







# 2022-2023 Fiscal Year Budget Presentation









### **1. Partnership Overview for New Members** 2 Minutes

# **2. Request Summary** 4 Minutes

# **3. New and Expanded Programs and Services** 4 Minutes



# **A PARTNERSHIP FOR THE FUTURE**

The Stamford Partnership is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit focused on economic and community development for Stamford. We bring people, companies, governments, and nonprofits together to help shape our shared future. Focused on economic and social impact, we're guided by our three pillars:



### **Local Partnerships**

We create and empower coalitions to help advance Stamford.



### **Ecosystem Development**

We build programs and services for individuals, organizations and networks-to encourage innovation and connectivity.

### **Workforce Development**

We believe that the workforce of the future is built on lifelong learning, soft skills, and technical knowhow.



### **PROGRAMS & PROJECTS**

### Connect

#### DreamUp\*

Opportunity fund to support Stamford's entrepreneurs of color.

#### SWIFI

Free, high-speed public WIFI in the heart of Stamford

#### **Non-profit Incubator / Fiduciary**

Services and resources to host and accelerate small non-profits

**COVID-19 Community Fund** 

COVID relief fund supporting food and housing security

#### COVID-19 Response & Recovery

Responsive program development to support critical needs and gaps

### Start

**StartLab\*** Events, resources, and support for startups and entrepreneurs

**Community Coworking** Free coworking and demo space at Half Full Brewery's Third Place

**iSpark Pitch Competition\*** National or global pitch competition for tech startups

**Stamford Innovation Week** New England's largest innovation festival

#### **Future of Mobility** Charting a course for Stamford's future first and last mile solutions

### Learn

**Leadership Fairfield County** The region's premier leadership development program

**The Stamford Promise\*** Guaranteed college scholarships for academic performance.

**TechFWD** Digital training program to upskill and reskill our future workforce.

**The DreamUp Campaign** The Partnership's campaign to drive economic mobility in the region

**Data Science Working Group** Advocating for transformative investments in Data Science

### Grow

**TechHub** Organizing and accelerating the region's tech industry and talent

**The Data Leaders Network** Helping data and analytics professionals network and grow

**The NE Cyber Council\*** Connecting regional cyber talent, accelerating the industry

#### **Regional Sector Partners**

Creating a network of executives in the region's tech-enabled firms

**Media Advocacy Group** 

Supporting greater Stamford's media industry

\*in development

## **NON-PROFIT INCUBATOR OVERVIEW**

The Stamford Partnership seeks out our greatest challenges and opportunities. Most often, the best solution is a project or campaign. But oftentimes, an entire coalition must be assembled, and more sustainable solutions developed. The Stamford Partnership has helped to form and incubate many of the region's most notable and successful organizations, including;

### **Community Development**

The East Side Partnership Neighbor's Link (now Building 1 Community) Stamford's COVID-19 Community Support Fund The Waterside Coalition

### **Economic Development**

The Stamford Chamber of Commerce Stamford Downtown Stamford's Innovation District

### **Revitalization**

Reinventing Stamford The South End Neighborhood Revitalization Zone The West Side Neighborhood Revitalization Zone

### **Education & Governmental**

The Mill River Park Collaborative Stamford Public Education Foundation Stamford Census

### **OUR HISTORY**

**1978** The Stamford Economic Assistance Corporation is formed by local business leaders **1996** Stamford Public Education Foundation is launched from The Partnership.

**1988** The Stamford Partnership takes its current name and form

**2000** The Waterside Coalition is formed as a project of the Partnership.

**2008** Neighbors Link is launched, supporting Stamford's immigrant community. **2020** Stamford Innovation Week merges with the Partnership.

**2016** The Partnership leads the effort to refresh the City's branding

**1992** The Stamford Partnership creates the DSSD, known today as Stamford Downtown. **2004** The Mill River Park Collaborative is formed, eventually growing to become Stamford's 'central park.'

**2019** SWIFI, Stamford's first and only free public WiFi network, launches in downtown Stamford

**1987** The Stamford Chamber of Commerce is formed through the Stamford Partnership.

#### **1998** UConn Stamford

opens in downtown Stamford, led by the Stamford Partnership. **2012** Advocacy efforts lead to major updates at the Stamford Transportation Center

# 2022-2023 Budget & Narrative

The Partnership's budget reflects little substantive change outside of incremental growth across income and expense. The Partnership operates a mix of economic and community development programs. During the COVID19 pandemic, economic security and economic recovery programs and initiatives were a key priority. However, in FY 2022-2023 the Partnership anticipates a significant increase in communitybased programs including an opportunity fund and The Stamford Promise program.

Despite a forecasted \$200,000 increase in expenses (offset by increased income), the Partnership is seeking no increase in financial support from the City of Stamford, simply the same amount as the prior fiscal year, \$65,000. The Partnerships plans to fund the increase and related differential from additional, outside income sources.

	Budget
Income	
Unrestricted Grants & Contributions	\$300,000.00
Program/Admin Fees & Income	\$50,000.00
Program Restricted Income	\$700,000.00
Interest	\$300.00
Income Subtotal	\$1,050,300.00
Expense	
Accounting & Audit	\$12,000.00
Payroll and Payroll Expense	\$197,000.00
Event Production	\$65,000.00
Insurance	\$4,000.00
Licenses, Permits, Filing Fees	\$500.00
Meals	\$2,905.00
Office Supplies	\$3,000.00
Postage	\$100.00
Professional Services	\$50,800.00
Program Expenses	\$697,000.00
Software	\$10,100.00
Travel	\$5,150.00
Utilities	\$1,940.00
Expense Subtotal	\$1,049,495.00

The City's contribution to the Partnership represents 6.1% of the total budget and 21.6% of the operating budget. The latter pays for things like:

- Fiduciary Services. The Partnership does not charge the City of Stamford for fiduciary services like the COVID-19 community support fund, Stamford Arts Commission fiduciary services, and similar programs and services.
- Event & Program Access. Every premium Partnership program event offers a complimentary access option to ensure accessibility, equitability, and inclusion. This is directly supported by City of Stamford funding.
- **Community Programs.** Program development and setup (which takes place before programs can be funded from other sources) is directly support with City funding, this includes programs like StartLab, Fireside Series, DreamUp, and The Stamford Promise.

# NEW & EXPANDED PROGRAMS & SERVICES 2022-2023

# **PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT "Fireside" Chats**

### Enabling public access to key governmental, industry, and NGO organizations

The Stamford Partnership's fireside series invites leading officials, electeds, and executives from the City and region for 'chats' on entrepreneurship, innovation, technology, and workforce.

Featured recently and upcoming:

- Caroline Simmons, Mayor of Stamford
- Peter Denious, CEO of AdvanceCT
- George Boyce, President Stamford State Farm
- Terrence Cheng, CSCU President
- Kevin Nolan, CEO of GE Appliances
- Corey Paris, Sate Representative
- Jack Mahoney, Director of Strategy, Indeed
- David Lehman, DECD Commissioner
- Loren Nadres, Director of Economic Development, City of Stamford



## **PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT StartLab**

#### Events, resources, and support for startups and entrepreneurs

Designed to build the knowledge, skills and community that entrepreneurs need when launching and running a business, such as:

**Founder's Table.** A monthly series—over breakfast, lunch, or dinner—to exchange ideas, share challenges and solutions around common startup issues.

**How to Fund Your Idea or Business.** Featuring resources, plans, and experts to help you fund and derisk the launch of your business. (ex. April 10 How to Crowdfund Featuring Jonny Price, VP of WeFunder)

**Learning and Tech Skill Events.** The Stamford Partnership is an official Grow with Google partner and will conduct sessions and events all aspects of growing your upstart venture.

**Pitch Events and Showcases.** Present your idea or business to panels and organizations with the capacity to help get you funded and started.

**Free Community Coworking.** Open coworking, with breakfast and coffee provided, for local entrepreneurs



# **PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT Leadership Fairfield County**

**Developing Community Leaders, Exploring Regional Challenges.** Leadership Fairfield County is a professional development program that broadens the skills and perspectives of organizational leaders–and provides the region with individuals who are prepared to serve as catalysts for positive change.



Leadership Fairfield County's Annual Legislative Session, Tour of Major Regional Developments

# **PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT DreamUp**

### **Overview & Mission**

The DreamUp Fund provides grants for entrepreneurs of color creating and leading highimpact businesses and nonprofits. The fund empowers the vast entrepreneurial talent that is underutilized in our economy by addressing unequal access to resources, information, support, and capital. The fund accomplishes this mission in two ways. First, we use cuttingedge organization science research to develop a novel funding criteria for selecting grant recipients that removes biases from traditional funding criteria and maximizes potential job growth from new ventures. Second, by offering grants instead of loans or equity investments, minority entrepreneurs retain the wealth created by their enterprise and also do not have the pressures associated with loans and outside investors. In short, we focus on outstanding founders and the impact they have in their communities.

Status: Funding submitted, awaiting results (Kauffman Foundation \$400,000, FCCF \$30,000.

## **PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT The Stamford Promise**

#### Guaranteed \$5,000/year scholarships for qualifying students to participating schools

Promise Programs are place-based scholarship programs that offer reduced (or in some cases free) tuition for at least one college. While all require residency and a high school diploma, some have additional eligibility criteria – such as a minimum GPA. Promise communities have grown from one – Kalamazoo, Michigan – in 2005 to over 50, plus statewide programs in Tennessee and Oregon. They range in size from Northport, MI – population 526 – to Pittsburgh, PA – population 305,842 – and are delivering what they promised -- more college attendance and completion, plus a talented workforce that helps to grow the economy.

Promise programs have proven to be the single most effective education reform initiative communities or states can undertake to simultaneously improve high school and college performance for their students, families and economy. By making a Promise or guarantee that college tuition will be free for all qualified residents, making a family's finances irrelevant to their children's ability to attend college, the concept has proven to change the conversation, and therefore the culture, about college attendance at both the individual and institutional level. When properly designed and implemented, Promise Programs create a challenge that unifies the community in pursuit of a common goal—the future success of their youth.

# PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT STAMFORD

Stamford Innovation Week (SiW) is New England's largest innovation festival. On average, the annual event features approximately:

- 5,000 Attendees
- 26 Unique Events Including Conferences, Culture Experiences, and Workshops
- 150 Speakers including CEOs, Award-Winning Authors, and Founders
- Over 2,500 Companies



### **One-page Summary**

### Changes in Department and Rationale

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#### Headcount Change(s)

The Partnership plans to add a part-time Development Director before or during the 2022-2023 fiscal year. Funding for these roles stands at approximately \$40,000 in the proposed budget.

#### Capital Expense(s)

The Partnership does not expect any capital projects in FY 2022-2023 and no capital funds were requested.