



# First County Bank Foundation, Inc.

## The Bank that makes a difference.

**F**irst County Bank has served the local community of Fairfield County since it first opened its doors in 1851. First County Bank is a Stamford-based mutual community bank with branch locations in Stamford, Darien, Greenwich, New Canaan, Norwalk and Westport. Through the dedication and charitable nature of First County Bank and its Directors, Corporators, Officers and Employees, they strive to make a difference in their communities.

Established in 2001 in honor of the Bank's 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary, the First County Bank Foundation was created to distribute funds annually to non profits that support community and economic development or children/youth/families.

The funds granted by the Foundation are to benefit the residents of the Bank's community which consists of Stamford, Darien, Greenwich, New Canaan, Norwalk, and Westport. The Bank's establishment of this Foundation ensures that local charitable needs can be continually met into the future.

"We've been a part of the fabric of lower Fairfield County for over 158 years, and we are exceptionally grateful to be able to continually give back to the community through the Foundation," said First County Bank Chairman and CEO Richard E. Taber.

This year, the First County Bank Foundation was able to donate the largest amount of money in the 158 year history of the Bank. More than 60 non-profit organizations throughout Fairfield County

received \$559,050 in grant money.

"They say timing is everything. And as First County Bank approached its birthday on Sept. 20, this year marked a high point for our Foundation," said First County Bank Foundation Vice President, Katherine Harris. "We recognize it was a very difficult fundraising year for non-profit organizations in Fairfield County due to the slow economy and state budget issues. We received requests from more than 90 organizations and were able to

fund 60 different causes," explained Harris.

Individual grant amounts ranged from \$1,000 to more than \$30,000 and benefitted non-profit organizations directly impacting the health and well-being of individuals living and working in lower Fairfield County. Special consideration was given to those agencies/programs benefiting low- to moderate-income populations.

As a mutual community bank with



First County Bank donates \$50,226 to United Way. Pictured (L-R) are Rey Giallongo, Executive Vice President for First County Bank and Chairman of the Board of Directors for United Way of Western Connecticut; Lynn Abramson, Chair, United Way of Coastal Fairfield County; Katherine Harris, First County Bank Foundation Vice President; Kevin Batterton, United Way of Greenwich Business and Professional Division Chairman and Vice President of BNY Mellon Wealth Management; Richard Taber, Chairman & CEO of First County Bank; and Michael Johnston, CEO of United Way of Western Connecticut, during a check signing ceremony at United Way of Western Connecticut's office located at 62 Palmer's Hill Rd. in Stamford.

THE CITY THAT HELPS 2009

no shareholders, First County Bank considers contributions made by the Foundation a means of paying dividends back to the local communities it serves.

“Smart investment decisions and a commitment from the Bank to support local non-profits led to this record amount of donations from the First County Bank Foundation,” said First County Bank’s Rey Giallongo, Executive Vice President of Business Banking and Wealth Management. Since its inception in 2001, the Foundation has awarded 343 grants totaling \$3.5 million to lower Fairfield County non-profit organizations.

To be eligible, organizations must have non-profit tax exempt status under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code; have community support; address community needs; have measurable outcomes; and demonstrate fiscal and administrative responsibility.

*First County Bank is an independent mutual community bank with 15 branches in lower Fairfield County offering deposit products, mortgages, trust and investment services, business banking services and on-line banking. First County Bank has assets in excess of \$1.2 billion. For additional information on the Foundation, please visit [www.firstcountybank.com/foundation](http://www.firstcountybank.com/foundation). For more information on the Bank, please visit [www.firstcountybank.com](http://www.firstcountybank.com).*



Volunteers from Person to Person. Person to Person provides a support system to hundreds of low-income families and individuals in our community each year, many of whom are women and children at risk of homelessness.



Katherine Harris, Senior Vice President of Retail Banking, First County Bank and E. Philip McKain, President and CEO of CTE. CTE is a non-profit organization whose mission is to provide diverse services that assist in giving low-income individuals and families the ability to rise out of poverty.



Katherine Harris, Senior Vice President of Retail Banking, First County Bank at SoundWaters, a Community Center for Environmental Education. The mission of SoundWaters is to educate children and adults about the wonders and beauty of Long Island Sound and its watershed.



Gotrell McLellan, Assistant Vice President, Branch Manager, First County Bank with Linda Gabriele, Executive Director, Malta House. Malta House provides guidance, education, job opportunities and consulting support to families.

## Here is just a sampling of the 60 organizations in Fairfield County that the First County Bank Foundation donated to in 2009:

### Housing Development Fund **Stamford**

Through its First Time Homebuyers Program, HDF offers a variety of down payment assistance products to help low- and moderate-income households achieve first-time homeownership.

### The Interfaith Housing Association **Westport**

The Interfaith Housing Association (IHA) is a local grassroots response to the tragedy of homelessness. With a caring professional staff and the help of more than 400 volunteers, IHA assists people who have lost their ability to lead normal lives.

### The University of Connecticut **Stamford**

Supports the University Pals Program, a summer college readiness program for middle school students (rising 8th graders) in Stamford Public Schools.

### Norwalk Emergency Shelter **Norwalk**

Its mission is to provide safe, sanitary shelter care to homeless men, women and families; to assist shelter residents in searching for housing, jobs, counseling and treatment; and to foster residents' growth toward independence and responsibility.

### Kids in Crisis **Greenwich**

Provides free, temporary shelter, therapeutic counseling, comprehensive medical care and specialized educational support for children struggling with a wide range of issues including abuse, neglect, abandonment, family health issues and family conflict.

### Get-About **New Canaan**

Its mission is to provide rides to seniors and those with special needs. Four vans, three of them with wheel chair capability, operate eight hours a day Monday through Friday. Get-About also provides rides to Norwalk Hospital and medical appointments within Norwalk currently paid for by a grant from the State of Connecticut.

### The Tiny Miracles Foundation **Darien**

Dedicated to providing support and assistance to families with premature infants in the greater Fairfield County area, and to helping local hospitals and the medical community provide the best possible care for premature babies and their families.