

## People's United Community Foundation Leverages \$1.15 Million In Federal Funds For Connecticut

People's United Community Foundation awarded a total of \$100,000 in grants this summer to seven organizations throughout Connecticut, bringing an additional \$1.15 million in federal funds to agencies through the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Emergency Contingency Fund.

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 authorized \$5 billion nationally in TANF Emergency Contingency Funds to help states offset the economic burden of the current recession. The state funds are then used to reimburse nonprofits for the cost increases to implement or expand activities that provide basic need services, short-term non-recurring benefits, and subsidized employment opportunities to low income, unemployed and underemployed adults, at-risk youth, and families.

In an effort to leverage the TANF funds earmarked for Connecticut, and help organizations secure the private matching funds required, People's United Community Foundation awarded \$100,000 in grants to seven TANF-eligible organizations in Connecticut, which will be matched with TANF funds by at least a 4 to 1 ratio, up to a 17 to 1 ratio. The Foundation's \$100,000 in grants therefore brings a combined total of \$1.15 million in TANF funding to the organizations.

"We immediately recognized the importance of this effort and the impact the additional funding would have on individuals and families throughout the state," said Hank Mandel, Executive Director, People's United Community Foundation "To



Participants of the 2010 Summer Youth Employment and Learning Program at Capital Workforce Partners.

not help these organizations and take advantage of the federal funds would mean leaving millions of dollars on the table during a time when a record number of Connecticut residents are experiencing hardship. It made complete sense for People's United Community Foundation to participate."

The seven organizations which received a grant from People's United Community Foundation are; Capital Workforce Partners, Hartford; Community Renewal Team, Hartford; Covenant to Care for Children, Hartford; Eastern Regional Workforce Investment Board, Franklin; Greater Bridgeport Community Enterprises, Bridgeport; The Diaper Bank, New Haven; and The Workplace, Inc., Bridgeport.

The TANF funding was brought to PUCF's attention by the CT Council for Philanthropy, who worked on behalf of Governor Jodi Rell's TANF Task Force. Unfortunately, TANF opportunities were not identified in other states throughout our region.

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### OUR MISSION

To invest in programs and services that enhance the quality of life for residents, promote the economic development and well-being of neighborhoods, and support the educational and developmental needs of children and youth, with special emphasis given to programs and services in low-income areas.

## Women in Vermont Building Homes and Lives

*"I'm the perfect example of why the women of Vermont need Building Homes, Building Lives; it's changed the course of my life." - Robin, program graduate*

A few months after driving the last of countless nails as a participant in Vermont Works for Women's construction trades training program, Robin was hired as a maintenance technician for the federal government in Georgia. A year and a half later, she is still swinging a hammer, earning \$13.50 an hour plus benefits while attending school to earn a bachelor's degree in business.

The job offer enabled Robin, for the first time in her 38 years, to turn down jobs offering less than a livable wage, where she felt she was treated as a "hopeless and desperate felon." According to Robin, "The program not only helped me develop trade skills, but life skills as well, both of which contribute to my success in not returning to prison."

*Building Homes, Building Lives* was piloted by Vermont Works for Women (VWW) in 2005 as a year-round training program in which trainees develop skills in frame and finish carpentry, electrical wiring, plumbing, weatherization, and roofing through building energy star-rated modular homes that are sold to community land trusts as affordable housing.

PUCF recently awarded a grant towards the program's transitional support for women as they return to their home communities. "Programs like *Women Building Homes and Lives* are critical in giving these women a second chance," said Michael Seaver, Officer, People's United Community Foundation and President of People's United Bank in Vermont. "Vermont Works for Women has changed the course of many

women's lives and the lives of their children. We are pleased to be able to support the work of Vermont Works for Women."

"Research affirms the value of work in helping men and women avoid recidivism, not just because it pays the bills," reflected VWW Executive Director Tiffany Bluemle. "Work is an organizing force in our lives, providing structure, opportunities for accomplishment, and a circle of colleagues who can provide support and inspiration. We're grateful for the investment and commitment of People's United in helping all Vermonter's."

For more information about Vermont Works for Women, please visit their website at [www.nnetw.org](http://www.nnetw.org).

## PUCF Summer Interns

This summer, People's United Community Foundation had the pleasure of working with two interns from the ECHO\* Program in Bridgeport; Kyle Lassiter and Hunter Hamilton!

The ECHO Internship Program offered 10 freshmen students from Bassick High School an opportunity to participate in a six-week internship program. The program provides a paid work experience, allowing students to gain valuable skills and knowledge as they incorporate the ECHO disciplines and teachings which stands for Empathy, Character, Hope, and Oppportunity (ECHO).

As a funder of the ECHO Program, People's United Community Foundation was chosen as an internship host site for Kyle and Hunter, who were both selected by the Freshman Faculty at Bassick High School, as two students who best exemplified the ECHO core values throughout the school year. Kyle and Hunter were great assets to PUCF, as they helped out with administrative tasks, participated in staff meetings, and joined us on site visits.

We thank Kyle and Hunter for their hard work and dedication during their internship. We wish them both the best of luck as they continue their high school years and aspire to reach their career goals.

\*ECHO is a program of The Justice Education Center in West Hartford, CT.



PUCF 2010 Summer Interns: Hunter Hamilton (left), and Kyle Lassiter (right).

## Maine's Hardy Girls Healthy Women, Executive Director Receives Open Door Award

Congratulations to Megan Williams, Executive Director of Hardy Girls Healthy Women of Maine! Megan was recognized for her stellar leadership with the "Open Door" award from the Frances Perkin Center. The award is to honor exceptional women whose leadership epitomizes that of Frances Perkins, the first woman appointed to the United States Cabinet, as Secretary of Labor.



For more information regarding Hardy Girls Healthy Women, please visit their website at [www.hghw.org](http://www.hghw.org).

## Girl Scouts Achieve Gold



2010 Gold Scouts, along with CEO, Jennifer Smith Turner (far right); Saba Shahid, former Gold Scout and award ceremony emcee (far left); and Board Member, Ann Glover (distant far left).

This year, Girl Scouts of Connecticut awarded 50 Girl Scouts from towns across the state with the Gold Award, the highest award a Girl Scout can earn. An award with national standards, the Gold Award acknowledges an individual's accomplishments, leadership, commitment, creativity, and personal effort in trying to make the world a better place. Each Gold Award project solves community issues, improves lives, and inspires others to take community action.

In Bridgeport, one Gold Scout inspired her community to change their attitudes toward recycling. With her "One Bottle, No Big Deal" project, Gold Award recipient Celina Whitmore educated her Bridgeport community on the importance of recycling plastic bottles. Celina wrote, directed, and cast a play about the importance of recycling. She also distributed DVDs of her play to various Girl Scout Troops and schools, and created different craft ideas in which old plastic bottles could be incorporated into the design of baskets, vases and bracelets.

"We are proud of Celina and all of this year's Gold Scouts from across the state," said Girl Scouts of Connecticut's CEO, Jennifer Smith Turner. "Girl Scouting is uniquely suited to help girls improve themselves and the world around them."

For more information about Girl Scouts of Connecticut, please visit their website at [www.gsofct.org](http://www.gsofct.org).

## ORBIT's Give Kids A Smile®

Kids all over Southwestern Connecticut have something to smile about; thanks to Southwestern Area Health Education Center (Southwestern AHEC).

Southwestern AHEC, in collaboration with the Oral Health Bridgeport Initiative (ORBIT) and the Bridgeport Dental Association, provided free dental care to 556 children through the Give Kids A Smile® program. 63 private practice dentists from Bridgeport, Fairfield, Milford, Monroe, New Haven, Orange, Shelton, Stratford, and Trumbull, Connecticut, donated a range of dental services valued at more than \$213,000. The free dental care was offered for over a month, with many children continuing to be seen by volunteer dentists so that their dental needs can be completed.

For more information about Southwestern AHEC, please visit their website at [www.swctahec.org](http://www.swctahec.org)



Bridgeport Mayor, Bill Finch, with Paris Howell, one of the 556 children who received free dental care through ORBIT's Give Kids a Smile program, at *ORBIT Celebrates our Galaxy of Stars!* recognition event to honor the participating dentists.

## PUCF Responds to Emergency Needs

### *Tornado Hits Bridgeport, CT*

On June 24<sup>th</sup> a tornado touched down in Bridgeport, causing severe damage and destruction throughout the city. To assist in the response efforts, People's United Community Foundation donated \$25,000 to the American Red Cross Connecticut Chapter, in support of the recovery efforts to provide needed services such as, temporary shelter, financial assistance for emergency clothing and food needs, information and referral to city and community agencies, as well as emotional support.

The Red Cross provided shelters, staffed two community outreach centers and operated mobile feeding and outreach routes in the most heavily damaged area of the city. More than 8,000 meals and snacks were provided by the Red Cross to storm victims and emergency responders in Bridgeport. Dianne Auger, American Red Cross Connecticut Region CEO, thanked the Foundation for the gift, saying that community support is the core of the Red Cross. "We couldn't provide the help we have offered in Bridgeport without generous donations and the work of dedicated volunteers. This truly is an example of neighbors helping neighbors to begin their recovery."



Damages to businesses and homes on East Main Street in Bridgeport, CT caused by the tornado.

To locate a Red Cross Chapter in your region, please visit the American Red Cross website at [www.redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org).

### *School Break Causes Increase in Need for Food Assistance*

Weather wasn't the only factor in emergency needs for Connecticut, but the summer months did prove to be an even more challenging time period for the state, and across our region.



In Photo (left to right): Hank Mandel, Executive Director, PUCF; Nancy Carrington, CEO, Connecticut Food Bank; Tammy Torres, Administration & Agency Liaison Director, PUCF; Karen Galbo, Marketing, Public & Community Relations Director, PUCF.

Many people think of the holidays as the biggest time of year for giving to food shelters and pantries, but what isn't realized is the rise in need for food assistance during the summer months, when children are no longer receiving school meals and families are faced with the challenge of providing additional meals. This summer, Connecticut Food Bank saw its food supply dwindle and the demand for food assistance rise, forcing them to issue a public plea for help from the community on June 16th.

"We rarely send out a plea for help like that one," Connecticut Food Bank Chief Executive Officer Nancy L. Carrington said. "But we were very much concerned about the 650 food-assistance programs that depend on us. As it is, under the best circumstances, we aren't providing enough food to satisfy the growing need in our communities."

People's United Community Foundation answered Connecticut Food Bank's plea for help with a \$20,000 grant, and is committed to supporting food banks across our region.

"As soon as we read that Connecticut Food Bank needed emergency assistance, we immediately responded," said People's United Community Foundation Executive Director, Hank Mandel. "We are seeing a growing number of new families seeking food assistance who are struggling economically due to the recession. When families are at risk of hunger, it makes it even more difficult to lead a healthy and productive life."

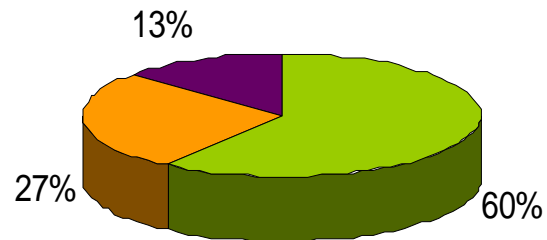
For more information regarding Connecticut Food Bank, please visit their website at [www.ctfoodbank.org](http://www.ctfoodbank.org)

# Congratulations to our 3rd Quarter Grant Recipients!

American Red Cross—CT Chapter  
 Barnum Museum Foundation  
 Bethel Recovery Center  
 Big Brothers Big Sisters of Southwestern CT  
 Big Brothers Big Sisters of Southeastern CT  
 Boys & Girls Club of Brattleboro  
 Boys & Girls Club of New Haven  
 Boys & Girls Clubs of Metrowest  
 Bridgeport Public Education fund  
 Bridgeport Rescue Mission  
 Capital Workforce Partners  
 Caring Unlimited Corp  
 Castleton Community Seniors  
 Center for New Americans  
 Common Good Ventures  
 Community Renewal Team  
 Connecticut Association for Human Services  
 Connecticut Food Bank  
 Consumer Credit Counseling Service of Southern New England  
 Cooperative Educational Services Foundation Inc  
 Cooperative Fund of New England  
 Co-Opportunity Inc  
 Covenant to Care  
 Dandelion Productions Inc  
 Discovery Museum  
 Domus Foundation  
 Easter Seals Connecticut  
 Eastern Connecticut Workforce Investment Board  
 Family ReEntry  
 FSW Inc CT  
 Greater Bridgeport Community Enterprises  
 Hardy Girls Healthy Women Inc  
 Hartford Areas Rally Together Inc  
 Hartford Food Systems  
 Kennedy Center  
 Kids In Crisis Inc  
 La Casa Del Immigrante  
 Liberation Programs  
 Maine Special Olympics  
 Mary Wade Home  
 My Sisters Place Inc  
 National Foundation for Teaching Entrepreneurship  
 New Beginnings Inc  
 New Hampshire Catholic Charities Inc  
 New Haven Ecology Project Inc  
 Northside Institutions Neighborhood Alliance Inc  
 Northwest Connecticut Association for the Arts  
 Operation Hope of Fairfield  
 Prevent Child Abuse-Vermont  
 Read to Grow Inc  
 Regional YMCA of Western Connecticut  
 Samaritan House  
 Service Corps of Retired Executives Association

## FOCUS AREAS

### 3RD Quarter Grant Distribution



#### Community Development—60%

Programs and activities that enhance the quality of life and promote economic self-sufficiency in the communities we serve.

#### Youth Development—27%

Programs and services that meet the educational and developmental needs of children and youth, especially in schools and school districts that serve low-income children and families.

#### Affordable Housing—13%

Grants that support the creation of affordable housing and the creation or sustenance of safe, clean and desirable neighborhoods.

Share Outreach Incorporated  
 Solar Youth Inc  
 Southern Maine Area Agency on Aging  
 St. Joseph Community Services  
 Stamford Partnership Inc  
 Strawberry Banke Inc  
 STRIVE-New Haven  
 Susan B. Anthony Project Inc  
 Susie Reizod Foundation  
 Teach for America—Connecticut  
 Thames River Community Service  
 The New Haven Diaper Bank  
 The River Center: Family and Community Resource Center  
 The Upper Room-A Family Resource Center  
 Vermont Center for Independent Living  
 Village for Families & Children  
 Workplace Inc  
 YMCA of New Britain Berlin-Connecticut  
 YMCA of Manchester, New Hampshire

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### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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**ESTABLISHED**  
 April 2007

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### GIVING GUIDELINES

Interested in submitting an application for a People's United Community Foundation grant? Our electronic application can be found at [www.fsrequests.com/peoples](http://www.fsrequests.com/peoples). Prior to submitting an application for consideration, please review our full list of giving guidelines and list of ineligible requests, located on the home page.

### APPLICATIONS RECENTLY SUBMITTED

For those grant applications that were submitted by our September 1st deadline, you will be notified of the Board's decision by November. If your application was received after our deadline, it will be considered for our next grant cycle. Our next application deadline is December 1, 2010 for January 2011 consideration.

### GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION

People's United Community Foundation distributes grants throughout the communities in which People's United Bank does business. Our footprint includes: Connecticut, Vermont, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, and Westchester County, New York.

### Note to Contributors

Thank you to all the organizations that submitted material for the PUCF Newsletter. Due to the overwhelming response, we were unable to include all the submissions we received. We will do our best to feature your organization in an upcoming newsletter. Thank you for your understanding.

**[WWW.PUCF.ORG](http://WWW.PUCF.ORG)**  
**Coming Soon!**

### PUCF Market Liaisons

Foundation liaisons are local contacts who provide support to PUCF. For information regarding the Foundation and non-profits in your area, our PUCF market liaisons are available to assist.

### Region

CT-Bridgeport  
 CT-Hartford  
 CT-New Haven  
 CT-Norwich  
 CT-Stamford  
 Maine-Portland  
 Maine-Bangor  
 Massachusetts  
 New Hampshire  
 NY-Westchester  
 Vermont

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