



GREATER  
WORCESTER  
COMMUNITY  
FOUNDATION

2025  
**COMMUNITY  
GRANTS**  
Project &  
Operating Awards

# 2025 GRANT DISBURSEMENT

## Economic Opportunity

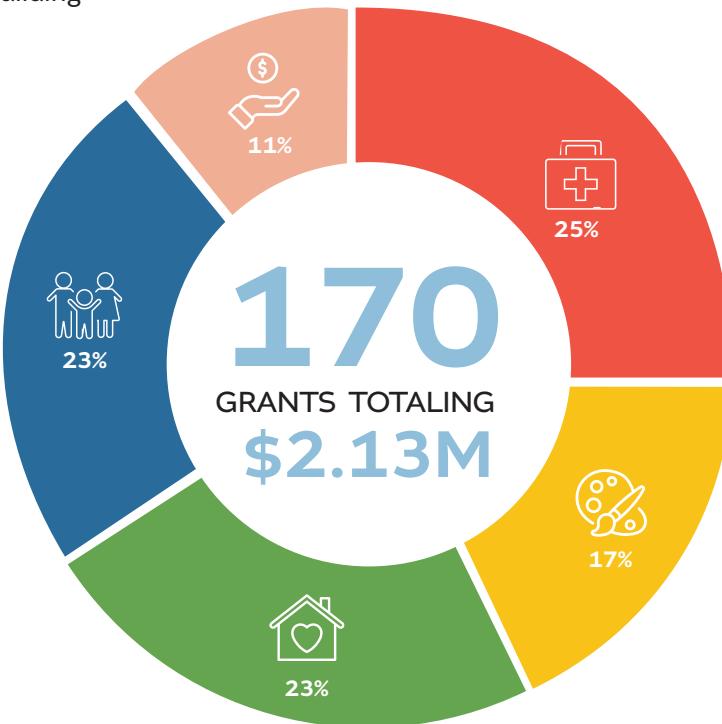
We invested **\$240,500** to support **nine** projects and **10** organizations to advance Worcester County residents' upward economic mobility, including workforce development, career training, and skill-building opportunities. [pages 7-8](#)

## Youth Development

We invested **\$501,500** in Worcester County to support youth development through **24** projects and **18** organizations focused on youth development and empowerment, educational enrichment, and support for immigrant families. [pages 10-11](#)

**77**  
project grants

**93**  
general operating grants



## Basic Needs

To support residents' most basic needs like food and shelter, we made **\$496,000** in grants to **13** projects and **21** organizations to support housing assistance, food security, emergency supports, and essential resources. [pages 5-7](#)

## Health & Wellbeing

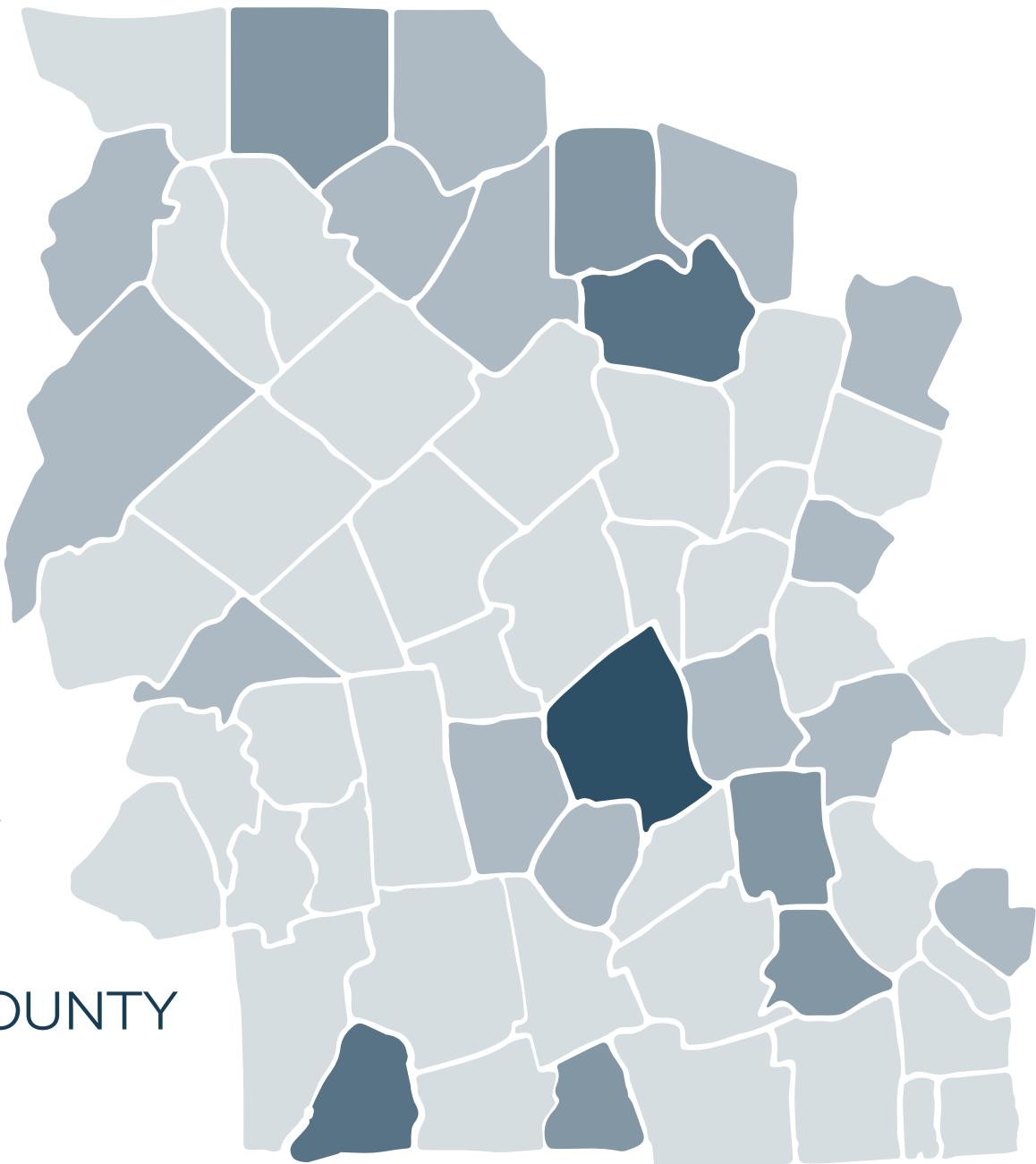
We're proud to invest **\$542,000** to support **19** projects and **20** organizations that foster greater health and wellbeing for Worcester County residents by expanding access to physical and mental health care and support services. [pages 8-9](#)

## Arts & Creativity

We continued to support arts and creativity in Worcester County, making **\$355,000** in grants to **12** projects and **24** organizations that will engage artists and the broader community in creative programs, workshops, and events. [pages 4-5](#)

# 2025 COMMUNITY GRANTS

INVESTING IN...  
ARTS & CREATIVITY  
BASIC NEEDS  
ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY  
HEALTH & WELLNESS  
YOUTH DEVELOPMENT  
ACROSS WORCESTER COUNTY



# 2025 GRANT RECIPIENTS

## Arts & Creativity

**19 Carter** | \$5,000  
Operating Support

**Apple Tree Arts** | \$5,000  
Operating Support

**ArtsWorcester** | \$18,000  
Operating Support

**Black Excellence Academy** | \$10,000  
Operating Support

**Casita Cultura Latina** | \$8,000  
Operating Support

**Crocodile River Music** | \$10,000  
MailFest 2025

**Crocodile River Music** | \$7,500  
Operating Support

**Harvard's Cultural Collaborative, Inc.** | \$5,000  
Operating Support

**Inner Voice Outer Change** | \$15,000  
Therapeutic After School Music Program

**Open Door Arts: Gallery at Worcester Art Museum**

The Open Door Gallery at Worcester Art Museum is a disabled-led and accessible space that showcases the work and stories of disabled artists.



**Joy of Music Program, Inc.** | \$10,000  
Operating Support

**Love Your Labels** | \$12,000  
Operating Support

**Love Your Labels** | \$15,000  
Threads Youth Fashion & Identity Program

**Mass Humanities** | \$15,000  
Worcester Clemente Course

**Music Worcester, Inc.** | \$15,000  
Operating Support

**New Dawn Arts Center, Inc.** | \$10,000  
Operating Support

**New England Botanic Garden at Tower Hill** | \$12,000  
Project Bloom

**Open Door Arts** | \$15,000  
Gallery at Worcester Art Museum

**OpporTUNEity Community Connections** | \$7,500  
OpporTUNEity Songwriters Circle

**Pakachoag Music School of Greater Worcester** | \$12,000  
Operating Support

**Preservation Worcester** | \$5,000  
Operating Support

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

**Refugees & Immigrants Cultural Empowerment Massachusetts** | \$10,000  
Operating Support

**Ritmos Dance Company, Inc.** | \$7,500  
Operating Support

# 2025 GRANT RECIPIENTS

## Worcester Chamber Music Society: Neighborhood Strings

The Neighborhood Strings program offers free music lessons in violin, viola, and cello to youth from Worcester's Downtown and Main South neighborhoods.



**Studio Theatre Worcester | \$6,000**  
Operating Support

**WICN Public Radio, Inc. | \$12,500**  
Operating Support

**Worcester Center for Crafts | \$5,000**  
Forge Like A Viking

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

**Worcester Center for Performing Arts (Hanover Theatre) | \$12,500**  
Operating Support

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

**Worcester Chamber Music Society | \$8,000**  
Operating Support

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

**Worcester County Light Opera Club | \$5,000**  
Operating Support

**Worcester County Poetry Association | \$10,000**  
Operating Support

**Worcester Historical Museum | \$14,000**  
Operating Support

**Worcester Youth Orchestras | \$10,000**  
Expanding Community Access to the Arts

**Youth Opportunities Upheld | \$10,000**  
ASPiRE! Creative Arts Initiatives

## Basic Needs

**Abby's House | \$22,000**  
Operating Support

**Advocacy for Refugee & Immigrant Services, Inc. | \$5,000**  
Operating Support

**Ansaar of Worcester | \$12,500**  
Housing Assistance & Home Buying Education

**Ascentria Community Services, Inc. | \$25,000**  
Immigration and Legal Assistance Program

**Auburn Youth and Family Services | \$7,500**  
Operating Support

**Catholic Charities Worcester County | \$20,000**  
Emergency Stabilization Services

**Community Harvest Project | \$17,000**  
Operating Support

**Community Servings | \$12,000**  
Food is Medicine

**Deja New Leicester, Inc. | \$7,500**  
Operating Support

# 2025 GRANT RECIPIENTS

## Hope and Comfort, Inc.:

Hygiene Product Delivery in Worcester County

Hope and Comfort's first grant from GWCF will help them distribute at least 450,000 essential hygiene products to an estimated 45,000 residents in Worcester County.



## Dignity Matters, Inc. | \$15,000

Menstruation Product Delivery in Worcester County

## Dismas House of Central Massachusetts, Inc. | \$20,000

Operating Support

## El Buen Samaritano Food Program | \$15,000

Operating Support

## Fresh Start Furniture Bank | \$15,000

Operating Support

## Friends of St. Luke's, Inc. | \$10,000

Operating Support

## Growing Places Garden Project | \$15,000

Operating Support

## Hope and Comfort, Inc. | \$7,500

Hygiene Product Delivery in Worcester County

## Jeremiah's Inn | \$15,000

Operating Support

## Legendary Legacies, Inc. | \$15,000

Legacy Transport

## Massachusetts Adoption Resource Exchange | \$10,000

Paths to Permanency and Adoption

## Meryl's Safe Haven | \$12,500

Operating Support

## Mustard Seed Catholic Workers Community | \$10,000

Operating Support

## NewVue Communities | \$15,000

Tenant Housing Stability

## North Star Family Services, Inc. | \$10,000

Bonnie's Place

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

Operating Support

## Open Sky Community Services | \$25,000

South County Housing Assistance Program

## Quinsigamond Community College Foundation | \$10,000

Emergency Assistance for At-Risk Students

## Rachel's Table | \$7,500

Operating Support

## Regional Environmental Council, Inc. | \$20,000

Operating Support

## Safe Exit Initiative | \$18,000

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 in Worcester

## Worcester Anti-Foreclosure Team | \$5,000

Operating Support

## Worcester Common Ground | \$22,500

Operating Support

## Worcester Community Housing Resources | \$17,500

Operating Support

# 2025 GRANT RECIPIENTS

## Southeast Asian Coalition of Central Massachusetts: Food Security

SEACMA's Food Security program provides culturally and dietary relevant hot meals and produce/protein deliveries to Asian immigrants and refugees in Worcester.



## Economic Opportunity

**Adult & Teen Challenge MA Worcester | \$10,000**  
Carpenter's Shop Workforce Training

**African Community Education Program | \$25,000**  
Family Outreach Services

**Boys & Girls Club of Fitchburg, Leominster, & Gardner | \$10,000**  
Operating Support

**Dress for Success Worcester, Inc. | \$10,000**  
Operating Support

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

**Legendary Legacies, Inc. | \$10,000**  
Operating Support

**Literacy Volunteers of Greater Worcester | \$15,000**  
ESOL and Workforce Readiness

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

**Literacy Volunteers of South Central Massachusetts | \$7,500**  
Operating Support

**Main South Community Development Corporation | \$20,000**  
Operating Support

**NewVue Communities | \$20,000**  
Operating Support

**One Family, Inc. | \$7,500**  
College Mentorship Program for Single Parent Students

**Proactive Families Advocacy, Inc. | \$5,000**  
Family interconnection Peer Program

**Senior Connection | \$10,000**  
Wealth Rising

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

**Spanish American Center, Inc. | \$12,000**  
ESL Program

**Training Resources of America, Inc. | \$12,000**  
ESOL Program



## African Community Education Program: Family Outreach Services

ACE's Family Outreach Services provides sustained wraparound services to help refugee and immigrant families achieve stability and work towards self-sufficiency.

# 2025 GRANT RECIPIENTS

**Worcester Refugee Assistance Project | \$5,000**  
Operating Support

**Worcester State Foundation | \$14,000**  
Latino Education Institute Club Educación

## One Family, Inc.: One Family Scholars Program

The One Family Scholars Program provides individualized academic and career coaching to single parent students in Worcester County.



## Health & Wellbeing

**Adaptive Recovery Teaching Incorporated | \$10,000**  
Adult Recovery & Wellness Art Workshops

**AIDS Project Worcester | \$10,000**  
Operating Support

**Center for Health Impact | \$15,000**  
Elevating Our Voice: Training for Family Caregivers

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

**Coalition for a Healthy Greater Worcester | \$20,000**  
Elevating Our Voice: Training for Family Caregivers

**Community Health Awareness Network Grows Equity (CHANGE) | \$15,000**  
Healthy Habits Initiatives

**Community Health Awareness Network Grows Equity (CHANGE) | \$12,000**  
Operating Support

**DetectTogether, Inc. | \$20,000**  
A Community Approach to Early Detection Pilot

**Edward M. Kennedy Community Health Center | \$15,000**  
Worcester Harm Reduction Project

**Family Health Center of Worcester | \$20,000**  
Perinatal Group Programs

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

**Genesis Club House, Inc. | \$10,000**  
Project Connect: Connecting with Worcester's Unhoused

**High Ridge Harmony Farm | \$10,000**  
Nature-Based Sanctuary for Youth Healing and Belonging

**Lucy's Love Bus | \$10,000**  
Enhanced Support for Spanish Speaking Families

**MAB Community Services | \$10,000**  
Vision Rehabilitation for Older Adults

**North Quabbin Citizen Advocacy, Inc. | \$7,500**  
Operating Support

**Notre Dame Health Care | \$10,000**  
Adult Palliative Care

**Open Sky Community Services | \$15,000**  
Safe Homes

**Pathways for Change | \$18,000**  
Medical Accompaniment

**Pathways for Change | \$12,500**  
Operating Support

**Pernet Family Health Service, Inc. | \$25,000**  
The 4th Trimester

# 2025 GRANT RECIPIENTS

**Edward M. Kennedy Community Center:** Worcester Public Health Project

This grant will help fund the Center's public health efforts, purchasing a vending machine to be on site with free life saving supplies to assist people on their recovery journey.



EDWARD M.  
KENNEDY  
COMMUNITY  
HEALTH CENTER

**Plesant Street Neighborhood Network Center | \$17,000**  
Operating Support

**Project New Hope | \$12,000**  
Operating Support

**RIA, Inc. | \$7,500**  
Sisters Leading Sisters

**Second Chance Animal Services, Inc. | \$7,500**  
Project Keep Me

**Shrewsbury Youth & Family Services, Inc. | \$15,000**  
Operating Support

**Spanish American Center, Inc. | \$15,000**  
Operating Support

**The CASA Project | \$20,000**  
Operating Support

**The HeartWell Institute | \$7,500**  
Operating Support

**The Shine Initiative | \$20,000**  
Operating Support

**The WellStorm, Inc. | \$5,000**  
Operating Support

**Together for Kids Coalition | \$25,000**  
Welcome Baby!

**Welcoming Alliance for Refugee Ministry | \$18,000**  
Operating Support

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

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

**Worcester RISE Health | \$25,000**  
Improving Maternal Child Health Access and Navigation

**Worcester RISE Health | \$12,500**  
Operating Support

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

**Youth Opportunities Upheld, Inc. | \$15,000**  
Gender Wellness Initiative



**High Ridge Harmony Farm:** Nature-Based Sanctuary for Youth Healing and Belonging

This program provides equine-assisted wellness sessions to 20 students in alternative learning programs across Worcester County public schools.

# 2025 GRANT RECIPIENTS

## Youth Development

### 508 C.H.E.E.R.S. | \$15,000

Youth Empowerment Mentorship Program

### African Community Education Program (ACE) | \$20,000

Operating Support

### Applewild School | \$6,000

Early Childcare Center Pancakes with Picasso

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

Operating Support

### Blackstone Valley Education Foundation | \$10,000

Blackstone Valley Youth Leadership Academy

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

Operating Support

### Boys & Girls Club of Worcester | \$15,000

Operating Support

### Camp Putnam, Inc. | \$5,000

Operating Support

### EcoTarium | \$10,000

Teen Leadership in STEM Program

### Edward Street Child Services | \$18,000

Master Teacher Consultation Program

### Edward Street Child Services | \$22,500

Operating Support

### Family Services of Central Massachusetts | \$15,000

Summer Literacy Initiative

### Friendly House | \$18,000

HBCU College Tour

### Girl Scouts of Central and Western MA | \$15,000

Community-Based Program Expansion in Southern County

### Girls Incorporated of Worcester | \$20,000

Operating Support

### Girls on the Run Worcester County | \$5,000

Equity in Motion: Expanding Access Across Worcester County

### Horizons for Homeless Children | \$8,000

Playspace Program in Worcester County

### House of Peace and Education | \$5,000

Operating Support

### Meryl's Safe Haven | \$15,000

Transitional Youth Empowerment Program

### Our Bright Future, Inc. | \$12,500

Operating Support

### Pleasant Street Neighborhood Network Center | \$12,500

After School Program

### President and Fellows of Harvard College | \$5,000

Science & Nature Club at Petersham Center School



### Applewild School: Early Childcare Center Pancakes with Picasso

Twice a year, this placemaking gathering brings together over 140 preschoolers, families, and teachers to celebrate student artwork over pancakes and coffee.

# 2025 GRANT RECIPIENTS

## Edward Street Services: Master Teacher Consultation Program

This program provides coaching, professional development, and support to early education teachers and directors in Worcester County.



**Reach Out and Read | \$5,000**  
Worcester County Rx for Success

**Regional Environmental Council, Inc. | \$20,000**  
YouthGROW

**Rise Above Foundation | \$7,500**  
Operating Support

**Straight Ahead Ministries, Inc. | \$18,000**  
Worcester Youth Reentry Program

**The Club: Lunenburg Teen Center | \$15,000**  
GROW SMART

**The Torch Foundation | \$5,000**  
Torch Teen Training

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

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

**Whitin Community Center | \$15,000**  
Mental & Behavioral Health Support in Youth Programming

**Whitin Community Center | \$12,000**  
Operating Support

**Worcester Earn a Bike, Inc. | \$8,000**  
Operating Support

**Worcester Education Collaborative | \$10,000**  
Operating Support

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

**Worcester State Foundation | \$17,000**  
Operating Support

**Worcester Youth Center | \$7,500**  
Operating Support

**Worcester Youth Center | \$12,500**  
Teen Circle

**Worcester Youth Orchestras | \$10,000**  
Operating Support

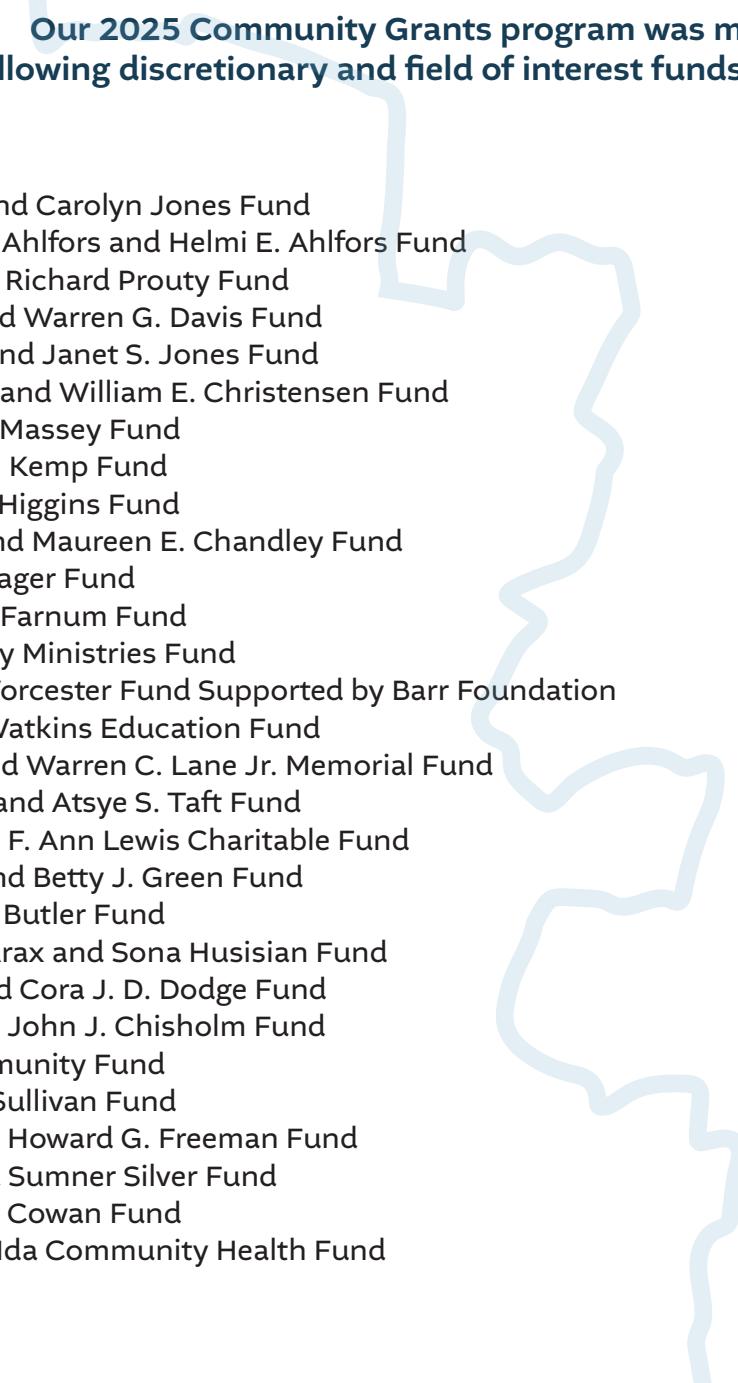
**YMCA of Central Massachusetts | \$10,000**  
Achievers Program

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

**YWCA of Central Massachusetts | \$12,000**  
Girls CHOICE

# CONTRIBUTING FUNDS

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Robert W. Booth Fund in Memory of George F. Booth  
Rosemary Davis Environmental Preservation Fund  
Ruth and John Adam Fund  
Ruth H. and Warren A. Ellsworth Fund  
Saint Vincent Healthcare Fund  
Samuel Frank Charitable Fund  
Shepherd Knapp School Fund

Spag's Supply Fund  
Sumner Lee Sharfman Fund  
United Bank MA Charitable Fund  
Violet Senitt Fund  
Warner S. and Mary F. Fletcher Discretionary Fund  
Water and Land Stewardship Fund  
William R. and Janet A. Carrick Discretionary Fund  
Worcester Credit Bureau Fund  
Wyatt R. and Erika D. Wade Fund  
Youth Opportunity Fund

## About Greater Worcester Community Foundation

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

For 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](http://www.greaterworcester.org)