Growing the Good

Building Community.
Changing Lives.

Greater Worcester Community Foundation
Growing The Good

*Where the need is greatest*

Our Foundation is tuned to the beat of the community and its needs.

Resilient, diverse and thriving, Greater Worcester is a region where programs that create access have the power to generate upward mobility *for all.*

Through the Foundation, individuals, families, businesses and organizations endow funds that grant to the causes they care about. In this way, we help people engage in philanthropy that enhances our community in perpetuity.

But there is another way that a community foundation as civically-minded as ours makes a difference.

We are uniquely positioned to convene resources and to direct them where the need is greatest. We have a deep knowledge of the region’s strengths and challenges, long-standing relationships across sectors, and generous donors who have created discretionary funds that empower the Foundation with choice. These funds fuel our Community Grants, a competitive grant program that drives long-term, sustainable change.

**This is leadership grantmaking.** We have the know-how to do it, and over 40 years of experience to prove it. **All we need is you.**
As you explore the many ways to engage with the Foundation, we invite you to share in our vision for Greater Worcester. It’s a place where all children gain a strong start during their first years; where quality, comprehensive health care is available to all; where at-risk youth can gain opportunities to succeed in school and in life; where economic and housing security is within reach of all; and where civic, cultural and natural resources enrich our lives.

We are committed to this vision, and you can join us in one or more of these ways:

• Create a discretionary or field of interest fund which allows the Foundation the most flexibility in our grantmaking;
• Create a donor advised, designated or scholarship fund to support the organizations you love or students going to college;
• Join our Acorn Society with a bequest gift designated through your will, trust or retirement vehicle.

Together, voices ring out stronger; impacts become greater. Collaboration gets the job done, so let’s grow the good in Greater Worcester together! After all, why keep in tune to the beat, if you aren’t going to let the rhythm move you.

To learn more, call 508-755-0980 or email donorservices@greaterworcester.org.

Join us in our mission to create opportunity for all!
Because our community and its needs change over time, the Foundation is ever-aspiring to be flexible in our granting. By creating a discretionary or field of interest fund, you enable the Foundation to meet immediate and emerging needs in our region. You ensure that Greater Worcester is healthy and vibrant now and in the future. Granting decisions are shaped by the expertise of the Foundation’s staff and network of local leaders. Whether you specify a chief area of interest or leave it to our discretion, you can be assured that our annual grants will support diverse and impactful nonprofits that build community.

**Discretionary & Field of Interest Funds**

**Responding to pressing community needs and opportunities**

Brian M. and Maureen E. Chandley Fund

Newly retired, Brian and Maureen Chandley wanted to create a philanthropic legacy. They decided to establish a discretionary fund with the Foundation, where Brian had volunteered for more than a decade. A Foundation board member for eight years, Brian also chaired our Distribution Committee, a group of community leaders who review grant proposals and recommend grantees.

“We wanted to bring a strategic focus to our charitable investments,” says Brian. “This fund enables us to meet this goal now and in perpetuity.”
DONOR ADVISED FUNDS

Furthering the causes you care about

Donor advised funds allow you to fulfill your charitable goals by actively making grant recommendations to nonprofits that match your passions and values. The Foundation handles the investment and when you want to make a grant, simply contact us.

Our deep professional expertise, unparalleled network of community partnerships, and record of effective, high-impact granting make us your resource. As a fund holder, we invite you to take advantage of a variety of learning opportunities throughout the year that showcase the ways area nonprofits are serving our community.

With a donor advised fund, your commitments to the community need not end in your lifetime. Donor advised funds can engage families for generations, so the legacy of philanthropy continues in perpetuity.

Geoffrey Dancey and Rashida Garcia-Dancey
Family Fund

Eager to make philanthropy a family affair, new parents Geoffrey Dancey and Rashida Garcia-Dancey set up a donor advised fund at the Foundation. “We want giving to be part of our life together,” says Geoffrey.

Their daughter Nia has influenced the couple’s outlook on philanthropy. “Having our first child makes us concerned about helping vulnerable children,” says Rashida. Through their donor advised fund, Geoffrey and Rashida have found a vehicle to organize their giving. They can continue to support a variety of local causes and easily add to this list as their funding priorities grow and evolve.

Rashida adds, “We want to give back to the community that’s had such positive impact on our lives.”
Scholarships help our community's high school graduates further their academic dreams. When creating a fund, you decide the criteria for selecting students. The Foundation handles the scholarship process from start to finish – conducting outreach to recruit eligible candidates, screening applications, and selecting recipients. Student enrollment is verified, checks are distributed to colleges directly, and student progress is monitored.

SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS

Supporting college tuition for area students

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Dennis Elroy Barry Memorial Scholarship Fund

Joyce Augustus was a cash-strapped graduate student when she started raising money to create a scholarship that would honor the life of her friend, Dennis Elroy Barry. Dennis, who died suddenly at the age of 29, believed strongly in the power of education. He inspired people throughout his life with his kindness and passion for social justice.

“I didn’t have any resources, but this was so dear to my heart. I saved. I held a fundraiser, and by the end, I could say ‘Oh Dennis, we did it,’ says Joyce.

“Every year, a student aiming for a human services career will get help from the Dennis Elroy Barry Memorial Scholarship Fund.”
Making a gift after your lifetime is easier than you might think. With just a bit of guidance today, the Foundation can carry out your charitable wishes in perpetuity.

We accept a variety of assets as gifts including bequests of cash or securities, life insurance policies, and IRA funds. We also offer Charitable Gift Annuities, Pooled Income Funds, and Charitable Remainder Trusts, options that enable you to give now and receive income during your lifetime.

Pledging funds for the future is a vote of confidence in our community. Your commitment helps to guarantee the Foundation has the resources to respond to our region’s future challenges and opportunities.

No matter the form your bequest or planned gift takes, you will be honored as a member of our Acorn Society. And just as an acorn grows into a mighty oak, your gift will yield enormous benefits, and your legacy of generosity will live on.

Planning a Legacy of Joy

Pamela and Moe Boisvert trust the Foundation to make the most of their legacy. They have established a bequest that will devote a percentage of their liquid assets to causes that have shaped their careers here in Central Massachusetts.

“I’ve always been impressed with the great care that the Foundation puts into ensuring that donors’ money achieves the best possible impact,” says Pamela, who served on the Foundation board and chaired its distribution committee.

“We feel so blessed to live in this community,” says Moe. “It’s been a terrific home for us and our children. We enjoy working to make it even better and stronger.”

“Leaving all you have to your family is a good legacy,” says Pamela. “But leaving a percentage to the community is a better legacy.”
You care about our community. We do, too. Let’s start a partnership in philanthropy today!

Greater Worcester Community Foundation

OUR MISSION
To enhance our community, now and in the future, through philanthropic leadership.

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