The Carver Foundation of Norwalk’s mission is to close opportunity gaps for all children and to ensure they graduate high school on time and ready for college and careers.

To achieve our mission, Carver combines a set of key partnerships between school districts and their highly skilled educators, community organizations and parents to deliver before & after-school, summer and community programs that consistently demonstrate striking results.

Carver is Norwalk’s largest provider of before & after school and summer programs. Carver leads a highly collaborative citywide system that leverages and coordinates efforts and financial and in-kind resources, including full access to almost every school in Norwalk.

Carver will serve more than 2,500 students in the 2019-2020 school year, operating in 17 K-12 Norwalk schools, the Carver Community Center, and the Classical Studies Magnet Academy in Bridgeport.

Carver is one of the few charities nationally to receive the highest ratings from both Charity Navigator and Guidestar each year, far exceeding industry standards for financial health, transparency and accountability to donors.
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- **Phil Butterfield**, President, Social Venture Partners Connecticut; HSBC Bank Of Bermuda, Chairman, Retired
- **Sandra Faioes**, Vice-President, Director, School Improvement, Norwalk Public Schools
- **Mark Ortiz**, Treasurer, Chief Financial Officer, GE Capital Energy Financial Services
- **Valerie Watson**, Secretary, Vice President & Manager, Patriot Bank N.A.
- **Jonathan Whitcomb, Esq.**, Legal Counsel, Diserio Martin O’Connor & Castiglioni LLP

BOARD MEMBERS

- **Kimberly Gaddy**, Director, Reporting & Analytics, Global Strategy & Operations, Gartner
- **Robert Pennington**, Principal, Rowayton Elementary School, Norwalk Public Schools
- **Novelette Peterkin**, Chief Executive Officer, Carver Foundation of Norwalk
- **Danielle Robinson, PhD**, Director, Alcohol Policy and Corporate Reputation Management, Diageo
- **Kenneth Shuler**, Manager & AFP, TD Bank; President, FNX Foundation
- **Oscar Villalonga**, President & CEO, Coface North America
- **Fred Wilms**, Senior Vice President, Webster Bank; Connecticut State Representative, 142nd Legislative District, 2015-2019
- **Wendy Winnick-Baskin**, Atria Darien, Executive Director, Retired
- President Emeritus, **Charles Burns**
- Immediate Past President, **Diana Napier** (ex officio member)
- Advisor, **Richard Whitcomb**, St. Luke’s School, Headmaster Emeritus (ex officio member)
100% of Carver 2019 seniors graduated on time, as they have since 2005.

100% of Carver 2019 seniors (as in most years) became first generation college students this past fall.

2,870 students (estimated) will be served in 32 Carver programs operating in 18 schools and the Carver Community Center during the 2019-2020 school year, and in summer 2020, the beginning of the 2020-2021 school year.

- 1,100 elementary students before & after school
- 720 middle school students after school
- 220 high school students after school
- 830 K to 9th grade students in 8 summer 2020 programs. (300+ of the 2019-2020 before & after school students will be participating in Carver’s 2 Summer Enrichment and 6 summer programs designed to assist students transitioning into the 6th and 9th grades in the fall)

$85,000+ is awarded in college scholarships each year.

90% is the average student attendance in Carver programs.

More than 400 volunteers support Carver kids each year.

More than 4,000 people of all ages are engaged in various ways through Carver’s before & after school, summer and community programs.

The Carver Community Center serves as a vital community and city resource for summer and after school programs, basketball leagues, adult education, holiday events, food drives, and much more.
Carver measures progress across reading, math, science, critical thinking and creative expression. Carver also utilizes student and teacher surveys, parent meetings, and other forms of feedback.

Carver’s after school students grow faster academically than the national average in each grade. 5th graders show the strongest growth overall. Carver students in 3rd, 5th, and 10th grade grew faster in Math than Norwalk district-wide results for the same grades. Carver students in 5th and 9th grade grew faster in Reading than Norwalk district-wide results for the same grades.

In our four summer 2018 middle school transition programs, in every case students that were lower achievement before summer grew faster or maintained an above average growth rate. In every case High Needs students (Free/Reduced Lunch Status, English Language Learner, or Special Education) maintained an above average growth rate.

In our two summer 2018 high school transition programs, in nearly every case students that were lower achievement before summer grew faster. High Needs students showed consistent improvement in Math.

In our two summer 2018 enrichment programs, in nearly every case students that were lower achievement before summer grew faster.

Carver Lead Program Coordinators are certified teachers during the school day. Carver programs are in alignment with the students’ school curricular goals, learning objectives and expectations, and they are consistent with Common Core State Standards (CCSS), and the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS).
The cause for the 2018-19 fiscal year modest deficit was the federal government shutdown from December 22, 2018, until January 25, 2019. A 21st Century grant was awarded and expected to be received in December 2018, but was ultimately not released until July 2019, the beginning of the 2019-2020 fiscal year.

Carver's operating budget for 2019-2020 is $6,051,256. There is a plan in place to meet this budget increase by June 30, 2020.

Carver is among very few nonprofits in Connecticut to receive Charity Navigator’s highest rating, far exceeding industry standards for financial health, transparency and accountability to donors. Nationwide, less than 25% of rated nonprofits receive the 4 Star rating.

Carver also earned GuideStar’s Platinum Seal, its highest rating for organizational transparency and performance measurement. GuideStar is the world's largest source of information about nonprofit organizations.
In 1896, Booker T. Washington and Carver’s namesake, George Washington Carver, exchanged these letters.

...Tuskegee Institute seeks to provide education – a means for survival to those who attend. Our students are poor, often starving. They travel miles of torn roads, across years of poverty. We teach them to read and write, but words cannot fill stomachs. They need to learn how to plant and harvest crops. I cannot offer you money, position or fame. The first two you have. The last, from the place you now occupy, you will no doubt achieve. These things I now ask you to give up. I offer you in their place – work – hard, hard work – the challenge of bringing people from degradation, poverty and waste to full manhood.”

...I am just in receipt of yours of the 13th, and hasten to reply. I am looking forward to a very busy, pleasant and profitable time at your college and shall be glad to cooperate with you in doing all I can through Christ who strengthened me to better the condition of our people. Some months ago I read your stirring address delivered at Chicago and I said amen to all you said, furthermore you have the correct solution to the ‘race problem.’ Providence permitting, I will be there in Nov[ember]. God bless you and your work.”

Superintendent Dr. Steven Adamowski made this statement to the Norwalk Board of Education in presenting the 2020-2021 school district budget, which named Carver’s work as one of the priorities for the next school year.

"Our students have demonstrated that given the same opportunities, they will do as well if not better than their homogenous, economically segregated suburban neighbors. Talent and intellect are distributed equally in every population, opportunity is not; that is our job and that of every Norwalker concerned with justice and equity for our students and the future of the City. I trust that working together, we will ensure that Norwalk students are valued equal to students in other area school districts and their ‘opportunity gap’ can be closed once and for all."