



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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First County Bank Foundation Grants \$109,000 to Norwalk Nonprofits

STAMFORD, Conn., Sept. 16, 2014 – [First County Bank Foundation](#) is pleased to announce that it recently awarded 19 Norwalk-based nonprofit groups a total of \$109,000 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 (L to R): David Van Buskirk, AVP and business development officer at First County Bank, **Novelette Peterkin**, executive director at Carver Foundation of Norwalk and **Wendy A. Macedo**, AVP and branch manager at First County Bank. First County Bank Foundation presents Carver Foundation of Norwalk with a \$7,500 grant check to support their Youth Development Program.



Photo caption: (on left) **Richard (“Rick”) Zaremski**, SVP commercial banking at Frist County Bank, and (on right) **Earl (“Tripp”) Moore, III**, VP commercial loan officer at First County Bank present the First County Bank Foundation 2014 grant of \$20,000 to the Family & Children’s Agency’s (center) **Robert F. Cashel**, LCSW, president and CEO at Family & Children’s Agency for family support services and prevention programs.

Since its inception in 2001, the First County Bank Foundation has awarded individual grants worth over \$6 million. The following 19 Norwalk-based nonprofit organizations received First County Bank Foundation grants in 2014:

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.
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.

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.
ElderHouse	\$5,000	Adult Day Services and Caregiver Support Services. Reduced fees. Respite, education programs, support groups, counseling, information and referrals for caregivers.
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.
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.
Human Services Council	\$10,000	Norwalk Mentor Program. School based. Students K - 12.
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.
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.
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.
Malta House	\$3,000	Assist homeless, pregnant and parenting mothers.
The Maritime Aquarium at Norwalk	\$2,000	TeMPEST (Teen Maritime Program for Entry into Science and Technology)
Norwalk Community College Foundation	\$5,000	English as a second language - Bridge to Credit Tutoring program. Work on verbal, reading and writing skills.
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 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.
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.
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.)
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.

United Way of Coastal CT - Norwalk & Wilton	\$5,000	Grant money is used for various Norwalk and Wilton programs.
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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 150th 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 www.firstcountybank.com. Become a fan by clicking “Like” on the bank’s Facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/firstcountybank>. Follow it on Twitter at <http://www.twitter.com/firstcountybank> or look for First County Bank on LinkedIn at <http://www.linkedin.com/company/920207>.

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