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The Places We Go ...

ABOUT THE COVER PHOTO

Our annual report cover features Connie and Ricky, a tutor-student duo that have been working together for five years through the Literacy Volunteers of South Central Massachusetts. They meet at the historic Jacob Edwards Library in Southbridge, using practical materials to make lessons relevant to everyday life. Read more about Literacy Volunteers on [page 10](#). Front and back cover lyrics from *This Must Be The Place*, Talking Heads.



Letter to the community

Dear friends,

Our 2024 annual report celebrates the power of “place”: the physical spaces throughout Worcester County that build community, reduce isolation, and deliver vital services to our neighbors.

Inside, you’ll find stories of nonprofits that have thoughtfully created or revitalized spaces to advance their missions — from a historic church transformed into a multi-purpose arts center in rural Ashburnham to a bustling basement bike shop in Worcester’s Main South neighborhood.

As a community foundation, we are deeply connected to the power of place — not only through nonprofits working on the ground to meet local needs but also through the hundreds of donors who have established funds with us to ensure their love for this region endures for generations. In 2024, we proudly welcomed 22 new funds to the Foundation. Among them is the Worcester County Green Fund, established by a local donor family and matched by the Foundation to support climate action right here at home.

The Green Fund is an example of our ongoing strategic evolution. In 2024, we launched or expanded several “strategic initiatives” that go beyond traditional grantmaking to make a difference on key community issues. Working with partners, we’re scaling our Creative Worcester initiative countywide, sharing data through the new Worcester County Insights platform, and committing \$1 million to invest in solutions to local housing challenges. You can read more about these initiatives on [page 18](#). We were also proud to reinvigorate our longstanding Nonprofit Support Center in 2024, committing \$1 million over three years to provide capacity-building support to nonprofits through workshops, grants, and learning opportunities.

As we approach the Foundation’s 50th anniversary, we remain deeply committed to the people and places that make Worcester County a community we all proudly call home. Thank you for being part of this journey and for everything you do to build a stronger, more connected community.

“As we approach the Foundation’s 50th anniversary, we remain as committed as ever to the people and places that make Worcester County a place we all proudly call home.”

Pete Dunn

President & CEO
Greater Worcester
Community Foundation

Tom Bartholomew

Board Chair
Greater Worcester
Community Foundation

The Year in Review

2024 was a busy year for the Foundation. We launched new initiatives, reinvigorated longstanding programs, and expanded our reach across Worcester County.

february



Celebrated a strong year with our 2023 Investment Report, ending the year in the top 4th percentile of our peer group.

march

Relaunched our Nonprofit Support Center with a \$1 million investment over three years to build the capacity and sustainability of nonprofits in the region.



The Indicators

COMMUNITY LIFE DEMOGRAPHICS & DIVERSITY ECONOMIC MOBILITY EMPLOYMENT & WORKFORCE HEALTH

may

Launched Worcester County Insights in partnership with Worcester Regional Research Bureau, a new community indicators platform designed to provide essential data on various facets of community life in Worcester County.

june

Hosted our annual meeting and awarded Yvette Dyson, Worcester Common Ground with the 2024 Renaissance Award.



september

Committed \$1.6 million in scholarships to 428 Worcester County students, including 81 new renewable scholarships and 200 previously awarded scholarships that were renewed.

Launched our 26th cohort of Youth for Community Improvement, extending the program over two semesters to give high school students more time to develop the request for proposals and make grant decisions.

july

Announced a \$1 million partnership with Worcester Community Housing Resources, providing a low interest line of credit to support much needed housing initiatives in Worcester County.

Brought back the NSC Summer Social, hosted at Pete's house with more than 100 nonprofit leaders.



- 1-3 scholarships
- 4-9 scholarships
- 10+ scholarships

october

Launched the Worcester County Green Fund, a \$1 million investment to support local climate action efforts throughout the region.



december

Awarded a total of \$2.28 million in general operating support and project grants through our Community Grants program.

Community Priorities: Arts & Creativity

Historic Space, New Life

New Dawn Arts Center transforms an 1834 church into a thriving hub for creativity and community connection.



Youth Art Month Exhibition at New Dawn's Upper Gallery.

Founded in 2021 by Abigail Abbott, New Dawn Arts Center repurposed a historic church in downtown Ashburnham to combat isolation during the COVID-19 pandemic, providing a safe space for creativity and cultural expression.

After a few years of fundraising, New Dawn is gaining momentum in a post-pandemic world. In 2024, the Center offered year-round programming for the first time, hosting events nearly every day and welcoming more than 3,500 visitors — over half the town's population.

"Though it's a small town, Ashburnham and the surrounding areas are home to many artists," says Abby. "I wanted to create a space where artists could meet each other, share space and get inspired by each other."

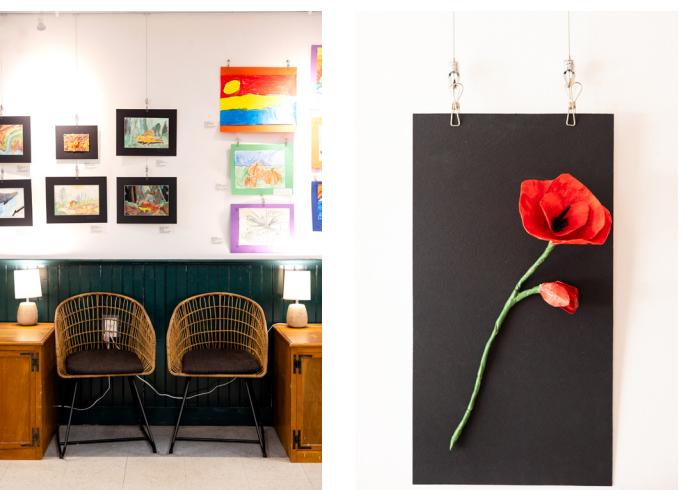
New Dawn Arts Center hosts a diverse range of programs, from poetry readings and art exhibits to improv, book readings, and theatre performances. Concerts and live music are among the most popular, attracting audiences from Boston to Portland, Maine. The Center also collaborates with community partners, including the Ashburnham-Westminster Regional School District, to engage youth in the arts.

Abby's curation of the Center's programming is a balance between her own vision and input from the community, allowing space for programs to evolve organically based on residents' interests and ideas.



"I wanted to create a space where artists could meet each other, share space and get inspired by each other."

—Abigail Abbott



Spice & Grain — Ashburnham's only grocery store — is located in the building, and the customers often stop by to explore the Center's art exhibits.

Community Priorities: Basic Needs



‘A Hand Up’

Through its food pantry, thrift store, and community partnerships, Ginny’s Helping Hand provides a hand up to individuals and families in need.



Founded in 1978 by Ginny White, Ginny’s Helping Hand began with a simple yet powerful goal: to support neighbors in need. What started as a small yard sale collecting clothing donations has since grown into a multi-faceted nonprofit, serving thousands across the region. While the food pantry is at the heart of Ginny’s mission (“A hand up, not a hand out”), the space also boasts a large thrift store stocked with clothing for all seasons and all ages.

Located in downtown Leominster, Ginny’s Helping Hand serves clients throughout North Central Massachusetts, Worcester, and surrounding areas. No one who comes to Ginny’s is turned away, though they may be guided toward resources closer to home to reduce the burden of travel.

Recently, Ginny’s has seen up to 5,500 visitors in a one-month period. “The demand is definitely growing,” says Brandon Robbins, Executive Director of Ginny’s Helping Hand. “The food pantry used to be an emergency resource to close a gap in grocery needs, but as groceries, utilities and housing costs have gotten more expensive, people are relying on food pantries as a primary source. And those that never used a food pantry before are now coming here to fill that gap.”

Ginny’s works with many local and regional partners, including the Worcester County Food Bank and grocery stores, to provide a wide range of fresh produce, frozen meats, and non-perishables. In addition to providing food to those that come to Ginny’s, the organization also serves as a distribution hub for other local soup kitchens and pantries, and its thrift store helps them be responsive to emergency assistance needs for clothing and personal hygiene products.

Looking ahead, Ginny’s is exploring a delivery service to reach individuals unable to visit the pantry in person. As the demand for services continues to grow, the organization remains committed to its mission of fulfilling the community’s basic needs.

To learn more about Ginny’s Helping Hand, visit www.ginnyshelpinghand.org.

“The food pantry used to be an emergency resource to close a gap in grocery needs, but as groceries, utilities and housing costs have gotten more expensive, people are relying on food pantries as a primary source.”

— Brandon Robbins



The thrift store provides affordable clothing and household items to the community while providing a revenue source for the food pantry, helping it sustain itself.

Community Priorities: Economic Opportunity



Transforming Lives Through Language

Providing free, one-on-one English tutoring, Literacy Volunteers of South Central Massachusetts empowers adults to overcome barriers and build brighter futures.



Literacy Volunteers of South Central Massachusetts transforms communities through literacy by offering free, individualized English language tutoring. Designed for adults who struggle in traditional classroom settings, the nonprofit provides confidential, flexible education, including basic literacy for native English speakers and English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL).

Literacy Volunteers offers a range of programs, including citizenship classes and English conversation groups, but one-on-one tutoring is at its core. Many students face barriers to traditional classes, such as unpredictable work schedules or childcare challenges, so the organization allows tutors and students to set their own schedules, making learning more accessible and effective.

Libraries are a natural home for Literacy Volunteers' work, providing a welcoming space for students. The South Central Massachusetts chapter hosts events across South County, including a weekly Literacy Café at the Gladys E. Kelly Public Library in Webster and at the Jacob Edwards Library in Southbridge, and volunteer information sessions at local area libraries. Beyond tutoring, students can participate in library activities with their tutors or families, helping them connect with the broader community and practice conversational English.

Student feedback highlights the program's impact: in an anonymous survey, 100% of students

reported improved reading comprehension, and 92% felt more confident in their personal and professional lives. Many have advanced in their careers thanks to the support from Literacy Volunteers, but Executive Director Emily Farrell notes that small, everyday victories often mean the most. Recalling a longtime student, Emily shares, "He has done all kinds of great things with his career...but the thing he was so proud of is that he was able to translate for his father at a doctor's appointment, rather than have someone in the room to translate for both of them."

Literacy Volunteers of South Central Massachusetts relies on dedicated volunteers, board members, and fundraising efforts to sustain its mission. Most volunteers tutor just one student at a time, ensuring a personalized experience, while others take on multiple students based on their availability.

Looking ahead, the organization plans to expand its services and recruit more volunteers to meet the community demand.

To learn more, visit www.lvscm.org.



As one of 12 affiliates of Literacy Volunteers of Massachusetts, the South Central Massachusetts chapter primarily serves the towns of Southbridge, Sturbridge, Charlton, Webster, and Dudley, though students come from across the region.

Tutors use practical materials, such as job applications and adult-focused books, to make lessons relevant to everyday life.

Community Priorities: Health & Wellbeing



Bridging Health and Community

Worcester RISE for Health is transforming healthcare access for immigrants and refugees through culturally responsive care and community support.

Worcester RISE for Health was founded in 2023 by multiple community-based organizations that recognized the need for a healthcare system better suited to the unique needs of Worcester's growing refugee and immigrant populations. The goal of RISE (Refugee and Immigrant Support and Empowerment) is to provide easy-to-navigate primary care, maternal child health support and behavioral health services to those newly arriving in the Worcester area, some of whom are in temporary housing or shelters.

The work of RISE is made possible thanks to its community health workers, which serve as vital bridges between new arrivals, the broader community, and the healthcare system. The community health workers also co-lead innovative monthly group visits for parents and their infants as part of RISE's Maternal Child Health program. The children receive a wellness checkup and any required vaccinations while the parents have an opportunity to socialize with each other and discuss topics related to parenting and self-care with the community health workers, as well as receiving support from family physician and behavioral health providers. Soon, the health workers will also be trained as Doulas to be able to provide support to birthing individuals during labor and the postpartum period.

RISE's clinical space is thoughtfully designed and located, sharing building space with several other nonprofit organizations that serve the same clientele, including the Office for New Americans, Refugee & Immigrant Assistance Center, Family Health Center of Worcester, and Worcester Community Action Council. Dr. Olga Valdman, founding Executive Director of Worcester RISE for Health, says this was very intentional: "We know it can be hard to navigate the city, especially when you're a newcomer and you have different barriers that can hinder your experience. Being in a space

where clients can access multiple services in one building is extremely important."

Looking ahead, Worcester RISE for Health aims to expand its network of community health workers to provide even more linguistically and culturally appropriate support. The organization also continues to advocate for healthcare system changes that prioritize health equity.

To learn more, visit www.riseworcester.org.



Currently, RISE provides primary care to over 300 individuals and anticipates serving up to 1,000 people per year.



Community health workers like Sandela (pictured) share linguistic and cultural backgrounds with the patients they serve. Sandela works with patients from the beginning of their pregnancies until their children reach two years of age, providing translation between English, Haitian Creole and French for appointments, assessing both the parents and children for healthcare needs, and connecting them to support services.

Community Priorities: Youth & Families



Creating Connections

At Bancroft School, the Worcester Partnership Program is fostering academic growth and lifelong connections for students across Worcester.

Now located on Shore Drive in Worcester, Bancroft School was originally established on Elm Street by a group of parents in 1900. Over a century later, its connection to Elm Street lives on through the Worcester Partnership Program, which was created to give students at Elm Park Community School the opportunity to come to Bancroft School over the summer to prevent learning loss and support uninterrupted skill development for the challenges of the year ahead.



The four-week summer program offers a well-rounded experience that helps ease students' transitions from one grade level to the next, starting with rising first graders and continuing through ninth grade. The program mixes academic lessons that challenge with recreational activities designed to build teamwork and positive social interactions.

Charlie Aleksiewicz, known affectionately by the kids as Mr. A, founded the Worcester Partnership Program in 2003 and ran the program until he retired at the end of 2024. Reflecting on the program's growth over the years, Charlie noted how it expanded to include students from other Worcester schools, allowing participants to stay connected even if they graduate or move away from Elm Park Community School. "You have students of all ages that live throughout Worcester, who otherwise wouldn't interact much, that stay in touch throughout the year with the help of Worcester Partnership," he said.

One of the Partnership's core goals is to foster a sense of belonging and teamwork among students. The enthusiasm for the program from the

"I'm going to be really sad when I age out of this program. I have been coming to Bancroft in the summer for as long as I can remember and I love this place."

-Sixth grade attendee



In addition to the summer program, participants take part in eight to ten engaging learning activities on Saturday mornings during the academic year.



students is clear: dozens of students show up to the optional Saturday morning sessions during the academic year. Lupe Lomeli, the new director of the Partnership, says that's what has surprised her most so far: "The fact that all these students want to show up on a Saturday morning after being in school all week... It shows me the love that goes into the program and that the students look forward to coming."

With Mr. A's retirement, the Worcester Partnership Program is entering a new era. Lupe hopes to follow in Charlie's footsteps, keeping students enriched academically while letting them have fun with learning. With a background in counseling, she plans to incorporate college prep, financial literacy, and guidance for older participants into the program. Otherwise, she intends to keep the Partnership running as it has for 22 years — because, as the oldage saying goes, "if it ain't broke, don't fix it."

To learn more, visit www.bancroftschool.org.

Community Priorities: Nonprofit Effectiveness



Fixing to Ride

Through bicycle repair education and community, a Worcester nonprofit is helping people gain valuable life skills, one bike at a time.

Worcester Earn-a-Bike is more than a community bicycle shop – it's a space for education, empowerment and connection. Located on King Street in Worcester behind The Village, an Afrocentric cultural center, the shop promotes cycling as a tool for environmental sustainability



and community building. With the help of volunteers, Earn-A-Bike provides youth and adults with the tools and knowledge needed to repair and maintain bicycles, ultimately earning a bike themselves from the shop's donated inventory.

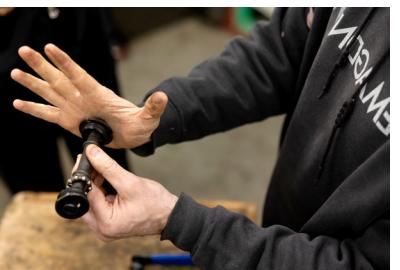
A Nonprofit Effectiveness Grant from the Foundation supported Nathan Lewis (pictured below) as he transitioned from board member to the shop's new Executive Director in late 2024. Beginning in January 2025, Earn-a-Bike's board and staff will collaborate with a consultant to set priorities for the year ahead. The consultant will support board development and fundraising strategy, and work with Nathan one-on-one to provide executive coaching. Lewis welcomes the external support, saying, "The transition from board member to ED was overwhelming, so I'm grateful to have the opportunity to get formal training to help me throughout the process."

Despite Worcester being the second largest city in New England, Earn-A-Bike is the only

community bike shop in Worcester. Beyond being a place to repair bikes, it also serves as a safe space for people in the community, located in the city's diverse neighborhood of Main South. Frankie Franco, VP of the board, describes it as "a space where the community can come together and communicate with each other that just so happens to be a bicycle shop."

Looking forward, Earn-A-Bike is interested in becoming more involved in bike advocacy, making Worcester's roads safer for cyclists and improving the cycling infrastructure in the city. They also plan to revive successful inclusive programs like "Women, Trans, Femme Nights" to reach new audiences and hope to better support Main South's immigrant community by offering multilingual assistance in the shop.

To learn more, visit www.worcesterearnabike.org.



While most of the shop's programming takes place in the warmer months, they also offer a series of free workshops over the winter and spring called "Learn-A-Bike." Each session focuses on a specific component of bike mechanics, allowing for deeper learning beyond what's possible during regular shop hours.



Strategic Initiatives

Since our founding, the Foundation has been involved with advancing community priorities through strategic initiatives and partnerships. However, our work has often been behind the scenes. The four initiatives below are some of the ways we are working to make an impact beyond traditional grantmaking.



Our first loan deployment supported the renovation of this large single-family home into multi-family affordable apartment units in Hardwick, MA.



Affordable Housing

In an effort to address the significant challenges the region faces around affordable housing, we made a \$1 million low-interest line of credit to Worcester Community Housing Resources. This funding provides early-stage financing to WCHR, enabling the organization to act swiftly in acquiring properties and developing housing solutions for low- and moderate-income residents.

With housing affordability a growing concern in Worcester County, this initiative enhances WCHR's ability to meet community needs and sustain long-term development. By providing flexible capital, we help bridge financial gaps in housing projects, ensuring that local families have access to safe, stable and affordable homes.

“The immense challenge of affordable housing requires creative solutions that go well beyond traditional foundation grantmaking.”

— Pete Dunn

Worcester County Green Fund

In October 2024, we launched the Worcester County Green Fund, a \$1 million initiative designed to support local climate action efforts. This fund was made possible thanks to a generous contribution from a donor family passionate about the environment and the future of our region, who pledged

\$100,000 annually over five years to support the fund. The Foundation will match this contribution and use the funds to explore fostering a collaborative approach to regional climate action, encouraging both community engagement and long-term solutions for a more sustainable future.

Worcester County Insights



We partnered with the Worcester Regional Research Bureau to launch Worcester County Insights, an interactive platform offering data on seven key community topics. With 60 individual indicators, the platform presents a comprehensive portrait of Worcester County, tracking trends in areas such as health, housing, economic development, and education.

By compiling and analyzing local data, Worcester County Insights serves as a valuable resource for nonprofits, policymakers, and community leaders. It helps identify pressing challenges, track progress over time, and support more effective strategies for community development.

To learn more, visit worcestercountyinsights.org.



We celebrated the expansion of our Creative Worcester County initiative with an arts event at the Pakachoag Center in Auburn this past fall.

Creative Worcester County

Our Creative Worcester initiative was launched in 2018 as part of the Barr Foundation's Creative Commonwealth Initiative, focused on integrating arts and culture into the fabric of community life in the city of Worcester. In 2024, we worked with an external evaluator to assess the success of the initiative, which found that the program made a meaningful difference in the arts sector beyond simply providing grants. With this information, we set forth to expand the Creative Worcester initiative to the entire county.



AGENCY FUND

19 Carter Endowment Fund

In 2008, a group of neighbors came together with a shared dream: to preserve and transform the Old Methodist Church in the heart of Berlin into a community space open to all. After a decade of renovation work, 19 Carter opened its doors to the public in 2018. Today, the historic 1887 building serves as a vibrant gathering place for people from all walks of life to connect through art, music, and shared experiences. In 2024, 19 Carter established an endowment fund to support the organization's long-term operations and growth. The organization hopes to eventually fund a paid executive director position through the interest earned from this endowment fund.

SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Dr. Paul and Gail Lock Memorial Scholarship



The Dr. Paul and Gail Lock Memorial Scholarship was established by Dr. Paul Lock and his family in memory of his beloved wife of 52 years, Gail (Agnew) Lock, following her passing in 2022. After Dr. Lock's passing in 2024, the scholarship was renamed to honor them both and the extraordinary lives they shared. Raised in Spencer and graduates of David Prouty High School, Paul and Gail each dedicated

their lives to helping others — Paul as a respected endocrinologist, educator, and researcher, and Gail as a devoted elementary school teacher and community volunteer. From beginning to end, Paul and Gail lived remarkable lives full of kindness, generosity and purpose. This scholarship fund will honor their legacy by supporting students from the high school they attended and the communities they called home.

DONOR ADVISED FUND

Grammy Feeds People Fund



The Grammy Feeds People Fund was established in 2024 in memory of Karen McGinnis, whose love for cooking and serving others was central to her life. During the COVID-19 pandemic, Karen fulfilled a longtime dream of creating a cookbook filled with her family's favorite recipes, with proceeds supporting breast cancer research. After Karen's passing from the disease in December 2023, her children honored her legacy by creating the Grammy Feeds People Fund. The fund will support two causes close to Karen's heart: aiding women with breast cancer and increasing access to fresh produce for those facing food insecurity.

FIELD OF INTEREST FUND

Pamela S. Moore Memorial Fund



This fund was created upon the passing of Dorothy A. Stirling in honor of her daughter, Pamela S. Moore, who predeceased Dorothy. As Pam was a lifelong animal lover, the purpose of this fund is to benefit organizations that serve to protect cats and dogs in Worcester County.

FIELD OF INTEREST FUND

Looft Family Fund

Passionate about education and other community issues, Linda and Fred Looft were active contributors to nonprofits in the region, both financially and through their volunteer work. However, they felt they were spreading themselves thin with scattered donations and wanted to make a more

meaningful impact. Drawing on Linda's 12 years of service on the community foundation's board, the couple worked with our Philanthropic Services team to create a field of interest fund aligned with their values. Read more about the Looft family on the following page.

DESIGNATED FUND

Martin Family Fund



The Martin Family Fund is designated to support the Parenting Student Program at Quinsigamond Community College, which offers childcare and other vital resources to help parenting students succeed in school while raising their families. This fund was inspired by fundholder Samantha's own journey as a young parent, originally dropping out of college and having her first child at 21. When she learned that the number one predictor of a person's education level is their mother's education level, she was determined to change that trajectory. With the support of her mother, Alexandra, Samantha returned to college and later earned a law degree. Together, Alexandra and Samantha created this fund to help other students who are navigating the challenges of parenting while pursuing higher education.

Linda Carre Looft and Fred Looft

In 2024, Linda and Fred affirmed their long-standing commitment to the next generation by creating the Looft Family Fund and joining the Foundation's legacy Acorn Society.

Linda and Fred have called Worcester County home for over 45 years. Though technically retired, they remain connected to Worcester Polytechnic Institute's Global School as adjunct faculty, working as a team to advise students at locations around the world on the intersection between technology and societal challenges. Their work leverages their complementary backgrounds: Fred's 45 years as a professor of engineering and Linda's 25 years in community engagement and outreach at WPI.



“Knowing that one person, family, or group may experience a transformative change in their lives and be given opportunities to be the best they can be — that’s the most meaningful part of leaving a legacy gift for us.”

— The Looft family

sum of money,” they share. “The Foundation worked with us to find a way to start. And we’ll add to it over time.”

In addition to creating their field of interest fund, Fred and Linda knew they wanted to make a meaningful impact on the region through their estate planning. Working closely with their advisor, they ensured their family’s needs would be met while directing additional resources to the

Foundation. “I know the Foundation is supporting the kind of organizations and needs that are important to us,” Linda explains. For the Loofts, legacy isn’t about recognition but potential transformation: “Knowing that one person, family, or group may experience a transformative change in their lives and be given opportunities to be the best they can be — that’s the most meaningful part of leaving a legacy gift for us.”

Just as an acorn grows into a mighty oak, a planned gift will yield enormous benefits to future generations. The following individuals have made a planned gift to the Foundation in their will or trust.

Anonymous (15)
 James C. and Colleen S. Abrams
 Robert S. Adler
 Ann E. Bergman and Bill Glennon
 Edward W. Bettke
 Michele and David Bigelow
 Mark P. Bilotta and Henry O. Ritter
 Brian L. and Betty G. Bjurling
 Maurice J. and Pamela K. Boisvert
 Michael D. and Mary Ann S. Brockelman
 James R. and Paula R. Buonomo
 Kenneth F. and Nancy Candito
 Brian M. and Maureen E. Chandley
 Deanna and Richard Charves
 Tucker Massey Clark
 Elizabeth A. Clifford
 James J. Convery and Tracy Craig
 Richard P. Coonan
 Kenneth C. Crater and Margaret Ferraro
 Dix F. and Sarah Davis
 Jane K. Dewey
 Ross K. and Lisa F. Dik
 Barbara M. Fitts
 Warner S. and Mary F. Fletcher
 Gerald and Jane Freed
 Dina R. and Gerald L. Gaudette III
 Rodney M. Glasgow
 Robert M. Gordon and Jane Ellen Thompson
 Dennis F. and Frances C. Gorman
 Martha P. Grace
 Susanne E. Gray
 David R. Grenon
 Lori Haddad
 Claire L. Halvey
 Richard E. Hedin
 Donald Inglis
 M Howard Jacobson
 Kenneth R. Jones
 Pam B. Kane and Roy T. Charette
 Richard J. Kisten
 Jack Kurty
 Lionel M. and Cynthia E. Lamoureux
 Sarah B. Lange
 David P. Leach and Audrey Klein-Leach
 Catherine Levine
 Ann Lewis
 Ann T. Lisi
 Linda C. and Fred J. Looft
 Mónica Escobar Lowell
 Satya B. and Supriya Mitra
 Barbara B. and Raymond E. Morin
 Frederic H. and Victoria Mulligan
 David A. Nicholson
 Karen M. Nunley
 Martha R. Pappas
 Marlene and David Persky
 R. Norman Peters
 Marsha R. Platt
 Bonnie M. Prescott
 Azim Rawji and Robin Van Liew
 Mary C. and William J. Ritter
 Susan and C. Reid Roberts
 Scott and Lois Rossiter
 Paul R. Rossley
 Scott R. Rossley
 R. Joseph Salois
 Sally S. Schenck
 Laurence J. and Alison D. Specter
 David C. Steelman and Virginia Theo-Steelman
 Kelly A. Stimson
 Joseph N. and Charlene M. Stolberg
 Raymond J. and Kim E. Stone
 Cynthia P. Strub
 William L. and Linda J. Thomasino
 Laurie D’Amico Tigan
 Sumner B. Tilton Jr.
 Cathy E. Wade-Theroux
 Cheryl Wilfong and William G. McKim
 Robert and Dawn Wolf
 David K. Woodbury

2024 Investment Performance

The Foundation had a strong investment performance in 2024, ending the year with a return rate of 12.7% in our main investment pool.

The goal of our investment program is to preserve and enhance the value of donor gifts, maintain capital for the future, and meet community needs today.

2024 Investment Committee members: Maria Heskes-Allard (Chair), Thomas J. Bartholomew, Warner Fletcher, Christopher McCarthy, Ann Tripp, Jim Collins, Abraham Haddad, John Shoro

Summary Financial Statements

Balance Sheet

Assets	
Cash & Investments	\$226.5M
Receivables & Others	0.9M
Total Assets	\$227.4M
Liabilities & Net Assets	
Funds Held for Other Agencies	\$53.2M
Grants Payable	1.5M
Other	1.4M
Total Liabilities	56.1M
Net Assets	\$171.3M
Total Liabilities & Net Assets	\$227.4M

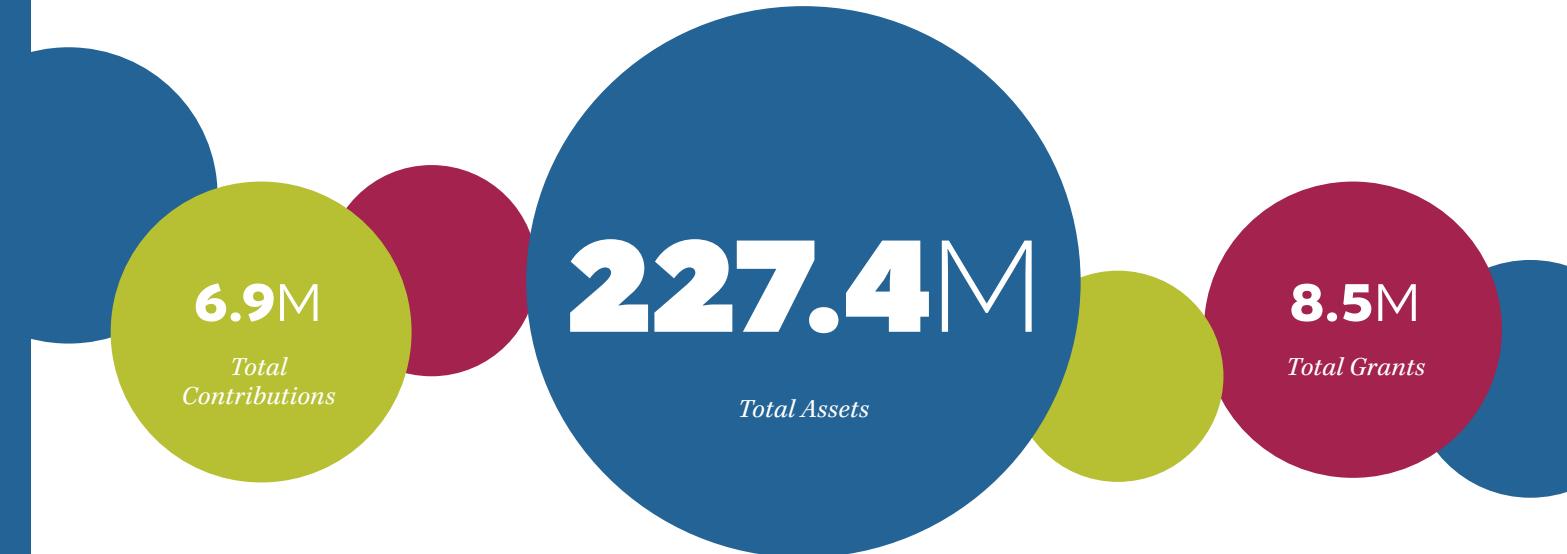
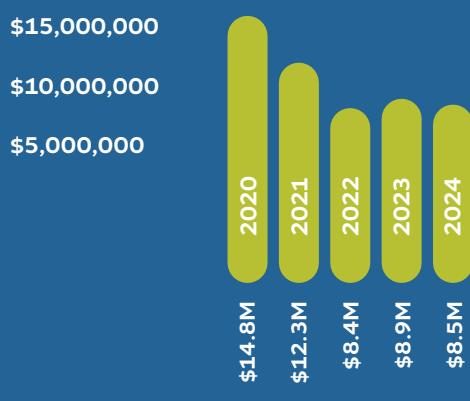
Statement of Activities

Revenue	
Gifts & Donations	\$6.9M
Net Return on Investments	25.3M
Less Agency Fund Activity	(9.1 M)
Other	0.4M
Total Revenue	\$23.5M
Grants & Expenses	
Grants	\$8.5M
Less Agency Fund Activity	(1.1 M)
Other	2.9M
Total Grants & Expenses	\$10.3M
Change in Assets	
Change in Net Assets	\$13.2M
Total Assets Beginning of Year	\$158.1M
Total Assets End of Year	\$171.3M

Total Assets by Year



Total Grants by Year



Contributions by Fund Type

Agency	\$3.2M
Discretionary & FOI	1.5M
Donor Advised Funds	1.0M
Scholarship	0.9M
Designated	0.2M
Planned Giving	0.1M

TOTAL

\$6.9M

Assets by Fund Type

Discretionary & FOI	\$92.0M
Agency	53.2M
Designated	35.9M
Scholarships	24.5M
Donor Advised Funds	20.8M
Planned Giving	1.0M

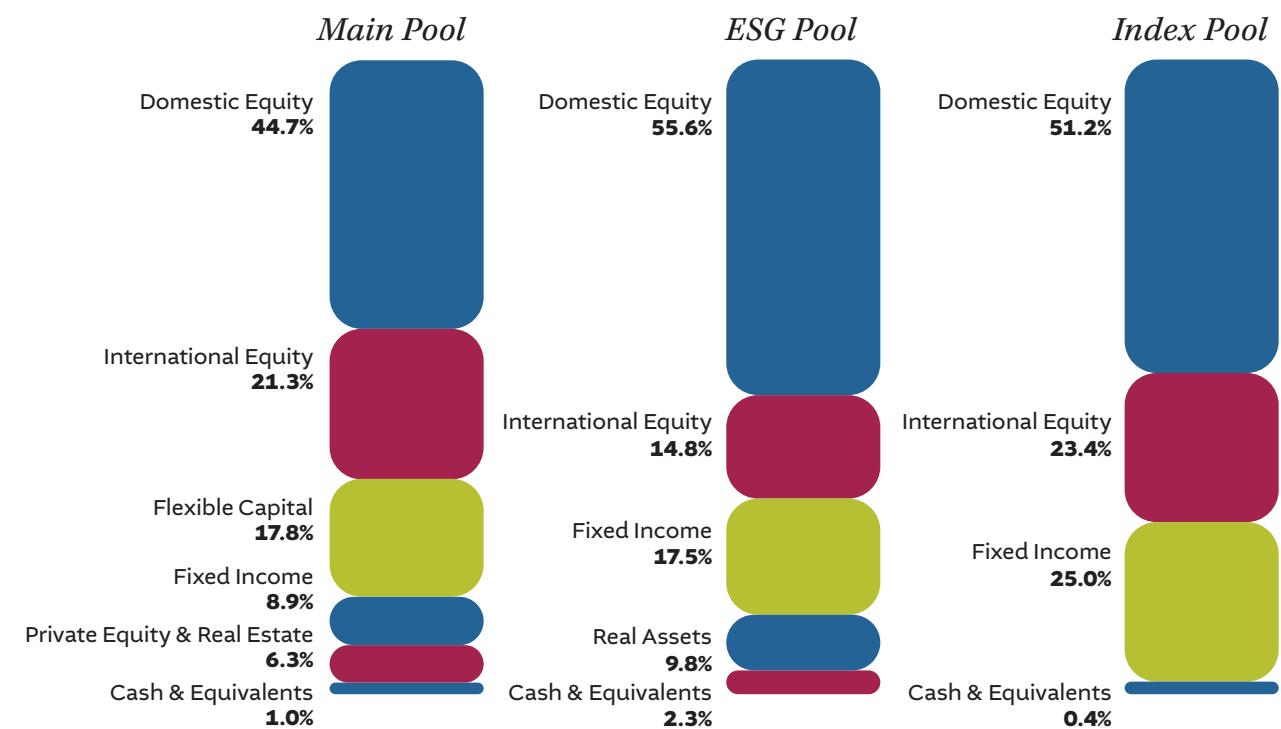
\$227.4M

Grants by Fund Type

Discretionary & FOI	\$3.7M
Donor Advised Funds	1.6M
Designated	1.3M
Agency	1.1M
Scholarships	0.8M

\$8.5M

Investment Pool Allocation



We provide a variety of options to help you give now or give later, all of which ensure a lasting impact in the community.

Greater Giving. Greater Impact.

“GWCF is an established community partner with a great deal of experience discerning the needs of our community and using philanthropic funds to support those needs.

The idea of having reliable people “in the know” who will be able to guide the use of our funds long past when we can, and with significantly more expertise than we have, was comforting and appealing.”

— Samantha McDonald, Martin Family Fund

LET'S WORK TOGETHER

We offer a number of funds to help you give back to the causes you care about, now and in perpetuity through our endowment:



Designated Funds. For those who want to support specific organizations.



Donor Advised Funds. For those who want an active role in their giving.



Discretionary Funds. For those who trust the Foundation to identify and address the community's most pressing needs.



Scholarship Funds. For those who wish to support students pursuing higher education.

Field of Interest Funds. For those passionate about particular causes or issues.

We also offer fund options for companies looking to give back to their community, as well as endowment funds for nonprofits to sustain their mission.

PLANNED GIVING

Our legacy planning services help you define and preserve your values, priorities, and life story — ensuring they live on beyond your lifetime. By committing a portion of your assets for community benefit, you join our Acorn Society, a growing group of dedicated community champions.

To learn more, please contact our Philanthropic Services team at donorservices@greaterworcester.org



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“Home is where I want to be. But I guess I’m already there.”

