



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**First County Bank Foundation Grants \$479,000 to Local Nonprofits**

**STAMFORD, Conn., Nov. 4, 2014** – First County Bank Foundation is pleased to announce that it recently awarded 74 local nonprofit groups a total of \$479,000 in grants to support these organizations with their mission to provide needed services in local communities.

“Unfortunately there are so many people and families in this area who are in need. Businesses and individuals should partner to support our community so all members of society can have at least their basic requirements met,” said Karen Kelly, vice president of First County Bank Foundation. “The Foundation is proud to support these worthy charitable organizations which provide essential services to improve the lives of people in the local communities they serve.”

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Photo caption: **Bob Granata**, president and COO of First County Bank and **Marc E. Jaffe**, interim executive director of Childcare Learning Center.



Photo caption: New Canaan Mounted Troop “Super Troopers” members help a young rider take part in their therapeutic riding and equine care program. This program offers therapeutic riding and equine care programs to people with special physical, cognitive and emotional needs in the local community.

Since its inception in 2001, the First County Bank Foundation has awarded individual grants worth over \$6 million. The following Stamford-based nonprofit organizations received First County Bank Foundation grants in 2014:

Abilis	\$7,500	Abilis Youth Services. Supports children from birth to 21 with delays in their development or developmental disabilities.	Greenwich, CT 06831
AmeriCares Free Clinic	\$5,000	Free quality affordable health care to low income uninsured residents of greater Norwalk. They see about 800 patients.	Stamford, CT 06902
ARI	\$7,500	Individualized Home Supports/Emergency Fund Program (formerly the Supported Living Services/Emergency Fund Program). Primary purpose is to assist individuals residing in our supported living program so they may be assured that their basic needs for food clothing and shelter are met.	Stamford, CT 06902
Boys & Girls Club of Stamford, Inc.	\$10,000	Seven week summer camp. 285-300 youth. 6-15 yrs. of age. Education enrichment in a.m. Recreation in the p.m.	Stamford, CT 06902
CancerCare Connecticut	\$2,500	Cancer Care for Kids Program. Utilizes children's love of crafts to introduce coping strategies, increase family communication, and normalize emotional responses to the diagnosis of cancer with in the family.	Norwalk, CT 06854
Carver Foundation of Norwalk	\$7,500	Youth Development Program. Follows the Norwalk Public Schools academic calendar operating 4 day a week in 4 middle and 2 H.S. and 5 days a week in the Carver community center at least 3 hours a day.	Norwalk, CT 06850
Catholic Charities of Fairfield County/New Covenant House of Hospitality	\$5,000	New Covenant House of Hospitality to strengthen its ability to deliver three important services to needy and vulnerable men, women and children in Stamford.	Stamford, CT 06904
Center for Sexual Assault Crisis Counseling and Education, The	\$5,000	Strengthening our community through sexual assault crisis counseling, advocacy and education program. ED makes less than \$50k	Stamford, CT 06901
Child Guidance Center of Southern CT	\$12,000	Emergency Mobile Psychiatric Services (EMPS) Provide immediate mental health assessment and crisis stabilization services for children and adolescents experiencing serious psychiatric symptoms and severe reactions to traumatic event.	Stamford, CT 06901
Childcare Learning Centers	\$15,000	Teacher Education Initiative (TEI). Make available opportunities for teachers to enhance their skill set. Assoc Degree classes =\$2108 each, Bach Degree = \$2,920 each.	Stamford, CT 06902

Community Plates	\$5,000	Increase the amount of healthy, fresh food delivered to food-insecure families throughout Fairfield County by continuing to grow our technology fueled, direct-transfer food rescue platform through increased awareness, boosted volunteerism and community engagement.	Norwalk, CT 06850
Domestic Violence Crisis Center	\$5,000	Safe House and Housing Advocacy. Largest provider of emergency shelter to victims of domestic violence in the state of CT, sheltering over 20% of victims, including children, seeking a safe haven across the state.	Stamford, CT 06901
ElderHouse	\$5,000	Adult Day Services and Caregiver Support Services. Reduced fees. Respite, education programs, support groups, counseling, information and referrals for caregivers.	Norwalk, CT 06851
Exchange Club Center for the Prevention of Child Abuse, The	\$10,000	Crisis Parent Aide general operating fund. Program's clients are referred because of abuse or neglect. Meets weekly with the family for 2-6 hours or more over the course of 4 to 6 months.	Stamford, CT 06901
Fairfield County Community Foundation	\$2,500	Center for Nonprofit Excellence. Build the capacity of nonprofits so they may maximize their impact on addressing the needs in our community.	Norwalk, CT 06851
Family & Childrens Agency	\$20,000	Family Support - Prevention Programs. Through these programs, FCA has the ability to initiate services during pregnancy and follow a vulnerable family until a child turns 8.	Norwalk, CT 06850
Ferguson Library	\$12,000	Make Way for Makerspace: Bringing Makerspace Technology for Tweens and Teens @ the Ferguson Library	Stamford, CT 06904
Food Bank, The	\$15,000	To help pay for part of the cost of repaving the driveway/parking lot.	Stamford, CT 06906
Future Five	\$1,500	College Prep Workshop. General operational support for the weekly programs, specifically our College Prep Workshop which currently has 44 enrolled seniors.	Stamford, CT 06901
Getabout	\$5,000		New Canaan, CT 06840
Greenwich Alliance for Education	\$5,000	Going Places with Books. Story mobile. Visits 300 preschoolers enrolled in 7 targeted preschools twice monthly.	Greenwich, CT 06830
HomeFront	\$5,000	Housing Rehabilitation Program. Keep low-income neighbors in their homes with an improved quality of life.	Stamford, CT 06902
Homes with Hope	\$10,000	Bacharach Community - emergency shelter for homeless single mothers and their children	Westport, CT 06880
Horizons Student Enrichment Program	\$5,000	Six week intensive summer program. K - 8. 265 students. Prevent summer learning decline, improve social and interpersonal skill, enhance self-confidence and aspirations.	New Canaan, CT 06840

Housing Development Fund	\$15,000	First Time Homebuyer program. Support for the counseling component.	Stamford, CT 06901
Human Services Council	\$10,000	Norwalk Mentor Program. School based. Students K - 12.	Norwalk, CT 06851
Inspirica	\$10,000	General Operations. Support residential and non-residential programs.	Stamford, CT 06901
Jewish Family Services of Greenwich	\$3,000	Supermarketing for Seniors - grocery shopping and case management program	Greenwich, CT 06830
Jewish Family Services of Stamford	\$5,000	Family Support Services/Case Management	Stamford, CT 06901
Junior Achievement of Southwest CT	\$3,000	Develop economics and business understanding for all students. Programs focus on the relevancy of business, economics and entrepreneurship to life's opportunities.	Norwalk, CT 06854
Keystone House	\$5,000	Supported Apartment Services. "Home Sweet Home' Assistance Program is designed to assist adults with serious mental illness or a co-occurring mental health and substance abuse disorder with the necessary financial supports needed when first moving into their apartment or to maintain their apartment.	Norwalk, CT 06851
Kids in Crisis	\$10,000	Safe Haven for Kids shelter program, a one of a kind shelter program for children ages newborn to 17 who have been abused, neglected, abandoned and are not safe in their homes.	Cos Cob, CT 06807
Laurel House	\$5,000	IT Equipment - Server. Replace outdated software, expand our computer infrastructure, increase memory and disk space, and create a more secure technological environment for the next 5 years.	Stamford, CT 06902
Liberation Programs, Inc.	\$5,000	Families in Recovery Program (FIRP). One of only seven programs for women in the state and the only one that allows mothers to bring up to two children with them into the program. Moving to a new building - costs involved.	Norwalk, CT 06850
Malta House	\$3,000	Assist homeless, pregnant and parenting mothers.	Norwalk, CT 06855
Maritime Aquarium at Norwalk, The	\$2,000	TeMPEST (Teen Maritime Program for Entry into Science and Technology)	Norwalk, CT 06854
Mill River Collaborative	\$20,000		Stamford, CT 06904-2152
Neighbor to Neighbor	\$3,000	Supplemental Food/Food Pantry. Weekly program. Client choice food pantry is set up to resemble a small grocery store. Point system determines the quantity of food each family receives.	Greenwich, CT 06830
Neighbors Link Stamford	\$5,000	Expanding Opportunities for Low and Moderate Income Immigrants	Stamford, CT 06902

New Canaan Mounted Troop, Inc.	\$2,000	Funding for therapeutic riding and horsemanship programs for children and adults with special needs	New Canaan, CT 06840
New Neighborhoods, Inc	\$15,000	Tenant Advocacy Program (TAP) for residents at the Atlantic and Belltown, two NNI developed, owned and managed properties for low and moderate income seniors and disabled in Stamford, CT	Stamford, CT 06902
Norwalk Community College Foundation	\$5,000	English as a second language - Bridge to Credit Tutoring program. Work on verbal, reading and writing skills.	Norwalk, CT 06854
Norwalk Hospital Foundation	\$10,000	Project Lean is currently in its fourth year of operation and helps underserved children (2 - 5th) initiate behavior change to improve their health and lead them to the path of lifelong wellness	Norwalk, CT 06856
Norwalk Summer Youth Employment Program	\$5,000	Summer Youth Employment Program. Provides jobs, teaches job seeking and retention skills to economically disadvantaged youth and exposes them to a range of professions. 6 week program.	Norwalk, CT 06851
Open Door Shelter	\$7,500	Services for Children and Families. Separate living area for families. After school tutoring program - 12 to 18 children; parent counseling and employment skills.	Norwalk, CT 06854
Person to Person	\$5,000	Emergency Assistance Program. Provide a safety net to the low income individuals we serve, by providing food, clothing and emergency financial assistance.	Darien, CT 06820
Positive Directions	\$5,000	Resilient Family Counseling and Parenting Program	Westport, CT 06880
Project Return	\$2,500	Project Heal - after school community service program for troubled teen girls. Serves 42 girls in 6 high schools. Throughout school year, after school two hour get togethers of seven girls each.	Westport, CT 06880
Rebuilding Together Fairfield County	\$5,000	Rehab homes and nonprofit facilities. Need funding for 3 -5 additional homeowner projects. All volunteer organization.	Stamford, CT 06901
Saint Joseph Parenting Center	\$3,000	20 week parenting program, Spanish. Strengthen families through parent education in an attempt to prevent child abuse and neglect.	Stamford, CT 06902
Salvation Army, The	\$5,000	Back to School Back Pack Program. Purchase backpack for low income students when return to school. Other supplies as well.	Stamford, CT 06902
Senior Services of Stamford	\$10,000	Senior Medical Transportation Program. Signage on the car. Would do so on other vehicle.	Stamford, CT 06905
Serving All Vessels Equally, Inc.	\$1,000	Human Services nonprofit organization. In past 24 months school based programs have served approx. 125 high school youth. (Previously incarcerated or otherwise disadvantaged youth.)	Norwalk, CT 06854

Shelter for the Homeless	\$10,000	Emergency Shelter Services. Infrastructure upgrade - replacement & upgrade of the computer server and replacement and upgrade of phone system.	Stamford, CT 06902
Silvermine Arts Center	\$2,500	Art Partners - outreach program. Curriculum based studio art workshops to under-resourced schools in Norwalk and Stamford	New Canaan, CT 06840
Soldier Socks	\$2,500	Will be split between 3 programs: purchase personal hygienic items to ship to military units in Afghanistan, to our Veterans College Grant Foundation and for research for skeletal suit	Stamford, CT 06905
SoundWaters	\$10,000	Camp SoundWaters. Learn science via a variety of learning activities along the coastline and on the open waters of Holly Pond and LI Sound.	Stamford, CT 06902
Stamford Center for the Arts	\$5,000	Triple Threat Performer Intensive (TTF). Summer program provides skills, training and performance opportunities in dance, drama and voice to all children in the community.	Stamford, CT 06901
Stamford Emergency Medical Services	\$10,000	Stryker Power-Load. Support the ambulance cot throughout the loading and unloading process.	Stamford, CT 06902
Stamford Jewish Community Center	\$7,500	Hand in Hand Summer Camp Program. An engaging and inclusive summer camp experience for 3rd-8th graders with a variety of challenges.	Stamford, CT
Stamford Public Education Foundation	\$3,000	Stamford Mentoring Program. Partners college and corporate volunteers for weekly one on one mentoring sessions with students in grades 6 - 8 and biweekly mentoring sessions for those in 9 - 11.	Stamford, CT 06901
Stamford Senior Center	\$3,000	Health and Wellness Promotion Program. Designed to help older adults to better manage their health conditions.	Stamford, CT 06901
STAR, Inc.	\$5,000	Early intervention services for over 200 infants and toddlers with special needs from birth to 3 years of age and their families each year.	Norwalk, CT 06851
Starfish Connection Inc	\$2,500	Enrichment Programing. Funds to help pay the costs of support and enrichment for 40+ Starfish children.	Stamford, CT 06905
Technology Solutions for Non Profits	\$2,500	Needs assessment and hosted services migration.. Last years grant helped 4 nonprofits improve their effectiveness and efficiency. Grant will fund for assessment and the first year of subscription and migration costs.	Stamford, CT 06905
Tiny Miracles Foundation, The	\$5,000	Tiny Treasures NICU Supply Program to provide vital infant-parent bonding and developmental tools and resources to 400 preterm infants and their families.	Darien, CT 06820
United Way - Greenwich	\$2,500		Greenwich, CT 06830

United Way of Coastal CT - Norwalk & Wilton	\$5,000	Grant money is used for various Norwalk and Wilton programs.	Bridgeport, CT 06604
United Way of Coastal CT - Westport	\$2,500	Grant money is used for various Westport programs.	Bridgeport, CT 06604
United Way of Western CT - Stamford	\$15,000	Grant money is used for various Stamford programs.	Stamford, CT 06902
Waveny Life Care Network	\$10,000	Upgrade the "Nurse Call System" to meet alerting and communication needs of the facility.	New Canaan, CT 06840
Workplace, The	\$2,000	Dress for Success - three key activities: Simply suited, Professional Women's group and American Job Center.	Bridgeport, CT 06604
YMCA of Greenwich	\$2,500	Childcare Snack Program. 30% of families receive tuition financial assistance ranging from 5-90% of the tuition cost.	Greenwich, CT 06830
YWCA of Darien/Norwalk	\$3,000	Job Search Support for Women. Funding would be used to make the existing JSS services more effective and help defray the costs needed for our PT JSS coordinator to implement and monitor the program.	Darien, CT 06820

To be eligible for First County Bank Foundation grants, organizations must have nonprofit tax exempt status under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code; be located in Stamford, Darien, Greenwich, New Canaan, Norwalk or Westport; have community support; address community needs; have measurable outcomes; and demonstrate fiscal and administrative responsibility. Special consideration is given to those agencies or programs benefiting low to moderate income populations.

### **About First County Bank Foundation**

Established in 2001 in honor of the Bank's 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary, 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 without shareholders, First County Bank considers contributions made by the foundation a means of paying dividends back to the local communities it serves.

### **About First County Bank**

First County Bank, headquartered in Stamford, Conn. for more than 160 years, is an independent mutual community bank with 15 branches in Stamford, Greenwich, Darien, New Canaan, Norwalk and Westport offering deposit products, mortgages, trust and investment services, business banking services, mobile and online banking. First County Bank has more than 220 employees and assets in excess of \$1.3 billion. For additional information, please visit



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