



BOLTON
GREATER TOGETHER
COMMUNITY FUND
at the



Hartford Foundation
FOR PUBLIC GIVING

For Immediate Release

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Need-Inspired Grants Awarded to Bolton Nonprofits

The *Bolton Greater Together Community Fund* at the **Hartford Foundation for Public Giving** has awarded \$46,174 in grants to eleven local nonprofits in its second round of funding for initiatives that strive toward the betterment of Bolton and its residents.

Grant Recipients:

Bolton Heritage Farm Commission, Potable Water Project: \$6,000 to support the addition of potable water at the farm. Restoration of the existing wells must be completed for the preservation and public utilization of the farm (hiking, outdoor yoga, weddings, special town-wide celebration events, historic events such as Revolutionary War Reenactments, visitations by history enthusiasts, visiting the Washington Rochambeau site, etc.). Potable water required for various events and usage of the farm will include connecting the electric supply for the well and installing the pressure switch and tank with a low point drain.

Bentley Memorial Library/Friends of Bentley Memorial Library, Outdoor Patio: \$10,000 The grant funds will be used to add a new 30x30 concrete slab patio that will be wheelchair accessible, in front of the library. The patio will be used and available to all for outdoor library programs and the community may use the space to gather, sit, read, relax, and for other activities. The space will be available during and outside of library hours.

Bolton Volunteer Fire Department: \$6,778 grant to construct a pitched roof top prop for firefighter training as well as practice, and to obtain firefighter Class II ladder safety equipment (harnesses). Department instructors would use the roof top structure to teach ladder hoisting, placement, and safe operations. It would also afford the opportunity to teach and practice ventilation procedures that assist in the preservation of property, allowing for faster entry into a structure on fire, increasing the chances for quick rescue and extinguishment.

Community Child Guidance Clinic: \$1,000 to support updating and enhancing the quality of therapeutic toys and materials at the agency. CCGC's Outpatient Department would benefit from updated toys and resources that are ethnically diverse, including racially diverse pose-able dolls for dollhouse play and realistic role play, gender-neutral play materials, and racially diverse social skills cards. It is important to have materials that encourage visibility and belonging for minorities in all communities served to help reduce racial disparity in pediatric mental health services.

Hartford Interval House: \$5,000.00 grant to continue supporting the “Victim to Survivor” program that ensures that Bolton clients assess their strengths and challenges, that leads to making a plan to get affairs in order and establish independence. Specific activities with which the program helps are safety planning/counseling, court/legal advocacy, transportation to job interviews and work, pursuing education, childcare, gift cards for household necessities, help with planning a household budget, opening a bank account, and ultimately finding affordable housing and setting up a home.

Bolton Scholarship Fund, Community Service Scholarship: \$1000 grant to provide a scholarship to a student who goes above and beyond in support of the Bolton community to help that student to pursue higher educational goals. The ideal candidate will be someone who displays a genuine interest in making the community better for everyone. The scholarship will be sent to the recipient's school for the 2022-2023 school year.

Bolton High School Project Graduation: \$3,500.00 grant to support a drug and alcohol-free overnight celebration on graduation night to keep graduates safe. Students will be bussed from the high school to the venue for a fun night enjoying food and games, spending one last night together, and making amazing memories. At the end of the party, the graduates will be bussed back to the high school. This event will be organized and supervised by the parents of graduates.

Bolton Center School PTA, Fostering Friendship and Improving Grounds: \$5,000 grant to assist with the purchase of items to improve the playground, school grounds and that will encourage/foster social skills and friendships among students. For example, "buddy benches" for the playground area and picnic tables for students to use for special friendship lunches, etc. All BCS students will benefit, as well as town residents who utilize the playground area. The equipment that will be purchased will be permanent. Residents, staff and students will be able to enjoy the benches and the picnic tables and more for a long time to come.

Bike Walk Bolton: \$1,100 grant to purchase (and have installed by DEEP) a bench on the Hop River Trail at the intersections of the Rose and Clarke Trails. The benches along the Hop River Trail get a lot of use. People use them to rest before continuing their activity. The bench may encourage people, who might otherwise turn around, an option to walk/run a bit farther. Trail users also use the benches to simply sit and enjoy the sights and sounds of nature and are also used as the snack stop.

Friends of Bolton Lakes, Cyanobacteria Monitoring: \$4,282 grant funding to assist in purchasing water monitoring technology equipment that will be used to predict the level of toxicity due to harmful algae within several minutes, presently it takes several days and significant expense to analyze water samples for the presence of algae. The equipment will be used by trained volunteers who will forward the results to the Town, the Health District and the professional lake managers. Prompt dissemination of this information will improve the health and safety of all users of Lower Bolton Lake.

Community Voice Channel: \$2,514 grant to purchase a Lighting Kit for volunteers that benefits anyone who makes a show or movie that requires filming outside of the building. Community Voice Channel teaches people how to use professional A/V equipment with industry standards

and best practices. The main goal is to get people engaged in expressing themselves and take advantage of creating a TV show, movie, PSA, etc. Training is free of charge and access to equipment that is very expensive is shared with all who want to learn. CVC strives to include everyone and not let anyone feel left out.

Formal Awards Ceremony

The Bolton Greater Together Community Fund Committee will hold an awards presentation/ceremony and reception on **Wednesday, February 8th at 6:00 p.m.** in the **Bentley Memorial Library**, 206 Bolton Center Road, Bolton, CT 06043. The community and the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving members and staff are welcome. Refreshments will be served.

For more information about the Bolton Greater Together Community Fund Grants or to make a donation, visit www.hfpg.org/boltoncf or email 2022.grants@boltongreatertogether.org.

In 2019, the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving established \$100,000 community funds for each of the 29 towns in the Foundation's region, which includes Bolton. The purpose of the community funds is to support residents in taking ownership around the needs in their towns, encourage broad and inclusive civic engagement and anchor the Hartford Foundation in each town.

The Hartford Foundation for Public Giving is the community foundation for Hartford and 28 surrounding towns. Through partnerships, the Foundation seeks to strengthen communities in Greater Hartford by putting philanthropy in action to dismantle structural racism and achieve equity in social and economic mobility. Made possible by the gifts of generous individuals, families and organizations, the Foundation has awarded grants of more than \$837 million since its founding in 1925. For more information, visit www.hfpg.org or call 860-548-1888.