



# New Haven Green Fund, Inc.

dba Greater New Haven Green Fund  
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New Haven CT 06510

## Annual Reports FY 2019

### PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The New Haven Green Fund had a successful year filled with many challenges. We accomplished several important things that will help us progress with our strategic plan that we established in 2018. We welcomed several new members to our Board of Directors.

- We successfully launched our online application on Airtable for small and large grants receiving over 21 applications for our 2020 grant cycle. All of the preparation for the Airtable online application processes occurred in 2019. Our goals include establishing a data base that will let us easily retrieve information about such things as how much funding we have awarded in specific geographical areas of our region and for which issue areas of interest. This information will help guide our future granting, help present our brand to other funders and do outreach to the community.
- Ratan Koneru has stepped up to lead our Grants Committee. Martha Smith ably headed the Grants Committee along with Lise Dondy through our first 8 to 9 years. Martha continues to serve on our Board of Directors as Vice President.

### Board of Directors changes:

- We said good-bye to Lise Dondy who decided to retire from the Board of Directors last June after having served eight years leading us through many challenges and giving wise advice.
- Kevin Dahms joined our board as a strong environmentalist with water quality expertise. He graduated from the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies and worked for CFE as a green infrastructure project manager.
- Annie Adams joined our board in 2019 bringing wide experience in philanthropy for the type of grants that we award from having managed millions of dollars for the Rockefeller Foundation's philanthropic funding in the Gulf Coast states after their devastating storms.
- We also welcomed Robert Hoppenstedt to our board. Robert brings writing expertise and financial advice from having studied English Literature in college and establishing a career in banking through advanced study and employment. He is now retired and enjoys auditing literature and history courses and SCSU.

**Development and Fundraising:** We participated in the Great Give and Giving Tuesday. We received donations from the public attending an event at the Hops Company in Derby that featured our Fund for its support of sustainability and green projects in our region. We also had another large private donation from out of state. We thank Aaron Goode for his promotion of our fund in accomplishing most of these donations.

We continue with our strategic plan established in 2017-18. Our online application process was definitely one of the larger hurdles to be overcome consuming much of our attention over the year. Included in this process was determining what metrics we wanted to measure and establishing a logic model that will help us realize the impact of our grant funding in the future. Farnam and Associates was our consultant for these processes up to the first month of 2019. We have an Action Plan for moving forward.

Our endowment continues to grow due to the investment acumen of the Community Foundation of Greater New Haven's Corporate Fund. We have kept our expenses as low as possible with many board members donating their time and resources so that we can give as much money to the community as possible. The Board believes in its mission and demonstrates it by our behaviors. We thank the Whitneyville Cultural Commons for hosting our board meetings and being a home where we can invite residents to join our outreach events. We are confident that the technological changes we are making will help us better manage our organizational processes and allow us to present a more accurate picture of who we are and what we have done to serve our community partners.

I thank all of our Board members for their hard work in helping us achieve our mission. They do so selflessly, without pay, and with good heart.

/Lynne Bonnett/, President

June 11, 2020