We are making an Impact in Fairfield County!

At Impact Fairfield County (Impact FFC), our mission is to empower women engaged in local philanthropy through deeper knowledge and active participation in grantmaking. We unite women by pooling membership funds to provide large, transformational grants to local nonprofits.

- This year, 262 women from Fairfield County joined as members; 160 women participated in the grant application review process, evaluating 59 grant proposals.
- In 7 years, Impact FFC has awarded close to $1.6 million of grant funding to nonprofit organizations throughout Fairfield County, including twelve $100,000 Impact FFC Grants and one 5-Year Anniversary Grant of $50,000.
- Each $100,000 Impact FFC Grantee has implemented a transformational and sustainable program serving an unmet need in Fairfield County.

NEW REACH  newreach.org  *Start June 2022 *

Grant Awarded: $100,000 in 2022
Bridgeport, CT

**Project Funded**: Stable Families Program. Impact funds will help low-income tenants to stabilize and avert eviction. The Stable Families Program (SFP) SFP will provide case management, social work, and access to legal services to 50 families facing eviction.

NOURISHBRIDGEPORT  nourishbpt.org  *Start June 2022 *

Grant Awarded: $100,000 in 2022
Bridgeport, CT

**Project Funded**: Indoor Urban Farm. Impact funds will cover growing equipment and a refrigerated van for a new indoor hydroponic farm, opening in June of 2022. Through distribution to food pantries and farmer markets, the farm will increase the availability and accessibility of fresh produce to the Bridgeport community to help alleviate food insecurity.

HALL NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSE  hallneighborhoodhouse.org  *in progress*

Grant Awarded: $100,000 in 2021
Bridgeport, CT

**Project Funded**: On-site dental clinic. Impact funds helped cover start-up construction and equipment costs. Clinic will help to increase access and improve the health outcomes for HNH community and residents of Bridgeport’s East Side that otherwise are lacking access to basic healthcare needs.

**SIGNIFICANT OUTCOMES:**

- Dental Clinic, opening June 2022, will serve 370 patients at HNH in its first year
INTEMPO  intempo.org  *in progress*

Grant Awarded: $100,000 in 2021
Stamford, CT

Project Funded: Music program for children who are new arrivals/English language learners (ELL). Intempo’s mission is to engage, educate and enrich the lives of children by making music relevant, inclusive and accessible, and to help close the achievement gap. Intempo partners with ELL teachers to provide research-based curricula to engage students and increase English proficiency.

SIGNIFICANT OUTCOMES:

• Intempo won the 2022 Lewis Prize in Music Accelerator Award, which is a $500,000 grant that will be used over five years. Intempo has credited Impact for allowing them to “think big” and inspiring them to think deeply about the intersection of immigrant inclusion, educational equity, and systems change.
• Intempo will begin offering intercultural music instruction for all students at Jefferson School (432 students). This program will provide earned revenue, a percentage of which can be used to help sustain its new arrivals/ELL program.

ALL OUR KIN  allourkin.org  *in progress*

Grant Awarded: $100,000 in 2020
Danbury, CT

Project Funded: Expansion of affordable family child care in Danbury. Program has provided educational coaching and business support to Danbury-based child care providers. All Our Kin is actively working with state officials to help redesign early childhood systems to best serve Danbury educators and families.

SIGNIFICANT OUTCOMES:

• All Our Kin provided professional development programs to 77 educators and helped 10 Danbury-based providers obtain licensing, resulting in 60 additional child care sports in Danbury.
• 13 Danbury-based educators graduated from business series classes which consisted of 27 hours of content, technology support and one-on-one coaching across a 10-week period.
• Over 90% of family child care programs that engage with All Our Kin remained open during the pandemic.

CAREER RESOURCES INC  careerresources.org  *in progress*

Grant Awarded: $100,000 in 2020
Bridgeport, CT

Project Funded: Entry Point Staffing (EPS). Temporary staffing agency will provide returning citizens (from incarceration) with intensive work-readiness skills, access to work experience, and ability to earn wages. Program will provide a support network that aims to lead to permanent employment and reduced recidivism.

SIGNIFICANT OUTCOMES:

• EPS has reached out to 137 organizations, signed service contracts with 16 employers and has placed 27 returning citizens in jobs. 80% have retained jobs for more than 90 days.
• None of the clients that have worked with EPS has returned to prison.
• More than $180,000 in revenue has been generated by job placements; the program will be sustainable and revenue-generating for CRI.
BUILDING ONE COMMUNITY  building1community.org

Grant Awarded: $50,000 in 2020 (5 Year Anniversary Grant)
Stamford, CT

Project Funded: Staff Development and Coaching. Building One Community (B1C) developed a leadership program to sustain a culture of learning and professional development and cultivate strong internal leadership through coaching, classes, mentorship and projects. Program will allow B1C to increase employee retention and enhance diversity of its leadership staff.

SIGNIFICANT OUTCOMES:

- In Summer 2020, Leadership Academy was launched, comprised of monthly staff trainings and individual coaching for managers. Topics included organizational values, essential management skills, leading group meetings, building effective teams and strategic planning.
- 84% of staff have attended the trainings and 100% report that they were helpful. Since July 1, 2020, 963% of staff has been retained.
- Commitment to professional development for staff members remains strong. B1C has created a new Operations & Human Resources Director position to manage staff development and implement a path for growth for each employee within the organization.

KIDS IN CRISIS  kidsincrisis.org

Grant Awarded: $100,000 in 2019
Greenwich, CT

Project Funded: KidTalk counselor at the Boys and Girls Club of Greenwich. KidTalk offers “boots on the ground” crisis prevention and mental health support by meeting hundreds of kids in their daily environment; the counselor also connects families to new external resources.

SIGNIFICANT OUTCOMES:

- KidTalk program began in August 2019; counselors have seen 205 kids since inception. 65 of these kids have seen the KidTalk counselor more than 8 times. 21% of the families have also received counseling services.
- 90% of kids have demonstrated an improvement in coping skills and identifying emotions as measured by a "feelings thermometer". The club reports fewer timeouts and suspensions.
- Counselor has provided the additional benefit of training BGCG staff in youth mental health and has empowered staff to directly manage behavioral issues. Counselor has also worked with schools to provide continuity of services. Starting in fall 2021, the Counselor will be employed part time by local elementary school to assist with staff training and provide parent support, which will enable KIC to pay a full-time salary to help with retention.
- Kids In Crisis has received funding to sustain program, and other Boys and Girls Clubs are interesting in replicating this successful model.

THE CENTER FOR FAMILY JUSTICE  centerforjustice.org

Grant Awarded: $100,000 in 2019
Bridgeport, CT

Project Funded: Pro Bono Civil Legal Center for Victims of Domestic Violence. Legal staff provides victims of domestic violence in Greater Bridgeport with free legal representation in civil court on matters related to restraining orders, divorce, division of marital assets and child custody/child support. Direct legal
representation dramatically increases victims’ successful outcomes, which in many cases is the difference between economic and physical safety, and continued victimization.

SIGNIFICANT OUTCOMES:

- Since its inception in September 2019, the PBLC has served 147 clients and provided 1,467 hours of legal services, saving their clients $542,000 in legal fees.
- 89% of clients report feeling safe; 81% report improved financial security; 67% have had legal proceedings resolved in their favor and 56% of clients received wrap around services at CFJ.
- COVID pandemic increased demand for services. Call volume to hotline increased by more than 30% and more than half are from people reaching out for the first time. Since the courts “re-opened”, CFJ attorneys are operating at capacity. Clients are having to wait more than six months before getting a court date because of backlog.
- Due to successful outcomes of program over the 24-month grant period, CFJ has secured a $225,000, three-year grant and an additional $100,000 grant to sustain the Pro Bono Legal Center.

STAMFORD PUBLIC EDUCATION FOUNDATION spefct.org

Grant Awarded: $100,000 in 2018
Stamford, CT

Project Funded: Ready. Set. Shine! summer program. Program provided Stamford children quality summer preschool to ease transition to kindergarten, targeting children and families who are disconnected from the Stamford Public Schools (SPS) and had no prior preschool experience. In the summers of 2018 and 2019, 136 students attended 5-week summer classes to prepare for entering kindergarten. Participants represented nearly 25% of the students who entered SPS kindergarten without a pre-k experience. Nearly 30% spoke a language other than English. Students showed significant gains in following classroom routines and decreased anxiety about entering school. Only 5% of entering students were at or above benchmark assessment; at mid-year of kindergarten, 37% of students were proficient. 100% of parents reported that the Program “helped to decrease any anxiety that my child and/or myself may have had about my child starting kindergarten.”

SUPPORTIVE HOUSING WORKS shworks.org

Grant Awarded: $100,000 in 2018
Bridgeport, CT

Project Funded: Vehicle for Change, a Mobile Van to Address Youth Homelessness. SHW’s mobile van transforms the way youth and young adults are identified and engaged so they can receive needed services to avert the catastrophic effects of homelessness. The outreach van removes barriers to services such as transportation, limited phone access, shame in asking for help and navigating a complex system. The van served 62 youth in 2019-2020 with 36 youth housed as a direct result of services received on the van. It was highlighted in a request to the U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development as an innovative response to youth homelessness, helping to secure a $3 million grant to combat youth homelessness in Fairfield County.

THE ROWAN CENTER therowancenter.org

Grant Awarded: $100,000 in 2017
Stamford, CT

Project Funded: Lower Fairfield Sexual Assault Forensic Examiners (SAFE) Program. The Safe Program was a coordinated effort between The Rowan Center and Greenwich and Norwalk Hospitals to provide timely, trauma-informed sexual assault forensic exams to victims of sexual violence. The program helped serve as a catalyst to establish a new CT state law, requiring all SAFE nurses to be trained by Office of Victim Services.
Grant Awarded: $100,000 in 2016
Stamford, CT

Project Funded: Early Childhood and Parenting Program combined crucial early childhood development for homeless children and essential parenting skills classes for their parents; it served 113 homeless children and 122 parents over the two-year grant period. Children who were not within range developmentally upon entry into the program or at any time thereafter subsequently moved to within range.