November... a time of thanksgiving. As we enter the season of gratitude, I am reflecting on how thankful I am to be in service to public media. It is an honor to work at Connecticut Public surrounded by talented and dedicated journalists, content creators and all the people who support our mission “to inform, educate and inspire the people of Connecticut.”

We know that our work is not possible without the commitment and support of our donors and grantors. By way of illustration, our newly-established investigative journalism team called The Accountability Project is funded by individuals and grantors who recognized the need for deep and informed reporting and invested in Connecticut Public with their donations. Our generous funders support our work in many other ways: contributions to our Report for America program ensure reporters are covering underrepresented or underserved areas in the state; donations to our internship program help build the field by providing hands-on educational experiences for college students; several foundations and individuals provide foundational funding for the New England News Collaborative extending Connecticut Public’s reach in partnership with 9 stations throughout the region; and members of our newly-named Visionary Society show their commitment to the future of public media by including Connecticut Public in their estate plans.

It is with deep gratitude that we acknowledge our donors and grantors who partner with us in amplifying the important stories and people of Connecticut. November 15 is National Philanthropy Day: while we’ll be thinking of YOU – our donors – in a very special way that day, please know you are at the center of what we do every day. Thank you for energizing and strengthening the power of public media by supporting Connecticut Public.

We are proud to be in mission with you to serve the common good. That’s what public media does, that’s what you do through your contributions.

Deidre M. Tavera, Chief Development Officer
**Knight Foundation** supports democracy in America by fostering informed, engaged, and equitable communities. The foundation invests in journalism, arts and culture in community, and research in areas of media and democracy. The Knight Foundation has a particular interest in contributing to the field of investigative journalism and was an early supporter of *The Accountability Project.*

New Britain High School football coach Omar McDew was interviewed for the recent TAP investigative reporting project “Juveniles, Joyrides and Justice.” The coach says giving children something to do is the best crime-prevention strategy. *Tyler Russell/Connecticut Public*

Valerie Friedman has been a Connecticut Public donor and avid listener for over 25 years. Valerie’s passion for helping the next generation made *Report for America* a perfect fit for her support. Thanks to Valerie and other donors, this program benefits Connecticut Public by welcoming talented, emerging journalists in our newsroom to report on under-reported issues and communities.

In 2017 Larry Lunden became the first to endow an internship at Connecticut Public, the Larry Lunden WNPR Internship. Every spring and fall we select a student intern for the newsroom because of Larry’s vision and commitment to educating the next generation of talented and passionate journalists. What a wonderful legacy!

“Internships introduce young reporters to the journalistic values and ethical practices that underscore public media’s unique mission. Interns learn our guiding principles: honesty, integrity, independence, accuracy, contextual truth, transparency, respect and fairness for the people we serve and the people we cover.”

*Diane Orson* Special Correspondent
Alma’s Way is a new series created by Sonia Manzano (Maria on Sesame Street) to encourage children to think critically and to solve problems creatively. The PBS KIDS 24/7 over-the-air “antenna” TV service is available for every household in our state as well as the round-the-clock digital stream.

The Hearst Foundations fund educational institutions demonstrating uncommon success in preparing students to thrive in a global society. The Foundations fund innovative models of early childhood and K-12 education and have helped CT Public to expand the Curious Families initiative to more communities around Connecticut.

Since 2010, with the help of longtime friend Doug Stone, the Smart Family Foundation of New York has given major support to a variety of projects at Connecticut Public. In recent years, no single private foundation has had greater impact on the work, growth and expansion of the New England News Collaborative than the Smart Family Foundation of New York.

The Nellie Mae Education Foundation supports community goals that challenge racial inequities and advance excellent, student-centered public education for all New England youth. The Nellie Mae Education Foundation has been a funder of CT Public’s education programs since 2015 with a particular interest in programs that promote racial justice and equity in education.
Ask Your Advisor About Tax-Advantaged Charitable Giving in 2021

The recently-enacted federal Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021 extends the CARES Act’s universal charitable deduction (UCD) for those who do not itemize deductions on their income tax. Single filers can take a $300 above-the-line deduction, and married couples filing jointly can take a $600 UCD. For those who itemize deductions, a temporary increase allows deductions up to 100% of adjusted gross income (AGI). The temporary increase expires December 31, 2021, and only applies to qualified cash contributions. Other changes may affect estate taxation and those who wish to contribute retirement assets.

While Connecticut Public does not offer tax or legal advice, we do encourage all donors to discuss their personal circumstances with their tax advisors.

Source: the Benefactor Group

IN appreciation

Connecticut Public is taking the opportunity during this season of gratitude to announce a new name for the group of extraordinary contributors who have included Connecticut Public in their estate plans. These very special people have been inspired to give from a lifetime of hard work and savings to benefit those who haven’t even been born yet. While they desire to leave the legacy of a strong public media for future generations, it is their unique caring and foresight that distinguishes them from Connecticut Public’s many supporters. They are moved to assist in the creation of a bold future for Connecticut Public and all of Connecticut’s citizens. We honor them this year with membership in our newly-dubbed Visionary Society.

For more information about the Visionary Society and planned giving opportunities, please contact Lisa Wrubleski, lwrubleski@ctpublic.org or call 860.275.7250

Thank you.