



# John Patrick Flanagan FOUNDATION

## JOHN PATRICK FLANAGAN FOUNDATION AWARDS \$35,330 IN 2015 GRANTS

**More than \$150,000 granted since 2008 to area programs that help disadvantaged children**

**FAIRFIELD, CT – December 17, 2015** – The John Patrick Flanagan Foundation ([JPFF](#)), a charitable foundation established to help vulnerable children and families of Connecticut, today announced that it has awarded \$35,330 in grants in 2015 to several local organizations.

The grants were awarded to nine Fairfield or Bridgeport-based charities including the Cardinal Shehan Center; Connecticut Audubon Society; High School Scholarship Foundation of Fairfield; Circle of Care; Lawyers for Children America; Caroline House; Commence! College Counseling, and LifeBridge Community Services.

“We are very grateful to have the opportunity to give to these organizations that are dedicated to helping and shaping the lives of children in our community,” said Amanda Flanagan, Chairperson of the John Patrick Flanagan Foundation. “As we reach the milestone of providing more than \$150,000 in grants, we look forward to continuing to celebrate John Flanagan’s memory through these philanthropic endeavors and giving back to our community.”

The 2015 grant allocations are as follows:

**Cardinal Shehan Center (\$5,000)** – Helped fund busing of summer campers to field trips and activities.

**United in Hope Scholarship (\$1,250)** – Provided college tuition assistance to a recent high school graduate who has lost a parent to cancer from the area. This grant is jointly supported by the Chad A. Jacobs Memorial Foundation, which granted an identical amount.

**CT Audubon Society Trailblazers program (\$10,080)** – To fund the cost for the “JPFF Trailblazers Program,” which enters its seventh year of existence, providing Bridgeport public school students with transportation to the Nature Center for field trips. Since its inception, more than 2,500 students have participated in the Trailblazers program.

**High School Scholarship Foundation of Fairfield (John Patrick Flanagan Memorial Scholarship) (\$1,000)** - To help fund an annual scholarship to a college-bound, high-achieving student with an economic need at Fairfield Warde High School.

**Circle of Care (\$5,000)** – Circle of Care provides financial, practical and emotional support directly to all Connecticut children with cancer and their families, from the day of diagnosis through treatment and recovery.

- **\$3,500** in emergency financial relief to four families by paying overdue mortgage or utility bills.
- **\$1,000** in gas and grocery cards to alleviate the burden of repeated trips to the hospital for five families at \$100 each, and to provide meal cards for another five families.
- **\$500** towards an Art from the Heart hospital room makeover for a child who is experiencing a long-term stay in the hospital.

**Lawyers for children America (\$3,000)** – To help ensure that foster children aging out of the system continue to receive necessary legal services.

**Caroline House (\$3,000)** – To support their preschool program that teaches children who enter speaking little or no English, school-readiness skills so they can enter kindergarten prepared with English language, social, emotional and cognitive skills.

**Commence! College Counseling (\$3,000)** – This organization helps highly motivated, excellent students in Bridgeport apply to college and navigate the scholarship and financial aid process. Most students are first generation college students and with Commence!’s help, the participants get into top universities and benefit from scholarships and aid.

**LifeBridge Community Service (formerly Woodfield Family Services) (\$4,000)** – To help fund the organization’s Community Closet which enables LifeBridge to provide to their most impoverished clients basic supplies such as clothing, household goods, diapers and school supplies they urgently need.

To learn more about the John Patrick Flanagan Foundation or to make a donation, please visit [www.jpff.org](http://www.jpff.org) or click [the John Patrick Flanagan Foundation](#). We also encourage fans to follow us on [Facebook](#).

#### **About John Patrick Flanagan Foundation**

The John Patrick Flanagan Foundation was established in loving memory of John Patrick Flanagan who passed away from a rare and aggressive neuroendocrine cancer on December 24, 2008 at the age of 44. John's family, friends and colleagues have established the Foundation to serve as a charitable legacy to support what he cherished above all else: children and family. The Mission of the John Patrick Flanagan Foundation is to help vulnerable children and families by supporting charities that provide the direction, education and healthy environment that vulnerable children and families need to have the opportunity to reach their full potential.

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