

The Community Foundation of Eastern Connecticut Announces Windham Area Women & Girls Fund 2012 Fall Grant Awards

Connecticut Community Care, Inc., Bristol; **Eastern Connecticut State University**, Willimantic; **Horizons, Inc.**, South Windham; **Windham No-Freeze Project**, Willimantic; **Northeast Connecticut Economic Alliance**, Willimantic; **Planned Parenthood of Southern New England**, New Haven; **Stone Acres Therapeutic Riding Center**, Columbia; **Windham Area Interfaith Ministry**, Willimantic; **Windham 4-H Foundation**, Willimantic

The **Windham Area Women & Girls Fund** partners with local nonprofits to break through the injustices and inequities that hold women back and helps to build a brighter future for women and girls in the Windham area.

STEERING COMMITTEE

Sandy Hale, June Krisch, & Mary Weinland
Chairs

Lynne Allen, Josephine Fox, Judy Hyde, Anne Rash
Patricia Shannon, Kimberly Silcox, Donna Snell
Lee Terry, Joanne Todd, Carol Williams

Thanks to you, we met the 1st year of the Challenge!

At last year's *In Celebration of Women* breakfast we announced an exciting – but daunting – challenge. The **Jeffrey P. Ossen Family Foundation** offered us an unprecedented opportunity to grow our endowment by as much as \$200,000 while giving out more in grants than ever in our history.

It came – and comes – with a challenge. The foundation would give us \$1 for grants for every \$1 we raised for endowment, up to \$66,000 each year for three years.

In 2012, the first year of the Challenge, your generosity was record-breaking! Hundreds of you collectively put the Fund over the \$66,000 goal. A bedrock was built upon \$5, \$10 and \$25 gifts. Another 15 people gave founder gifts, each committing \$1,000 to the Fund. Two long-time friends of the Fund each pledged \$10,000 over the next three years. Two others contributed \$5,000 each.

As promised: a stronger endowment and meaningful grants

Your gifts went directly to build a future for the Windham area's women and girls. A strong endowment is a resource that lasts forever.

Equally exciting, the **Jeffrey P. Ossen Family Foundation's** matching gift allowed the Fund to double our grant-making in 2012 to vibrant, Windham area nonprofits serving women and girls who need our support today. We'll announce the full array of grants at the May 17th Breakfast.