



COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION
of Middlesex County

Philanthropy • Leadership • Legacy

2015-2016 Competitive Grant Awards Approved by the Board of Directors

Recipient	Grant	Focus Area
A Place Called Hope - To support the Captive diet which includes the purchase of rats, day old chicks, two week old chickens, quail, beefheart, and superworms. This is the staple diet food provided at the Center for both the resident and recovering Birds of Prey in care.	\$3,000	Animal/Human Welfare & Services
Cat Tales, Inc. - To support the TNR program which humanely and effectively controls the overpopulation epidemic of stray and feral cats as well as controlling disease.	\$3,000	Animal/Human Welfare & Services
High Hopes Therapeutic Riding - To support the participation of individuals from Middlesex County, particularly from Vista Vocational and Life Skills Center, in High Hopes programs during the winter and spring semesters.	\$3,000	Animal/Human Welfare & Services
Ray of Light Farm, Inc. - To maintain rescue horses in excellent health, and to provide appropriate training for these at-risk (Premarin and nurse mare foals) horse populations.	\$3,000	Animal/Human Welfare & Services
Center for the Arts - To support an environmental arts festival that provides Middlesex County citizens with the opportunity to celebrate the Connecticut River through the arts. Participants and attendees will have the opportunity to learn about strategies to build a more environmentally sustainable community.	\$1,500	Arts
Friends of Long Hill Estate, Inc. - To fund four free outdoor concerts staged on the south lawn of the Wadsworth Mansion on Wednesdays in July. Past seasons have featured such prestigious bands as the US Coastguard Band, Hartford Jazz Orchestra, Eight to the Bar, Jay Ungar & Molly Mason, Jeff Pitchell & Texas Flood.	\$1,500	Arts
Greater Middletown Concert Association - To bring representatives of the Boston-based, nationally-acclaimed ensemble of Flamenco dancers, guitarists and singers to Middletown.	\$1,000	Arts
Ivoryton Playhouse Foundation - To create a digital, update-able "notice board" in the theater that will provide a place to acknowledge donors and provide audiences with current information on Playhouse programs and fundraising activities.	\$2,000	Arts
Katharine Hepburn Cultural Arts Center - To support the dance/creative movement component of Kate's Camp for Kids, a summer arts day camp for children ages 5-10. This multi-discipline arts education program takes place at the Kate and is implemented in partnership with the Community Music School.	\$3,000	Arts

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Oddfellows Playhouse - To provide support for multicultural youth circus programs, including: circus classes for ages 8-11; Circophony, a circus training and performance company for ages 12-18; and the 2016 summer Children's Circus of Middletown, a 5-week circus camp for 150 youngsters ages 8-15.	\$5,000	Arts
Vista Vocational & Life Skills Center - To underwrite a Technical Director in the Vista Arts Center's 2016 production of The Pirates of Penzance.	\$2,000	Arts
Business Industry Foundation of Middlesex County - To help fund the 2016 Middletown Summer Youth Employment Program, placing participants into dynamic employment environments from a wide variety of industry sectors, for six weeks in the summer.	\$5,000	Boys & Young Men
Center for Children's Advocacy, Inc. - To fund youth-police trainings, designed to improve interactions between youth and police, for boys living at the Connecticut Juvenile Training School (CJTS), and legal education and consultation regarding education rights for boys at CJTS preparing for discharge.	\$4,250	Boys & Young Men
Middletown Public Schools - To provide All Pro Dads curriculum kits, online access to program website, breakfast food, transportation stipends (as needed), and other program materials for three school sites.	\$4,000	Boys & Young Men
North End Action Team - To create an interactive and productive writing group which encourages high school students to express themselves through poetry, with Wesleyan University and The Green Street Teaching and Learning Center as partners.	\$2,750	Boys & Young Men
Durham Public Library - To fund the purchase of LEGO WeDo Construction Kits and Activity Packs, introducing children to basic robotics concepts and allowing them to build robots with working motors and sensors and to program the robots to perform various actions.	\$1,272	Education
Friends of Clinton Youth & Family Services Bureau - To bring Chris Herren, former NBA player and drug addict, to speak to 6th-12th graders, providing young, at-risk students with a relatable, hands-on role model; and implement Project Purple, which charts a course for good decision making.	\$3,000	Education
Friends of the Chester Public Library - To purchase and install two new, fully networked computers that will complete the planned creation of a centrally located computer bar, tripling user access to technology, and meeting the technology needs of community members of all ages.	\$4,687	Education

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Goodspeed Opera House Foundation, Inc. - To provide educational programming to underserved students with in-school and out-of-school workshops, hands-on activities, tickets to a matinee performances, healthy lunches, transportation, and Instructional Guides aligned with state and national standards.	\$1,200	Education
Green Street Teaching and Learning Center - To support assistance for at-risk youth to attend classes and homework help in the Discovery Afterschool Program. Sixty students each semester, primarily grades 1 through 5, take a wide range of arts, sciences, and math classes with over 90% receiving assistance.	\$3,000	Education
Kids of Chatham Organization, Inc. - To purchase a die cutting machine and four sets of dies.	\$600	Education
Killingworth Library Association - To purchase chairs to accompany new computer workstations, providing a more comfortable and accessible work environment.	\$1,000	Education
Literacy Volunteers of Central CT - To fund recruiting, training and retention of thirty-three (33) volunteer literacy tutors and provide materials to teach 48 adults and 100 children; to meet their work, family and educational goals and become self-sufficient through improved literacy.	\$2,000	Education
Literacy Volunteers Valley Shore - To train and certify volunteers to tutor students in English and English as a Second Language in order to improve their life and work skills. Workshops are offered twice a year for seven sessions each and increase the volunteer tutor base to meet the increasing needs in the Valley Shore region.	\$2,500	Education
Middletown School Readiness Council - To support storytelling performance to approximately 350 preschool students at seven Middletown School Readiness sites. Students receive age-appropriate books each month to build their own personal libraries.	\$5,000	Education
Moody School Parent Teacher Association - To connect students with the school gardens through interactive, hands-on science enrichment programs that will teach the students about their natural environment while focusing on state-mandated curriculum.	\$1,000	Education
Portland Youth Services - To fund a Story Walk Initiative in the Town of Portland promoting early literacy, physical health, family engagement, and community parks/trail use for young children and their families.	\$1,500	Education
Pro Bono Partnership, Inc. - To support outreach and legal assistance to Middlesex County nonprofits, as part of a larger initiative to strengthen our state's nonprofit community.	\$3,000	Education

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Shoreline Arts Alliance - To establish, through the newly constructed Junior Board of Directors, a program for the benefit of young adults to better understand the business of the nonprofit sector, including outreach and promotion of SAA sponsored junior board opportunities to students in Middlesex County.	\$1,000	Education
The Waverly Center (aka Portland Senior Center) - To take seniors and school age children from low-income housing on field trips that include an educational component.	\$2,000	Education
Valley Shore YMCA - To provide 60 Westbrook first graders the opportunity to have comprehensive swim and safety instruction and learn about healthy living during their gym class time at the Valley Shore YMCA. Four groups of students will participate in 8 weeks of swim lessons.	\$2,500	Education
Bushy Hill Nature Center - To fund ten (10) "camperships" to attend Bushy Hill Day Camp for children identified either as at-risk or from underserved areas of Middlesex County.	\$3,000	Environment
Connecticut River Foundation at Steamboat Dock - To develop traveling exhibit components which will allow the Museum to broaden its regional impact and will be used in an innovative exhibit on invasive species in 2016.	\$4,000	Environment
Essex Land Trust - To produce an ecological, educational, signed walk in the new Burdick Preserve, which includes woodland, wetland bog, streams and Falls River frontage. Materials are for the bog walk, a kiosk, and ecological signs describing wildlife and the importance of the bog.	\$4,350	Environment
Middletown Garden Club - To fund site remediation, including the removal of poison ivy, sumac and other invasive plants (Phase I) and the redesign of a butterfly/pollinator garden and outdoor classroom at Farm Hill School in Middletown (Phase II).	\$2,840	Environment
Chester Historical Society - To upgrade archives computer system, allowing the Society to efficiently catalog archival documents and collections, then share these educational resources.	\$3,962	Heritage Enhancement
East Haddam Historical Society - To purchase a dedicated new computer, printer and Past Perfect software program, plus technical support and three training modules, to facilitate search and education about the heritage of East Haddam by accessing digitized records of the Society's holdings.	\$1,000	Heritage Enhancement

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Old Saybrook Historical Society - To fund the production and installation of two (2) interpretive signs at the property at 350 Main Street, Old Saybrook. One sign will be located in front of the historic General William Hart House, and one will be located between the house and the Frank Stevenson Archives, overlooking the Society's historic garden.	\$2,250	Heritage Enhancement
Camp Hazen YMCA - To provide camp assistance to Middlesex County youth who could not otherwise afford to attend camp.	\$4,000	Human Services
Columbus House, Inc - To support a range of services for families and individuals who are homeless or at risk of homelessness in and around Middletown, designed to get clients housed and keep them housed.	\$3,000	Human Services
Community Health Center-New Horizons - To fill the gap in accessing healthy food and personnel hygiene products for victims of domestic violence in Middlesex County.	\$5,000	Human Services
Connecticut Sports Foundation Against Cancer, Inc. - To assist cancer patients in Middlesex County undergoing active treatment to help pay basic expenses including rent, mortgage, utilities, food, and transportation to hospital/treatment centers.	\$1,500	Human Services
Connection, Inc. - To support the purchase of food for Eddy Shelter guests, between 26 and 48 men and women daily. This includes a hot meal on Sundays throughout the year when the local soup kitchen is closed as well as daily breakfasts and snacks.	\$5,000	Human Services
Covenant to Care for Children, Inc. - To support a children's protective service work program at faith and community-based agencies to provide for the material goods needed by the child and their caregivers. These essential goods ensure children are not at risk for neglect, and families can remain intact in a safe, nurturing environment.	\$3,000	Human Services
CT Radio Information System - To support development of audio versions of newspapers, magazines and interviews for individuals who are blind or print-challenged in Middlesex County.	\$500	Human Services
East Hampton Food Bank - To provide heating assistance for clients, especially during the winter months.	\$2,075	Human Services
Estuary Council of Seniors, Inc. - To provide transportation to and from medical outpatient appointments outside the nine-town region of the Connecticut's Lover River Valley, including: Chester, Clinton, Deep River, Essex (Centerbrook and Ivoryton), Killingworth, and Old Lyme.	\$3,000	Human Services

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FISH for C.D.& E. - To fund dispatch services for free transportation to medical appointments for elderly and disabled individuals in Chester, Deep River and Essex.	\$1,800	Human Services
Luther Ridge at Middletown, Inc. - To provide financial assistance to low-to-moderate income seniors living at Luther Ridge, supplementing the cost for a one-hour dental cleaning and exam that is provided in-house by a licensed dental hygienist.	\$3,000	Human Services
MARC Community Resources - To provide community-based skill development and leisure opportunities for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities which eliminates the feelings of isolation and contributes to an improved quality of life by promoting health and wellness, good communication skills, safety, and self-reliance.	\$2,500	Human Services
Mercy Housing & Shelter Corporation - To help fund the Mercy Supporting Housing Services program in Middletown, which combines rental subsidies with case management services that assist individuals and families, many of whom have multiple disabilities, in maintaining housing stability.	\$5,000	Human Services
Middlesex Community College Foundation - To establish a food pantry by students on the Community College campus which will provide access to free, non-perishable food items to students.	\$2,000	Human Services
Middlesex County Coalition on Housing & Homelessness - To end chronic homelessness and increase housing options for Middlesex County, including: planning for the rescue of the Shepherd Home building, implementing a coordinated access network, maintaining a prevention fund, and increasing the amount of rental assistance.	\$2,500	Human Services
Middlesex Habitat for Humanity of CT - To fund a website redesign that will establish an image and brand online which clearly communicates the quality services, community reach, and positive impact of Middlesex Habitat for Humanity.	\$5,314	Human Services
Operation Fuel - To support Operation Fuel's regular energy assistance program, providing emergency energy funding year-round to low-income, disabled, and elderly residents who struggle to afford their energy bills.	\$2,000	Human Services
Sail Connecticut Access Program - To maintain the sailboats used with a diverse population of individuals with disabilities and special needs.	\$2,000	Human Services
Shoreline Soup Kitchens & Pantries - To support weekly grocery distributions at food pantries with fresh and non-perishable food for Westbrook, Clinton, and Old Saybrook.	\$5,000	Human Services
Simply Sharing, Inc. - To provide new mattresses, box springs, pillows and mattress pads, as well as sheets and comforters, for clients based on need.	\$5,000	Human Services

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St. Luke's Community Services - To fund the VETS4VETS program, increasing its remote technical capacity to conduct benefits check up events, at-home benefit screenings, and broader community outreach to older veterans living in Middlesex County.	\$2,500	Human Services
St. Vincent DePaul Place - To support the Community Assistance Program which provides guidance for individuals in need to resources to overcome homelessness, addiction, and debilitating challenges.	\$5,000	Human Services
YMCA of Northern Middlesex County - To fund membership and after school program assistance for families with a parent and/or child in treatment for cancer or who have recently lost a family member to cancer.	\$3,500	Human Services
Adelbrook Behavioral & Development Services - To purchase iPads, Nooks or Kindles for girls with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) who need assistance with communication, behavioral tools for decreasing anxiety, and electronic educational aids. The use of these devices will improve time on task for school and lessen social anxiety.	\$2,000	Women & Girls
Arts for Learning Connecticut, Inc. - To provide girls an opportunity to express themselves through creative writing. The Project encourages emotional literacy through poetry, writing exercises and meditation where girls are guided to explore and write about peer relationships, self-esteem and body image.	\$1,000	Women & Girls
Connecticut Legal Services - To provide enhanced legal services to low-income victims of domestic violence and their children in Middlesex County.	\$3,000	Women & Girls
Epoch Arts - To fund materials supporting this annual program for teen girls (grades 7-12), such as journals, art supplies, snacks, theater production supplies, teaching references, outings and community outreach services.	\$2,500	Women & Girls
Everyone Outside - To enable girls and women to spend time outside in nature for the purposes of developing skills, knowledge and confidence, and to promote healthy living and environmental stewardship.	\$2,990	Women & Girls
Gilead Community Services - To fund a trainer and textbooks for a multi-day training on Dialectical Behavioral Therapy (DBT) for 45 Gilead staff, and textbooks to implement the skills gained in the training on an ongoing basis.	\$4,000	Women & Girls
Rushford - To fund a 4-week summer program for Middletown middle school-aged girls, focusing on teaching respect for self and others, the skills needed to be healthy, and serving as positive role models.	\$2,000	Women & Girls