



2024

COMMUNITY GRANTS

Project & Operating Awards



2024 GRANT DISPERSMENT

100
project grants

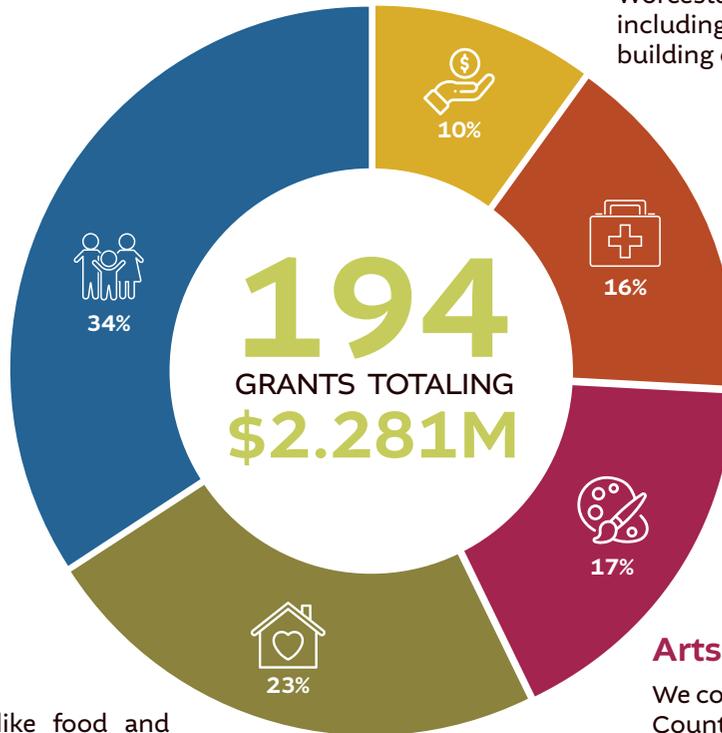
94
general operating grants

Youth & Families

We invested **\$774,000** in Worcester County to support youth and families through **40** projects and **24** organizations focused on youth development and empowerment, educational enrichment, and support for immigrant families. [pages 10-12](#)

Basic Needs

To support residents' most basic needs like food and shelter, we made **\$532,500** in grants to **13** projects and **28** organizations to support housing assistance, food security, emergency supports, and essential resources. [page 6-7](#)



Economic Opportunities

A new focus area this year, we invested **\$228,000** to support **14** projects and **six** organizations to advance Worcester County residents' upward economic mobility, including workforce development, career training, and skill-building opportunities. [pages 7-8](#)

Health & Wellbeing

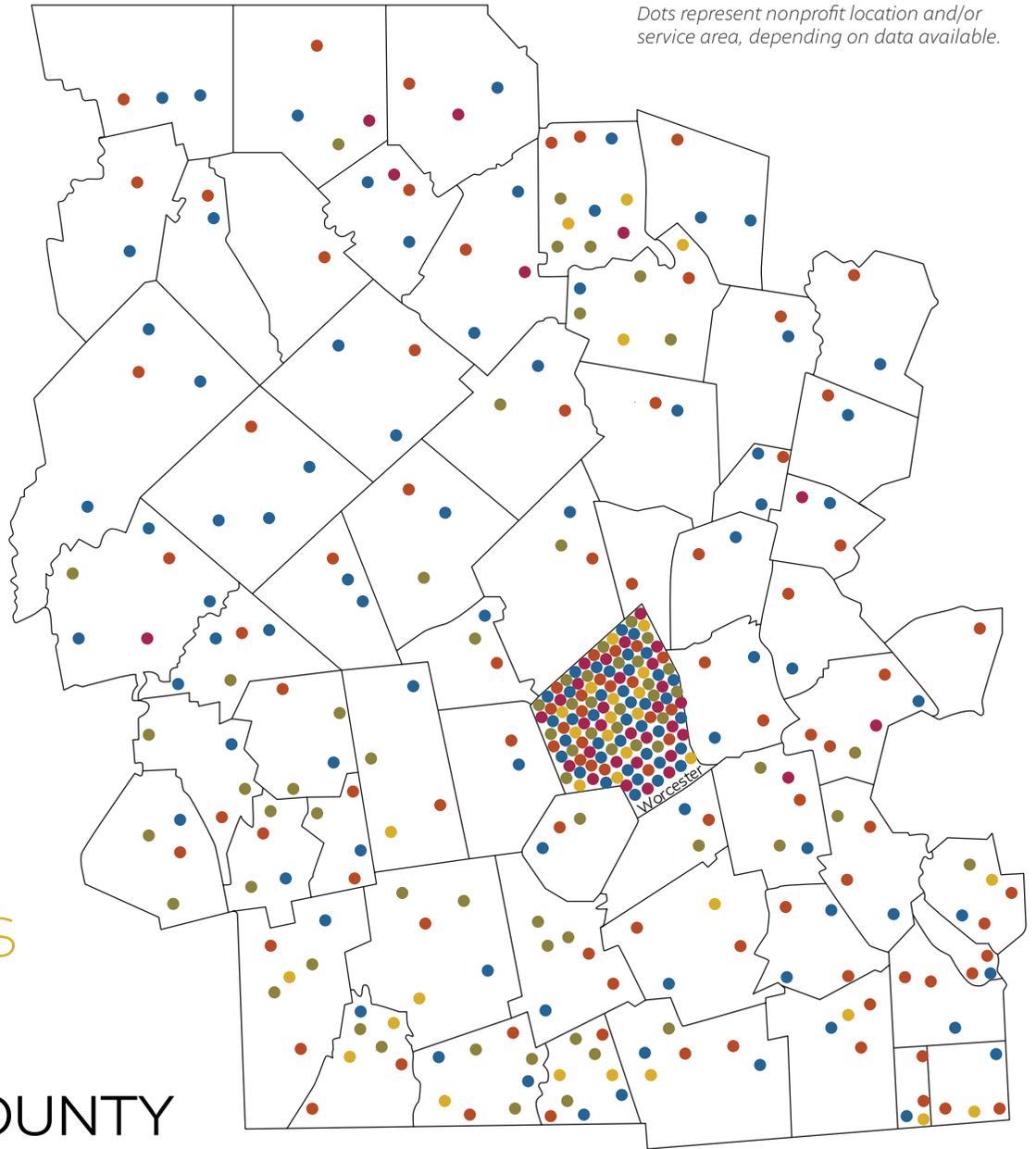
We were proud to invest **\$357,000** to support **17** projects and **13** organizations that foster greater health and wellbeing for Worcester County residents by expanding access to physical and mental health care and support services. [pages 8-9](#)

Arts & Creativity

We continued to support arts and creativity in Worcester County, making **\$389,000** in grants to **39** projects and **16** organizations that will engage artists and the broader community in creative programs, workshops, and events. [pages 4-5](#)

2024 COMMUNITY GRANTS

Dots represent nonprofit location and/or service area, depending on data available.



INVESTING IN...
ARTS & CREATIVITY
BASIC NEEDS
ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES
HEALTH & WELLNESS
YOUTH & FAMILIES
ACROSS WORCESTER COUNTY

2024 GRANT RECIPIENTS

Arts & Creativity

19 Carter | \$7,500

Making Music Accessible Series

Ambitious Academy | \$5,000

Photography Workshops for Youth

Apple Tree Arts | \$5,000

Operating Support

ArtsWorcester | \$10,000

Future Arts Workers of Worcester

ArtsWorcester | \$17,500

Operating Support

Casita Cultura Latina | \$15,000

Operating Support

Creative Hub Worcester | \$9,000

Aerosol Art: A Workshop Series

Crocodile River Music | \$12,500

2025 African Music Concert Series

Crocodile River Music | \$7,500

Operating Support

19 Carter: Making Music Accessible Program

19 Carter will foster community connections through music and provide platforms for both seasoned and beginner musicians by offering a range of free or low-cost events, including monthly concerts, open mic nights, jazz jams and Celtic music sessions.



El Salon | \$7,000

Operating Support

Friends of the Stone Church | \$7,500

Faces of Gilbertville, Voices of Gilbertville

Guardians of Tradition | \$12,500

Weaving Worcester's Cultures Through Kites

Innovation Learning Center | \$10,000

Creative Minds

Joy of Music Program, Inc. | \$7,500

Books, Beats, and Brushes

Joy of Music Program, Inc. | \$15,000

Operating Support

Love Your Labels | \$12,000

Operating Support

Mass Humanities | \$10,000

Worcester Clemente Course

Music Mania Television | \$12,500

Show Me The Funny: Stand Up Comedy Workshop

Music Worcester | \$18,000

Operating Support

New Dawn Art Center, Inc. | \$10,000

Operating Support

Open Door Arts, Inc. | \$10,000

Open Door Gallery at the Worcester Art Museum

Open Door Arts, Inc. | \$5,000

Connecting and Creating through the Arts

Pakachoag Music School of Greater Worcester | \$17,500

Operating Support

Preservation Worcester | \$7,500

Operating Support

2024 GRANT RECIPIENTS

Music Mania Television: Show Me The Funny: Stand Up Comedy Workshop

Hosted at the Worcester Senior Center, these stand-up comedy workshops will bring together senior citizens from centers across the Commonwealth, creating a safe space for expression and interaction among isolated older adults.

**MUSIC MANIA
TELEVISION STUDIOS
LLC.**

Pride Productions, Inc. | \$10,000
Operating Support

Pride Worcester | \$10,000
Operating Support

Raices Cultural Arts | \$18,000
Youth Dance Program

Refugees & Immigrants Cultural Empowerment Mass | \$5,000
Culture Arts Program

Studio Theatre Worcester | \$5,500
Operating Support

WCLOC Theater Company | \$5,000
Operating Support

WICN Public Radio | \$12,500
Operating Support

Worcester Carribbean American Carnival Assoc. | \$8,000
Operating Support

Worcester Center for Crafts | \$7,500
Enameling for All

Worcester Center for Crafts | \$10,000
Operating Support

Worcester Chamber Music Society | \$7,500
Operating Support

Worcester Children's Chorus | \$5,000
Operating Support

Worcester County Poetry Assoc. | \$10,000
Operating Support

Worcester Historical Museum | \$14,000
Operating Support

Worcester Youth Orchestras | \$10,000
Operating Support

Basic Needs

2Gether We Eat | \$7,500
Operating Support

Abby's House | \$20,000
Operating Support

Ansaar of Worcester | \$7,500
Housing Assistance & Home Buying Education

Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Worcester | \$10,000
Emergency Stabilization Services

Central Massachusetts Housing Alliance, Inc | \$17,500
Public Education and Advocacy

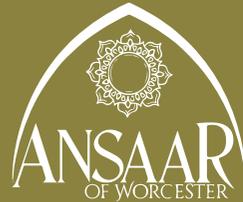
Community Harvest Project | \$17,000
Operating Support

Community Servings | \$12,000
Medically Tailored Nutrition Program

2024 GRANT RECIPIENTS

Ansaar: Housing Assistance & Home-Buying Education

Three years after an influx of Afghan refugees settled in Worcester, Ansaar will be helping them purchase their first home by providing support with applications and educating them on the home-buying process.



Dignity Matters, Inc. | \$15,000
Provision of Menstrual Products

Dismas House of Central Massachusetts | \$20,000
Operating Support

El Buen Samaritano Food Program | \$12,500
Summer Eats

El Buen Samaritano Food Program | \$15,000
Operating Support

Fresh Start Furniture Bank | \$18,000
Operating Support

Friendly House | \$15,000
Welcome, Neighbor! Refugee Donation Center

Friends of St. Luke's | \$7,500
Operating Support

Ginny's Helping Hand, Inc. | \$7,500
Operating Support

Growing Places Garden Project | \$15,000
Operating Support

In the Hour of Need Family Shelter | \$7,500
Operating Support

Jeremiah's Inn | \$15,000
Operating Support

Main South Community Development Corporation | \$22,500
Operating Support

Mustard Seed Catholic Workers Community | \$10,000
Operating Support

NewVue Communities | \$20,000
Operating Support

North Star Family Services, Inc. | \$17,000
Operating Support

Open Sky Community Services | \$25,000
South County Housing Assistance Program

Oxford Ecumenical Food Shelf | \$7,000
Operating Support

Pernet Family Health Service, Inc. | \$20,000
Emergency Assistance Program

Project New Hope | \$8,500
Operating Support

Quaboag Hills Community Coalition | \$6,000
Quaboag Hills Community Fund

Rachel's Table | \$7,500
Operating Support

Regional Environmental Council, Inc. | \$7,500
Community & Mobile Farmers Markets

Regional Environmental Council, Inc. | \$20,000
Operating Support

Southeast Asian Coalition of Central Massachusetts | \$25,000
Food Security

Student Clinic for Immigrant Justice, Inc. | \$15,000
Expanding Access to Immigrant Justice

2024 GRANT RECIPIENTS

Dignity Matters: Menstrual Product Provision

Dignity Matters leverages a network of 175 nonprofits to distribute menstrual products, bras and underwear to ensure homeless and low-income women and girls in Worcester County can manage their periods safely and with dignity.



The Wellstorm, Inc. | \$5,000
Operating Support

Wachusett Food Pantry, Inc. | \$5,000
Operating Support

Webster Dudley Food Share, Inc. | \$7,000
Operating Support

Winchendon Community Action Committee | \$7,500
Operating Support

Worcester Anti-Foreclosure Team | \$5,000
Operating Support

Worcester Common Ground | \$22,500
Operating Support

Worcester Community Housing Resources | \$17,500
Operating Support

Worcester Interfaith | \$5,000
Operating Support

Yes We Care, Inc | \$7,500
Operating Support

Economic Opportunities

Boys & Girls Club of Worcester | \$25,000
Workforce Development for Teens

Center for Women & Enterprise | \$10,000
Roadmap to Entrepreneurship for Women

Dress for Success Worcester | \$12,500
Operating Support

Empower Children for Success | \$12,000
Reducing Barriers to Family Childcare Entrepreneurship

Empower Children for Success | \$7,500
Operating Support

Friendly House: HBCU College Tour | \$15,000
HBCU College Tour

Literacy Volunteers of Greater Worcester | \$10,000
ESOL for New Americans

Literacy Volunteers of Greater Worcester | \$20,000
Operating Support

Literacy Volunteers of South Central Massachusetts | \$20,000
Operating Support



Notre Dame Health Care: Educational Bridge Program

Notre Dame's Educational Bridge Program supports health care workers across the County with comprehensive educational and professional development services, aiming to improve workforce recruitment and retention and strengthen the local health care workforce.

2024 GRANT RECIPIENTS

NewVue Communities | \$6,500
Financial Fitness

Notre Dame Health Care | \$12,500
Educational Bridge Program

Organization for Refugee and Immigration Success (ORIS) | \$10,000
Employment Programs

Quinsigamond Community College | \$12,500
Foundation Bridges to College

Training Resources of America, Inc. | \$10,000
ESOL Program

Tri-Valley, Inc. | \$15,000
Case Management Accelerated Training

Worcester Earn A Bike | \$5,000
Operating Support

Worcester Refugee Assistance Project | \$10,000
English Language Learning

Worcester Roots | \$5,000
Operating Support

Worcester Youth Center:
Cooking Up a Career

This program teaches culinary basics, offers industry certifications, and develops soft skills to prepare participants for the workforce. It is aimed at older, disconnected and underemployed youth aged 17-24 and includes wrap-around support and follow up services to ensure participants' success in employment or education.



Worcester State Foundation | \$12,500
Club Educación at the Latino Education Institute

Worcester Youth Center | \$10,000
Cooking Up A Career

Health & Wellbeing

AIDS Project Worcester | \$10,000
Operating Support

Center for Health Impact | \$7,500
Operating Support

Coalition for a Healthy Greater Worcester | \$20,000
Operating Support

Community Health Awareness Network Grows Equity (CHANGE) | \$10,000
Healthy Habits Initiatives

Community Health Awareness Network Grows Equity (CHANGE) | \$7,500
Operating Support

Ellie Fund | \$15,000
Equitable Pathways to Breast Cancer Care

Family Health Center of Worcester | \$10,000
Perinatal Group Programs

Genesis Club House, Inc. | \$13,000
Homeless Population Outreach Pilot Project

Genesis Club House, Inc. | \$22,500
Operating Support

Inner Voice Outer Change | \$12,500
After School Music Program

2024 GRANT RECIPIENTS

Inner Voice Outer Change: After School Music Program

This after school program will serve approximately 50 students across three Worcester Public Schools, providing students with organized discussions led by a licensed mental health counselor and technical training in music development and recording.



Latin American Health Alliance | \$5,000
Operating Support

Lucy's Love Bus | \$7,500
Integrative Therapies for Childhood Cancer Families

New Hope, Inc. | \$7,500
Human Trafficking Awareness & Prevention

Open Sky Community Services | \$10,000
Safe Homes

Pathways for Change | \$18,000
Medical Accompaniment

Pathways for Change | \$12,500
Operating Support

RIA, Inc. | \$6,000
Survivor Support Groups

Safe Exit Initiative | \$15,000
Healthcare for Individuals with Experience in the Sex Trade

Safe Exit Initiative | \$20,000
Operating Support

Senior Connection | \$12,500
Care Express, Mobile Health and Outreach Clinic

Shewsbury Youth & Family Services | \$12,500
Operating Support

Summit Agency | \$5,000
Operating Support

The HeartWell Institute | \$12,500
Operating Support

UMass Memorial Health Care, Inc. | \$12,500
Training the Community Doula Workforce

Welcoming Alliance for Refugee Ministry | \$17,500
Hope Groups-Mental Health for Refugee Women

Westborough Connects, Inc. | \$10,000
Operating Support

Worcester Common Ground, Inc. | \$10,000
Residential Services Coordinator

Worcester RISE Health Clinic | \$12,500
Refugee and Immigrant Maternal Child Health

Worcester RISE Health Clinic | \$7,500
Operating Support

Youth Opportunities Upheld (YOU), Inc. | \$15,000
Gender Wellness Initiative

UMass Memorial Health Care: Training the Community Doula Workforce



This program aims to address disparities in Black maternity care by recruiting and training a diverse group of doulas reflective of the local population in Worcester County, equipping 15 doula trainees with the necessary skills and certification to support Black birthing people.

2024 GRANT RECIPIENTS

Youth & Families

508 Forever Young | \$7,500
Operating Support

African Community Education Program (ACE) | \$20,000
Outreach & Case Management

African Community Education Program | \$10,000
Operating Support

Ansaar of Worcester | \$20,000
Operating Support

Ascentria Community Services, Inc. | \$20,000
Immigration and Legal Assistance Program

Bancroft School | \$20,000
Worcester Partnership Summer Program

**Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Central Mass/
Metrowest, Inc. | \$10,000**
Operating Support

Boys & Girls Club of Lunenburg | \$12,500
GROW SMART

Boys & Girls Club of Webster-Dudley | \$10,000
Operating Support

Boys & Girls Club of Worcester | \$17,500
Operating Support

Camp Putnam, Inc. | \$5,000
Operating Support

Center for Family Connection | \$10,000
Worcester based Families Summer Intensive

Community Legal Aid, Inc. | \$22,000
Immigrant Outreach & Advocacy Project

Edward Street Child Services | \$15,000
Master Teacher Consultation Program

Edward Street Child Services | \$22,500
Operating Support

Family Services of Central Massachusetts | \$15,000
The Summer Literacy Initiative

Free Worcester | \$7,000
Parent Study on Improving Access to Autism Services

George Marston Whitin Memorial Community Assn., Inc. | \$17,000
WCC Youth Outreach

Girl Scouts of Central and Western MA | \$12,500
Community-Based Programs

Girls Incorporated of Worcester | \$25,000
After School Innovation Clubs

Girls Incorporated of Worcester | \$17,500
Operating Support

Guild of St. Agnes | \$7,500
Summer Enrichment Programs



Meryl's Safe Haven: Transitional Youth Empowerment Program

This program supports young people aged 18-24 who are aging out of the foster care system and are currently homeless or at risk of homelessness, providing them with the resources needed to achieve self-sustainability and secure permanent housing.

2024 GRANT RECIPIENTS

Our Bright Future: STEM Focused After School Program

Our Bright Future's STEM program will support students across Worcester, Webster, Dudley and Southbridge, providing after-school activities including robotics, 3D printing, bioscience, arts and crafts, financial literacy and more.



High Ridge Harmony Farm | \$5,000

Bridging the Gap for Underprivileged Communities

Horizons for Homeless Children | \$7,500

Playspaces Across Worcester County

Legendary Legacies, Inc. | \$10,000

Operating Support

Massachusetts Adoption Resource Exchange, Inc. | \$10,000

Paths to Permanency and Adoption

Massachusetts Women of Color Coalition | \$10,000

Intergenerational Leadership Academy for Girls of Color

Meryl's Safe Haven | \$10,000

Transitional Youth Empowerment Program

Nativity School of Worcester | \$5,000

Operating Support

New England Botanic Garden at Tower Hill | \$10,000

Project Bloom

North Quabbin Citizen Advocacy, Inc. | \$10,000

Supportive Relationships for Individuals with Disabilities

Organization for Refugee and Immigration Success (ORIS) | \$10,000

Case Management

Our Bright Future Inc | \$10,000

STEM After School Program

Pernet Family Health Service, Inc. | \$7,000

Youth Program

Pleasant Street Neighborhood Network Center | \$12,500

Cultural Exchange Through Soccer

Pleasant Street Neighborhood Network Center | \$17,000

Operating Support

Plummer Youth Promise | \$8,000

Permanency Mediation

Reach Out and Read | \$5,000

Worcester County Rx for Success

Regional Environmental Council, Inc. | \$10,000

YouthGROW

Rise Above Foundation | \$7,500

Operating Support

SEIU Education & Support Fund | \$5,000

Massachusetts Child Care Training Fund

Southeast Asian Coalition of Central Massachusetts | \$22,500

Operating Support

Straight Ahead Ministries, Inc. | \$17,500

Youth Reentry Program

The CASA Project | \$20,000

Operating Support

The Latino Education Institute at Worcester State University | \$17,000

Operating Support

2024 GRANT RECIPIENTS

Worcester Area Mission Society: Pre-K Plus

The Pre-K Plus program provides early education and socialization opportunities to children from low-income families in Worcester and Fitchburg, helping to prepare them for kindergarten. The program offers bilingual support to bridge language barriers for the many families whose first language is not English.



The Shine Initiative | \$20,000
Operating Support

The Torch Foundation | \$10,000
Teen Social-Emotional Intelligence Program

Together for Kids Coalition | \$15,000
Operating Support

United Way of Tri-County | \$10,000
WHEAT Community Connections

Welcoming Alliance for Refugee Ministry | \$14,000
Operating Support

Wendell P. Clark YMCA | \$7,500
Operating Support

Whitin Community Center | \$12,000
Pre-K Plus

Worcester Chamber Music Society | \$7,500
Neighborhood Strings

Worcester Education Collaborative | \$12,000
Woo-Labs

Worcester Education Collaborative | \$15,000
Operating Support

Worcester Refugee Assistance Project | \$6,000
Operating Support

Worcester Youth Center | \$10,000
Case Management

Worcester Youth Orchestras | \$6,000
Strengthening Community Access to the Arts

Worcester Youth Orchestras | \$6,000
Operating Support

WriteBoston | \$15,000
ALTAS Program Expansion

YMCA of Central Massachusetts | \$8,000
The Achievers Program

Youth Opportunities Upheld (YOU), Inc. | \$10,000
John S. Laws Dynamy Youth Academy

Worcester Youth Orchestras: Strengthening Community Access to the Arts



In an effort to support young musicians in underserved areas of Worcester County, Worcester Youth Orchestras will provide in-school and out-of-school learning opportunities to students of the Quabbin Regional School District, addressing barriers by providing financial aid, transportation logistics and instrument loans.

CONTRIBUTING FUNDS

These community grants were made possible thanks to the contributions from the following discretionary and field of interest funds hosted at Greater Worcester Community Foundation.

Andrew N. Ahlfors and Helmi E. Ahlfors Fund
 Albert R. and Carolyn Jones Fund
 Ann J. and Richard Prouty Fund
 Anna S. and Warren G. Davis Fund
 Arthur E. and Janet S. Jones Fund
 Barbara E. and William E. Christensen Fund
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 Dan R. and F. Ann Lewis Charitable Fund
 David H. and Betty J. Green Fund
 Douglas P. Butler Fund
 Dr. Harold M. Constantian Fund
 Dr. Leon, Arax and Sona Husisian Fund
 Eliza D. and Cora J. D. Dodge Fund
 Elva E. and John J. Chisholm Fund
 EMC Community Fund
 Estelle M. Sullivan Fund
 Esther and Howard G. Freeman Fund
 Fairman C. Cowan Fund
 Fallon/OrNda Community Health Fund
 Founders Fund
 Frances F. Mansfield Disc. Fund
 Frances S. and Francis H. Dewey III Fund
 Francis A. and Jacquelyn H. Harrington Human Services Fund
 Fund for the Arts and Humanities
 Garfield Berry Fund
 George I. Alden Education Fund
 Gertrude Alice Johnson Fund
 Gilbert H. Sundberg Fund
 GLBT Endowment Fund
 Greater Worcester Jaycees Fund
 H. Arthur Smith Discretionary Fund
 H. Arthur Smith Fund
 Harriet Miller Hight Education Fund with the Assoc. of Colored Peoples
 Harry G. Stoddard Fund
 Haskell and Ina Gordon Fund
 Irving N. and Annabel Wolfson Fund
 James J. and Patricia A. Moynihan Fund
 Jeppson Memorial Community Fund
 John F. and Rayna Keenan Fund
 Joseph A. Tosoni Fund
 Lois Anne Memorial Fund
 Lorraine Crepau Fund
 Lund Pioneer Fund

CONTRIBUTING FUNDS

Main South Fund
Margaret A. and Ralph H. Gowetz Fund
Margery M. and O. Vincent Gustafson Fund
Marian B. Kubelus and Marian Zell Nesbit Memorial Fund
Marion Stoddard Fletcher Fund
Marlene and David Persky Fund
Mary Tonna Cocaine and Family Charitable Fund
Max H. Kuhner and Eloise A. Kuhner Fund
Melvin and Martha Rosenblatt Fund
Mr and Mrs Robert H Wetzell Fund
Nathan and Barbara Greenberg Fund
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Olive I. and Anthony A. Borgatti Fund
Orville Harrold Fund
Partnership Fund
Providence & Worcester Railroad
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Raymond P. Harold Disc. Fund
Richard C. Daniels Fund
Robert and Mary S. Cushman Fund
Robert J. and Anne C. Whipple Fund
Robert S. and Helen A. Bowditch Fund
Robert W. Booth Fund in Memory of George F. Booth
Ruth and John Adam Fund
Ruth H. and Warren A. Ellsworth Fund
Saint Vincent Healthcare Fund
Samuel Frank Charitable Fund
Seven Hills Youth Fund
Shepherd Knapp School Fund
Sumner Lee Sharfman Fund

United Bank MA Charitable Fund
Warner S. and Mary F. Fletcher Discretionary Fund
William R. and Janet A. Carrick Discretionary Fund
Worcester Credit Bureau Fund
Worcester County Deputy Sheriffs Association Fund
Wyatt R. and Erika D. Wade Fund
Youth for Community Improvement Endowment Fund
Youth Opportunity Fund

About Greater Worcester Community Foundation

Greater Worcester Community Foundation fosters greater giving and impact for all of Worcester County.

For almost 50 years, the Foundation has been working to empower individuals to become philanthropists by connecting donors to high impact nonprofits and community partners. The Foundation employs its expertise and resources to address the region's most urgent needs.

The Foundation's community grants program makes up a quarter of its annual grantmaking, which totals approximately \$10 million a year. The community grants process is competitive, and nonprofits can apply for general operating support, project support, or both. Community grants are made possible thanks to donors that have set up discretionary or field of interest funds with the Foundation.

To learn more, please visit www.greaterworcester.org

