



GUILFORD FOUNDATION

IMPACT REPORT 2022



Thank you for proving—once again—that our supporters love our Guilford community. You are generous, caring, and compassionate.



Dear Treasured Friend,

Your gifts to The Guilford Foundation over the years have been a critical source of support across our town, from mental health services to arts programs to uniforms for participants in Special Olympics.

The needs that emerged suddenly and urgently in 2020 were vast—and have lasted longer than any of us anticipated. When we first put out a call for help, your generosity was swift and breathtaking.

In 2021, despite having done so much in 2020, you did it again. You went above and beyond, and we had our second largest year in contributions—second only to 2020. We were amazed, and it allowed us to continue our work to help the community.

Thanks to your generosity, we were able to continue our efforts to assist those Guilford residents who were hardest hit by the COVID19 pandemic. We were able to prioritize basic needs (including food, shelter, and emergency financial services), mental health services, childcare, social services, social justice, and economic recovery and development.

We are so grateful for you, our caring 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

Peter Barrett
Board Chair



Supporting Families: Guilford Before and After School Care Program (BASC)

If Covid-19 has provided any life lesson at all, it might be a greater appreciation for the balancing act that so many families find themselves doing just to get by. In the frightening early days of the pandemic, that balancing act came crashing down as schools closed and the workforce was divided between those who could work from home and essential employees who had to

be present no matter the risk. While many have returned to a sense of normalcy, some families have been permanently impacted by health or job changes and have returned to the stress and uncertainty of the balancing act once again.

The Guilford Before and After School Care Program (BASC), part of the Guilford

“To know that my kids are safe, enriched, and happy is all I could ever ask for. Every chance I get, I tell people about the generosity of my community; how lucky we are to be part of it and how I will forever give back in thanks for what we have been given.” - Michele Meoli

Center for Children, has always been part of the support system for families. And while The Guilford Foundation has long been a partner, this year additional grant money was set aside specifically for tuition assistance and scholarship, allowing BASC to offer its full range of services to 203 families with a total of 265 children.

“The number of families needing financial assistance has increased,” according to Jessica Catlin, director of BASC. “Luckily we have had the continued support of The Guilford Foundation so that we have never had to turn a family away.”

In many towns, the early childhood education and extended care are provided through the public school system. In

Guilford, those services are instead provided through the non-profit Guilford Center for Children. Consequently, fundraising and grant solicitation are needed to keep state-licensed programs — BASC for school-aged children and Early Education Program for preschool ages — in the black.

“Grants are a very big part of our program,” Catlin says, “and they demonstrate how amazing the community is in showing its support for our work.”

BASC serves children at Calvin Leete, Guilford Lakes and AW Cox Elementary Schools, as well as middle school students through age 12. They work closely with Guilford Public Schools to provide programming throughout the school year

during vacations and holidays that many typical workers don't get off. In addition, they run weekly summer camps around themes like sports, science, animals or community helpers.

Catlin says they are hoping to expand the middle school program in the near future, recognizing the need for this age-group, in particular, to spend time together after so much isolation in the last two years. Parents are eager to have their children involved in activities, she says, rather than home alone on screens. Currently the middle school students return by bus to the elementary schools, but Catlin hopes to provide programming that is more specific to the age group.

"We are all about having fun. We do include educational aspects, but focus on the importance of learning, or relearning in the current times, to interact with friends in a positive manner. We are committed to taking these next steps together," Catlin says, noting that financial constraints are still impacting a large number of families.

"The need is still out there. Families are still recovering. Some were laid off and even after returning to the workplace, continue to have difficulty making ends meet. Of

course, making sure their children are safe is their top priority. We try to alleviate as much stress from this difficult situation as we can by providing a safe, nurturing childcare program for their children."

The Meoli family is one such family that has been helped through tuition assistance. Michele Meoli works and is attending an accelerated nursing program, while her husband works two jobs, but childcare for three young children is a huge expense. "There are honestly no words to express how grateful we are to everyone who has been part of this journey," Meoli says. "To know that my kids are safe, enriched, and happy is all I could ever ask for. Every chance I get, I tell people about the generosity of my community; how lucky we are to be part of it and how I will forever give back in thanks for what we have been given."



Children from the Guilford Before and After School Care Program.

David and Amy Jaffe:

Helping People Realize Their Potential

Anyone can recognize and reward success, but David and Amy Jaffe have made it their mission to recognize and encourage potential, particularly when it might otherwise be eclipsed by circumstance. Since the Jaffes first moved to Guilford in 1974, they have made community service and local philanthropy part of their lives. They have a particular affinity for projects and people whom they believe can thrive with just a bit of support.

For years, the Jaffes have supported Guilford A Better Chance (ABC) and the ABC Educational Fund of The Guilford Foundation (TGF). Guilford ABC invites talented and intelligent young women of color from under-served communities to live in the community and attend Guilford High School. Guilford ABC aims to mitigate the impact of the geographic and economic divide that often compromises educational and career opportunity in this country. The national ABC program, founded in 1963, originally worked only with independent boarding schools. But in 1974, shortly after David and

Amy settled in Guilford, the town became one of the communities to welcome these high potential students to its public school and the Jaffes became one of the first host families. Today, Guilford ABC students live together in a small supervised group home, attend Guilford High School and visit with host families one weekend a month. TGF's ABC Educational Fund provides stipends for all four years of college to program graduates.

In 2018, David and Amy established their first named TGF fund, the Jaffe Scholarship Fund. The annual award will provide \$5,000 a year



for four years to a Guilford High School graduate who will be the first in his or her family to pursue a post-secondary education. Many colleges strive to attract and enroll such first-generation students, but the incidentals of technology, books, supplies and travel often come as an unpleasant surprise to families who have not previously been through the college experience. The Jaffes' scholarship aims to help students with those essential, non-tuition expenses. This year's recipient is Tessa Dahlberg.

The Jaffes' commitment to helping people realize their potential is not limited to young students. Amy Jaffe was among the founders and early supporters of the Women & Family Life Center (W&FLC) in the late 1980s and early 1990s.

The W&FLC helps women and families to face challenges and transitions in their lives with strength and confidence. It endeavors to empower women across the shoreline to find the education, resources and support they need in times of crisis or transition in a safe, supportive community. In recent years, W&FLC has expanded to provide programming that encourages independence, wellness, leadership, self-esteem and healthy relationships for women and girls.

In 2021, the Jaffes established another TGF fund, the Amy D. Jaffe Fund for the Benefit of the Emergency Discretionary Fund at the Women & Family Life Center. In doing so, David Jaffe explains, they recognize that so many families struggle with daily expenses. For example, an unexpected cost like "a couple of flat tires" can constitute an emergency that prevents someone from school or work and derails them from fulfilling their potential.

Liza Janssen Petra, Executive Director of TGF, explains the mission of the Emergency Discretionary Fund is to help families who have experienced an emergency or disaster. "This permanent legacy fund ensures that resources will exist forever to support the emergent need of women and families in crisis."

David and Amy Jaffe have a particular affinity for projects and people whom they believe can thrive with just a bit of support.

Kids Today:

Youth Advisory Group of The Guilford Foundation



Anyone who shakes their head in concern about “kids today” need look no further than the Youth Advisory Group of The Guilford Foundation (TGF) for a healthy dose of optimism and confidence in the next generation. With just a little bit of seed money and guidance, the Youth Advisory Group (YAG) has overseen the dissemination of more than 75 grants over the last 11 years in support of youth in their community. They have awarded a total of \$120,000, supporting back-to-school backpack and school supply drives, Guilford Before & After Care programs, summer programs at the library and the Women & Family Life Center, among other things.

YAG was the brainchild of former TGF chairman Tim Geelan and Al Jacobs, then advisor to Guilford High School’s Interact Club (a youth chapter of Rotary Club International). TGF set aside \$5,000 and challenged the Interact members to raise \$5,000 and solicit grant applications for things that were important to young people. The club’s tag sales, car washes, pancake breakfasts and holiday luminary sales have become famous and the community has rallied behind the initiative that puts students in the lead.

Twelve students make up YAG, with new members being chosen each year from

among active Interact members. Two co-chairs — one junior and one senior — are elected to two-year terms in order to ensure continuity from year to year. Jacobs and Pat DeChiara, a former YAG mom, continue to serve as advisors although both of their children have long-since graduated.

“We’re advisors, but we’re really just witnesses. They are making the decisions,” DeChiara explains. She says the young people are very discerning and not at all spendthrift. Where they have raised more than they have awarded and with the help of designated gifts to the TGF annual drive, they have grown their endowed fund to over \$55,000. In addition, the YAG reviews requests for another TGF fund, the Guilford Institute Fund, specifically for projects at Guilford High School.

Like many students who join the Interact Club, YAG co-chairs Hana Greif ’22 and Gigi Meneo ’23 already had interest in community service. But they say being part of YAG has expanded what they thought they could do, pushed them outside of their comfort zones, and given them valuable experience interacting with adults outside of the school setting, writing and reading grant applications, and learning about their community. Hana was a sophomore and new member of YAG when the Covid-19

They are acutely aware of their privilege and they want to support others who don’t have the same.

pandemic began to curtail fundraising and create new burdens for so many in the community. YAG awarded \$4500 to Covid-19 relief efforts in Guilford.

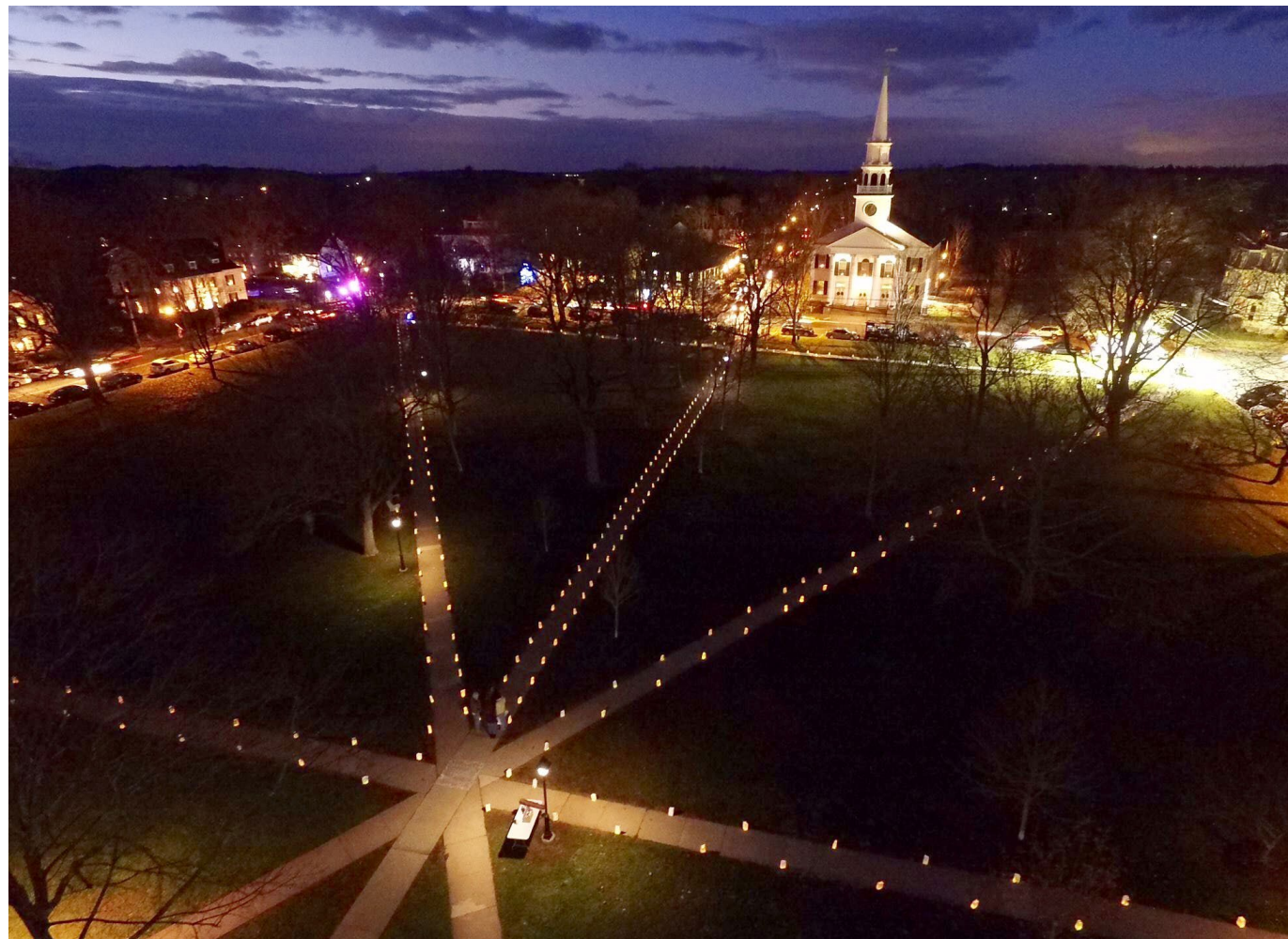
They helped fund assistance programs for families and new trail signage as they saw families spending more time outside during the pandemic. “It felt good in the midst of this uncontrollable thing that was going on to realize this is something we could do to exert some control over the situation,” Hana says.

Gigi, who will move into the senior co-chair position in the next school year, is particularly proud of the decision to award a Guilford Institute Fund grant to the Guilford Youth Feminist Alliance and the Period Project. The grant allowed Guilford High to install dispensers in the bathrooms to provide free feminine hygiene products.

“It’s cool to see that, every time I go in a bathroom at school, to have that concrete reminder that we did that,” Gigi reveals.

DeChiara and Jacobs find working with the high school to be positively uplifting. Their conviction to help and their earnest consideration of the needs in their community point to a generation that is aware and open-hearted enough to make positive changes in the world around them.

“They are acutely aware of their privilege and they want to support others who don’t have the same. This experience expands their knowledge of the world; they become more familiar with all of the entities and agencies that support people in town,” DeChiara says. “They are our future leaders and it is quite impressive to see them in action.”



Liza Janssen Petra, Executive Director, with Board members and graduate Lauren Cyrus at the 2021 graduation party for the seniors of Guilford A Better Chance Program.

2021 BY THE NUMBERS



CAMP HAZEN
24 campers
from Guilford received financial assistance



SPECIAL OLYMPICS CONNECTICUT
30 athletes
participated in the 2021 Unified Sports Fall Festival through subsidized registration fees

GUILFORD SOCIAL SERVICES
61 children
of school age received shoe and haircut certificates, backpacks and lunchboxes

CLIFFORD W. BEERS GUIDANCE CLINIC
66 Guilford
residents benefitted from Outpatient Mental Health Clinic Services

GUILFORD PERFORMING ARTS FESTIVAL, INC.
6 world premieres
1000 audience members
56 performers
450 artist talkbacks
280 Workshop students



THE DUDLEY FOUNDATION THE DUDLEY FARM MUSEUM
500 visitors
for docent led tours
Farmers Market:
25 vendors/400 shoppers



THE SONGSTRONG SANCTUARY
15 children
participated in Equine Therapy



COMMUNITY DINING ROOM
2000 meals
prepared and served

WOMEN & FAMILY LIFE CENTER
166 residents
of Guilford were served by the Guided Assistance Program

COMMUNITY NURSERY SCHOOL
250 children
benefitted from the creation of outdoor art space

THE CONNECTICUT HOSPICE, INC.
2,500
COVID-19 vaccinations administered

LIFELINX CORPORATION
327 rides
provided to adults in substance abuse recovery

GUILFORD PRESERVATION ALLIANCE
6
Welcome to Guilford signs installed



GUILFORD GARDEN CLUB
10 trees planted
GUILFORD AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY
Reopened the Guilford Fair

LEGACY THEATRE
4,200 attendees
enjoyed performances safely during the COVID-19 pandemic



GUILFORD CENTER FOR CHILDREN
2 students
received scholarships

GRANT AWARDS

The Guilford Foundation (TGF) is pleased to announce that it committed \$268,754 for initiatives and organizations serving our community in 2021. This reflects 27 grants made through our competitive grant making process, 3 emergent grants, 6 donor advised awards, 29 scholarship awards, and 15 grants from designated funds for local organizations, as well as additional investments in TGF-driven leadership initiatives.

\$1,000 Legacy Theatre to support COVID-19 Control and Prevention Safety Protocols.

\$1,500 Guilford Preservation Alliance to support the installation of "Welcome to Guilford" signage project.

\$1,500 Shoreline Arts Alliance to support the new program initiative, "Expressions in Art," a creative arts community support group for high school students.

\$1,500 Guilford Keeping Society for the restoration of the Balestracci-Hoff Barn to allow woodworking shop exhibits and workshops.

\$1,500 Special Olympics Connecticut to cover the cost of purchasing/replacing equipment, covering registration fees, and paying for transportation to events.

\$1,500 Leadership Initiatives including scholarships for non-profit leaders to attend professional development opportunities.

\$1,750 Guilford Interfaith Ministries to upgrade their office technology.

\$2,400 Guilford Garden Club to support the planting of trees in Guilford.

\$2,500 The Dudley Foundation for general operating expenses due to the loss of income during COVID-19.

\$2,500 Guilford Social Services to support the Back-to-School Program 2021, which provides school-aged children in Guilford the necessary funds to purchase supplies for the upcoming school year.

\$2,500 Friends of the Guilford Free Library for the rental cost of tents and tables for the Guilford Free Library annual fund-raising Fall Book Sale.

\$2,500 Lifelix Corporation to support transportation services during the pandemic for residents struggling with addiction.

\$2,500 Starship Dance Theater & Company to support the production of The Magic Toyshop.

\$2,951 Guilford Institute Fund Grants as recommended by the Youth Advisory Group, to support out-of-budget initiatives at Guilford High School.

\$3,000 SARAH Foundation to support general operating expenses due to the loss of income during COVID-19.

\$5,000 Guilford Performing Arts Festival for performances and community talkbacks by local artists.

\$5,000 Community Dining Room for general operating expenses for ongoing meal service programs.

\$5,000 Guilford A Better Chance for general operating expenses due to the impact of COVID-19 on learning and safety protocols.

\$5,000 Guilford Free Library for the "Writing Injustice Discussion" Series.

\$5,000 Community Nursery School for the enhancement of outdoor learning spaces.

\$5,000 The Connecticut Hospice for COVID-19 Vaccination Clinics.

\$5,000 Clifford W. Beers Guidance Clinic for trauma-informed, non-reimbursable case management and care coordination services for Guilford children and families.

\$5,000 Guilford Center for Children to support tuition assistance.

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

\$5,000 Camp Hazen YMCA for financial assistance to Guilford campers.

\$5,000 Shoreline Interfaith Resettlement to support the community sponsorship of an Afghan refugee family.

\$5,500 Shoreline Chamber of Commerce for general operating expenses due to the loss of income during COVID-19.

\$5,950 Sponsorships of local events and organizations.

\$7,500 Guilford Lakes Elementary Parent Teacher Organization to support the construction of an All-Access Preschool Playground at Guilford Lakes Elementary.

\$7,500 Guilford Agricultural Society for the purchase and implementation of COVID-19

safety protocols for the safe re-opening the Guilford Fair.

\$8,000 in Grants from Donor Advised funds to Chapel Haven Schleifer Center, Murphy's Paw Animal Rescue, All the King's Horses, The Cove Center for Grieving Children, and Shoreline Interfaith Resettlement.

\$10,000 Guilford Before and After School Care Program to support tuition assistance for families in need.

\$10,000 Guilford Art Center for general operating expenses due to the loss of income during COVID-19.

\$11,588 Youth Advisory Group (YAG) grants to the Community Dining Room, Guilford Before and After School Care, Guilford Center for Children, Guilford Youth & Family Services, Guilford Land Conservation, and Women and Family Life Center.

\$19,200 Menunkatuck Audubon Society to support a water quality monitoring project on the East River.

\$23,566 Designated Grants to 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.

\$25,000 Women & Family Life Center to expand and improve the Guided Assistance Program.

\$47,950 Scholarship Grants to 28 graduates of Guilford High School and 1 graduate from the Sound School.

Competitive Grants are awarded to qualified non-profit and government agencies serving the town of Guilford. For more information and the application form, visit our website: www.guilfordfoundation.org.

2021 FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Despite the challenging environment of the past two years, the Guilford community and The Guilford Foundation (TGF) continued to provide the critical support needed to address the urgent needs resulting from the pandemic. Thanks to your support, TGF was able to positively impact the quality of life in our special town during an unimaginably challenging time.

TGF takes the stewardship of the assets entrusted to it very seriously and is pleased to report that assets increased by nearly 15% for the most recent fiscal year (F2020-21) to nearly \$6.2 million, a highwater mark for TGF's portfolio. Contributions in 2020 were meaningfully impacted by the largest single donation in TGF's history and the community's strong support of TGF's COVID19 Emergency Response Fund. While 2021 contributions of \$942,000 were behind last year, the overwhelming support from the community, represented the second largest contribution amount in TGF's history, demonstrating the confidence donors have in TGF's ability to make a difference.

This increase in assets helped TGF respond to the many needs in our community by distributing more than \$272,000, the largest total grants amount ever made by TGF.

To provide historic context, as recently as 2017 (just 5 years ago), TGF's total assets were \$2.48 Million. Our larger asset base has enabled TGF to triple 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. Donor support was remarkably strong in 2021 (the second largest year on record) and an incredible 2.5 times what TGF received in 2017. We believe this longer term view demonstrates the impact your continued support has had over the years.

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

AS OF JANUARY 31	2022	2021	% CHANGE
Total Assets	\$6,187,611	\$5,388,992	15%
Total Contributions	\$942,853	\$1,602,390	-41%
Total Grants	\$272,271	\$271,237*	0.4%

*COVID-19 Fund grants represent \$138,083 of this total

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We extend our deepest gratitude to the following individuals, businesses and foundations who made financial contributions to TGF from February 1, 2021 to January 31, 2022.

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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.





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