

Impact Update: December 2021

Message from the President & CEO

Dear Friends,

It is bittersweet for me to be writing to you for this last time. As I approach retirement at the end of this year, I am keenly aware of the moment in time in which we find ourselves. A time that is truly unprecedented in my life for the threats that we face as well as for the opportunities: a continuing pandemic that too many of us are not taking seriously, a society that demonstrably advantages white people over people of color, an economy that continues to create significant disparity in wealth, threats to our democracy that are real and truly frightening, and climate disruption that is no longer imaginary but happening before our very eyes.

And yet, it is impossible not to see hope - especially in much of what is happening right here on the South Coast. Many people have stepped up, with earnest persistence, to undo the racial inequity that has long left our neighbors of color out of the running to meet their full potential. Many people have begun to realize that the food insecurity that became apparent in 2020 is a systemic failure that needs rethinking. Many people have started to challenge the status quo of our educational institutions in naming the need to improve early education, engage more equitably, and reimagine what success can look like for our young people. We have artistic expression that is significantly more varied and more community-based than ever before. And we have initiatives such as wind farms that are coming to fruition – that will move us toward a healthier and more sustainable economy.

We are very proud of the role that the Community Foundation plays in each of these areas, but we are also aware that we could not do it without our community. Community is in our name, it is our essence, and it is our power.



We hope you take a moment to read on regarding our latest news.
The team has a lot lined up for 2022 and is excited for what lies ahead!

From all of us at the Community Foundation, all the best to you this season.



John Vasconcellos
President & CEO

Fund & Grant Update

The Standard-Times Neediest Families Fund Comes to the Community Foundation



The Community Foundation is excited to announce that we are now the home for one of the longest charitable initiatives that this region has ever seen, The Standard-Times' Neediest Families Fund. This year marks the 100th year of the Fund which helps vulnerable New Bedford families throughout the holidays. We are proud that The Standard-Times put their trust in us to be their philanthropic partner. You can learn more about the fund, in this recent [Standard-Times article](#). (Photo: Standard-Times File)

Jacobs Donor Advised Fund Awards \$487,500



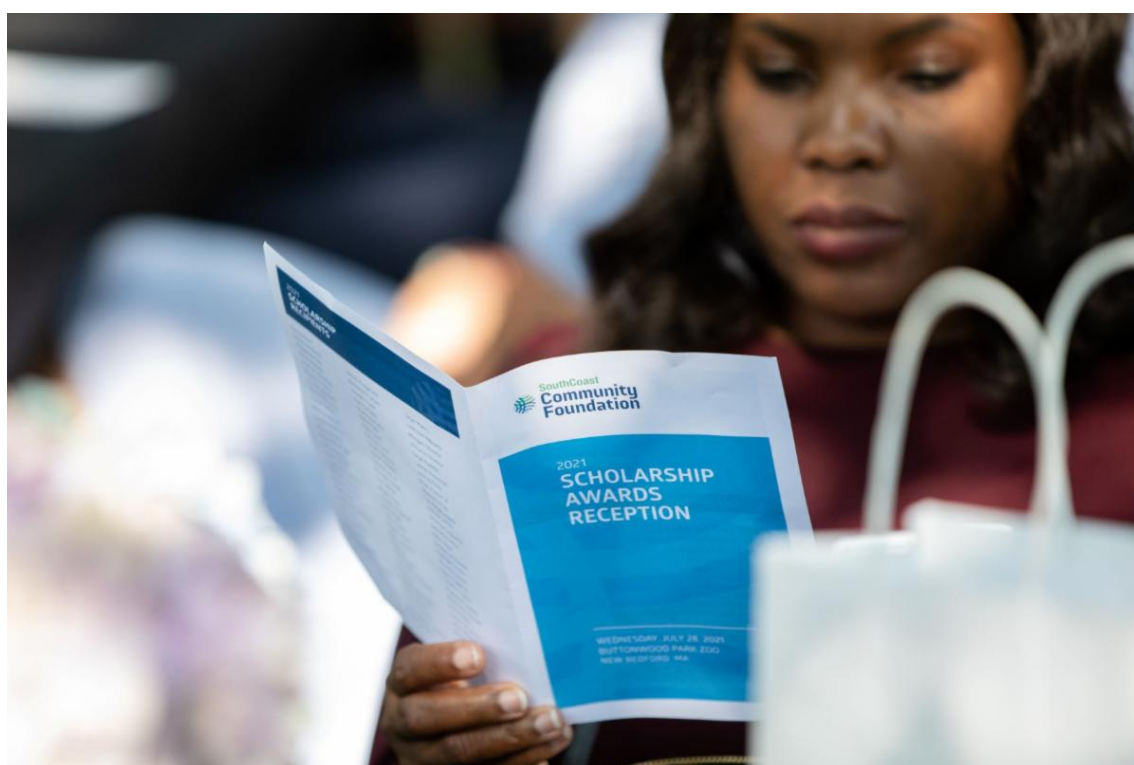
The Irwin and Joan Jacobs Donor Advised Fund recently awarded a total of \$487,500 to eight local nonprofits: [Bristol Community College](#) to support an Early College Initiative in partnership with New Bedford High School; [Global Learning Charter Public School](#) for their Technology Program; [New Bedford Symphony Orchestra](#) for their Learning in Concert Educational Program; [Sea Lab](#) for their Lewis Temple Scholarship Fund; [UMass Dartmouth](#) for their College Now and Marine Science Equity Internship; and [Carlos Pacheco Elementary School](#), [Irwin M. Jacobs Elementary School](#), and [New Bedford Whaling Museum](#) for general operating support. Congratulations to the grantees!

A Legacy of Generosity - Henry H. Crapo Fund Awards \$160,000



College Now is an alternate UMass Dartmouth admissions program developed over 50 years ago in response to the assassination of Martin Luther King Jr. The program founders wanted to ensure the school better served the diverse populations of New Bedford. This is just one example of how the **Henry H. Crapo Fund** of the SouthCoast Community Foundation is supporting critical work taking place in the greater New Bedford region. A total of **\$160,000** from the Fund has just been awarded to fifteen organizations in the Greater New Bedford area. [Learn More.](#)

Scholarship Season is Coming!



Mark your calendars! On January 1st, we begin the two-month cycle of accepting scholarship applications. It will be an exciting time for all of us at the Foundation because we will be awarding over \$500K from more than 60 scholarship funds. Help us get the word out about this great opportunity to all the Southeastern Massachusetts high school seniors and college students who could use this critical support. To learn more about our scholarship process, click [here](#).

Putting a Spotlight on New Bedford



We are continually impressed by the work of Southeastern Massachusetts nonprofits that specialize in our focus areas of education, economic opportunity, and arts & culture. We were particularly proud to see one of our Creative Southcoast Initiative participants, the **New Bedford Fishing Heritage Center**, recently featured in a Boston Globe exposé on the importance of the New Bedford fishing industry. Congratulations to Executive Director **Laura Orleans** seen here in this Boston Globe 'On the Street' [video](#) for bringing such positive media attention to the area.

Your Support Makes A Tremendous Difference

Every year, we rely on donations to our **Annual Fund** for nearly 20% of our operating budget. Thanks to your generous support this past year, we were able to accomplish a great deal. We convened diverse groups to explore solutions to systemic and seemingly intractable

issues, provided strategic philanthropic advice to funders and nonprofits, and invested significantly in leaders and organizations that are making a difference.

We hope you will consider a gift this year. Your support makes a tremendous difference in our ability to carry out our mission.



**Support the Community
Foundation**

As you know, our President and CEO, John Vasconcellos, is retiring at the end of the year, so we also wish to honor and thank him for his service to the Community Foundation. Along with your annual donation in support of the work of the Community Foundation, please consider making an additional gift to the John Vasconcellos Fund. This new endowment will support, in perpetuity, John's passion for innovation, growth, and sustainability for communities that are democratic, fair, inclusive, and respectful, all hallmarks of John's transformational leadership.



**Donate to the John
Vasconcellos Fund**

Photo: © John K. Robson

Staff News

Recognition

The Community Foundation and our retiring President and CEO, John Vasconcellos, were recently recognized by several community and state organizations. On behalf of John and the entire Foundation staff, thank you. We are extremely honored and greatly appreciate the acknowledgment of our work on behalf of the community.





Photos: Top Left: Gail Fortes and Rob Mendes from the Greater New Bedford Youth Alliance honoring John. Middle Left: One SouthCoast Chamber Apex Award presented by Mike O'Sullivan and Rick Kidder. Middle Right: United Way of Fall River - Live United Award. Bottom: State Representative Tony Cabral and Jordan Pouliot Latham present John with his recognition plaque.

Being Wise About Estate Planning

On Sunday, Nov 28th, President and CEO, John Vasconcellos was interviewed on the **WBSM Radio Show, *Money Wise with the Money Guys***, in honor of Giving Tuesday. Hosts Ray and Tenney Lantz discussed with John the benefits of partnering with the Community Foundation when estate planning. Dartmouth financial advisors, **USA Wealth Group**, sponsor this weekly show. Click [here](#) to listen to the episode.



Seeking Strategic and Visionary Leader

Given our current President & CEO John Vasconcellos is retiring, the Community Foundation is seeking a proven leader who demonstrates a strong ability to raise community awareness and clearly articulates the vision and direction for the SouthCoast Community Foundation. They must be a strategic and visionary leader who understands the potential of the organization to use its financial, social, and reputational capital to positively impact the community. An appreciation for the culture of the region and a willingness to understand the challenges and opportunities within the SouthCoast communities will be essential. To apply for the President & CEO position, submit a current resume and letter of introduction to **Kittleman &**

Associates, LLC [here](#).



Our Community.
Your Foundation.

