



## CREATING A FIELD OF INTEREST FUND

**Field of Interest Funds are unique philanthropic vehicles that allow donors to support the causes they hold dear while benefiting from the local grantmaking expertise of the Community Foundation.**

### **Field of Interest Fund Spotlight: Dartmouth Education Foundation**

A Field of Interest Fund allows you to impact a cause that is important to you, such as public education, the performing arts, the environment, or a particular local geographic area.

The Community Foundation invests the funds and provides all necessary legal and administrative services. We also work with you to establish the criteria and process for thoughtful grant making. When you establish a Field of Interest Fund, you ensure it will continue to support the issues you care about most today, and in perpetuity.

Among the Field of Interest Funds managed by the Community Foundation are five education foundations, established to enhance and enrich educational experiences in public school systems beyond what the school budget provides.



*The **Dartmouth Education Foundation** was launched in 2008 to enrich the educational experiences for the students of the Dartmouth Public Schools. In 2016, grants were awarded by DEF for 14 separate projects, with over \$21,000 awarded for library and other books; lab and STEM supplies; new technology; and for raised garden beds at an elementary school. One of the events held annually to raise money for DEF is the Adult Spelling Bee (pictured), where teams of three individuals from local businesses, nonprofits and the schools will compete to determine the town's best spellers. More than \$100,000 has been raised for the Foundation.*

<b>How Does a Community Foundation Field of Interest Fund Compare to a Private/Family Foundation?</b>		
<b>Your Administrative Responsibilities &amp; Expenses</b>		
	<b>Community Foundation</b>	<b>Private/Family Foundation</b>
<b>Federal requirement for distribution of funds</b>	None	5% annually
<b>Donor designates future uses of funds</b>	When fund is established	When the foundation is established
<b>Time length to establish</b>	Within 24 hours	Several months
<b>Anonymity</b>	Full or partial anonymity as desired, on each grant award	None. Filings are public info, posted on the Web
<b>Incorporation, tax status, audit, filings</b>	None – we do all administrative work	You are personally responsible for all
<b>Directors, officers, insurance</b>	None – we do all administrative work	You are personally responsible for all
<b>Evaluation of applications &amp; possible grantees</b>	We are the experts in local grantmaking. Partner with us as much as you want in the process.	You are personally responsible for all
<b>Grantmaking, verification, reports on grant outcomes</b>	None – we do all administrative work	You are personally responsible for all
<b>Relationships to other donors</b>	As you wish: we offer many formal and informal opportunities each year	Your responsibility
<b>Service fees</b>	Used to support our services to donors, grantees, and community initiatives	None

*Our mission: To mobilize philanthropy by matching donors and resources with community needs for the benefit of our region.*

The Community Foundation of Southeastern Massachusetts was launched in 1995 by a group of dedicated volunteers who wanted to create a new avenue for encouraging philanthropy in Southeastern Massachusetts.

Incorporated in 1995 as a 501(C)3 non-profit institution, the Foundation’s first \$100,000 gift was received that year, and in 1997 the Community Foundation received a gift of one million dollars to establish the drug abuse prevention and education effort known as Youth Entitled to Success.

Today, under the guidance of the Board of Directors and President John Vasconcellos, the Community Foundation has grown to include more than 200 funds and more than \$35 million in assets, serving 41 cities and towns in Southeastern Massachusetts. The Foundation invests and administers these funds, with assets pooled for investment purposes, under the guidance of our Investment Advisor, Prime, Buchholz & Associates based in Portsmouth, NH.

**For more information about a Field of Interest Fund at the Community Foundation, contact Ethan Kehoe, Director of Development, at 508-996-8253 ext. 216 and ekehoe@cfsema.org.**