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DARIEN AND NEW CANAAN NONPROFITS RECEIVE \$80,484 IN GRANTS FROM FIRST COUNTY BANK FOUNDATION

STAMFORD, Conn., August 21, 2013 – The First County Bank Foundation recently distributed a total of \$80,484 in grants to 15 nonprofits in Darien and New Canaan. In addition to providing Standard Grants, the Foundation also offers CommunityFirst Grants, which are awarded year round. Of the \$80,484 in total grants, \$4,045 are CommunityFirst Grants, which were awarded to the following 2 agencies, New Canaan YMCA and Darien's A Better Chance. These grants will be used for emergency assistance, music and art, local transportation and other worthy causes benefiting families and children.

"Experience tells us that causes like these have the power to expand understanding and deepen community involvement," said Rey Giallongo, president of the First County Bank Foundation and chairman and CEO of First County Bank. "Our goal at the foundation is to help these organizations and others like them build the next generation's ability to live and work productively in our communities. We look forward to seeing the results of these agencies' work benefit young and old alike."

Since its inception in 2001, the First County Bank Foundation has awarded over 760 individual grants, worth \$5.8 million.

Established 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.

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.

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The following Darien-based nonprofits received First County Bank Foundation grants:

Organization	Grant Amount	Cause
A Better Chance	\$2,500	Scholarships.
Community Fund of Darien	\$2,500	The Community Fund of Darien was established to address human service needs in the local community.
Person-to-Person	\$5,000	Emergency Assistance Fund – grants, loans, food, clothing, linens, baby basics and holiday programs.
Tiny Miracles Foundation	\$5,000	Financial Assistance Program.
Town of Darien Firefighters Foundation	\$10,000	Improve the overall safety standards of the community via equipment purchases, training, and property improvement activities.
YWCA Darien/Norwalk	\$3,000	Job Search Support for Women.

The following New Canaan-based nonprofits received First County Bank Foundation grants:

Organization	Grant Amount	Cause
Arts for Healing	\$2,500	Music and art therapy for special needs individuals
Getabout	\$5,000	Fund operations – provides rides for special needs residents of South Avenue Cottage and for seniors to out of town medical appointments.
Horizons Student Enrichment Program at NCCS	\$7,500	Six-week summer program for K-8 th grade students.
New Canaan Community Foundation	\$2,500	NCCF will use the grant money to help other nonprofit organizations in the community.
New Canaan Group Home	\$9,939	Kitchen improvements.
New Canaan Mounted Troop	\$1,000	Therapeutic riding and ground programs to both children and adults with special needs, as well as services dedicated to veterans.
New Canaan YMCA	\$1,545	Education programs.
Silvermine Art Center	\$2,500	Provide quality arts education to under resourced Stamford & Norwalk public schools. Provide free or subsidized professional Teaching Artists to design & execute studio classes.
Wavny Care Network	\$20,000.00	500KW Generator to power entire facility in the event of a power outage.

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 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>.