

The Staten Island Foundation

**Cultivating Communities of Hope:
A Collective Vision for Strengthening Staten Island**

Biennial Report • Fiscal Years 2018 & 2019



**The Staten Island
Foundation**

Mission

The mission of The Staten Island Foundation is to improve the quality of life on Staten Island, particularly for the least advantaged, with a focus on improving education, health, community services and the arts.

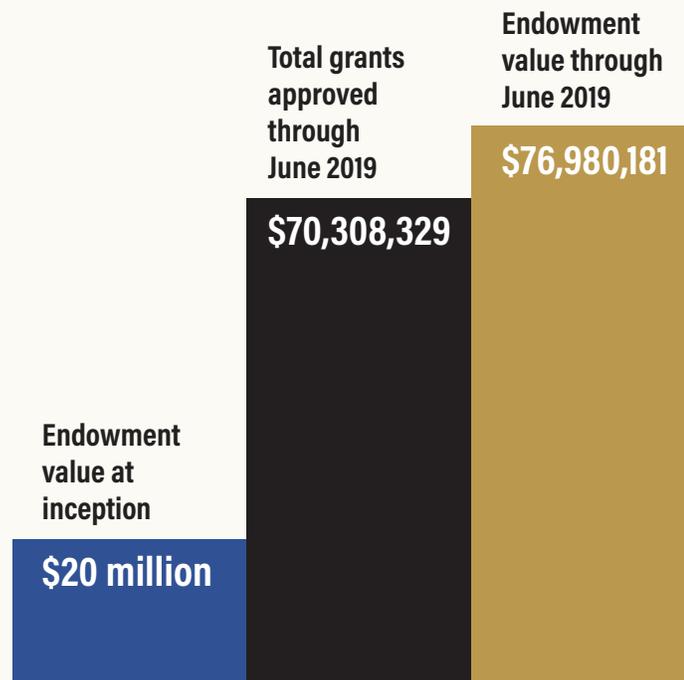
Financials

Grants FY 2018-2019



TOTAL: \$6,371,647

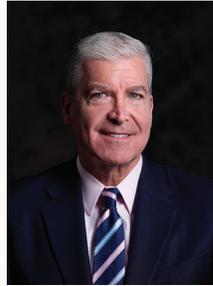
Endowment & Grants Since Inception



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Tormey and Laura Jean Watters



Daniel Master, Suzanne Stirn
Ainslie and Phyllis Cureton



Lenore Puleo, Marie Payne and
Alice Diamond

Remembering Allan Weissglass and Denis Kelleher



ALLAN WEISSGLASS

January 9, 1935 – February 22, 2019

Founding Board Member, Board Chair
and Community Leader



DENIS KELLEHER

March 15, 1939 – November 22, 2019

Founding Board Member, Board Member
and Community Leader

The Staten Island Foundation and community mourn the passing of two beloved Foundation board members and community leaders, Allan Weissglass and Denis Kelleher.

Allan Weissglass, Chair of the Board of The Staten Island Foundation, passed away on February 22, 2019. He was 84.

Allan served on The Staten Island Foundation's Board of Directors for over 20 years, and put his passion, expertise and legendary network into service at key moments in the Foundation's growth and development. Allan served as inaugural Vice Chair at the Foundation's inception in 1997 under founding Chair Harry P. Doherty, and was elected to the role of Chair in 2008 upon Harry's passing. He also served as Chair of the Finance Committee, stewarding the Foundation's endowment to what it is today.

Throughout his tenure, Allan was a force on the Foundation's Board. With his strong and steady leadership, warmth and gracious good humor, Allan encouraged all of us to bring our best selves to the work of the Foundation.

Denis Kelleher, Member of the Board of Directors of The Staten Island Foundation, passed away on November 22, 2019. He was 80.

Denis was an immigrant from Ireland whose "rise from cash strapped immigrant to Wall Street fame" has been described as "an American Dream story personified." As a member of the Board of The

Staten Island Savings Bank, Denis played a critical role in advising the CEO, Harry Doherty, to take the bank public and enable the establishment of a charitable foundation to benefit the least advantaged people of Staten Island. Denis went on to serve over 20 years on the Foundation's board and was deeply committed to giving back to the Staten Island community that he called home.

Denis' longstanding, humble support of so many important causes in our community was recognized in 2005 when he was named Grand Marshal of New York City's 244th annual St. Patrick's Day Parade. As he said at the time, "You can dream, but you have to dream big, work hard and learn constantly. But this is beyond even my wildest dreams." Through his leadership at the Foundation, Denis encouraged us all to dream big, work hard and learn constantly in service to the Staten Island community.

Allan and Denis were very good friends and constantly brainstormed ways to keep Staten Island moving forward. Reflecting on their service and extraordinary contributions, Alice B. Diamond, a founding and current member of the Foundation's Board, said, "How proud and lucky I am to call Allan and Denis my friends. Truly, they were courageous and humble giants. Although they were born in different parts of the world and raised with different beliefs and in different circumstances, they bonded in the hope of making our world better. Sadly for us, but I believe happily for them, they are now together again and continuing their epic conversations about our community. Our collective memory of Allan and Denis inspires and encourages us as we move ahead with the Foundation's work."

Learn more about Allan Weissglass' life and legacy here:

- [Staten Island Advance obituary](#)
- [RUMC Care Magazine](#)
- [RUMC Chronicle Online](#)
- [SI Live Allan Weissglass Memoirs](#)
- [JCC tribute video](#)

Learn more about Denis Kelleher's life and legacy here:

- [Staten Island Advance obituary](#)
- [Staten Island Advance profile](#)
- [Irish Echo obituary](#)
- [Irish Echo profile](#)

TSIF



Allan Weissglass and Denis Kelleher, joined by Alice Diamond and John Morris to celebrate the Foundation's 15th Anniversary.

SI/Advance



Denis Kelleher was the Grand Marshal at the 2005 St. Patrick's Day Parade, New York City. Allan Weissglass (right) joins him.

Message from the Chair

Hope, Gratitude and Community Impact

Kathryn Krause Rooney, Chair of the Board



The past few years have been transformative—in a few senses of the word—for The Staten Island Foundation.

Our work has grown and deepened. We're taking aim at some of the most urgent issues facing Staten Island families, including educational equity, infant mortality, childhood obesity, early childhood development, and creating school and work opportunities for young adults. Our vision is a Staten Island where all families—and all children—get the best possible shot at a healthy, safe and fulfilling future. It's a big ambition, and we're both hopeful about how we can contribute to meaningful change and mindful that our impact multiplies when we work in close collaboration with others.

To that end, we have fully embraced "collective impact" a strategy for bringing sectors and organizations together in pursuit of shared goals for the common good. We are grateful to all our partners, whose commitment and expertise is inspiring. It's an honor to work with them and we're excited for what the future holds.

We have gone through transformative change in another way as well this year. With enormous sadness and gratitude, we mourned the passing of Allan Weissglass and Denis Kelleher.

Allan served 20 years on the board of this Foundation. For 11 years, he was our chair. Under his leadership, we approved more than \$70 million in support for nonprofits across Staten Island. As legacies go, that's outstanding. And it speaks to how much Allan loved this community. He was called "Mr. Staten Island" because of his dedication to our hometown. And he led this Foundation with passion, vision and a commitment to help people in every neighborhood across the Island.

I feel very honored—and humbled—to succeed Allan as chair of this Foundation. I'm also remembering the first person to hold this role: Harry P. Doherty. Harry was the legendary chairman of the Staten Island Savings Bank. When he converted the bank into a public company, he wanted it to have a clear public purpose. After all, the bank owed its success to Staten Island—the bank's directors thought it should go the extra mile to give back to the borough. That's how The Staten Island Foundation began.

Denis Kelleher was on the Bank's board with Harry and envisioned the social impact it could have in the community. Denis urged Harry to take the bank public and create our Foundation in the first place. And after the Staten Island Savings Bank created this Foundation, two other local banks—Richmond

County Savings and Northfield—followed suit. The foundations they have launched have done excellent work across Staten Island and we're glad to be in their company.

An immigrant from Ireland, Denis knew firsthand the power of the American Dream. He wanted everyone to be able to achieve it, and so worked to expand access to education and other opportunities on Staten Island. When he was named Grand Marshal of New York City's annual St. Patrick's Day Parade, Denis was described by Irish Consul General as "exceptional"—"a man who combined business acumen, high integrity and a moral compass."

You can read more about Allan, Denis and their lifetimes of service in a special section of this report.

Our esteemed Board colleague Alice Diamond was on the founding board and still serves on our board today. Last year, we welcomed two new members to our Board of Directors: Suzanne Stirn Ainslie and Phyllis Cureton. They joined Alice, Alfred Cerullo, Daniel Master, Dolores Morris, Jill O'Donnell Tormey and Lenore Puleo. This may be the strongest board in The Staten Island Foundation's history. I'm thrilled to work with this exceptional group of people.

And at the forefront of our work is the Foundation's staff, led by Betsy Dubovsky, our founding Executive Director. Last fall, she celebrated her 20th anniversary running this organization. Betsy worked closely with Allan to hone our strategy. She helped decide that health should be a core focus of our giving. And she moved the Foundation toward the collective impact approach that has proved so powerful. Betsy and Laura Jean Watters, our Program Officer, help bring people together, secure partnerships with funders off the Island, and keep everyone focused on our mission and what matters.

The renowned systems scientist Peter Senge recently put into words why what we do is so impactful. He was evaluating our pilot program with the Carnegie Corporation to improve educational outputs for Staten Island kids in low-income school districts, and he pointed out the difference it makes when a foundation is truly connected to the community it serves, like we are.

"Having a local funder has been essential; having one who is actually connected to the work on the ground and knows many of key actors is unique in my experience. As I look back at the past few years, I'm not sure we could have accomplished anywhere as much without this."

That's the key to everything we do. We're from Staten Island. We know Staten Island. We believe in Staten Island. And we want to do everything we can to make Staten Island a stronger, healthier, more equitable place.

Thank you for placing your trust in the Foundation for many years. As you read through this report, I hope you will feel as inspired as I do about the work we're doing—and all that lies ahead.

—Kathryn Krause Rooney
Chair of the Board

Message from the Executive Director Every Child Deserves a Community of Hope

Betsy Dubovsky, Executive Director



That every child deserves a community of hope resonates deeply with me. See this powerful message of hope (below) by Dr. William C. Bell, President and CEO of Casey Family Programs. Together in Staten Island, we are strengthening a community of hope. Every day individuals and organizations are working across sectors in collective impact partnerships to make hope a reality for every child.

In collective impact partnerships, we bring together a diverse set of organizations and individuals from across the public, private and nonprofit sectors to tackle systemic problems that cannot be solved by any single organization or sector acting alone.

What began as one fledgling collective impact partnership in 2011 to address youth substance abuse (the Staten Island Partnership for Community Wellness [SIPCW] and the Tackling Youth Substance Abuse [TYSA] initiative) has now grown to a total of seven initiatives that the Foundation either started or participates in or both. Four efforts had assistance from the consulting firm FSG, Inc., authors of the seminal article on Collective Impact.

Our most recent partnership is focused on educational equity (with the Carnegie Transformational Education initiative, working with District 31, PK to 12, now called Equity Alliance of Staten Island). We are also in partnerships focused on: infant mortality (the Staten Island Perinatal Network at Community Health Center of Richmond); improving early childhood outcomes (Staten Island Alliance for North Shore Children and Families with NY Early Childhood Professional Development Institute); childhood obesity (the Staten Island Child Wellness Initiative of SIPCW started with facilitation support by NY Academy of Medicine); and decreasing the number of out-of-school/out-of-work youth in

A community of hope is a powerful place. It is a place where residents raise their hands and say, 'I will stand with you and be the hope that you need to reach your dreams.' It is a place where businesses see beyond the bottom line to the promise and potential in every young person and family that walks through their doors. It is a place where people recognize that every family, no matter the conditions they live in, wants the absolute best future for their children. It is a place where government is a partner with the community in providing the support and services that can change a life. Hope is a place where every child wakes up knowing that they aren't invisible, that someone sees in them the potential to achieve their dreams.

—*The Evolution of Hope*, by Dr. William C. Bell, Casey Family Programs, 2017

the North Shore (YouthWINS with JobsFirst). Finally, most recently, we are participating in the SI Community Partnership Program’s planning of collective impact work, funded by a major contract with NYC Administration for Children’s Services, to reduce the local need for child protective services. These partnerships are big and broad, and share a common bond: they aim to support the aspirations and contributions of children, youth and families who face disproportionate obstacles in our community, from pre-natal through high school, college and career paths. The obstacles were highlighted in the Foundation-funded report by the Citizens’ Committee for Children NYC, *The North Shore of Staten Island: Community Driven Solutions to Improve Child and Family Well-Being*. I encourage everyone in Staten Island to read this report, as it reveals how and why so many of our residents are cut off from the opportunities that we all need to thrive in life—and suggests actions we can take, together, to change that.

With seven partnerships doing such important work, we are now supporting efforts to connect, align and strengthen them. Since July 2018, a representative group of these efforts called the Cross Initiative Alignment Committee has been meeting to envision, structure and fully realize the collective potential of these efforts. What’s emerging is a greater recognition of and commitment to equity, to increasing supports for those with the most disparate life outcomes, to diversity, inclusion and improving racial consciousness. Every partnership is talking about and working toward empowerment of parent and youth community members themselves in community change.



Across Staten Island, there are young people waiting to hear those powerful words: **“I will stand with you.”** There are families waiting for someone to say, **“I see you, and I’m going to do everything in my power to make hope happen for you.”**

In our last two fiscal years, we at the Foundation, along with so many committed passionate people who want to make this community a better place for all, have made great strides in becoming a real learning community as we engage in systems thinking, as we live systems leadership and as we move toward a compassionate systems frame to understand ourselves, our aspirations, our relationships with each other within and outside our organizations and within our community. We are actively providing technical assistance and financial support to help Staten Island’s nonprofit community to see themselves as part of a continuum of impact, to learn from what others are doing and to self-organize around shared community objectives. We are coming together around a unified vision to co-create a better future for our children and families in need, and to help shift conditions holding in place some of our most difficult problems in education, health and economic stability.



Cultural leaders participate in Expanding Audiences panel led by Donna Walker Kuhn.



NYC DOE Chancellor Richard A. Carranza with young students at PS 35.

I encourage us to look in the mirror and remind ourselves every single day that hope happens here, inside each one of us. When we have hope inside, we can be the hope that helps others to achieve their dreams."

In October of 2018, I reached a milestone of twenty years as the first Executive Director of The Staten Island Foundation. As a social worker in a powerful community position with a simple idea of helping that community help itself, my gratitude is deep for so many here whose personal dedication and support has fueled this Foundation's deep engagement and widening reputation as a philanthropic force.

Every Foundation board and staff member is personally involved in service to Staten Island. Our newest and third Board Chair, Kathryn Krause Rooney, is now my second experience of a person who did not hesitate to step into that role when we were stunned at the sudden loss of our deeply involved Chair of 11 years, Allan Weissglass. Sadly, some 9 months later, founding board member and close friend of Allan's, Denis Kelleher passed away. Kate speaks so eloquently about Allan's and Denis' leadership and dedication—but what she won't say is that her own dedication to and leadership in this community is renowned. There was no doubt that she would step up and, indeed, our Board leadership transition has been seamless. Thank you, Kate.

I would also like to thank Laura Jean Watters, our seasoned Program Officer since 2007. An active contributor to collective efforts, she is a friend to our grantee partners and it's her due diligence and proposal guidance that is at the core of what has now reached \$70 million in grant making. Marie Payne, our Administrator and Grants Manager, keeps us running smoothly and greets the many who regularly enter to work on community solutions in our conference room. Thank you, Marie.

In these 20+ years of financial giving, community leadership and persistent support and encouragement of local community leaders, The Staten Island Foundation has helped create the conditions, the generative field, for this community to come together around the success of our children. I believe that with the myriad complex issues we face in our world and in our country that our way forward is actually together in our local community. Indeed, together we are cultivating Staten Island as a living, breathing, ever-changing, courageous, compassionate community of hope.

Thank you!

—Betsy Dubovsky
Executive Director

Our Approach



Ribbon cutting at Eden II's Little Miracles Preschool, a center-based full-day program for 3-5 year-olds with Autism.



Collective Impact partners at a Staten Island Healthy Start Program event.

At The Staten Island Foundation, we believe our borough's strength lies in the opportunity for all residents to build healthy, fulfilling lives. We envision a Staten Island that is a vibrant, diverse community of inclusive, civically engaged neighbors, where all residents have the resources necessary to maximize their potential and to enhance the quality of life on the Island.

We believe that an improved quality of life for all Staten Islanders happens as a result of the work of committed community members, strong organizations and collaboration around a shared vision. That's the core approach long guiding the work of The Staten Island Foundation. Going forward we will be further informed by:

Compassionate Systems: Shifting the conditions that hold problems in place... Systems Change—an introduction

We view our community as a whole system that reaches across the boundaries of a single organization, sector, group or neighborhood. According to systems thinker Peter Senge of MIT, thinking compassionately about systems enables us all to establish an even deeper connection at the human level. Senge notes, "To cultivate compassion is to be able to appreciate the systemic forces that influence people's feelings, thoughts and actions... Current work on compassionate systems views compassion as the ability to both understand conceptually and empathetically what it is like to be an actor in a system, as we all inevitably are, in family and relational systems, in complex organizations, and in larger social systems. This involves systems sensing—to 'walk in someone else's shoes'—and systems thinking, which seeks to more objectively understand how a system is functioning."

At The Staten Island Foundation, we understand the importance of empathy, humility, and bringing a compassionate lens to the difficult work of finding ways to engage and collaborate across the community as a whole as we work toward supporting systems change and systems leadership to shift the conditions that are holding problems in our community in place. To learn more, read: [*Introduction to Compassionate Systems Framework in Schools*](#) by MIT and The Center for Systems Awareness, or visit the new website for the [*Center for System Awareness*](#).

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion: Preparing for a productive and engaged future, together

All of us hold unconscious biases. It's part of being human. And it's up to each of us to learn how to recognize and push back on bias when we encounter it in ourselves and others. As a Foundation that actively supports systems change to address quality of life issues, we are striving to center diversity, equity and inclusion in all of our work. This means paying attention to how racism shows up in multiple ways in our daily lives, our organizations and our society as we work in partnership with communities to create positive change, and to attract additional support to Staten Island.

For instance, the Foundation was instrumental in ensuring Staten Island was selected to engage with a Carnegie Corporation of New York partnership launched in 2017, when Carnegie awarded a \$1.2M grant to FSG (long-time collective impact thought partners for Staten Island), the Systems Leadership Institute and PolicyLink's Promise Neighborhoods Institute to create transformative change in PK-12 education systems. The partnership—which has evolved into the Equity Alliance of Staten Island—was secured when The Staten Island Foundation, along with the NYC Department of Education, provided local support. The work brings together the disciplines of systems thinking, collective impact, and equity framing to increase the capacity of community and district leaders to work together and address systemic education challenges.

The Foundation was also pleased to host the very first NYC Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Leadership Circle offered by Community Resource Exchange, in 2018. CRE is a nonprofit consulting firm that makes nonprofit organizations stronger and more effective in fighting poverty and advancing social justice. They followed with a second Foundation-funded series and in total nearly 30 local nonprofits learned about DEI concepts and how to initiate action toward building a more diverse and more equitable workforce. Participants reported increased awareness of how their personal identities—especially racial—impact their leadership practices, and were able to identify ways to advance racial equity in their organizations, and develop strategies to translate values into practice.



Data on Community-Driven Solutions: Identifying what gets in the way of aspirations

We think about quality of life as encompassing who we are and our access to opportunity in how we live, learn, work, play – and thrive. To deepen our understanding of quality of life issues on Staten Island, we commissioned the Citizens' Committee for Children of New York (CCC) to take a comprehensive look at the well-being of children and families in a Staten Island neighborhood that has long wrestled with complex challenges: the North Shore.

CCC compared North Shore residents with residents in other parts of Staten Island, and New York City as a whole, across eight key categories of well-being:

- Demographics
- Economic Conditions
- Housing and Homelessness
- Health and Mental Health
- Early Care and Education
- Education
- Youth
- Child Welfare and Community Safety

The findings of this research are striking, and confirm what many already suspected: North Shore residents experience significant disparities in every category, and as a result struggle to raise healthy children and access opportunities that residents in other neighborhoods have as a given.

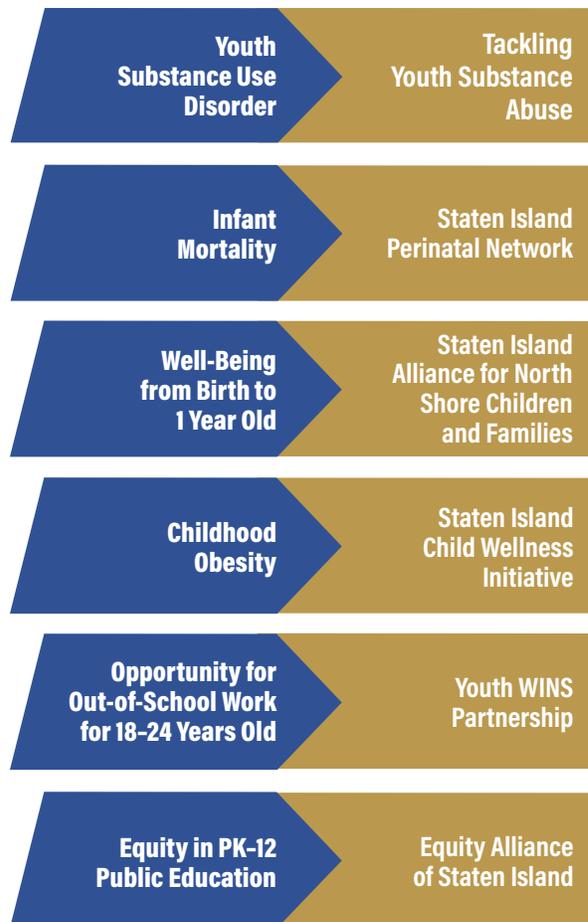
CCC’s report followed an earlier participatory study conducted with support from the Foundation that engaged a cross-section of community members to explore: what can Staten Islanders do to improve their lives, and the lives of others in the community? Through this study, thousands of ideas were collected from over 900 people who live and work in the Borough. The ideas were organized into policy areas, explored through moderated discussions between experts and the public, and translated into recommendation for real-world action. For The Staten Island Foundation, data like this informs everything we do—and is a call to action.

To learn more, read: *The North Shore of Staten Island: Community Driven Solutions to Improve Child and Family Well-Being*, by the Citizens Committee for Children of New York, Inc.

Collective Impact: Solving the puzzle of varying concerns, expertise and resources

One of Staten Island’s greatest assets has long been its willingness to come together and collaborate to address challenges and create opportunities. To leverage and strengthen that asset, The Staten Island Foundation—as a place-based funder—values collective approaches to community change. For this reason, we became an early proponent of the Collective Impact framework pioneered by John Kania and Mark Kramer of the consulting firm, FSG.

Collective Impact (CI) is a rigorous form of cross-sector collaboration to address complex social and environmental challenges through systems-level, population-wide change. The CI process engages organizations and individuals across the public, private and nonprofit sectors to tackle problems that cannot be solved by any one organization or sector working alone.



The Foundation convened and provided seed funding for our first CI initiative in 2011, the Tackling Youth Substance Abuse initiative (TYSA) of the Staten Island Partnership for Community Wellness. Together, TYSA partners went on to achieve major results—for example, in the midst of the opioid crisis they introduced the overdose-reversing drug naloxone, which has saved hundreds of Staten Island lives. TYSA is now recognized nationally as an innovative public health initiative addressing high rates of youth alcohol and substance abuse, and is supported at the federal, state and city levels.

Today, the Foundation is building on this success to champion and participate in a total of seven initiatives that the Foundation either started or participates in or both. All of them aim to improve outcomes for Staten Island youth on a range of issues.

Going forward, The Staten Island Foundation will increasingly focus grant making to further the goals of these initiatives. We invite current and prospective grantees alike to consider how their work aligns with these initiatives, and to have a conversation with us to explore how we might strengthen this work together.

As these initiatives form and mature, we are actively listening, learning from what works and considering ways to align them across issues and efforts for greater impact. Participants have indicated that they aspire to better incorporate equity principles to eliminate disparities in outcomes among groups—and some have expressed a desire for an overarching goal and vision that link across initiatives.

To learn about Collective Impact and the Foundation’s approach, please visit [our website](#).



Students at PS 4



Alvin Ailey dance program at PS 44



SI Advance



SI Advance



TSIF



TSIF



It has been a pleasure to partner with The Staten Island Foundation to support the launch of the Equity Alliance of Staten Island, a cross-sector collaboration that seeks to ensure equitable access to a prosperous future for youth in the borough. The Staten Island Foundation’s early catalytic local leadership, support and engagement has been critical to advancing the work that, together, our joint funding has enabled. We look forward to a continued partnership and to sustained progress for Staten Island students and families.”

—Elise Henson,
Program Analyst, Education,
Carnegie Corporation of New York



Helping to advance progress for all kids in education is a complex endeavor. It takes a village as they say—the district school system, out of school programs, faith based institutions, health care providers, universities, and other community based organizations all working together in mutually reinforcing ways. The Staten Island Foundation has been instrumental in bringing all these parties to the table. Not only that, Executive Director Betsy Dubovsky rolls up her sleeves and gets into doing the hard work, standing alongside the community in supporting student success.”

—John Kania,
former Managing Director, FSG;
Executive in Residence, New Profit



SI Advance

PS 16



SI Advance

PS 1



SI Arts



SI Makerspace



SI Advance



SI Advance



Thank you for involving me in YouthWINS and the collective alignment work that The Staten Island Foundation has initiated. I think that it is some of the best work that I have been involved in ever. It opened my mind to so many other avenues of thought and connected me in a deeper way to the people of Staten Island. The work you have undertaken is going to be life changing for Staten Island as a whole. I am privileged to have been involved."

—Brian Licata,
Membership Relations Manager,
SI Chamber of Commerce



The Staten Island Foundation has played a key role in our pilot project integrating systems thinking and collective impact with focus on equity in education. Having a local funder has been essential for this work. Having one who is actually connected to the work on the ground and knows many of the key actors is unique in my experience. It has meant a lot to the overall process that the Staten Island Foundation is credible as a supporter of genuine change that benefits kids and the community, backed up by the direct participation of Betsy Dubovsky and other staff throughout the process.

Peter M. Senge, Founding Chair,
SoL (Society of Organizational Learning
Center for Systems Awareness);
Sr. Lecturer, Leadership and Sustainability, MIT;
Cofounder, Academy for Systemic Change

SI Advance



PS 45

SI Arts



SI Makerspace's Parent Creative Alliance member

Our Focus Areas

The Foundation makes grants in four areas of strategic focus. The following are examples of recent grants in each area that illustrate the Foundation's current priorities:

EDUCATION



We believe that social emotional learning is an important part of a high-quality education that prepares students to become productive members of our community. Systems thinking, with its emphasis on compassion, readily aligns with social emotional learning in schools. In 2018, the Foundation supported **Paulo Intermediate School 75** in their efforts to adopt this approach to increasing empathy and equity in their school community. Principal Ken Zapata, who attended a Foundation-convened training in systems thinking, has shared with us:

“Our 2018-2019 grant from the Foundation, ‘Celebrating Diversity and Fostering Equity Through Character Development: A Blueprint for Action,’ has enabled an ambitious school-wide undertaking.”

Our dedicated Equity, Excellence and Empathy (EEE) Team developed an engaging and comprehensive interdisciplinary curriculum that addresses diversity, kindness, empathy, social responsibility and so much more... and we are proud to say that both teachers and students have been quite receptive to the whole message. Social and emotional wellness is a very big concern for me as principal, and I see this endeavor as critical to ensuring that all of our students and staff find IS 75 a welcoming, safe and stimulating place to learn and grow in our complicated, fast-paced and constantly changing world. I have been encouraged by the increased kindness and tolerance I have seen within our building, by the creative ways our teachers and our EEE team have found to reach out to our kids and expose them to new and healthier ways of thinking and behaving and treating each other, and by the enthusiasm for the project in general. We are most grateful for the Foundation funding.”

HEALTH

Good physical and mental health care is essential to the quality of life of our community. We support the health of our community across a range of issues, including public health efforts that address the social determinants of health, primary health care and prevention and substance abuse. Over the past year, the Foundation has supported **Peer Health Exchange** (PHE), a national organization with a New York chapter, to increase high school students' access to mental and sexual health education led by college volunteers trained by PHE.

According to the CDC, 1 in 5 young people struggle with mental health, and 64% of those experiencing



depression do not receive treatment, which may lead to substances abuse. Young people in high poverty communities are more likely to become pregnant unintentionally, are less likely to seek help when feeling sad or depressed, and are more likely to use substances to cope with mental health challenges. More than three dozen college volunteers from the College of Staten Island, St. John’s University, and Wagner College provided 14-sessions of health instruction at 4 local high schools using a curriculum that aligns with national and NYC DOE standards.

Nayah Harper, PHE’s Staten Island Project Manager reported: “Peer Health Exchange—Staten Island has seen an amazing first year. There were a lot of successes and a lot of lessons learned that not only impacted the growth of the Staten Island chapter, but also the expansion and sustainability of Peer Health Exchange in New York City and as a national organization. We are proud to have completed this first year with such strength and strong support from amazing stakeholders, who connected us to college administrators, principals and teachers. Together, we were able to determine the best schools to work with and recruit exceptional college students to train and develop.

Educators also had a remarkable year of establishment, as Wagner College, St. John’s University, and College of Staten Island collaboratively reimagined what college sites look like, gained different perspectives and training on teaching in schools with very different cultures, and were able to truly understand what works, what is essential to young people’s health on Staten Island and when to engage young people in these discussions.”

ARTS & CULTURE



Foundation support for the arts aims to provide opportunities for self-development, a better understanding of human cultures and a shared human experience. In this way, local arts organizations play a vital role in increasing empathy and our quality of life.

In 2018, we joined with New York Community Trust, the Altman Foundation, Stavros Niarchos Foundation, and Con Edison to support the **Staten Island Arts’** Expanding Audiences initiative which aims to offer local cultural organizations new marketing, fundraising, and partnership strategies to build and diversify their audiences—particularly by reaching out to non-white communities.

Nationally-recognized experts presented workshops about social media marketing and evaluation, as well as racial equity training to local cultural organizations. In addition, grants were made to organizations for new initiatives to address racial inequity within their organizations; to create partnerships with other organizations; and increase engagement with local underserved communities. Some examples of these new initiatives include: Historic Richmond Town, for racial equity training for board, staff, and volunteers; MakerPark Radio, who outreached to African American and Latinx-American audiences and engaged over a dozen new DJs from communities of color; the Staten Island Children’s Museum, for professional development to improve cultural competencies among staff at all levels of the organization; and the Staten Island Philharmonic, for a choral program enabling developmentally disabled adults from On Your Mark to train and perform as an ensemble at Philharmonic concerts.

COMMUNITY SERVICES



We support efforts to help Staten Islanders, especially the least advantaged, access the opportunities and resources they need for a productive, improved quality of life. We are especially interested in connecting young people living in low-income communities to potential career opportunities. In 2018, the Foundation helped Green City Force to launch an urban farm at NYCHA’s Mariners Harbor Houses. **Green City Force** hires young residents in public housing to produce and distribute healthy produce grown in their own backyards. The Mariner’s Harbor Houses Farm had a great first season, as 31 of 42 participants completed the trainings necessary to establish the farm, working under Green City Corps experts, and 22 graduates were placed in work or college. In addition, the farm distributed 1,265 lbs. of organic produce to NYCHA residents in exchange for residents’ donations of compost materials and volunteer time at weekly farm stands at the site.

The Foundation also supports the **Historic Tappen Park Community Partnership’s** YouthBUILD. Staten Island program, which provides a pathway for out-of-school, out-of-work youth between ages of 16 to 24 with an opportunity to reclaim their education, gain the skills they need for employment, and become leaders in rebuilding and shaping their communities. YouthBUILD supports young people with explicitly positive community and values that encourage participants to define and achieve their own highest goals and aspirations. Through a leadership development process, so-called “disconnected” young people change their relationship to society and develop a positive identity in which they enjoy taking responsibility and “giving back” to their communities and families. Luis Evans, a participant and Youth Council President, notes, “To me, joining YouthBUILD was a life-changing experience. It opened doors that I didn’t even know were there and gave me opportunities to be a better version of myself. I never met a staff that was so dedicated to making a difference in the community, and I never met a group of people more dedicated to seeing each other become great leaders. But here at YouthBUILD we are a family and as a family we will all achieve what we set out to be.”

Grants Made in FY 2018 & 2019: \$6,371,647

ARTS & CULTURE GRANTS TOTAL: \$565,700

Organization	Project Description	Amount
Improvements in arts organizations that leads to their enhanced sustainability		
St. George Theatre Restoration	Marquee and Illuminated Channel Letters	\$10,000
Staten Island Museum	Maximizing Space Rental Program for Sustainable Earned Income	\$50,000
Staten Island Shakespearean Theatre Company	Building Capacity in Port Richmond	\$5,000
Staten Island Arts	The Path Forward	\$8,204
Snug Harbor Cultural Center & Botanical Garden	Visitor Experience Capacity Building Initiative	\$50,000
National Lighthouse Museum	Enhancing Capacity by Increasing the Funding Stream	\$10,000
Nonprofit Finance Fund	Business Model Planning for the Staten Island Museum	\$40,000
National Lighthouse Museum	Growing Operational Capacity within a Campaign Endeavor	\$36,000
Increases in number of individuals participating in SI art and culture offerings		
Garibaldi-Meucci Museum	"HEARING VOICES" short fiction film	\$5,000
Friends of Alice Austen House	New Eyes on Alice Austen: Redesigning the Museum's Permanent Installation	\$50,000
Tottenville Historical Society	Outdoor Terra Cotta Sculpture Garden	\$2,000
Weeks Educational and Social Advocacy Project	Staten Island Steel Pan Orchestra	\$17,500
NYC Department of Education District 31	2018 Staten Island Borough Arts Festival Performing Arts Night	\$5,000
Increases in number of schools and community organizations that offer strong arts education		
Public School 11	Bravo Broadway	\$6,000
Metropolitan Opera Guild	Urban Voices: A Choral Music Initiative	\$10,000
Public School 23	Fairy Tale Theater Program for Grades K-5	\$9,999
Alvin Ailey Dance Foundation	Ailey Dance Kids Residencies in two Staten Island Schools	\$30,000
Alvin Ailey Dance Foundation	AileyDance Kids Residencies in three Staten Island Schools	\$45,000
The Fund for Public Schools	Create: Providing Professional Development for Pre-K Arts Teachers in Staten Island	\$30,000
Public School 21	Project Yourself	\$9,999
Increases in number of youth participating in sequential quality arts experiences		
Mayor's Fund to Advance New York City	NeON Arts	\$50,000
Public School 11	Bravo Broadway	\$6,000
Public School 23	Sundog Theater's Fairy Tale Theater Program for Grades K-5	\$10,000
Public School 39	Visual Arts for all students	\$10,000
Public School 39	Studio In the Schools	\$9,999
Public School 59	STEM and the Arts - Building Community	\$9,999
IlluminArt Productions	Write-A-Play School Residencies Project for 2018	\$10,000
IlluminArt Productions	Write-A-Play School Residencies Project for 2019	\$15,000
ART CREATES US, INC aka Project Art	Access to Arts Education for Youth at Stapleton	\$10,000
Director/Employee Matching Gift	St. George Theatre Restoration	\$5,000

COMMUNITY SERVICES GRANTS TOTAL: \$1,909,750

Organization	Project Description	Amount
Improvements in community service organizations/schools leading to improved results for those they serve		
Lawyers Alliance for New York	Staten Island Community-Based Outreach Project for 2018	\$10,000
Lawyers Alliance for New York	Staten Island Community-Based Outreach Project for 2019	\$10,000
Community Resource Exchange	Staten Island DEI Leadership Circle	\$20,000
Hillel at the College of Staten Island	Hillel Drive to Excellence initiative	\$5,000
NY Center for Interpersonal Development	Executive Coaching	\$1,500
Samaritan Daytop Foundation	Gym Renovation	\$20,000
Community Resources	Renovation, Reconstruction, and Relocation Project	\$50,000
New York Community Trust	Early Childhood Partners NYC	\$25,000
Citizens' Committee for Children of New York	Mapping the North Shore: Data-driven Opportunities to Improve Child Well-being	\$100,000
Children's Aid Society	Goodhue Center: A State-of-the-Art Community Facility	\$25,000

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COMMUNITY SERVICES GRANTS (continued)

New York Early Childhood Professional Development Institute	Backbone Organization for the SI Alliance for North Shore Children and Families	\$150,000
Community Resource Exchange	Leadership Caucus Scholarships	\$10,000
Candid	Connecting Staten Island Nonprofits to Resources needed to Thrive 2018	\$5,000
Candid	Connecting Staten Island Nonprofits to the Resources They Need to Thrive 2019	\$5,000
Increases in availability of social services to stabilize lives of at-risk individuals and families		
Legal Services for New York City Staten Island	Immigration Advocacy Project	\$60,000
ArchCare Community Services	Housing for Young Adults with Autism	\$50,000
The New York Foundling	Healthy Families Staten Island	\$50,000
On Your Mark	On Your Mark's ICC Elevator Project	\$100,000
Partnership with Children	Kindergarten Readiness Project 2018	\$50,000
Partnership with Children	Kindergarten Readiness Project 2019	\$50,000
Lifestyles for the Disabled	Renovation for creation of the Lifestyles Abilities Center	\$50,000
Increases in number of residents that volunteer their time and experience to better the community		
Essential Partners	The Disparity Project: Training Grassroots Dialogue Facilitators for Staten Island	\$20,000
American Red Cross Greater New York Region	#GetAlarmedNYC - Staten Island	\$30,000
Citizens Committee for New York City	The Staten Island Initiative 2018	\$25,000
Citizens Committee for New York City	The Staten Island Initiative 2019	\$25,000
Cause Effective	SI Urban Center Resource Development and Governance Consultancy	\$25,000
Increases in residents living in poverty to receive basic services and connect to other resources		
City Harvest	Staten Island Mobile Market 2018	\$50,000
City Harvest	Staten Island Mobile Market 2019	\$50,000
VISIONS/Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired	SI - North Shore Low Vision Clinics	\$10,000
Community Health Action of Staten Island	Expansion of Emergency Feeding Capacity	\$50,000
Neighborhood Housing Services of Staten Island	Grant Coordinator for Green & Healthy Homes	\$50,000
Empowerment Zone	Bridging the Digital Literacy Divide	\$50,000
Increases in number of residents, particularly youth, that demonstrate leadership in the community		
Hillel at the College of Staten Island	Drive to Excellence Initiative	\$5,000
Coro New York Leadership Center	Participatory Budget Youth Fellowship	\$5,000
Systems Leadership Institute	Capacity Development for Education Transformation	\$10,000
Staten Island Urban Center	Youth Leadership - Urban Development Summer Project	\$5,000
Central Family Life Center	Mentorship For Life Project	\$50,000
Increases in the number of Staten Islanders getting and keeping jobs to meet their employment goals		
SCO Family of Services - Center for Family Life	SI Cooperative Development Project	\$90,000
SCO Family of Services - Center for Family Life	SI Cooperative Development Project: Solidifying the Brightly® Brand	\$20,000
Staten Island Chamber of Commerce Foundation	Developing Staten Island's Talent Pipeline	\$60,000
Green City Force	Urban Farm Corps and Farms at NYCHA	\$150,000
JobsFirstNYC	Youth Workforce Initiative Network of SI	\$80,000
Special Opportunity Grant		
SI Partnership for Community Wellness	Results Based Facilitation Workshop	\$10,000
Philanthropy New York	Annual Contribution for 2018-2019	\$7,250
FSG, Inc	Continued Support for Collective Impact Initiatives	\$150,000
Staten Island NFP Association	Support of the 2018 Nonprofit Conference	\$1,000
Director/Employee Matching Gift		
Project Hospitality		\$100
Archdiocese of New York		\$6,900
Jewish Community Center of Staten Island		\$10,000
On Your Mark		\$10,000
Gateway Cathedral		\$6,000
Seamen's Society for Children & Families		\$2,000

EDUCATION GRANTS TOTAL: \$2,517,697

Organization	Project Description	Amount
Increase in number of pre-K children meeting their developmental milestones		
New York Public Library	Early Literacy Education on Staten Island's North Shore	\$50,000
Jewish Community Center of Staten Island	Early Childhood Expansion	\$150,000
Eden II School for Autistic Children	Eden II Early Childhood Expansion	\$50,000
Children's Aid Society	Richmond Early Learning Center: Collaborating to Serve the Whole Child	\$25,000
NY Early Childhood Professional Development Institute	Improving the Quality of Early Childhood Education on SI's North Shore	\$150,000
Increase number of adult ELLs in developing English proficiency to meet educational/career needs		
Make the Road New York	Adult Education, Employment & Training Program for 2018	\$50,000
Make the Road New York	Adult Education, Employment & Training Program for 2019	\$50,000
Increase number of K-12 students that improve their academic achievement to at or above grade level		
Staten Island Reading Association	Improving Literacy and Equity in Early Childhood Classrooms on Staten Island 2018	\$5,000
Staten Island Reading Association	Improving Literacy and Equity in Early Childhood Classrooms on Staten Island's North Shore 2019	\$5,000
The Writing Revolution	Embedding Literacy and Critical Thinking across the Curriculum	\$50,000
Integration Charter Schools	Writing for College Readiness Project	\$25,000
Integration Charter Schools	Creating a Culture of Assessment - Capable Learners through Impact Teams	\$50,000
Public School 13	Visual Arts for Kindergarten Students to Boost Writing Skills	\$10,000
Systems Leadership Institute	Cross Initiative Alignment	\$10,000
Read Alliance	2017-2018 Staten Island School Year Reading Program Targeting North Shore	\$50,000
Read Alliance	2018-2019 READ Programs on Staten Island targeting the North Shore	\$50,000
Literacy, Inc.	Comprehensive Literacy Model in Staten Island for 2018	\$50,000
Literacy, Inc.	Comprehensive Literacy Model in Staten Island for 2019	\$25,000
FSG, Inc	Achieving Transformational Outcomes in the Community's Educational System 2018	\$150,000
FSG, Inc	Achieving Transformational Outcomes in the Community's Educational System 2019	\$150,000
New World Preparatory Charter School	NWP Denis Kelleher Learning Center Capital Project	\$150,000
Curtis High School	Up2Us Sports Success Coach-Mentors Create a Path to Success	\$50,000
The Fund for Public Schools	Support for District 31 to hire a project manager for backbone work for the Equity Alliance of Staten Island	\$100,000
NYC Department of Education District 31	Creating a Guiding Coalition to Lead Impact Teams	\$50,000
Sundog Theatre	3-D Literacy Program 2018	\$47,000
Sundog Theatre	3-D Literacy Program 2019	\$45,000
Increase number of least advantaged students that enter and succeed in college		
McKee Vocational and Technical High School	Deep Dive McKee Core Collaborative	\$9,999
St. John's University	Difference Makers Initiative	\$7,500
Port Richmond High School	AVID Expansion: College Readiness Program	\$25,000
Increase number of parents who are actively involved in supporting their child's educational success		
Literacy Partners	Learning Together: Every Parent, Every Child	\$25,000
Literacy Partners	Learning Together, Reading Together	\$35,000
Police Athletic League	Expansion of After School and Summer Parent Engagement Program	\$50,000
Literacy, Inc.	North Shore Reads	\$60,000
Increase number of youth that obtain a high school diploma, HSE, or vocational credential		
Historic Tappen Park Community Partnership	Youth BUILD SI (Building Urban Innovative Leadership & Development)	\$50,000
NY Center for Interpersonal Development	Youth WINS - Pre-Bridge Program	\$75,000
ENACT	ENACT Residency at McKee High School	\$30,000
African Refuge	Youth Opportunity Project and Young Entrepreneurs Initiative 2018	\$50,000
African Refuge	Opportunity Youth & Young Entrepreneurs 2019	\$50,000
Increase number of youth who demonstrate leadership and improve academic performance		
Junior Achievement of New York	High School Heroes Programming at PS 21	\$10,000
Public School 11	Bravo Broadway	\$6,000

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EDUCATION GRANTS (continued)

Center for Supportive Schools	Supporting SI Youth Outcomes through the Peer Group Connection (PGC) Program	\$40,000
Staten Island YMCA	Every Student, Every Day Attendance and Mentoring Program	\$85,000
Global Kids, Inc.	Global Leadership Program 2018	\$45,000
Global Kids, Inc.	Global Leadership Program at Curtis High School 2019	\$45,000
Bloomfield Conservancy	Staten Island Foundation Outdoor Classroom	\$20,000
Research Foundation/City University of NY	Service Corps Puerto Rico	\$10,000
William A. Morris Intermediate School 61	Project Spotlight Leadership Program 2018	\$10,000
William A. Morris Intermediate School 61	Project Spotlight Leadership Program 2019	\$9,999
Paulo Intermediate School - IS 75R	Celebrating Diversity & Fostering Equity Through Character Development: "A Blueprint for Action"	\$9,999

Special Opportunity Grant

Staten Island Mental Health Society	SI Mental Health Reading Volunteers Program	\$10,000
Philanthropy New York	Annual Contribution for 2017-2018	\$7,250
FSG, Inc	Support for the backbone of the SI Alliance for North Shore Children and Families	\$50,000
Peak Grantmaking aka Grants Managers Network	Membership support for 2018	\$2,000
Peak Grantmaking aka Grants Managers Network	Membership support for 2019	\$2,000
Greenbelt Conservancy	September Education Workshop	\$5,000

Director/Employee Matching Gift

St. Peter's Boys High School		\$500
Notre Dame Academy High School		\$11,100
Monsignor Farrell High School		\$250
St. John's University		\$15,100
On Your Mark		\$10,000
New World Preparatory Charter School		\$10,000
Moore Catholic High School		\$5,000
Staten Island Academy		\$40,000

HEALTH GRANTS TOTAL: \$1,378,500

Organization	Project Description	Amount
Improvements in organizations that lead to enhanced delivery of community health service		
SI Partnership for Community Wellness	Strategic Planning 2019	\$10,000
SI Partnership for Community Wellness	Staten Island Child Wellness Initiative	\$50,000
NYU College of Global Public Health	Capacity Building for SI Healthy Community Funding Hub	\$50,000
NYU College of Global Public Health	Sustainable funding to address urgent health issues on SI	\$10,000
Richmond Medical Center RUMC	Emergency and Trauma Department Capital Project	\$900,000
Community Health Action of SI	Strengthening Fiscal & Grants Management	\$10,000
Fund For Public Health	SI Senior Falls Survey: understanding the risks in a high-burden borough	\$85,000
Increases in the number of residents that increase their exercise and/or improve their diet		
Public Health Solutions	New York City Nutrition Incentives Program	\$100,000
NYC Department of Education District 31	3rd Annual SI School Garden Summit	\$2,500
Increases in the number of residents , particularly youth that abstain from substance abuse		
Staten Island YMCA	YMCA Youth Substance Abuse Prevention Program	\$50,000
Increases of those at risk for health problems that connect to needed health services		
Staten Island University Hospital Foundation	Pediatric Asthma Education Program	\$55,000
Peer Health Exchange	Staten Island Program Expansion	\$25,000
Director/Employee Matching Gift		
Friends of Carmel Richmond		\$1,000
Richmond Medical Center		\$30,000

Statements of Activities (Modified Cash Basis)

YEAR ENDED JUNE 30		
	2019	2018
Support and Revenue		
Dividends	\$ 1,352,196	\$ 1,316,568
Interest	343,288	344,086
Total Support and Revenue	1,695,484	1,660,654
Expenses		
Grants, Net	3,372,744	2,998,903
Administrative and General		
Office Expenses	421,114	417,926
Professional Fees	58,975	54,250
Insurance	10,461	10,654
Dues and Subscriptions	1,500	3,500
Rent	98,130	87,450
Other	8,579	18,871
Total Administrative and General	598,759	592,651
Total Expenses	3,971,503	3,591,554
(Deficiency) of Revenue to Cover Expenses Before Other Additions (Deductions)	(2,276,019)	(1,930,900)
Other Additions (Deductions)		
Net Realized Gain on Investments	3,512,502	1,773,104
Custodian and Investment Management Fees	(515,683)	(513,565)
Foreign Taxes	(2,942)	(1,155)
Federal Excise Taxes and Filing Fees	(82,018)	(17,182)
Change in Fair Value of Investments	(804,043)	3,288,808
Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets	(168,203)	2,599,110
Net Assets, Beginning of Year	\$ 77,247,338	\$ 74,648,228
Net Assets, End of Year	\$ 77,079,135	\$ 77,247,338

About The Staten Island Foundation: Visions, Values, Guiding Principles

OUR VISION

A Staten Island that is a vibrant, diverse community of inclusive, civically engaged neighbors, where all residents—especially the least advantaged—have the resources necessary to maximize their potential and to enhance the quality of life on the Island.

OUR VALUES

Inherent in the Foundation’s role to help improve the quality of life in Staten Island communities is the commitment to:

- Act with integrity, and serve as leaders on Staten Island
- Be an ethical, effective, accountable, approachable and transparent organization
- Adhere to and model best practices in philanthropy, and exemplify the highest ethics and business practices
- Promote equity, opportunity and civility on the Island
- Add value through intelligence, insight, and boldness, taking measured risks and leadership on certain issues
- Act with compassion and remain flexible and responsive in addressing emergencies and other critical needs

OUR GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Key principles that guide the Foundation’s activities include the following:

- Give priority to efforts focusing on the least advantaged
- Operate in ways that are open and transparent
- Be goal-oriented and research-based
- Seek out or initiate high impact funding strategies, while continuing to be responsive to nonprofit and community needs
- Be flexible, responsive and open
- Take advantage of opportunities to make a difference
- Leverage resources in the community
- Promote collaboration and be collaborative
- Exercise leadership in fostering collaboration, building nonprofit capacity, and developing new solutions to community challenges
- Seek opportunities to partner with community leaders and other foundations to combine and focus funding for increased impact
- Demonstrate respect for the nonprofit community
- Seek to measure and evaluate grants in order to understand their impact and learn from efforts over time



**The Staten Island
Foundation**

Biennial Report—Fiscal Years 2018 & 2019
Cultivating Communities of Hope:
A collective vision for strengthening Staten Island



SI Advance



Amesse Photography



TSIF



Sundog Theatre



Eden II



SI Advance

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