



# NEWTOWN-SANDY HOOK COMMUNITY FOUNDATION, INC.

NSHCF.ORG

## About the Foundation

### Board of Directors

Gavin Arneth  
Dr. Charles Herrick  
Christopher McDonnell  
Anne Ragusa  
Benjamin Spragg

### Ex Officio Directors

Isabel Almeida  
Will Rodgers

### Distribution Committee

Kevin Cragin  
Karen Kravec  
Rev. Robert Morris  
Bob Schmidt  
Curtis Urbina  
Janet Vollmer  
James Viadero  
Cheyanne Wirtz

### Program Director

Lucie Connell

**The Newtown-Sandy Hook Community Foundation, Inc.** was formed in late February 2013 at the request of the United Way of Western CT & the Newtown Savings Bank to receive the **Sandy Hook School Support Fund (SHSSF)** dollars and develop a locally controlled and separate organization to be responsible for how donations would be distributed. A Transition Team of community members created the organizational documents for the Foundation after consulting with national experts and conducting research on what other communities faced following mass tragedies. The Foundation kept three important lessons learned from other communities in mind when developing its structure and mission. This included reserving funds for long-term, unforeseen needs, keeping local control over the distributions, and infusing the process with public input.

The Board of Directors allocates money from the SHSSF to distribution committees to make disbursement recommendations. The first distribution committee was responsible for allocating the initial \$7.696 million to those most directly impacted by the tragedy. That distribution took place in August 2013. A second distribution committee was named in November 2013 and is responsible for soliciting public input as to the unmet needs that exist, prioritizing needs, and making recommendations for on-going distributions. This committee is made up entirely of Sandy Hook/Newtown residents who represent perspectives from many different impacted groups including victims, surviving children/families, teachers, emergency responders, as well as members of the community at large and a representative from the faith community.

### Time-Limited Foundation

It has always been the intention of the Foundation to be a time-limited organization. In January 2015 the Board of Directors voted on a ten-year sunset plan that will close the Foundation by December 31, 2025. That date was based in part on the graduation of the youngest children enrolled at Sandy Hook Elementary School on 12/14/12. The Foundation recognizes that recovery will be a life-long process for many and is committed to continuing to provide support to individuals and the community with the goal of creating sustainable programs and services to assist those most impacted by the tragedy. Our vision is to continue to help Newtown become a strong community where people connect and support one another in their journey toward healing.

### The Sandy Hook School Support Fund has distributed \$11,132,846 as of October 31, 2020

Distribution to the 40 most directly impacted individuals/families	\$7,696,000
Support for out of pocket costs for mental health and wellness treatment for individuals impacted by the tragedy	\$2,208,737
Community Grants	\$1,065,907
Community Strengthening/Events	\$162,201
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$11,132,846</b>

For more information on these distributions or a list of grant recipients, please visit [www.nshcf.org](http://www.nshcf.org).

*The mission of the Newtown-Sandy Hook Community Foundation, Inc. is to devote itself to furthering and supporting operations and activities which address the short-term and long-term unmet needs of individuals and the Newtown community arising from the tragic events at Sandy Hook Elementary School on December 14, 2012.*