



Proud to Be a Banker



Friday, November 12, 2010

First County Bank Foundation Grants Total \$570,900 in First 9 Months of 2010

Since issuing its first 2010 grant in March to United Way of Western Connecticut, The First County Bank Foundation has donated more than \$552,000 to 94 nonprofit organizations throughout lower Fairfield County. Since 2001, the First County Bank Foundation has been able to award 426 grants totaling just over \$4 million to various community organizations.

Established in 2001 in honor of the bank's 150th anniversary, the First County Bank Foundation was created to distribute funds annually to nonprofit organizations that support community and economic development for children and families. As a mutual bank with no shareholders, First County Bank considers contributions made by the foundation a means of paying dividends back to the local communities it serves.

"We started our foundation because we believe First County Bank has a real opportunity to help individuals and families advance themselves," said First County Bank Foundation Vice President Katherine Harris. "We see community nonprofits as major service providers, economic drivers and coordinators of volunteers for the communities they serve. Today they make up what's referred to as 'the social economy.'"

Other examples of the bank's work in its community include:

- Financing of New Canaan Community Nursery School's new building. Working with a limited budget, NCCNS's goal was to achieve an environmentally responsible, sustainable renovation and addition project. Elements included building and furniture re-use, daylighting, improved energy efficiency, water conserving fixtures, renewable, natural and low-VOC materials, and rainwater harvesting.
- Sponsorship of Family Day during this year's 33rd annual Norwalk Seaport Association Oyster Festival. The bank also sold advance admission tickets to the festival for half off the regular price at its 15 branches.

"The Norwalk Seaport Association Oyster Festival is a cornerstone event for 45,000 to 50,000 Connecticut residents and those who come from as far away as Maine and New Jersey," said President and COO Rey Giallongo. "Our customers and employees all love attending this event with their friends and family, and with our sponsorship and discount ticket offering, First County Bank makes it a little more enjoyable."

First County Bank
Stamford, Conn.
\$1.3 billion in assets