



Community Foundation of Greater New Britain

Where Good Begins in Berlin, New Britain, Plainville and Southington

Year in Review

See pages 8-9 for information about our work during COVID-19.



OUR MISSION

To inspire philanthropy, responsibly manage permanent charitable assets, and partner to address key community issues through strategic leadership.

Year in Review – 2019



The world has obviously changed since 2019 ended and our front cover of this Year-In-Review shows just some of our work from early 2020. Southington's Bread For Life (pictured with CFGNB reusable bags) received one of our emergency grants which we created in order to quickly respond to the COVID-19 public health crisis. Because 2019 was a very good year for the Foundation in grants, scholarships, sponsorships and gifts it helped better prepare us to be able to respond quickly in early 2020.

We are grateful to our donors, past and present, for their support. Without their generosity, we wouldn't be able to share the very successful stories of 2019 with you, and we wouldn't have been as prepared as we were for the difficult times ahead. Great governance by our board, the work of our dedicated committees, and one of the best staff teams in the foundation business will allow us to do our best to respond to the needs of the communities we serve.

We look forward to reporting to you next year at this time how we cared for the communities we live and worked in, or for those of you who may have moved away, communities where your heart still holds a place.

Thank you to all of our Foundation family for your support. Read through this report and let us know if you have any questions. During these uncertain times, if you can join us in responding to our community needs with a gift to our Civic Leadership Fund or to our COVID-19 Initiatives Fund online at www.cfgnb.org or by using the enclosed envelope we would be most appreciative.

Sincerely,



David J. Obedzinski

Building Funds That Make A Difference

As our community foundation grows, it is able to provide more grants, scholarships, sponsorships, and more guidance for donors and the nonprofits that serve the communities we live and work in.

Thank you to all of our current Fund Representatives who have generously contributed to their existing funds during the last year. We are pleased to announce the following new funds that were established with our Foundation during 2019.

- Art Adolfsen Endowed Scholarship for Central Connecticut State University
- Art Adolfsen Endowed Scholarship for Tunxis Community College
- Art Adolfsen Endowed Scholarship for University of New Hampshire
- The Normand and Cecile LeBrun Scholarship Fund
- Greater New Britain Disaster Response Fund
- New Britain Manufacturing Academy Fund (Supporting the new Manufacturing, Engineering and Technology Academy at New Britain High School)
- Robert D. Powers and Dorothy M. Powers Scholarship Fund
- The Tomasso Buzz Fund (Supporting Philanthropic programs for young professionals)
- Leonard W. and Jeannette C. Varkal Scholarship Fund

To learn more about establishing your own fund during your lifetime or with an estate gift, contact us at info@cfgnb.org to request one of our Fund Booklets or to have a conversation with our Foundation staff.

Champion Awards

In 2019, the Foundation created the Champion Awards to celebrate and recognize individuals, businesses, organizations, civic groups, and others who have supported the activities of the Foundation in a manner that allowed it to fulfill its mission even more effectively and efficiently, thus saving us money we could then dedicate to the community. The Foundation wishes to recognize those who have helped it make an even greater impact in the communities it serves while helping it be an even better steward of its resources. The first three recipients of this award were:



Stanley Black & Decker of New Britain, for being a Champion with long-standing support of grants and gifts-in-kind for our Catalyst programs, Nonprofit Capacity Workshops, and our Civic Leadership Fund.



An Anonymous Individual Donor in our Service Area for being a Champion with long-standing support and service to the Foundation and its programs through financial and in-kind gifts.



Witchdoctor Brewing Company of Southington for being a Champion of our Young Philanthropy Initiative and for their donation of their brewery for our first Young Philanthropy event in Southington.

Our Impact by the Numbers

-  **\$47,895,532** = The value of our Foundation's long-term investments as of December 31, 2019
-  **\$63,650** = Gifts made to our Civic Leadership Fund annual appeal in 2019 by individuals and businesses – Thank you! These gifts allow us to respond to the community's areas of greatest need.
-  **78** = Number of scholarships awarded amounting to \$224,599 in aid to students for higher education – one of our highest annual totals yet.
-  **4,200** = Number of reusable CFGNB bags we donated to multiple food banks and pantries shortly after the State of Connecticut plastic bag ban. An unintended consequence of this new law was the disruption of bag supplies for food banks and pantries and our gift of bags helped them continue their flow of food distribution to those who needed it.
-  **\$667,139** = Community Response grants, Community Initiatives grants, and Community Sponsorships awarded throughout Berlin, New Britain, Plainville, and Southington.
-  **More than \$1.5 million** = More than \$1.5 million = In 2019, the total amount of grants, scholarships, sponsorships, and awards our foundation and its donor advised and designated funds provided to our community and to other nonprofits operating in communities our donors are connected to throughout the United States



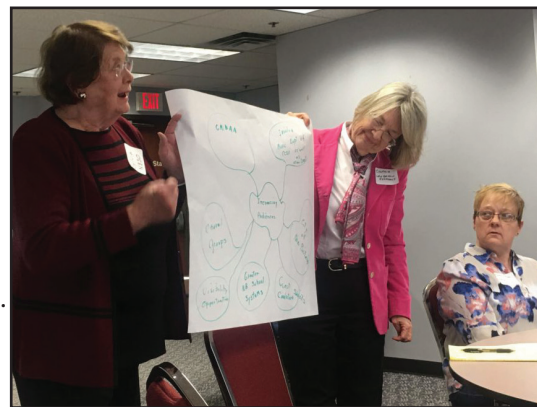
Our Initiatives

Capacity Building

Since 2018 the Foundation, through its Capacity Building Initiative, has provided local non-profit organizations with resources aimed at strengthening organizational success. In 2019, the Foundation added a new Executive Director's Forum to the Initiative that provides a place for them to come together to network, exchange ideas, learn, share best practices, and collaborate. Participants have found it relevant and impactful. Visits to our Non-Profit Lending Library and Resource Center (NPLRC), a Center that provides print and online resources to local organizations, continue to increase.

"The Community Foundation of Greater New Britain is really on target in "moving the needle" to help non-profits perform to the highest potential and get results."

– Paulette Fox, Executive Director of OIC New Britain



Catalyst Giving Circle

In its 17th year, the Catalyst Fund reached a record high of 75 voting members. The giving circle is comprised of a group of community-minded citizens interested in improving the quality of life in Greater New Britain. Members contribute \$250 (or \$50 for first-time members) and gather three times a year to learn about a member-chosen issue facing the community, and to consider funding requests from charitable organizations addressing the need. The year concludes with a grant award of up to \$12,500.



The topic of focus in 2019 was suicide prevention among children and young adults. Catalyst heard from three organizations that offer suicide prevention services in the Foundation's four-town community and the membership voted to award a \$12,500 grant to the Jordan Porco Foundation of Hartford. This was the first time a grant over \$10,000 was awarded from the Catalyst Fund due to the record level of membership in the last two years.

Our sincere thanks to the Catalyst members who contribute and participate annually as well as the local sponsors such as the Hospital of Central Connecticut and Stanley Black & Decker for generously hosting Catalyst meetings and providing support.

To learn more or to join Catalyst contact Joeline Wruck at Jwruck@cfgnb.org or (860) 229-6018 x307.

Degree Completion

Beginning in 2019, CFGNB established a set-aside of undesignated funds to begin a pilot program with CCSU to help good students who just needed some financial assistance to complete their degrees. In following years, additional grants to this initiative will be made from the James G. Williamson Education Assistance Fund, a growing fund named in memory of former Foundation President Jim Williamson who was a strong proponent of helping students complete their educational pursuits.

Following guidance by CCSU President and CFGNB Board Member Zulma Torro, and after researching information from CCSU's task force, we decided to offer our scholarship to students in their junior or senior years, who owed less than \$2,500 and were in good academic standing. In the first year of the initiative, we were able to completely pay three students' balances and assist two others in registering for their next semester and ultimately completing their education. Following an evaluation of the initial program, the Foundation may increase its support of the initiative for future semesters at CCSU and possibly at a local technical school. CFGNB looks forward to continuing to make an impact on the students and future workers of our community. If you would like to support this initiative, please make a gift to the James G. Williamson Education Assistance Fund at the Foundation.

"This scholarship was able to grant me a better future, considering if I hadn't received it I do not know if I would even be enrolled in this university at this moment, strictly due to my unfortunate financial situation at the time. This scholarship gave me the extra push to truly buckle down and figure out what my future entails as far as a career."

– Vanessa, 2019 Degree Completion Initiative scholarship recipient.



CENTRAL
CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY

First Years First

The Foundation's First Years First Initiative strives to provide our youngest children and their caregivers with the developmentally strong start in life they need to succeed. Since the Initiative started in 2005, investments of nearly \$2 million have supported the work of school districts, family resource centers, and other programs aimed at supporting optimal learning and development of children in our communities.

In 2019, the Foundation's Community Initiatives Committee met with community partners and conducted a survey of area preschool and kindergarten teachers and school administrators to ensure the strategies of the Initiative were responding to emerging trends and needs. Based on this investigation, the Board of Directors will narrow the age range of the initiative effective January 1, 2020 to focus on children birth through preschool to maximize resources and impact. The Initiative will strengthen social emotional learning among young children, parents, and caregivers, as well as increase knowledge of child brain development and the lasting impact of high quality early childhood education. Skill development in early math, writing, and literacy for families with young children will remain a focus.



Disaster Response

In early 2019 the Greater New Britain Disaster Response Fund was established in order to keep the Foundation prepared to respond appropriately to what our communities may need during times of local emergency. The purpose of the Fund is to make resources available to local government community service departments and crisis coordinators to meet the basic needs of residents from Berlin, New Britain, Plainville, and Southington who are displaced from their homes for an extended period of time due to a natural disaster. Funds may also be used to support individual municipalities for basic food and shelter expenses related to temporarily supporting residents displaced due to a natural disaster. Natural disaster incidents include fire, flood and other weather related emergencies. To support this initiative consider making a gift to our Greater New Britain Disaster Response Fund.

Young Philanthropy

The Young Philanthropy Initiative continues to educate younger generations about the value of contributing one's time, talent, and treasure to support charitable organizations in their community. As part of this initiative, Foundation staff is part of the leadership of The Buzz, Greater New Britain's Young Professionals' network, which connects career-minded individuals who give back while cultivating a stronger sense of community. Working alongside The Buzz on social events, such as the annual "GivingTuesday" event, allows the Foundation to introduce young professionals to the nonprofits in several of the communities we serve. This network also has been helpful in recruiting volunteers for relief efforts during the COVID-19 health crisis.



Our Foundation's Impact in



In the Town of Berlin...

- 🌀 \$264,626 Community Response and Community Initiative grants supported the community.
- 🌀 13 students earned scholarships totaling \$22,108.
- 🌀 multiple nonprofit events benefited from community sponsorship awards totaling \$5,500.

In the City of New Britain...

- 🌀 \$264,626 Community Response and Community Initiative grants supported the community.
- 🌀 26 students earned scholarships totaling \$101,158.
- 🌀 multiple nonprofit events benefited from community sponsorship awards totaling \$7,535.

Across All Cities and Towns...



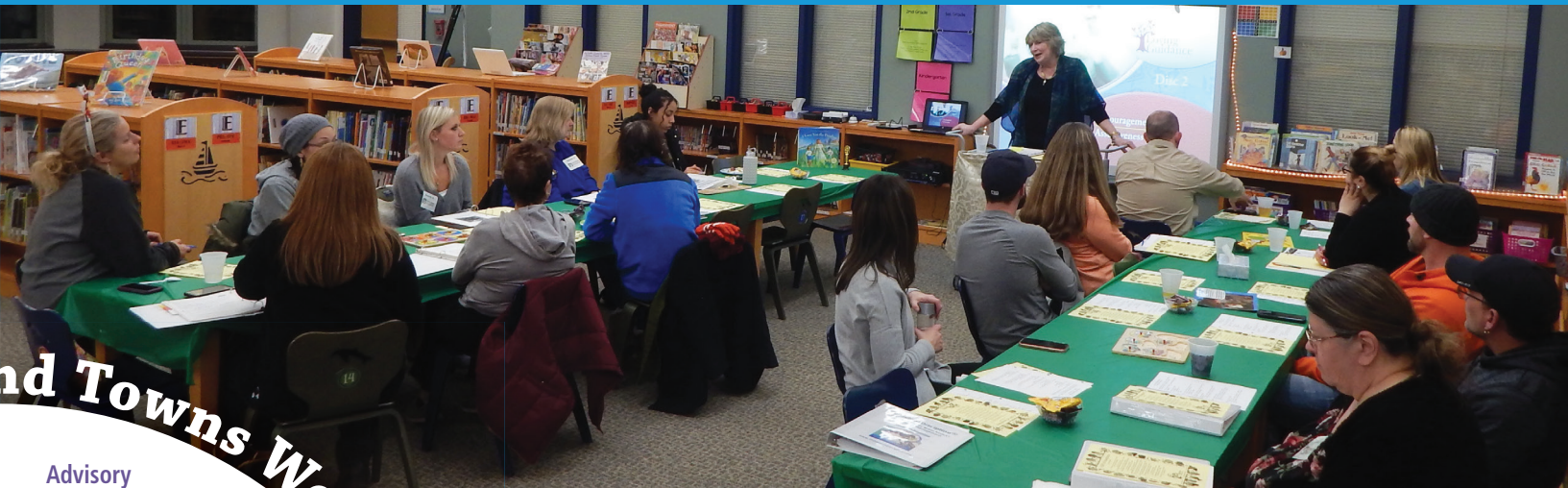
About \$116,115 in grants directed by fund representatives from their donor-advised funds to nonprofit groups in our service area and beyond.

🌀 In 2019, the Foundation's scholarship program awarded \$214,599 to students in our service area, and started the Degree Completion Initiative to help students finish their education with financial support.

🌀 Foundation staff serve on regional committees and working groups that examine and address local issues including the Southington and Greater New Britain Chambers of Commerce, Equity Grant



the Communities We Serve



and Towns We Serve

Advisory Committee, and the Coalition for New Britain's Youth.

Due to increased membership, for the first time in 2019, our **Catalyst Giving** circle made a \$12,500 grant to address the needs of suicide prevention in children and young adults. All previous grants had been \$10,000.

In 2019, we saw our long-term portfolio grow by 20.3%, bringing total investments to \$47,838,600 and total assets to \$49,501,822.

In the Town of Plainville...

- \$281,002 Community Response and Community Initiative grants supported the community.
- 6 students earned scholarships totaling \$18,133.
- multiple nonprofit events benefited from community sponsorship awards totaling \$1,750.

In the Town of Southington...

- \$394,300 Community Response and Community Initiative grants supported the community.
- 13 students earned scholarships totaling \$12,550.
- multiple nonprofit events benefited from community sponsorship awards totaling \$5,650.
- the Foundation served as the fiscal agent for the Early Childhood Collaborative of Southington (ECCS), providing financial administrative services and support as needed.



Our Work During

Through a collaboration between the Community Foundation of Greater New Britain, OKAY Industries, and the Consolidated School District of New Britain, 22,000 face shields were made in just 11 days for frontline workers during the coronavirus pandemic.

The Community Foundation awarded a \$20,000 grant to the Hospital of Central Connecticut and Hartford Healthcare, Hospital for Special Care, Berlin-New Britain-Plainville-Southington Police, Fire, and EMS, and the New Britain Ems Academy to fund the production of the face shields. A team of 120 community volunteers created an assembly line for distribution and use of PPE by healthcare workers and first responders in the area. With the help of many local donors, including other funding partners such as several CFGNB Donor Advised Funds, the American Savings Foundation, the Barnes Memorial Trust of the Main Street Community Foundation, and the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving COVID-19 Fund, a total of \$50,000 was raised for the production of the face shields. The 22,000 face shields predicted to take three weeks to create were finished in just eleven days.

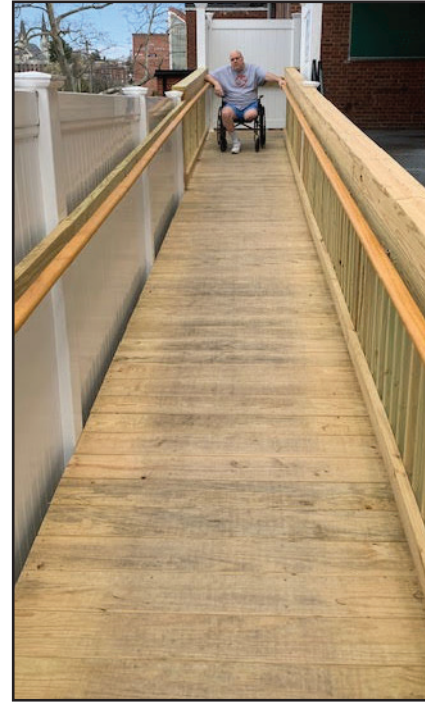
The assembly line volunteers ranged from students, teachers and people who were furloughed or laid off, all hoping to help by playing key roles in assembling the face shields at New Britain High School's gymnasium, which was transformed into a temporary production site.

In addition to the face shields project, the Community Foundation of Greater New Britain has designated some of its resources and fundraised to provide other support for two funding options for local organizations serving the residents of Berlin, New Britain, Plainville, and Southington.

The COVID-19 Initiatives Fund was created so nonprofits can request emergency community initiative funding of up to \$5,000 for initiatives proposed to respond to community needs in order to help the most vulnerable during this crisis.

The Foundation is also providing grants for organizations that want the flexibility of general operating funds needed due to the unusual and unexpected financial strains the health crisis is causing in their non-profit.

To date, the Foundation has approved \$131,400 in COVID-related grant funding in an expedited process since late March.



“ We are extremely fortunate that during our greatest challenge, we serve a city that cares; a community that is engaged and is willing to provide assistance in any way they can. The Community Foundation of Greater New Britain is a perfect example of a community involvement. Our firefighters are not only appreciative of the donated face masks supplied by volunteers and Okay Industries, but we are grateful that the Community Foundation of Greater New Britain was able to cover the cost that allows the city's public safety agencies to continue providing the services the city has become accustomed to receiving. We are forever thankful and grateful. ”

Chief Raul Ortiz, New Britain Fire Department



COVID-19

“ We are humbled and appreciative of the generous donation of face shields to New Britain Emergency Medical Services, Inc. as well as New Britain Fire and Police Departments. The generous donation of Foundation funding, along with the efforts of the School District, Okay Industries and the extraordinary commitment and effort of volunteers directly contributed to keep our staff, who are on the frontlines of the Covid-19 pandemic, safe! This represents the hidden value we all gain by being part of the City of New Britain, for which we are grateful. ”

Bruce Baxter, Chief, New Britain EMS

“ What these volunteers were able to accomplish in the span of a couple weeks is beyond incredible. This project with OKAY Industries has helped ensure that medical staff within our health care system are protected during this pandemic. To all the volunteers who helped assemble the 22,000 face shields, thank you for your time and dedication. ”

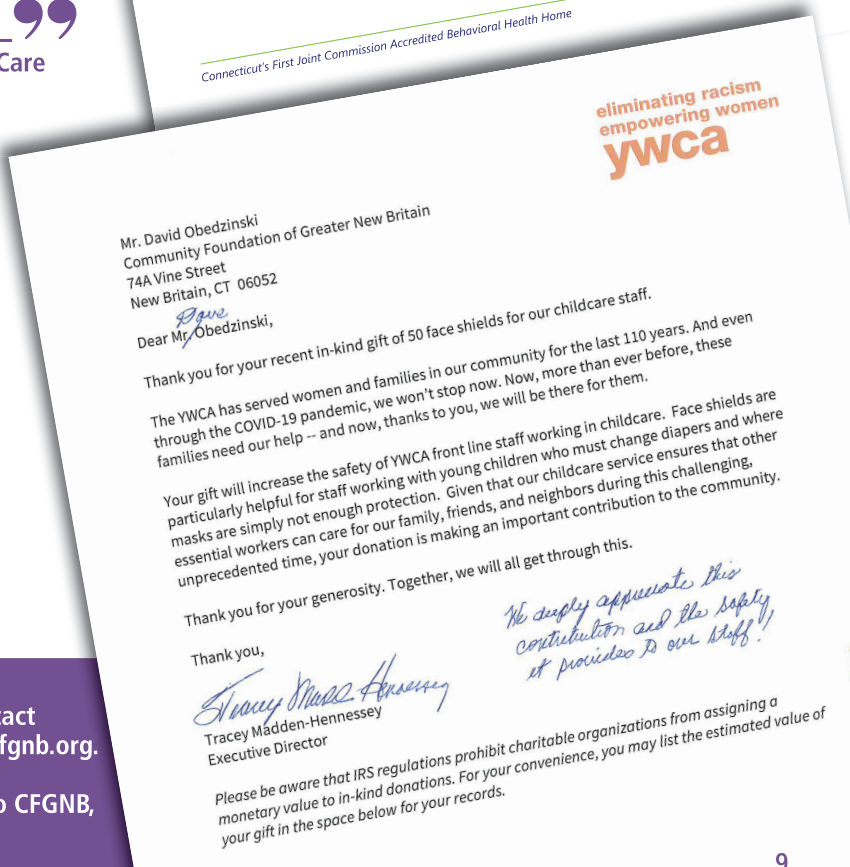
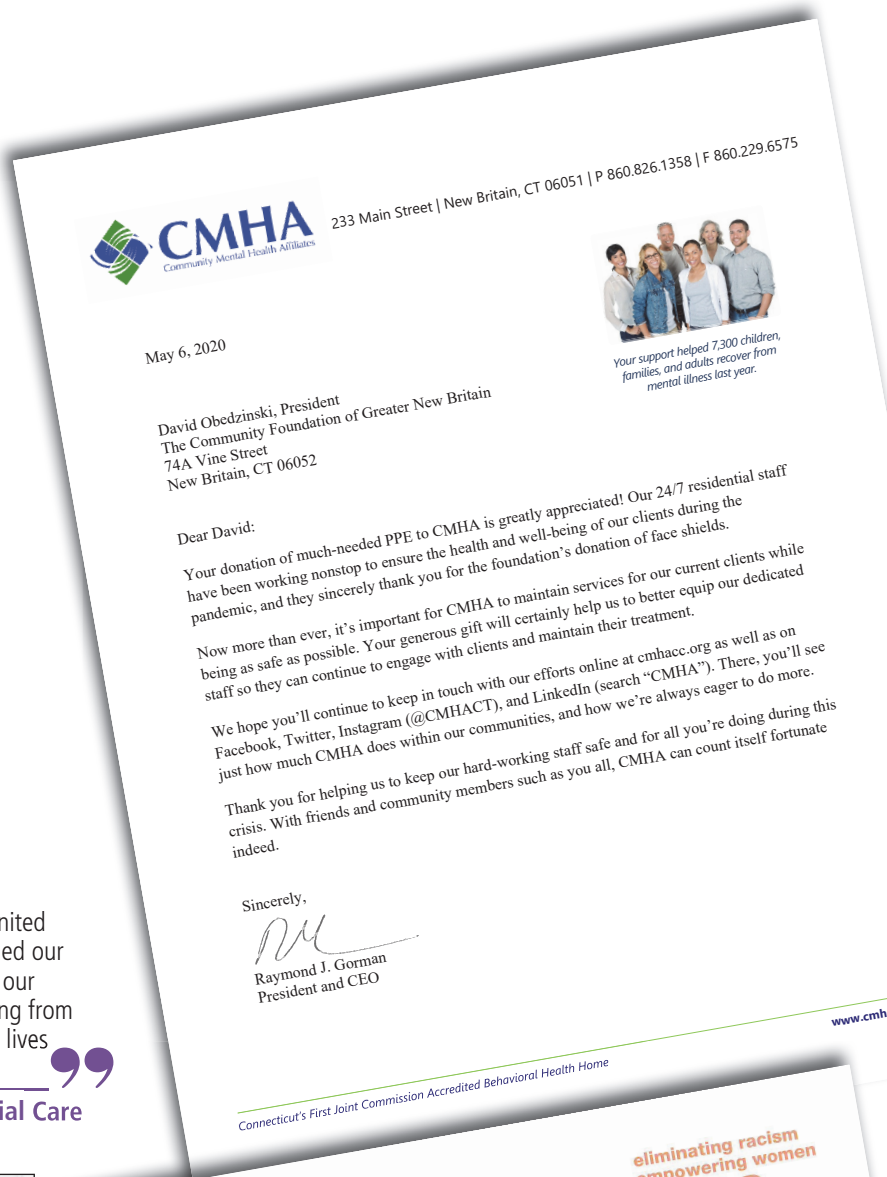
Gary Havican, President of The Hospital of Central Connecticut and MidState Medical Center

“ Your spark of ingenuity, fueled by unparalleled empathy, has ignited firestorm of compassion and community service that has warmed our hearts immeasurably. Your creativity and volunteer spirit keeps our frontline health care heroes safe and ensures patients recovering from COVID-19 get the best care available. Thank you for rebuilding lives with us – one mask at a time. ”

Lynn Ricci, President and CEO of The Hospital for Special Care



For questions on COVID-19 emergency funding, please contact Joeline Wruck at jwruck@cfgnb.org or Kaylah Smith at ksmith@cfgnb.org. To make a gift to the COVID-19 Initiatives Fund, visit www.cfgnb.org/donate-now or mail your check, made payable to CFGNB, to CFGNB, 74 Vine Street, New Britain, CT 06052 and write COVID-19 Fund in the memo portion.



With Sincere Thanks to Our Whose Contributions Make

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Thank you to Stanley Black & Decker for their generosity and leadership as a Presenting Sponsor of our Civic Leadership Fund Annual Appeal.

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