverage and expand our leadership role in the community, and add the necessary organizational capacity required to execute the strategic plan.

- **ARPA Funding**
  The Town of Guilford chose The Guilford Foundation in 2022 as their partner to distribute $500,000 of federal funding through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) to area nonprofits. The funds will help critical community services and organizations still recovering economically from the pandemic.

  First Selectman Matt Hoey described The Guilford Foundation as “one of the most trusted organizations on the shoreline with an impeccable reputation for and experience in assessing the needs of the nonprofits serving Guilford.” The funding process starts in June, with award announcements in November.

  As we look at all that has been accomplished this year, we are so proud. Together, we are truly creating a culture of giving and caring that will stand for future generations. Thank you for your investment and partnership in building a strong and connected Guilford.

Gratefully,

Liza Janssen Petra  
Executive Director

Linda Weber  
Board Chair
Words matter to Joan Hickey.

Scholarship Fund Created with TGF for Structure and Permanence

As a teacher, an artist, a feminist, a wife, a mother, and a grandmother who speaks three languages, Joan Hickey chooses her words carefully and wants their full meaning to be heard and understood. She uses them to convey gratitude and respect for others, elevate marginalized people, and help build community among her colleagues and friends.

It’s why the scholarship fund that she and her family established with The Guilford Foundation (TGF) in 2022 is called the B. Joan Hickey and Dennis F. Hickey Scholarship Fund, and not the other way around.

“These types of things always have the man’s name first, but the woman is just as important,” Hickey says. The scholarship is awarded to a graduating senior interested in teaching or another career in which communication is an essential element. “We really value communication skills.”

Hickey tends to use the pronoun “we” when talking about her many projects and interests, making it clear that she welcomes others and treats them as equals. Perhaps the habit comes from her years as a teacher, first in Bogota, Colombia, and Milan, Italy, before she settled in Connecticut at Brian McMahon High School in Norwalk. Or perhaps it derives from her position as founding director of the Center for Creative Youth, a public-private collaborative that, for 20 years, developed young artists through a pre-college summer program at Wesleyan University. Or possibly, it was honed through her many philanthropic and volunteer efforts with the Shoreline Arts Alliance, the Elm Shakespeare Company, or the Guilford Center for Children.

But most definitely, the “we” derives from her marriage and partnership with her late husband, Dennis. They met while skiing in Vermont in 1968. She was a first-year teacher in Norwalk, and he was a graduate student at Harvard Business School and a veteran lieutenant of the United States Army. They married in 1969, and “we skied together for 48 years,” remembers Hickey. “He always skied behind me because he wanted to ensure that I was safe.”

When the Hickeys decided to start their company, Sonitrol Security Systems of Bridgeport, Hickey says, they were equal partners, dividing and sharing the responsibilities of growing a new company, supporting a household, and raising their one-year-old son, Jeffrey. Dennis ran the company for decades and took great pride in employing local residents in a tight-knit family business and helping to grow the Sonitrol brand as it grew internationally.

“We were passionate about communication. Our staff had to be impeccable with their language, always using the right words, because they were dealing with people who have just experienced trauma in their home.”

Nowadays, the “we” includes Jeffrey (who manages the family business), his wife Hannah, and their daughter Riley, a student at Guilford High School. The GHS Counseling Department drives the process with the family providing recommendations and presenting the scholarship at the annual Senior Awards Night. They have been doing it for several years, with Riley now taking the stage for the presentation. Last year, they decided to establish the fund with TGF to ensure a permanent structure for the award.

TGF Executive Director Liza Janssen Petra says the scholarship awards are among the most meaningful funds that the foundation manages for just this reason. “Often, they memorialize a person or, like in this case, honor a family’s values. There is something very poignant about the permanency of leaving a legacy.”

“‘Our scholarship fund reinforces our family value of contributing to our community. Generosity and kindness are important for us.’”

– Joan Hickey

Photo: Dennis and Joan Hickey (left). Granddaughter Riley and son Jeffrey Hickey (above).
TGF Grant Funded Weatherproof Gear Closet for 100% Outdoor School

Those are not usually the lessons of preschool. But for a small group of intrepid four-year-olds, those lessons fit perfectly with ABCs and 123s at the Community Nursery School’s new Nature School, funded with a grant from The Guilford Foundation.

The Community Nursery School (CNS) started in the 1950s as a cooperative nursery school where parents and families have an opportunity and responsibility to participate in their children’s day-to-day learning. Today more than 50 families are enrolled. The curriculum is play-based, meaning that all lessons derive from children’s natural inclination to explore, imagine and create at their own pace. Their social and emotional growth is the primary focus.

The concept of outdoor preschool education has also been around for decades. But it has taken a backseat to the idea that children need a jumpstart on reading, writing, and arithmetic to ensure their academic success. CNS believes in the importance of outdoor education. During the Covid-19 pandemic, they built an open-air art studio. A more significant project was an outdoor school, a concept championed by teacher Julie Souvlis so kids could continue learning, socializing, and recreating. The pandemic accelerated the timing: the Nature School officially opened in the spring of 2022 with eight students. Because it takes place entirely outside, children must be dressed for various weather conditions over their three-hour school day. The TGF grant was used to stock a gear closet of waterproof and windproof pants, coats, hats, mittens, and boots in toddler sizes.

“Those things can be expensive, and we didn’t want that to be a barrier for anyone,” explains CNS Director Rachel Daniels. But it’s important that children be appropriately dressed for getting dirty, splashing in puddles, climbing over rocks and trees, and collecting treasures to study (and return to their natural home).

They also used part of the grant to purchase a small wooden bridge that represents the threshold of the rustic outdoor classroom, known as basecamp. Once the children cross the bridge, their school day is structured the same as indoors in terms of lessons, but using supplies and tools found outside.

“This wasn’t something we couldn’t have funded on our own. We needed some basic things to launch...
the program,” Daniels says. The first year has been so successful that there are now waiting lists for additional programs for two-, three-, and five-year-olds.

Just as it is inside, the students’ interests guide the learning activities. Before crossing the bridge, for example, the children walk along a path they planted with daffodils. When the children noticed the flowers might be in danger of being trampled, it became a project to collect rocks of similar size to create a visual barrier. Then it became a project to count the rocks and mark groups of 10.

Within the basecamp, there are designated spaces for circle time, imaginative play, and arts and crafts. Tree roots become the boundaries of a make-believe vignette. A small wooden crate becomes a kitchen stove. A peculiar rock outcropping becomes a horse one day or a boat the next, depending on the game. Teachers have noticed that the games and stories outside often continue over several days. “They are more imaginative and inventive with the materials at their disposal,” Souvlis notes.

Each day, the students walk on nearby trails, and together the class creates a map with landmarks the children have named, such as Moss Rock, Old Fort, Secret Path, Play Marsh, and Big Marsh. They are the same marsh, but the children recognize one area for play and the other for observing wildlife and creating a field guide of species such as egrets, herons, toads, and snakes.

“"As a nonprofit trying to keep tuition low for our families, we couldn’t have done this without the support of The Guilford Foundation.”

- Rachel Daniels, CNS Director

Indeed, teachers have noticed children connect more with one another and gain more confidence as they help each other to scale a rock, forge a stream, or climb over a fallen log. And parents have reported their children taking a leadership role on family hikes.
Sponsorship Collaboration Distributes $25,000 to Local Nonprofits

A new partnership between The Guilford Foundation (TGF) and GSB (Guilford Savings Bank) is helping both organizations do what they do better, while also helping the Guilford community thrive.

It is no surprise that the collaboration developed out of the Covid-19 pandemic, which changed the way GSB, a nearly 150-year-old institution, showed its support for the community. While causing the cancellation of so many of the 2020 events and activities that might have received funding from the bank, the pandemic also left countless businesses, organizations, and residents struggling to fulfill basic needs.

“It was then that our president, Tim Geelan, really brought to our attention the personal hardships that were occurring and that we could help. Suddenly, businesses were shutting down, people weren’t getting paychecks, and basic needs weren’t being met,” says Renee Pallenberg, Senior Vice President of Marketing for GSB.

The bank decided to repurpose about $100,000 worth of funds that might have gone to sponsor events and distribute them to four local community foundations, including $25,000 to TGF. The foundations provided a more direct link to those working on relief efforts at the height of the pandemic.

Since that decision in 2020, Pallenberg explains, the bank realized the benefits of having the partnership, and the relationship has evolved. As needs subsided, TGF applied the funds to other grant opportunities and increasingly to sponsorships designated for events given by nonprofits to increase visibility or raise funds.

In 2022, TGF helped to distribute $25,000 for GSB to at least 20 different organizations, with sponsorships ranging from $250 to $2,500. Among the recipients were social services agencies like the Community Dining Room and Clifford W. Beers Guidance Clinic; Guilford High School’s Project Graduation and TAPS (Theater Arts Parents Support); and organizations like the Guilford Keeping Society, Guilford Arts Center, and the Shoreline Arts Alliance. The SARAH Foundation, supporting individuals with differing abilities, and the Women & Family Life Center, helping women and children in crisis, are also among the regional beneficiaries of GSB’s sponsorships.

The partnership between TGF and GSB centers around shared priorities. Both the bank and the foundation have identified priorities aimed at supporting families - particularly those struggling with basic needs, mental health concerns, or education. Other hallmarks of the Guilford community - arts and culture, the natural environment, senior citizen engagement, and social justice - are important concerns for both organizations.

“It is an honor to be designated by GSB as the organization to sift through applications and make decisions that reflect positively on our organizations and our community,” according to Liza Janssen Petra, TGF Executive Director.

Meaningful philanthropy and servant leadership are two core values at the heart of GSB. Indeed, the bank often reinforces its financial support with personal support. The bank’s 136 employees are encouraged and given time to participate as volunteers in fundraisers and events that impact the community. Pallenberg says their silent auction team is renowned for helping out what is often the most stressful element of fundraising events.

“We bring six or eight volunteers to do registration, tallying and money management at the auction. There’s a level of trust, I assume, because we are bankers. But, also, it’s been happening for 12 or 15 years, so it’s many of the same people year after year,” Pallenberg explains.

“We are thankful for our partnership with GSB, their generosity truly enriches the Guilford community.”

– Liza Janssen Petra, TGF Executive Director

The partnership works really well. The organizations meet periodically to make sure goals are aligned and the community knows TGF and GSB focus awards on events the community values.

Photo: TGF Executive Director Liza Janssen Petra, GSB SVP of Marketing Renee Pallenberg, and GSB President Tim Geelan.
TGF 2022...

...by the numbers.

GUILFORD ARTS CENTER
4,000 residents
used their creativity through arts education programming.

JORDON PORCO FOUNDATION
11 students
learned tools to better manage stress now and later.

GUILFORD ANTI-BIAS ANTI-RACIST ALLIANCE
30 teachers
participated in equity-focused professional development.

COMMUNITY DINING ROOM
200 neighbors
secured meals through the family dining service.

WOMEN & FAMILY LIFE CENTER
85 residents
were served by the Guided Assistance Program.

GUILFORD GARDEN CLUB
10 trees
planted near the Guilford Green.

LEGACY THEATRE
24 actors
with mobility impairment performed Peter Pan.

CLIFFORD W. BEERS GUIDANCE CLINIC
65 residents
benefitted from Outpatient Mental Health Services.

ORCHARD HOUSE
9 seniors
grew a vegetable garden at the adult day care center.

WITNESS STONES PROJECT
200 students
discovered and honored the stories of the enslaved in Guilford.

GUILFORD CENTER FOR CHILDREN
24 families
accepted tuition assistance for full-day preschool.

WOMEN & FAMILY LIFE CENTER
85 residents
were served by the Guided Assistance Program.

LIFELINX CORPORATION
annually for recovery patients attending treatment programs.

GUILFORD GARDEN CLUB
10 trees
planted near the Guilford Green.

SPECIAL OLYMPICS CONNECTICUT
82 athletes
participated in the Summer Games with new softball jerseys and hats.

THE CONNECTICUT HOSPICE
1 bench
to provide families a place to gather outside with their loved one.

GUILFORD SOCIAL SERVICES
62 children
received backpacks, lunchboxes, and certificates for shoes and haircuts.

LEGACY THEATRE
24 actors
with mobility impairment performed Peter Pan.

WITNESS STONES PROJECT
200 students
discovered and honored the stories of the enslaved in Guilford.

JORDON PORCO FOUNDATION
11 students
learned tools to better manage stress now and later.

GUILFORD ANTI-BIAS ANTI-RACIST ALLIANCE
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COMMUNITY DINING ROOM
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10 trees
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LEGACY THEATRE
24 actors
with mobility impairment performed Peter Pan.
In 2022, The Guilford Foundation (TGF) invested in the community through its grantmaking, sponsorships in partnership with Guilford Savings Bank (GSB), Youth Advisory Group grants, and designated charitable fund grants and scholarships.

**$1,000 Legacy Theatre** to support the Wheel Life Theatre Troupe, increasing accessibility to the arts for artists of all abilities.

**$1,100 Benincasa Community, Inc.** to support the 2022 Scholars to Workers Program allowing young people to learn about local food systems in a farm classroom.

**$1,250 Orchard House Medical Adult Day Center** to support the Central Shoreline local program, which was hit hard due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

**$2,500 Community Nursery School** to support a gear closet to allow students to participate in Community Nature School a class that will take place entirely outside in nature.

**$1,500 LifeLinx Corporation** to support for ongoing recovery transportation services, providing responsive, reliable, safe transportation to clinical substance abuse treatment.

**$1,500 Lifelinx Corporation** to support for ongoing recovery transportation services, providing responsive, reliable, safe transportation to clinical substance abuse treatment.

**$3,500 The Shoreline Chamber of Commerce** to support a Chamber Business Education Series.

**$3,500 Friends of the Guilford Free Library** for the rental costs of tents and for the Fall Book Sale.

**$3,000 Guilford Garden Club** to support the planting of trees in Guilford.

**$5,000 The SongStrong Sanctuary** to support the Equine Therapy Program providing therapy for traumatized youth, adults, families, and veterans.

**$5,000 Guilford Art Center** for general operating for community educational programming.

**$5,000 Guilford Social Services** to support the 2022 Back to School Program, which provides school age children in Guilford with the necessary funds to purchase supplies for the upcoming school year.

**$5,000 Before and After School Care Program, GCC** to support tuition assistance for families in need.

**$5,000 Special Olympics Connecticut** to revive and support the Central Shoreline local program, which was hit hard due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

**$2,500 Recovery Move™** for at-risk Guilford teens and young adults in 2022.

**$5,000 Guilford Anti-Bias Anti-Racist Alliance** to support equity-focused professional development for Guilford teachers.

**$6,000 Guilford Center for Children** to support tuition assistance.

**$7,500 Clifford W. Beers Guidance Clinic, Inc.** for trauma-informed clinical services and non-reimbursable, case management and care coordination services for Guilford children and families.

**$12,000 Women and Family Life Center** to support the Guided Assistance Program.

**$12,400 Youth Advisory Group Guilford Institute** grants for Guilford High School.

**$15,100 Youth Advisory Group** grants to Before and After School Care, Community Dining Room, Guilford Free Library, Guilford Social Services, Guilford Center for Children, Shoreline Arts Alliance, and Women and Family Life Center.

**$30,866 Designated Grants** Guilford Food Bank, St. George Food Pantry, Guilford Art Center, Guilford Interfaith Volunteers, The Guilford Foundation, Guilford Social Services, Women & Family Life Center, VNA Community Healthcare, Guilford Agricultural Society, Guilford Community Fund, Guilford Free Library, Guilford Preservation Alliance, Shoreline Village CT.

**Sponsorships**

The Guilford Foundation partnered with GSB to provide sponsorships for the following events in 2022:

- APK Charities 5K Run & Ruck
- Clifford Beers Builders of Hope Breakfast
- Connecticut Hospice Lights of Love
- Guilford Fund for Education Family Trivia Bee
- Guilford High School Project Graduation
- Guilford Art Center Holiday Expo
- Guilford Human Rights Commission Speaker Series
- Guilford Keeping Society’s 75th Anniversary Celebration KAREFest
- Pilgrim Fellowship Service Week trip to Puerto Rico
- Roots4Relief Wishing Wheels Bike Drive Run for The Cove
- SHEro Awards 2022: Celebrating Inspirational Women & Girls
- Shoreline Chamber of Commerce Women of Excellence SongStrong 5K
- St George Mens Group Italian Festival
- The Guilford Fair Parade
- The SARAH Project
- WALK for Vista 2022

Photo: Wishing Wheels bike drive organizers Sarah, Grace, Abigail, and John DeLisaVentura.
FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

The Guilford Foundation (TGF) is a small-town organization with big-city expertise, providing our constituents with personal attention and expert advice. TGF awarded nearly $225,000 in grants and scholarships during our fiscal year that ended January 31, 2023. Grant awards in fiscal years 2020-21 and 2021-22 included awards through our COVID-19 Response Fund and other current use donations in response to the pandemic. Our fiscal year 2022-23 represents a return to our pre-COVID-19 giving.

For historical context, TGF’s total assets were $2.9 million just five years ago (2018). Our larger asset base enabled TGF to more than double the amount of grants to the local community. Of course, none of this would be possible without the incredible donor support the local community provides TGF. We believe this longer-term view demonstrates the impact your continued support has had over the years.

We and our donors seek to address the needs of today while upholding charitable legacies for generations to come, so we invest both for now and for the future. The prudent fiscal stewardship of our donors’ funds and legacies is our top priority. Our Finance Committee works with the investment professionals at the Community Foundation for Greater New Haven (CFGNH) to preserve and grow our endowment. TGF’s individual funds are pooled and invested in a diversified portfolio managed by CFGNH.

TGF’s portfolio has grown at an annualized rate of 4.8% for the five years ending January 31, 2023, surpassing the benchmarks selected for comparison. For the twelve months that ended January 31, 2023, the portfolio’s investment performance was -3.9%, meaningfully surpassing the portfolio’s benchmarks for the same period, during a challenging investment environment.

Thanks to your support, TGF has helped transform the lives of so many in our special community. TGF takes the stewardship of the assets entrusted to it very seriously. We’re pleased to report that assets increased by 5.7% for the most recent fiscal year (FY 2021-21) to nearly $6.5 million, a high water mark for TGF’s portfolio.

The passion and generosity of TGF’s donors and partners led to $912,000 in contributions this year. As we transitioned into the recovery phase of the pandemic, the need for rapid response grantmaking decreased, leading to a return to pre-COVID-19 charitable giving patterns. Although our contribution numbers decreased this year, they were over 2% higher than our pre-COVID contributions in 2019.

We are grateful for the contributions made by the Legacy Circle. By creating The Guilford Foundation’s Legacy Circle, we can recognize our members’ generosity now with the hope of encouraging others to plan a gift for the future.

Legacy Circle Members
- Lawrence Appleton
- Charles “Gene” & Jane Bishop
- Anthony & Christine Fappiano
- Gwendolyn Gunn
- Richard Hersh & Judith Meyers
- John & Merri Hyman
- Allen Jacobs
- Roger & Connie Joyce
- Bill and Kate Lee
- Michelle Martin
- Joseph Nugent
- Mary Stevens & Jock Akin

The Legacy Circle allows donors to demonstrate their long-term commitment to the Foundation’s mission. Members pledge to include TGF in their estate planning. The planned gift may be designated unrestricted or directed to a field of interest or specific charitable organization. The donation provides favorable tax advantages for the estate while helping the Foundation’s important work continue for generations to come.

Join the Legacy Circle by contacting Executive Director Lisa Janssen Petra by calling (203) 640-4049 or at ljpetra@guilfordfoundation.org.
We extend our deepest gratitude to the following individuals, businesses and foundations who made financial contributions to The Guilford Foundation from February 1, 2022 to January 31, 2023.

$10,000 AND UP
ALANI KAILANI Blue Lotus White
Star Foundation
Anonymous Donor
Anonymous Donor
Cindy & Joe Goldberg
Guilford Savings Bank
Joan Hickey
Merri & John Hyman
Robert Jaeger
Amy & David Jaffe
Connie & Roger Joyce
Delaney & Bruce Lundberg
Market Street Trust Company
Roslyn Meyer
Helen Pedersen-Keiser & Robert Keiser
Regmark Foundation, Inc.
Stoddard Family Foundation
Yale New Haven Health

$5,000 TO $10,000
Carlyn Clement & Christopher Kaufman
Connie & Peter Dickinson
Lawrence Dowler
Pamela & Jonathan Ellman
Guilford Racquet Club

$1,000 TO $249
Ann Street & Ted Zuse
Kari & Eric Mull
Network For Good
Linda Nickerson
Melissa & Andrew Page
Ann & Stephen Page
Mindy Pollack
Michele & William Rosa
Joan & Ralph Schoemann
Joan Shrewsbury
Andrea & Mark Sklar
Meg Smith & Peter Hawes
Robert Stanko
Elsa Stone & Steven Wolfson
Ann Street & Ted Zuse
Guilford Funeral Home
James Sullivan
Susan & Peter Tattersall
Lynne Tirrell & Timothy Sperry
Hervey Townsend
Marianne & Robert Valley
Linda Waldman & Howard Sommer
Cheryl & Jeffrey Weissberg
Ulrika & John Wettlaufer
Pamela & Buck Wilson
Ann & John Zaalje
Clint Zeidenberg

$500 TO $999
Eli & Marcella Berlingieri
Anna & Mark Berlingieri
Sarah & Cameron Alexander
Allison Alkire & Roslyn Rubinstein
Kathleen & Christopher Balestracci
Kathleen & Christopher Balestracci

$100 TO $249
Joan & Ralph Schoemann
Guilford Funeral Home
Joan Shrewsbury
Kemp Baldwin
Bridget & Roger Berman
Nancy & Jonathan Bishop
Kate & William Bloss
Joan & Richard Carson
Catherine & John Crawford
Patricia & Keith Cunningham
Shan & Ronald Cyr
Kris & John D’Souza
Kathleen Dallacosta
Joan Downey
Christine & Anthony Fappiano
Ashley & Salvatore Fernandez
Dorothea Fink
Marie Fourteau
Allison & Josh Geballe
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Sue & Brian Gillie
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Jane & Brian Golembeski
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Lynne & Henry Healy
Kathleen & Paul Hermes
Charles Herrschell
Cynthia Hirni & Robert Raines
Janine & Chris Hodgson
Martha Howard & Neil Schultes
Anne & Edward Huguenel
Wendy & Frank Kovacic
Susan Kashaf & Christopher Ruser
Noemi & Theodore Kearns
Barbara Kiesel
Mary Landry & Peter Aronson
Diane & Guido Petra
Mary Jane Potter
Arthur Murray Dance Center of Guilford
Emelinda & Gerad Sanacora
Martha Schwenkendorf
Larry Schwartz
Kathryn & Eric Sejourne
Anne & Kevin Waehner
Wendy Walden
Noreen & Charles Wolleben

$250 TO $499
Peter Arentzen
Nancy & Ronald Bailey
Mary Scheinman & Whit Iglehart
Solange & Ralph Schipani
Sandra & Parry Spahr
Mara & Rich Weismann
Kathleen White
Carol & Fred Wright

$500 TO $999
Anonymous
Jean & Peter Barrett
David Beckerman
Shauvan & Edward Bennett
Pamela & Stephen Besse
Jane & Charles Bishop
Claudia Buzzi & Pietro DeCamilli
Anita Catardi
Jen & John Cruet
Shoreline Real Estate Company
Jean Feingold
Caitlin Garz & Robert Dalton
Simone & Brian Gell
Kristine & Ray Iglesias
Karen Jaso
Marina & Richard Lynch
Lauretta Lyons
Alice & Thomas Macy
Cindy & Robert McNamara
Pam & Doug Miller
Michele Minham
Maggie Moffett & Tom Ferrell
Robert Morrison
Harriet Munnett Wolfe
Barbara Pearce & Norm Fleming
Diane & Guido Petra
Mary Jane Potter
Arthur Murray Dance Center of Guilford

$100,000 AND UP
The list of donors has been organized by the amount of their contribution, with the largest donors listed first. The list includes the names and contributions of over 1,000 donors, including individuals, businesses, and foundations from across the country. The list also includes a special thank you to the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and the Ford Foundation, who have provided generous support to The Guilford Foundation over the years. The foundation is grateful to all of its supporters for their continued dedicated support.
H. Benjamin Bullard
Rula & Peter Burrow
Jeffrey Burt
Bronach & Geoffrey Bye
Nancy & Robert Cairns
Georgette Campagne
Helen & David Carlson
Celia & William Carroll
Barbara Caruso
Julia Chaffe & Aric Isaacs
Caroline Chandler
Robin & Rob Charney
Patricia & Peter Colburn
Maureen Corcoran & Zeno Chicarilli
Ellen Cordes & Harry Haskell
Suzanne Kelley
James Kenheck
Pam & Gary Knowles
Clare & James Landon
B Kaye Larson
Mary Alice Lee
Susan & Tony Leonard
Rusne & Jonas Lieponis
Carol & Ralph Linsley
Wanda & Horace Little
League of Women Voters of the East Shore
Lindalea Ludwick
Peter Luffer
Elin & John McCallum
Jamie & Tom McAuley
Amy McAuley
Sue & Brian McGlone
Meghan McGuire
Bonnie McHale & Jonathan Silbert
Medtronic Foundation Volunteer
Grant Program
Irene Millet
Mary Jane Minkin & Steven Pincus
Richard Misenti
Jennifer & Craig Mullet
Elizabeth & David Nowak
Joan O’Callaghan
Catherine & James O’Keefe
Tony & Peter Page
H. Logan Page
Shaun Paisley & Douglas Nejaime
Gail & Michael Pappas
John Parese
Deborah & Charlie Peluse
Whitney & Matt Peterson
Liza & Noel Petra
Joan & Erik Pingoud
Janice & Steven Plaziak
Joan Quinn
Susan Renner
Helen & Marco Rizzo
Elizabeth & Stanton Robison
Nina & John Rose
Harriet & Ken Rosen
Sandra Ruoff
Patricia Ruser
Barbara & Victor Russo
Nancy Ruthor
Meg Rydel & Harry Aslanian
John Sayles
Carol Schaller
Doris & Robert Schaper
Amy Schiss
Sheri Scully & Jon Rubin
Sarah Shrewsbury
Shawn & Jerry Smith
Gail & Roy Smith
J. Philip Smyth
Stephanie Spangler & Robert Shulman
Lisa & Jerome Speltz
Sandy Springer & Craig Gunderson
The Village Express
Linda & Lee Titus
Patricia Turner & Thomas Jensen
Howard Tuttle
Christina Van Itallie & James Anderson
Judith & Stephen Vance
Mary Von Hermann & David Funkhouser
Douglas Williamson
Linda & George Wilson
Alyson & Jeff Zeitlin
UP TO $99
Louise Albis
Joan Ames
Donita & James Anderson-Osha
Sylvie & Laurence Appleton
Jodi & Todd Arnold
Linda Balestracci
Thomas Black
Holy & John Bollier
Ann Bradley
Gloria & Robert Bradley
Martin Carbone
Patricia Carley & Lawrence Zukoff
Christine & Howard Cohen
Patrick Comfort
Community Foundation for Greater New Haven
Janet & Thomas Conroy
John & Nancy Cooney
Nancy Czarkowski
Cynthia & David Damer
Tammy DeFrancesco
Marjorie & Ronald DeMartino
Andrea Dickey
Christine & Louis Drago
Raymond Dudley
Anna Dwyer
Ellen & Michael Ebert
Susan & Barry Egan
Carrie & Christian Ehbar
Tara Fappiano
Carrie & Lou Federici
Robert Fein
Margaret Flesher
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Lyn Fontanella
Virginia Foster & Theodore Barber
Frank’s Package Store
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Pamela & Arthur Frisbee
Eleanor Frohlich
B. Christopher Galvin
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Elisabeth Kellogg Getto
Mitch Goldblatt
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Richard Halperin
Suellen Heinrich
Joel Helder
Roxanne & Milton Ignatius
Marcia & Robert Jacoby
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Shanta & Cyrus Kapadia
Clare & James Keefe
Patricia Klindierest
Karen Klugman
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Leslie & Harlan Krumholz
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Ninette & Philip Long
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Pat Sholly
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Onid Smith
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We worked carefully to ensure the completeness and accuracy of this list. We apologize for any mistakes, and ask that you contact Liza Janssen-Petra at jpetra@guilfordfoundation.org or (203) 640-4049 to correct any inconsistencies.
Grant Provided Equine Therapist to Help Girls with Mental Health Issues

The Guilford Foundation (TGF) awarded a $2,500 grant in 2022 to the SongStrong Foundation for a unique equine therapy program that benefitted a group of young girls who have experienced profound trauma. The mission of SongStrong is to carry out the legacy of Ethan Song, who spent his all-too-short life rescuing animals, honoring veterans, helping others, and enjoying sports. The TGF grant covered the cost of the equine therapist and equine specialist for the girls’ six-week summer program.

Equine therapy has proven very effective in treating post-traumatic stress disorder. Often working with rescued horses, a specially trained and certified mental health practitioner helps the client and animal to form a bond and break down emotional barriers. For Kristin Song, the benefits of equine therapy align closely with her son’s passion for caring for animals and helping people. Ethan and his family had fostered nearly 100 dogs, and Kristin has owned two horses in her lifetime. “Animals don’t judge. They don’t post on social media. They need to feel as loved and safe as the children do,” Song explains.

Using groundwork — training from the ground rather than the saddle — participants in equine therapy learn to notice the animal’s behavior and consider why and how a horse might react with fear or trepidation. Eventually, they recognize their behaviors and emotions mirrored in the horse’s behavior. “It’s really mutual. They begin to trust each other, allowing the child to let their guard down to the therapist. It’s a more subtle way of counseling children,” Song explains.

Though the program’s logistics are undergoing some changes this year, Song hopes the foundation will be able to support an equine therapy camp next summer and continue celebrating the beautiful and healthy relationships between animals and people that inspired Ethan.

Unrestricted Funds: Meets ever-changing current and future community needs, including future needs.
- Guilford General Trustees Fund
- Effie Good Fund
- David W. Knapp Fund
- Eleanor Little Fund
- Mancini Family Fund
- Virgil & Elizabeth McDaniel Fund
- Stanley H. Page Fund
- Joan & Barry Richter Fund (NEW!)

Designated Funds: Earmarked for a specific nonprofit organization or purpose, such as a local welfare fund or the library.
- Joe & Nancy Arnold Fund to support the Guilford ABC Program
- Jane H. Berger Fund
- Robert Blake Memorial Fund for the Benefit of Guilford ABC
- Catardi Family “Leaves and Fishes” Fund
- The Delaney Fund
- Grass Island Fund
- Guilford Art Center Endowment Fund
- Guilford Interfaith Volunteers Endowment Fund
- Guilford Keeping Society Endowment Fund
- Norma & Arthur Hall Fund
- Patricia W. Jaeger Fund
- Amy D. Jaffe Fund for the benefit of the Emergency Discretionary Fund at WFLC
- Liz Jones Fund for Art
- Saint George Knights of Columbus Fund for Children in Need
- Bill & Kate Lee Family Fund to Support the Guilford Community
- Guilford Foundation Operating Fund
- Barbara Pine Memorial Fund for the Benefit of Guilford ABC
- Jane Rudner Fund for the Benefit of Shoreline Village CT
- Lou & Susan Weady Fund
- Women & Family Life Center Agency Endowment

Donor Advised Funds: Allows donors to actively manage the use of their gift.
- APK Charities Corp Endowment Fund
- Chris & Carl Balestracci Jr. Community Fencing Fund
- Guilford Bell Curve Charitable Fund
- Paul Dostie KARE Fund
- Jared Elliot Philanthropic Fund
- Fappiano Family Fund for Special Needs
- Guilford Interact Student Advisory Fund
- Gustave & Carol L. Silcox Fund
- Ethan Miller Song Fund

Field of Interest Funds: Focused on an area of donor interest (youth, education, special needs, and more). TGF then awards grants to community serving organization that are making a difference in that field.
- Elizabeth Adams Fund
- Michael B. & Maryann Bracken Family Fund
- Campagne Kestner Architects Fund
- The Children’s Fund
- Helen E. Downing Outdoor Education Fund
- Corky Fisher Educational Fund
- Thomas M. Ginz Fund for Children
- Guilford Institute Fund
- Guilford Interfaith Housing Fund
- The Guilford Savings Bank Charitable Fund
- Gunn-Marshall Performing Arts Diversity Fund
- Livia Jacobs Seashore Fund
- Janet Potts Women’s & Girls Fund
- Elizabeth Stevens Tree Fund
- Rex Prescott Walden Fund (NEW!)

Scholarship Funds: Donor designates award parameters. High school counseling department manages application process and candidate recommendations.
- Carl A. Balestracci, Jr. Humanitarian Fund
- Karen & Terry Bergantino Educational Fund
- Al & Gene Bishop Fund for Vocational and Industrial Arts
- Richard Brooks Memorial Fund for Vocational Technology
- Stuart D. Burt Fund
- Maureen Cyr Caruso Scholarship Fund
- Guilford ABC College Education Fund
- Richard Hersh & Judith Meyers Scholarship Fund
- B. Joan Hickey & Dennis F. Hickey Scholarship Fund (NEW!)
- Jaffe Scholarship Fund
- Barbara Nugent Scholarship Fund (NEW!)
- Ralph Schipani Memorial Fund
- Elizabeth “Lizze” Schwanderlief Fund
- James P. Scalabba Scholarship Fund (NEW!)
- Kyle E. Smith Scholarship Fund
- Alison Varian Memorial Scholarship
- Stephen A. Looney Fund
- Jake Perman Memorial Scholarship Fund
- Guilford General Trustees Fund
- Effie Good Fund
- David K. Knapp Fund
- Eleanor Little Fund
- Mancini Family Fund
- Virgil & Elizabeth McDaniel Fund
- Stanley H. Page Fund
- Joan & Barry Richter Fund (NEW!)
Thank you.