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# Impact Report 2021



Live here. Give here.

## Dear Treasured Friend,

Here's what we learned about you during the time of the pandemic. When your neighbors need you, your generosity knows absolutely no bounds.

We've always known that you, our Guilford supporters, are generous, caring, and compassionate. And that you love our Guilford community.

Your gifts to The Guilford Foundation have long aided people and businesses across a wide spectrum of projects and problems — everything from supporting the Guilford Garden Club to helping families afford their rent during times of crisis.

But this last year, the needs were breathtakingly urgent and vast — and they affected every one of us. People struggled to survive — unable to afford groceries, paralyzed by grief and isolation, and without the means to get the medical care they needed.

We put out the call for help, not knowing whether any of you — in the midst of coping with the pandemic — would be able to respond.

And then ... well, there's only one way to put it. You blew us away with your outpouring of generosity!

You went above and beyond during this overwhelming emergency. And your donations literally made the difference for many of your Guilford neighbors between getting through this terrible time — and falling through the cracks.

We can't begin to describe the pride and gratitude we feel for you, our compassionate Guilford neighbors. We hope the stories that follow in this booklet give you a sense of just how profound your impact has been on the Guilford community during the last year.

Gratefully,

Liza Janssen Petra, Executive Director

Thank you for always being there for your neighbors during a year like no other Summer 2021

Peter C Barrett

Peter Barrett, Board Chair

# Clifford Beers builds stronger families — and that gives us all a stronger community

# Thank you for investing in Guilford's future

#### **"IT WAS A ROLLER COASTER FOR FAMILIES**

when the pandemic first hit," recalls Danielle DiLauro, clinician and counselor at the Guilford office of Clifford Beers. "Once people realized it wasn't just a short vacation at home, there was a huge increase of anxiety. Managing school and work at home, the isolation ... it was really tough and people needed help."

Clifford Beers, the nationally known outpatient mental health clinic based in New Haven, has been providing state-of-the-art mental health and wellness services to clients struggling with mental health issues including trauma, depression, anxiety, and acute crises for over 100 years.

The lock-down and shelter-in-place rules could have paralyzed the organization, whose staff typically works with clients and their families in person.

Thank goodness for your generosity! It funded a grant to Clifford Beers that helped make sure every client and family could receive the help they needed.

"The behavioral health services we offer were essential for helping children and families cope with the challenges brought on by the pandemic," says CEO Alice Forrester. The staff leaped into action when COVID-19 hit, she adds, and "we were able to move from face-to-face to telemedicine within 72 hours."

## Guilford residents struggle, too — just like people everywhere

Some might think Guilford residents have little need for the kinds of services that Clifford Beers offers, but they couldn't be more wrong.

Depression, anxiety, school refusal, economic stress, housing issues, domestic violence — there were all here on the shoreline before COVID-19 hit. "Yes, some are affluent, but there's a full range of economic status and mental health issues on the shoreline. And there's more of a stigma here, just asking for help," says Danielle.

The pandemic only ratcheted up the stress levels.

Kids with depression or anxiety lost their access to the social, educational, and extracurricular activities that were so critical to keeping them afloat.

Parents faced challenges they never could have imagined. "Their stress level went through the roof," says Danielle. "Parents were juggling everything — not only parenting and working, but also supervising remote school — and doing everything with no break. If there was tension between a child and parent before the pandemic, now it was ten times worse."

But with Clifford Beers there to help, dozens of Guilford children and their parents are getting through some of the toughest times of their lives.



## Because of you, baby steps turn into giant steps

Take nine-year-old Lucas, for example.

"Even before the pandemic," says Danielle, "he was explosive in the classroom. He'd run out of the room or even out of the school building. He lacked the confidence and the desire to read, which made things even harder."

Once the pandemic hit, he was expected to log in, stay focused, and manage his school work with the help of his mother - a single parent. It was too much.

Danielle worked remotely with Lucas, his mom, and the school. Despite the challenges of online counseling, they made incredible progress.

"One day last spring, he asked if he could read to me from his favorite robot book," says Danielle. "This is a kid who, before the pandemic, acted like he couldn't read at all. He was so proud! It might seem small, but for him it was such a big accomplishment because he had struggled for so long."

Next year, with newly found self-assurance, Lucas is heading to Baldwin Middle School. Danielle and all the resources of Clifford Beers will be by his side to make sure he has all the support he needs to be successful.

Your gift to The Guilford Foundation, which helped Clifford Beers provide urgently needed mental health care to more than 65 children during the pandemic, is a wonderful and a wise investment in the future.

"As a therapist, I believe these issues are generational," says Danielle. "Helping even one child like Lucas, and the people around him, is the way to prevent passing on the painful stuff and to encourage passing on the positive stuff. This is how we help grow an entire family in a better direction." • How do Guilford's ABC scholars afford to go to college?

#### Donors like you make the impossible possible

IF YOU LIVE IN OR AROUND GUILFORD,

chances are you know Guilford ABC (A Better Chance) as a life-changing program for gifted young women of color from under-resourced communities.

ABC provides a college-preparatory education at Guilford High School, support services like tutors from Yale and top-notch college advisors, summer study abroad and educational enrichment programs, and a home at the beautiful ABC House.

It's an incredible opportunity for academically talented young women who would not otherwise have access to the kind of high school experiences most colleges expect these days.

But did you ever wonder how they manage, once they graduate and leave Guilford and the ABC program? After all that hard work, preparing for demanding college careers that will start them on a path to successful lives, how on earth can these girls afford the tuition?

That's a question Connie Dickinson, longtime ABC board member, began to ask herself a few years ago. She was helping one of the graduating seniors sort out her college acceptances and financial aid packages.

"Where was the money going to come from?" she remembers wondering. "How much was the school offering, and how much was coming from other sources?"

#### An even better chance for ABC kids

That's when she realized how big the gap is for these kids. Even though ABC students typically receive financial aid and other scholarships, the cost of tuition and living expenses is often out of reach. Worse, many of the scholarships only last "ABC doesn't just leave us out in the world after the high school program. This scholarship shows they believe in us. They trust us to succeed in college." JULIA ANTWI-BOASIAKO

a single year, making the gap even larger in subsequent years.

Too often, ABC alums found they had to take two or three jobs to try to make ends meet—all while attending college full time.

"I thought that was awful," says Connie. "It leaves you no room to do the things you're supposed to do in college — exploring new ideas and making friendships."

Connie decided that ABC could help, so she came to The Guilford Foundation, and asked us to set up the ABC College Education Fund. Its purpose? To give a modest scholarship to every graduating ABC scholar *every year for all four years of college*.

The Foundation invests and manages all donations made to the fund, and then distributes grant awards directly to each student's college or university to defray tuition expenses.



Thanks to the incredible generosity of donors like you, the first award was granted in 2019. And since then, every ABC Guilford High graduate receives scholarship money for each year of college.

This year, every ABC student attending college received a \$2,500 grant.

It may not seem like a huge amount of money when you consider the enormous cost of tuition. But Julia Antwi-Boasiako, a sophomore at New York University who graduated from Guilford High School in 2020, can attest to the important difference it's making for her and her family.

"It helped us out so much financially, especially during COVID-19 when my mom had to stop working for a while," Julia says. "And since I'll receive it every year, I'll be able to budget and work out my tuition over the four years."

Connie would dearly love to grow the ABC College Education Fund so that the size of the scholarships can increase as tuition costs surely will. She's on a mission to level the educational playing field for people of color. •

If you believe in Connie's mission, it's easy to join her. Visit www.guilfordfoundation. org/giving/overview, and select Guilford ABC Educational Fund for your donation. Then feel great, knowing you've helped a promising, ambitious young person achieve her goals.

That's Connie, second from right, with (from left) Sherry Pranzo, one of the tutors, Liza Janssen Petra, Lauren Cyrus (2021 grad-uate), and Marie Berry, the current ABC president, at the 2021 scholarship award event.



"They were not about flash," Deb Rynn says, remembering her mother and step-father, Sue and Lou Weady. "They enjoyed life, each other, and what they were able to have — but they didn't do anything to impress anybody."

**THE UNEXPECTED** million-dollar bequest the Weadys left to The Guilford Foundation, however, is nothing if not impressive in its generosity and farsightedness.

Lou passed away in 2014, and Sue in 2017. They were known around town as the down-to-earth, hard-working, community-minded couple that owned Royal Printing Service for decades.

"Lou was always the first to pitch in and give a hand," says Deb.

"And my mother was always helping out with some community event or helping someone through the church. They both wanted to make a positive impact."

With this bequest, their positive impact will last forever in Guilford.

# Why did Sue and Lou leave a \$1 Million to The Guilford Foundation?

The Weadys both had a lifelong love for their home town. Sue's Guilford roots go back to the Nortons

one of Guilford's founding families — and Lou lived here his entire life.

They were high school sweethearts, but after graduating, Sue and Lou went their separate ways. Decades later, after starting families and raising kids, they found each other again. They married in 1989 and started a new chapter of their Guilford lives. In 1993, Sue left a demanding career as an emergency medicine nurse and hospital administrator at Lawrence Memorial Hospital to join Lou in business at Royal Printing.

They loved life in Guilford — their Royal Printing family, the Guilford Fair, theater and music in nearby New Haven, and Saint George Church where they both sang in the choir.

"Lou could be heard driving around in his car with the top down, playing music, singing," says Deb. "They liked to be around people, to be a part of events. And they loved being good neighbors not just to the people on their left and their right, but to the whole community."



"This legacy takes us to a different level. It will increase our competitive grant making by fully one-third. It's a true honor that they trusted us to identify where best to put these resources to enhance the quality of life in Guilford." LIZA JANSSEN PETRA, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

# The Guilford Foundation: the best vehicle for the Weady's dreams

Sue and Lou loved Guilford, and they wanted to preserve the character of the community forever, for every Guilford resident.

"They had trust and faith," says Deb, "that The Guilford Foundation would be the best organization — with the greatest reach — to carry their support of their neighbors forward."

In their characteristically modest and understated way, Sue and Lou Weady left our town a legacy that will have a profound impact on Guilford's residents for generations to come.

An amazing gift — and yet, they were just regular people, who wouldn't want anyone to make too

big a deal of it. "If my mother were here, she would just secretly smile and be proud." •

It's easier than you think — and costs absolutely nothing during your lifetime to leave your "forever" mark on Guilford with bequest in your will. Liza Jannsen Petra, our executive director, would love to talk you about how to get started.

Contact her at: → 203.640.4049 → Ipetra@guilfordfoundation.org



You made 2020 so much better (maybe we should say less bad?!) for so many, thanks to your amazing generosity.

#### **YOU PROVIDED**

72 families with grants of \$500 each to pay for essentials like rent and groceries through the Women & Family Life Center



#### **YOU HELPED**

52 Guilford residents pay for virtual music programs through Neighborhood Music School that they could not have afforded without your help





#### **YOU MADE SURE**

8 babies had clean diapers through Bare Necessities, the shoreline's diaper bank—1744 diapers and 3,000 baby wipes in all



#### **YOU GAVE**

**1** full scholarship to Before and After School Care for a child in need of day care



#### YOU MADE IT POSSIBLE FOR

95 Guilford residents to participate in the Special Olympics by purchasing helmets and softball equipment



#### **YOU MADE SURE**

**9**elderly Guilford residents stayed connected to their community with transportation to **Orchard House Medical** Adult Day Center





**5** windows at the Thomas Griswold House



#### **YOU PROVIDED**

**13** residents of Guilford with urgently needed biweekly programming for substance use disorders during the pandemic



**POSSIBLE FOR** 

YOU MADE IT

households

to keep their precious pets during the pandemic by providing pet care from Tail To Paw

**YOU REPLACED** 





Kim Brockett (center), Tom Puffer (right), and their two mammoth donkeys gratefully accept a \$10,000 challenge grant to the **Guilford Agricultural** Society – presented by Liza (left). (All masked for safety, of course!)

# Despite the challenging environment of the past year,

the Guilford community and your Foundation rose to the occasion with unprecedented support to both The Guilford Foundation (TGF) and for TGF's COVID-19 relief efforts.

YOUR SUPPORT WAS CRITICAL in a time of unexpected need and a vivid demonstration of TGF's ability to respond to an immediate crisis while also maintaining a steady, increasing flow of funds into the community.

TGF takes the stewardship of the assets entrusted to it very seriously and is pleased to report that assets increased by nearly 50% for the most recent fiscal year to nearly \$5.4 million, a high-water mark for the Foundation's portfolio. Contributions of \$1.6 million – also a record

- notably impacted the increase. This included the largest gift in TGF's history - a nearly \$1 million bequest from the estate of Louis and Susan Weady.

This increase in assets helped the Foundation respond to the pandemic by distributing more than \$138,000 raised for the COVID-19 Emergency Response Fund to local organizations devoted to helping those in need. Total grants for the fiscal year ending Jan. 31, 2021 were \$271,237, up 87% from the previous year.

As of January 31	2021	2020	% Change
Total Assets	\$5,388,992	\$3,607,307	49.4%
Total Contributions	\$1,602.390	\$561,753	185.3%
Total Grants	\$271,237*	\$145,318	86.7%

#### \*COVID-19 Fund grants represent \$138.083 of this total

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. Key financial Indicators are extracted from annual financial statements and exclude interfund gifts and grants. A copy of our Form 990 is available upon request.

# 2020 Leadership

#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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#### 2020-2021 YOUTH ADVISORY GROUP

Kiera Stankewich, Co-Chair Hana Greif, Co- Chair Sophia Ruser, Secretary Janna Ellman, Treasurer Madden Cunningham Svdnev Cunningham Sadie Davidson Ryan Lynch



The board in 2019. Unfortunately we were unable to gather in person for a photo this year.

Moira McGovern Francesca Meneo Gigi Meneo Leila Ruser

#### 2019-2020 YOUTH ADVISORY GROUP

Ella Stanley, Co Chair Kiera Stankewich, Co Chair Nick Chiu Madden Cunningham Sydney Cunningham Sadie Davison Janna Ellman Hana Greif Sequoia Kessler Jared Lynch **Isabelle** Paris Sophia Ruser



#### 2020 Grant Awards

The Guilford Foundation (TGF) is pleased to announce that it committed \$271,237 for initiatives and organizations serving Guilford in 2020. This reflects 25 grants made through our COVID-19 Response Fund for Guilford, 15 grants through our competitive grant making process, 18 scholarship awards, 16 grants from designated funds for local organizations, and investments in TGF-driven leadership initiatives.

- **\$500** Tail to Paw Animal Support to reduce the household cost burden of medical and general care of pets.
- **\$1,000 Guilford Youth and Family Services** for gift cards for teens in lieu of gifts due to COVID-19 for the annual Holiday Teen Gift Drive.
- **\$1,000** Legacy Theatre to support general operating expenses due to the loss of income during COVID-19.
- **\$1,000** Neighborhood Music School to support for the NMS Guilford Branch need-based financial aid program.
- **\$1,000 Special Olympics CT** to cover the cost of purchasing/replacing equipment, covering registration fees, and pay for transportation to events.
- **\$1,000** Vista Life Innovations to support a "A Shared Stage" Production.
- **\$1,000** Leadership Initiatives to support the local organizations participating in the Great Give
- \$1,150 Special Education Parent Teacher Organization (SEPTO) to host a series of virtual programs on subjects including resilience, the power of connection, ending bullying, and parenting tools to address stress and anxiety.
- **\$2000 Bare Necessities** for diapers and wipes to families in need and adult diapers to seniors in need.

- **\$2,000Guilford Social Services** to provide gift cards in lieu of Holiday Gift Baskets during COVID-19.
- **\$2,000 Guilford Center for Children** for tuition assistance for families who need it.
- **\$2,000** Jordan Porco Foundation to support the virtual adaptation of a mental health program to help Guilford's youth cope with stress of COVID-19 epidemic.
- **\$2,000** Lifelinx to maintain their substance abuse transportation program for residents during COVID-19.
- **\$2,400 St. George Transitional Housing Project** to help a family in transition by providing a full year of rental assistance.
- **\$2,500** Guilford Housing Authority to replace existing maintenance sheds.
- **\$2,703 Community Dining Room** for operational support for increased demand during COVID-19.
- **\$3,000** Lifelinx for their Recovery Management Support Program to reduce relapse and encourage sustainable long-term recovery.
- **\$3,000** Shoreline Arts Alliance to support general operating expenses due to the loss of income during COVID-19.
- **\$3,100 Dudley Foundation** to support general operating expenses due to the loss of income during COVID-19.

- \$4,350 Sponsorships of local events and organization
- **\$5,000 Clifford Beers** for trauma-informed, non reimbursable case management and care coordination services for Guilford children and families
- **\$5,000 Community Nursery School** to offset the cos of additional cleaning supplies and additional staffing costs due to COVID-19.
- **\$5,000 Connecticut Hospice** to cover a portion of expenses incurred as a result of purchasing Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to be equipped as an overflow site for area hospitals
- **\$5,000** Dan Cosgrove Animal Shelter to support the building of a Pet Food Pantry room as part of a capital campaign for building renovation and expansion.
- **\$5,000 Gift Card Incentive Program** to provide a match to the Gift Card Program to support loc restaurants and businesses with a match to the Guilford Food Bank.
- **\$5000** Orchard House Medical Adult Day Care Center to support general operating expenses due to the loss of income during COVID-19.
- **\$5,000 SARAH** to support the purchase of Personal Protective Equipment to allow staff and clients to interact safely.
- **\$5,000 VNA Community Healthcare & Hospice** to support Guilford residents and their families when healthcare reimbursements fall short.
- **\$5,280** Guilford Center for Children for an arts program and curriculum.
- **\$5,500** Shoreline Chamber of Commerce to suppor general operating expenses due to the loss of income during COVID-19.
- **\$6,000 Guilford Center for Children** to support general operating expenses due to the loss of income during COVID-19.
- **\$8,000** Before and After School Care to support tuition assistance for families who need it.
- **\$10,000 Guilford Agricultural Society** to support general operating expenses due to the loss of income during COVID-19.

1S. 1-	\$10,000	<b>Guilford Art Center</b> to support general oper- ating expenses due to the loss of income during COVID-19.
s. t	\$10,000	<b>North Guilford Nursery School</b> (NGNS) to support the reopening of school after closing for nine months due to COVID-19.
	\$10,000	<b>Youth Advisory Group</b> (YAG) Grants to Guilford Public Schools for Health Kits, Guilford Before and After School Care, Guilford Center for Children and Guilford Social Services.
•	\$14,150	<b>Guilford Institute Grants</b> , recommended by YAG, to support out-of-budget initiatives at Guilford High School.
al	\$20,000	<b>Women and Family Life Center</b> to support general operating expenses due to the loss of income and increased demand for services during COVID-19.
2	\$8,500	<b>Grants from Donor Advised funds</b> to Guilford Park & Recreation Department (soccer fields), Guilford Youth & Family Services, All the King's Horses, and the Cove Center for Grieving Children
5	\$22,230	<b>Designated Grants</b> Guilford Food Bank, St. George Food Pantry, Guilford Arts 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, Guilford A Better Chance Program
t	\$31,450	<b>Scholarship Grants</b> to 20 graduates of Guilford High School Students and 1 graduate from the Sound School
	\$45,000	<b>Women and Family Life Center</b> for emergency financial support grants for Guilford citizens impacted by COVID-19.
		Competitive grants are awarded to qualified nonprofit and government agencies serving the town of Guilford. For more information and the application form, go to our website: www.guilfordfoundation.org.

### We extend our deepest gratitude

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to the following individuals, businesses and foundations who made financial contributions to The Guilford Foundation from February 1, 2020 to January 31, 2021.

#### THANK YOU

#### \$10,000 AND UP

Anonymous The Eder Family Foundation Yvette & Arthur Eder Foundation Ann & Daniel Fisher Guilford Interfaith Volunteers Guilford Savings Bank Merri & John Hyman **Robert Jaeger** Amy & David Jaffe Connie & Roger Joyce Kate & William Lee Mary Stevens & Jock Akin Stoddard Family Foundation Lou & Sue Weady Estate

#### \$5.000 TO \$9.999

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#### \$500 TO \$999

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#### \$100 TO \$249

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WE ARE HONORED to be entrusted, for the second year in a row, with the responsibility of distributing all of the Guilford Savings Bank's philanthropic investments in Guilford. Thank you, Guilford Savings Bank, for your confidence in us!

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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 (203) 640-4049 or lpetra@guilfordfoundation.org to correct any inconsistencies. We still don't know exactly what things will look like, post-pandemic. But I'm confident the future will be bright because Guilford has people like you — ready and waiting to step forward to help whenever your neighbors need you.

LIZA JANSSEN PETRA, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR







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