

Fairfield County Community Foundation

Stable Families Program

Launched: 2009

Public Partners: Bridgeport Housing Authority, Connecticut Legal Services, New Haven Home Recovery, and public housing residents

The Fairfield County Community Foundation (FCCF) was formed in 1992 when 5 smaller foundations merged. FCCF serves the 23 towns of Fairfield County, Connecticut with a population of just under a million people. In FY 2012, FCCF had \$147.9 million in net assets and awarded \$16.6 million in grants. Bridgeport, Connecticut's largest city is located in FCCF's service area. With a 2011 population of 145,638, Bridgeport has long struggled with high rates of poverty. Bridgeport's 2011 child poverty rate of 39.9% ranks amongst the highest in the nation.



Partnership (PTBP) in the fall of 2011. PTBP is a place-based partnership that extends and deepens the Stable Families partnership work with a focus on a single public housing project: P.T. Barnum Apartments.

The Stable Families Program provides intensive case management and support services to high risk families in Bridgeport public housing. Services are aimed first at helping residents resolve issues that could lead to eviction and then to providing services and support that help improve the health, stability and economic and educational success of these families. The program is unique because of the strong relationship that has been built between the project's key partners: FCCF, Bridgeport Housing Authority, Connecticut Legal Services, New Haven Home Recovery, and, most importantly, public housing residents. Since November 2009, 96% of the 154 families enrolled in the program have avoided eviction, gotten back on their feet financially and moved their lives forward.

While the Stable Families program has led to a number of very positive outcomes for families, the partners recognized that creating broader and lasting improvements for residents required a deliberate focus on creating positive community level outcomes. As a result of this recognition, the partners created the P.T. Barnum

Fairfield County Community Foundation: The foundation promotes philanthropy to build and sustain a vital and prosperous community where all have the opportunity to participate and thrive.
www.fccfoundation.org