



FOUNDERS HALL

2015
IMPACT
REPORT

You *and* FOUNDERS HALL

There is something so engaging about the word 'and' with its promise of more to come.

Place this simple conjunction between two unrelated people or places then watch that 'something more' become something wonderful.

So it is with you and Founders Hall.

Your inspired decision to donate in 2015 resulted in some remarkable conjunctions, which brought people together in wonderful ways. By giving something more to over 3,400 people each time they walked through our doors, you fulfilled the promise of 'and.'

When you read how meaningful your impact was to the members of Founders Hall, we hope you'll be inspired to fulfill that promise again.

Our Mission

To provide a diverse program of social, educational and physical fitness programs for today's active seniors in a warm, fun and stimulating atmosphere.



Dear Friend,

Consider the conjunction of you and Founders Hall. Because you donated in 2015, Founders Hall offered more classes, on a wider variety of topics, in a more accessible schedule than ever before through new evening hours and an affiliation with Western CT State University. Expanding hours and programming was the culmination of a 12-month strategic planning process to prepare for the blitz of baby-boomers who are retiring in droves, but not necessarily in traditional ways.

If you read The Ridgefield Press, you know that our town is already feeling their effects. A year-end article reported the latest U.S. Census data showing that people age 60 and older comprise the fastest-growing segment of the town's population. That report confirmed our experience in 2015 when a record number of new members joined Founders Hall. Because of your support, we are better able to meet the needs of both current and potential members within the confines of our existing building.

The baby-boomer generation isn't all that's aging. At 13 years, our beautiful building, which draws an average of 200 people a day, requires ongoing maintenance and upkeep. To help fund maintenance and other rising costs such as payroll and professional services, we increased program fees in March for just the second time. As the chart on page 19 shows, management and general expenses are still just 8% of our total operating budget. What's more, program fees are still quite low: an academic class costs on average just \$30 a semester.

Although both membership and programming reached new highs in 2015, overall donations increased only slightly and the town's donation held steady. That's why your funding was, and will continue to be, so essential. As you'll read in these pages, you touched the lives of more than 3,400 people with your gift and helped to make life-long learning, fitness and fun a reality for both this generation and the next. I am so very grateful.

Sincerely,

Grace F. Weber, *Executive Director*

Ups and Downs



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Up the stairs for art... down for history...
up for fitness... down for foreign policy...
back up for technology... down again for Italian...

To take advantage of over 250 diverse classes,
speakers and social events in 2015, members made
countless trips up and down our beautiful center
staircase. By inspiring both limber minds and bodies,
your donation raised the opportunities for life-long
learning to new heights.

Bingo
Oils
Billiards
Performers
Italian
Technology
Spanish
Tasting
Power Point
Bocce
Tap
Music
Piano
Investments
Needlework



Michele Williams

Night and Day

In 2015, we expanded our hours into evenings with the help of a \$20,000 grant from the Anne S. Richardson Fund. This expansion was the culmination of a 12-month planning process that considered how to attract a new generation of people to Founders Hall while still meeting the needs of current members, all within the confines of our existing building.

Evening hours recognize the reality that many baby boomers are working longer, working part-time or engaging in encore careers. For 60-somethings who are still working, this new access to life-long learning can make a difference as great as, well, night and day.



Leaps and Bounds

Through a new affiliation with Western Connecticut State University (WCSU), our academic offerings expanded by leaps and bounds. Experts in their respective fields and passionate about their subjects, professors from WCSU taught classes on topics ranging from climate change to the search for the meaning of life. Adding these professional educators to our already-outstanding group of gifted instructors resulted in unbounded opportunities for members.



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Michele Williams

Lost and Found

Some get lost at the first whiff of paint on a palette; others are carried away by the first chords of a symphony. Many lose themselves in the passenger lists of a 19th-century ship's manifest; still others in quietly concentrating on a great piece of literature or perfecting their own piece of prose. One of the best ways to find joy is to lose oneself in pursuit of a passion. By funding myriad art, music, literature, writing, genealogy, handcraft and hobby programs, you helped people find their inner artists, retrieve lost passions and discover hidden talents.





One *and* All

If Founders Hall were a song, our refrain would be, “All together now...”

Bringing people together is an underpinning of our mission and perhaps the most important outcome of your support. It makes learning more meaningful, exercising more entertaining, and doing just about anything else much more fun. Your donation helped to fund over 100 social events that brought people together just for the fun of it. Members shared meals, watched movies, indulged in tea and treats, played games, enjoyed some friendly competition in tournaments, tasted new foods, and celebrated holidays.

To accommodate increasing attendance, we introduced a new open-house format for December’s holiday party, which meant that your donation brought more people together than ever. Thanks for singing our refrain.



Dollars and Sense

On the Rise
31 New Programs
323 New Members

200
Average
Daily Visits

Total Given in 2015
\$598,701

Annual Giving	\$289,438
Town of Ridgefield	\$100,000
Grants/Sponsorships	\$99,605
Fund Raising Events	\$76,200
Commemorative Gifts	\$22,383
Matching Gifts	\$11,075

\$222,489	\$66,949
Members	Non-Members

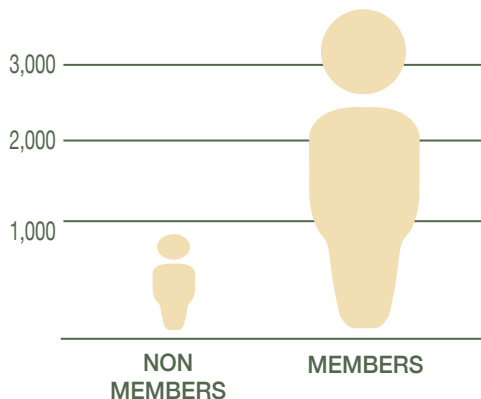
Who Gives? **77%** Annual Giving from Members

Total Gifts of \$100 or Less

\$50k

Every donation counts!

Volunteer Hours **3,755**



Slice and Dice

Three fabulous chefs matched sharp knives and quick wits in the third annual Battle of the Chefs. Widespread community support from sponsors, chefs, judges, advertisers, volunteers and ticket-buyers made the Battle deliciously successful by raising over \$43,000 for life-long learning. We are especially indebted to sponsors Fairfield County Bank and The Chef's Warehouse, and to the many local businesses that donated food, drinks and equipment. Chef Bernard Bouissou may have brought home the trophy, but Founders Hall members were the real winners of this fun and fast-paced culinary showdown.

Todd Brown

Wine and Cheese (and Accessories)

Shopping, socializing and a little self-pampering drew over 300 women of all ages to Founders Hall for October's Wine, Cheese & Accessories. At this biennial fundraising event, they shopped at over 20 specialty boutiques, experienced essential oils, experimented with up-dos, posed for head shots and indulged in chair massages, all in support of Founders Hall. We are grateful to the small business owners who set up shop, to the generous service providers who pampered our guests, and to the many women who brought their spirited sense of fun and giving to raise almost \$12,000 for Founders Hall.



Heart *and* Soul

As a donor, you are the heart and soul of Founders Hall. Your donation breathes life into our programs and touches the lives of over 3,400 active members. By bringing this vital and vibrant community together, you fulfill the promise of 'and.'

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Founders Circle

These forward-thinking and caring individuals are linking their legacy with Founders Hall by leaving a bequest in their wills. Ensuring future donations helps both this generation and the next. For that, we are deeply grateful.

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** In grateful memory*

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Past *and* Present



You gave people a peek into the past with studies of Ridgefield's geology, Cass Gilbert's architecture, and antique clocks. You helped meet present-day concerns with information sessions on regional transportation services, fire safety and Social Security. You even offered a glimpse into the future with a seminar on artificial intelligence. By funding our speaker and seminar series, you also gave members access to authors, artists and music maestros. All of these events were free and open to the public, attracting new friends, members and supporters to Founders Hall.

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 Kathryn Ciccolo
 Dorothy Citro
 Linda S. Clark
 Del Claussen
 Richard Cofone
 Suzanne Conlin
 Dan and B Connolly
 Anne Cook
 Kathleen Cook
 Karen and Dan Cooper
 Claire Copen
 Florita Rose Coppola
 Rosemary Corwin
 Rocco and Rachel Coscio
 Valerie M. Cosgrove
 Mrs. Terry Counselman
 Mr. and Mrs. Christopher J. Couri
 Christina and Frederick Cowles
 Mr. and Mrs. John Cox
 Ruth and Charles Creamer
 Kate and Larry Creedon
 Gina Crist
 Bruce and Debbie Crystal
 Kay Cuny

Lisa and Frank Curra
 Mimi and Milo Dalbey
 Ellen and Murray Darvick
 Beatrice Davies
 Harry Dayton
 Elizabeth and Robert DeBartolo
 Muriel DeLorio
 Nina and Gerald DePass
 Helen and Bob DiNucci
 Mary Alice DiSalvo
 Elizabeth M. Dolen
 Karen and Dan Doman
 Ruth Dombrow
 Ellen Doubraski
 Meg Downs
 Irene and Michael Doyle
 Cathy and David Dreilinger
 Tracy and Brett Dubin
 Mary Jane and Paul Dubiny
 Lorraine Duffy
 Agnes Dunn
 Mary Ellen Egan
 Dayne Encarnacion
 Mr. and Mrs. L. Eng
 Sue and Jay Eom
 Ann Ericson
 ERMS Social Committee
 Ann B. Erskine
 Suzanne and Dwayne Escola
 Carol and Robert Essig
 Gen and Jim Fagan
 Diane Falconieri
 Theodora Farrell
 Jennifer Fasolino
 Barbara and Clancy Fauntleroy
 Penny Feder
 Nellie V. Ferraris
 Zita Fine
 Eleanor (Elie) Finkelstein
 Bonnie R. Fischer
 Ann E. Fitzgerald
 Elizabeth Fitzgerald
 George and Jayne Flynn
 Susan Fogerty
 Mary and Gus Fogliano
 Norene and Dan Foley
 Rita and Joseph Fontecchio
 Isabel and Michael Forbes

Mary Foyt
 Bob Frank
 Marion Freer
 Laura Fried
 Robert F. Fried
 Liz Fulton
 The Gabriele Family
 Josephine Gabriele
 Liz and Paul Gafney
 William Gagnon
 Sheilah Gallagher
 Fay Gaudet
 Mary Gelfman
 Karen and Ira Gerard
 Delores B. Gertsen
 Susan Gibson
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 Sue and John Gillaugh
 Richard Gillespie
 Carol and Ron Giustino
 Dorothy Glissmann
 Katharine Gluck
 Ray Goddard
 Ann Goeitz
 Beverlee Goynes
 R. Michael Grace
 Carol Grasso
 Ralph and Joan Green
 Marjorie Grunebaum
 Sal Guastella
 Albert and Kathryn Guido
 Kathy and Ray Gutierrez
 The Gutman Family
 Conte Guzman
 Al and Dottie Hall
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 Carol Hamilton
 Irene B. Hammler
 Beth and Chuck Hancock
 Irma Harkins
 Carolyn G. Harriman
 Geoff and Bonnie Harrington
 Barbara Harrison
 Michael and Dionyssia Hatzakis
 Fran Head
 Doris H. Healey
 Bonnie and Michael Heft
 Katie and Jose Helu

FRIENDS *(cont.)*

Gail and Howard Henner
David and Lori Herman
Thomas and Mary Herzog
Rhonda Hill
Carol and Frank Hillenbrand
Lynne Hills
Pamela Gruber Hohberger
Marge Holland
Dolores Holzbach
John Horan
Mary T. Horvath
Emelie Howard
Mildred Huffmire
John and Joan Hughes
Kathleen Hughes
Carolyn Hunter
William Hunter
Joan Huntley
Janet Ingraham
Nancy Jacobowitz
Dave and Mary Janasek
Michael Jancz
Paul and Lyn Jasinski
Linda Jaslow
Jane and Andrew Jawlik
Laverle Jessup
Ann D. Jevne
Shirley A. Johnson
Barbara J. Jones
Mr. and Mrs. William Jordan Jr.
Maria and John Joyce
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Annette Kappes
Diana Karish
John Karpik
Mrs. Eileen Karwoski
Judith Maxen Katz
Margaret Keane
Michael and Patricia Kearney
Elaine Kelemen
Claire Kelmer
Harry Kent
Richard E. Kent
Patricia Keough
Diane Kerner
Gabby Kessler Tracy
Annette Khazadian
Jerry and Maureen Kiernan
George and Carol King

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Edith and Leo Kleine
Herb and Judy Klinger
Elizabeth Knight
Mr. and Mrs. A. Kokalari
L. Richard Koleszar
Gillian and Edward Kowalchuk
Maureen and Thomas Kozlark
Ramon Kranwinkel
Ursula Kuehling
Grace Kulwin
Rose Mary and Jack Kunze
Jack and Barbara Laber
Jane N. Lally
Barbara W. Lane
Judy and Joe LaPorta
Joan Laspia
Joyce and Gene Lavatori
Carolyn Lawrence
Donna Lawrence
Dale and Joan Learn
Bonnie Leavy-Mello
George and Virginia Leeman
Janet and John Leiphart
James and Kay Leisenring
Arnold Leitner
Bob and Lori Lenz
Arthur and Linda Levine
Nancy and Edward Libby
Patricia Ligos
Loretta Lippoth
Joan Lish
Carole Long
Tony and Marianne Loomis
Leo Ludwick
Bob Lussi
Jonathan Lustig
Marie and Bill Lutzius
Betty Lynch
Suzanne MacAvoy
Jill and Eugene Maciejowski
Sharon and Frank Madden
Susan Madieros
Jill and Bruce Maguire
David and Kathryn Maher
Andrea Maiorano
Joan Malin
Janet and Salvatore Mannuccia
Maria Marallo

Dorothy Marciano
Lauren S. Mariani
Patti Nevins and Bob Mark
Claire Marra
Connie Marsala
Brian and Terrie Martin
Mildred W. Martin
Diane Martucci
Irene and Italo Massagli
Linda Massie
Maureen and Frank Matuszewski
B. William Mayer
Vera Caporale and
Richard Mayhew
Joanne and Bob McDonald
Gaetana McGill
Susan McGourthy
Betsey A. McGregor
Margaret McKitty
Beth McKnight
Monica and Philip McMorran
Vivian C. Medeiros
Victor J. Melfi
Ann B. Melnick
Dr. Adeline Merrill
Carolyn and Earl Meyers
Catherine Michetti
Mary Miranda
Caroline Molyneux
Teresa Mongelli
Judy Montaner
MariGrace Montemuro
Chris and Ghislaine Moomaw
Sally Morin
Irene and Peter Moritz
Geraldine Morrell
Mary R. Morrisroe
Anita G. Moss
Joanne Moyler
Mueller Designs
Lynn and Jim Mullen
Doris Mulvaney
Sandy Mulvaney
Rosaleen Murchison
Joellen and Robert Murphy
Thomas and Paula Nash
NCL Ridgefield Chapter
Janet K. Nelson
Amanda Nicoletta

Joyce Nicoletti
Katherine Nielsen
Alvin Nilson
Pamela Norwitz
Joan Ogren
Ben Oko and Helen Dimos
Herb and Sandy Oringel
Patricia Orlovski
Anna and Bill O'Rourke
Jamie and Measi O'Rourke
Mr. and Mrs. William Osgood
Emilya Padlowski
Fran Palazzo
William and Ethel Palmer
Mary Ellen Palmiotto
Ann Panico
Dorothy D. Parker
Timi Parsons
Gene and Joanne Passaro
Lucille Paterniani
Bart and Bonnie Patten
Iris and Richard Paul
Carmela Percuoco
Phyllis Perron
Bob G. Perry
Franziska Pfeiffer
Liz Piekarz
Diana and Charles Pietrangelo
Pitney Bowes Foundation
Barbara Pokorak
William Poveromo
Helen Powers
Peggy F. Presson
Donna and Frank Prete
Carmine and Ann Primiano
Ann E. Principi
Nancy Anne Quain
Anita and Bob Quasha
Carol and George Radachowsky
Mico and Otto Raebiger
Doris and Ron Raymond
Rita A. Raynor
Diane and William Reilly
Mary and Haakon Reinertsen
Marguerite Reynolds
Anne and Phil Richards
Meveral Rickert
Ridgefield Men's Club
Carol E. Roberts

FRIENDS *(cont.)*

Lynn Robertson
 Eileen Roehr
 Sebastian and Phyllis Romano
 Ruth and Al Roseff
 Renate E. Ross
 Ronnie Ross
 Geraldine Rudnick
 Rhodie and Herb Rudolph
 Karin Ruebeck
 Barbara Ruschil
 Joan and Richard Rychlik
 Claire Sakho
 Mr. and Mrs. Al Sanchirico
 Helen Sanders
 Catherine and Thomas Sangermano
 Dr. and Mrs. Richard Scala
 Violet Scala
 Mary Ann and Joe Scavera
 Margaret Scheiner
 Carol and Dan Schepis
 Ann Schmitter
 Joan Schneider
 Shirley Schneiderman
 Barry Schub
 Zelda and Raphael Schwartz
 Joan Scribner
 Sigmund Sedlmaier
 Raymond and Catherine Sementini
 Seniors on the Ball
 Barbara and Ed Sessler

Elizabeth and Vincent Sganga
 Miriam and Arthur Shane
 Joseph Shapiro and Ilene Traiger
 Ben and Darla Shaw
 L. M. Sherdal
 Eugene F. Shewmaker and Robert L. Hurtgen
 Mary and Frank Sileo
 Joyce Silverstadt
 Isabel Silvestro
 JoAnn Simon
 Ann and Dan Sitomer
 Claire F. Sloan
 Betty and Malcolm Smith
 Mary and Richard Smith
 Ralph and Rita Specht
 Joann L. Spence
 Nancy Squitieri
 Linda Staples
 Richard and Carol Stenhouse
 Patricia Stephens
 Jerome Stern
 Betty and Raymond Stonebridge
 James and Elma Stoveken
 Jane Strigler
 Marguerite Strom
 Rob and Judy Strom
 Judy Stropus
 Denise Sullivan
 Florence Sunkens
 Lynne Swanson
 Ann-Marie Swantek

Jonas Swenson
 Dr. Barbara Tansky
 Dianne and Angelo Tartaro
 Connie Tate
 Donald Taylor
 Paul and Catherine Tedesco
 Avelina and Vito Teric
 Peggy Thomas
 Elaine M. Thudium
 Tom Thulin
 Phyllis and Richard Tiani
 Marjorie and John Toner
 Barbara Toplin
 Peter A. Torzilli
 Robert and Ann Towne
 Gisela Trimarchi
 Carmela Tripi
 Tom and Diane Tully
 Pearl Turk
 Carl Ullman
 Susan Umansky
 Susan and Jack Van Blarcom
 Aase Van Dyke
 M. Van Tassell
 Barbara Van Tronk
 Joann Vasi
 Victoria Gate Condominium
 Veronica and Vincent Viggiano
 Angela Vill
 Melinda Violante
 Hank and Peggy Vosswinkel
 Debra and Allan Wagner

Eva Wajda
 Judith Wald
 Janet Oakley Wallace
 Gail Wallace
 Alice Wang
 Elizabeth Warren
 Jonathan and Carole Watson
 Marianne Wattley
 Bill and Edna Weber
 Carrie R. Wells
 Julie Welsh
 Liz and Bob Wendel
 Joan and Ed Weston
 Joan and Michael Wexelbaum
 Lisa Whelan
 Walter K. Wieland
 Shirley Wilken
 Henry and Josette Williams
 Joan Williams
 Marie C. Williams
 Joan Wilson
 Perry C. Wilson
 Sherri and Victor Wilson
 Mark and Susan Wilterding
 Stephen Winter and Eva Chan
 Les and Sharon Wormell
 Nancy and William Wright
 Dolores York
 Paul R. Young
 Adriana Ippoliti Zandri
 Amy Zhang
 Sonja Ziluca

A record-breaking 323 people joined Founders Hall in 2015, bringing our total membership to a new high of 5,085. Our experience supports the latest U.S. Census data showing Ridgefield's population of people age 60 and older is growing steadily and at faster rates than other age groups. According to a December 2015 press article, "... seniors who have lived in the town a long time are choosing to stay here, and those from other towns are choosing to relocate here..."



As a supporter, you might agree that Founders Hall, with its high-quality programs offered at extremely low costs, is part of the attraction. For people living on fixed incomes, low program fees mean the difference between participating fully and sitting out. Many can participate only because you donate. As the graphic shows, you are essential to filling the funding gap between low fees and high costs.

COMMEMORATIVE GIFTS

In Memory of

Arnold Abrahamson	Leone Mendelson
Dominic J. Antonucci	Stuart Mendelson
Imelda and Charles Attridge	Chuck Merten
Nancy Barber	Joan Michael
Degley Barrios	Dick Mogil
John Beckett	William Glenn Monti
Charles Bendel	Nancy Murphy
Mel Benowitz	Pam Murray
The Berges and Ughetta Families	Alvin Nathel
My sister, Carla	Bruce Nickel
Mario Carotti	Anna Fisher and Mary O'Leary
Joseph Cice	Mary Paterniani
Theresa Colloton	Helen Rella
Deceased members of the	Norma Rigby
Corsini and Fisher Families	Ronald A. Riggs
Joseph Cunningham	Paul Rosenblatt
Casey D'Ambrosio	Harvey Sadow
Vincent Farrell	Janice Sahlstrand
Robert Featherstone	Vincent Savino
Bill Fitzgerald	Alvin Schmitter and
Virginia Gager	Scott McKeefe
Vernard Gaudet	Ralph Settanni
Dino and Jean Giardini	Norma Simpson
Stephen H. Gluck	Ginny and Charlie Snyder
Julius L. Goodman	Cora Spratt
James P. Gregory	Moise Squitieri
Robert F. Guastella	Bobbie Steiger
Belle and Simmy Hartstone	Bud Swerz
Robert W. Hodgdon	Clarice Taylor
Paul Michael Horvath	Deceased members of
Jean Q. Huff	The O.W.L.S.
Eleanor Ioli	Bettie Jane Third
John Karwoski	Irv Toplin
Jenny Kempson	Joseph Troy
Marion King	Georgine Tulipani
Geraldine Kish	John Ur
Jerome LaBarbera	Margaret Weiss
Steven M. Lancaster	Donald K. Willett
Helen N. Lewkiewicz	Victor F. Zackay
Richard Marra	Angelo Zandri

In Honor of

A Free America
 Lois Adamsen
 Lee V. Blum
 Elaine and John Couri
 Jack Daniels' 95th birthday
 Meg Downs
 Nellie Ferraris
 Founders Hall Cooking Class
 The Founders Hall Faculty
 Liz and Steve Goldstone
 Fran Head
 Chase Alexander Howard
 Howard and Harriet Jacobs
 Andy Jawlik
 Elizabeth Kemp
 Mari Lewis
 Mary Nevins
 Sabina and Walter Slavin
 Sandy Staples
 Catherine Stevens
 Grace Weber

IN-KIND GIFTS

Andy's Pure Food
 Benziger Family Winery
 Best Cellars Wine & Spirits
 Wendy Beurket
 Blue Jay Orchard
 John and Suzette Caldwell
 Jo Ann and Michael Cali
 Caraluzzi's Market
 Cellar XV
 The Chefs' Warehouse
 Colonial Cleaners
 Ken and Lisa Corso
 Chris and Danica Daly
 Sarah and Bob DeGennaro
 Diageo, PLC
 Fairgrounds Wine and Spirits
 Diane Fitch
 Hayfield Market
 Gail and Howard Henner
 Hopkin's Vineyard
 Jenn and Ron Kubick
 Lou and Carolyn McAdams
 Milillo Farms
 Ridgefield Liquor Shop
 Route 7 Wines and Liquors
 Salem Wine and Liquor
 Juliet Shimkin
 Spiked Seltzer
 Debbie Thornton
 Randy Ullom
 Village Wine and Spirits
 Whole Foods Market - Danbury

MATCHING GIFTS

Chevron Matching Gift Program
 ConAgra Foods
 General Reinsurance Corporation
 Prudential Foundation
 Regeneron Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

Founders Hall, a 501(c)3 public charity incorporated under the name Founders Hall Foundation, Inc., was established by the Couri and Goldstone families. The Foundation has an agreement with the town of Ridgefield to lease the land and run Founders Hall through 2022, with the option for future extensions.

With continued support from generous people like you, the Foundation will run Founders Hall for generations to come.

Founders Hall Foundation, Inc. Statement of Financial Position

December 31, 2015

Assets

Current Assets

Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 157,938
Investments	718,603
Accounts and pledges receivable	5,434
Prepaid expenses	13,198
Security deposits	200
Total Current Assets	895,373

Property and Equipment,

net of accumulated depreciation	<u>2,064,937</u>
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Total Assets	<u><u>\$2,960,310</u></u>
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Liabilities and Net Assets

Current Liabilities

Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$ 6,696
Deferred revenue	<u>51,680</u>
Total Current Liabilities	<u>58,376</u>

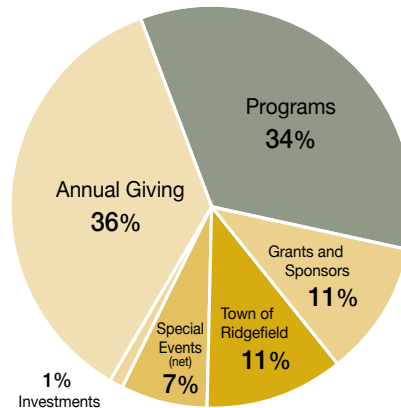
Net Assets

Unrestricted	725,376
Board-designated – Reserve	86,460
Board-designated – Property and equipment, net	<u>2,064,937</u>
Total Unrestricted Net Assets	<u>2,876,773</u>
Temporarily restricted	<u>25,161</u>
Total Net Assets	<u>2,901,934</u>

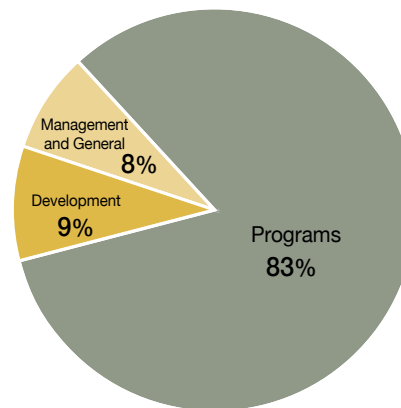
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	<u><u>\$2,960,310</u></u>
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Financial audit conducted by
Dylewsky, Goldberg & Brenner, LLC CPAs

2015 Income and Expenses



Total Income: \$892,049



Total Expenses: \$874,491*

*Includes Depreciation

Near *and* Far

Learning about art is one experience, seeing a masterpiece is quite another. That's why members hopped on buses to visit NYC's Metropolitan Museum of Art, Museum of Biblical Art and Neue Gallery, Hartford's Wadsworth Athenaeum and Yale's Art Gallery.

Education in action is just one benefit of your support. Another is access to regional entertainment for people who no longer want to wrestle with city traffic or distance driving.

Day trips in 2015 took members to casinos, theaters, gardens and a river cruise. One trip took them just up the road to experience a day in the life of a Ridgefield High School student; virtual trips took them around the world. Culture classes explored Venice, Tuscany, Ecuador, India and Turkey. Travelogues showed the sights of Nepal, Bhutan, Hungary and Holland all from the comfort of an arm chair. Did you ever think that your donation could go so far?



Down *and* Dirty

If you're passionate about gardening, nothing satisfies like digging in the dirt to grow your own veggies. But, what happens to that passion when life relocates you from a house with garden to an apartment with deck? Developer Steve Zemo asked our Gardening Group to experiment with a possible answer using three tower gardens that he donated to Founders Hall. A tower garden uses air and enriched water rather than soil to grow plants, and the tall container takes up only two square feet of space. Under the lead of master gardener Jack Hughes, the group happily demonstrated that aging into apartment living doesn't have to impede growth of any kind.



Movers *and* Shakers



“Keep moving” is our fitness mantra. With your support, our fitness pros taught a wide range of classes to strengthen, condition, improve balance and increase flexibility. Dance classes posed new ways of moving and tapped into muscle memory. Tai chi and yoga offered the ultimate mind-body-spirit meld. Our gracious neighbor, Ridgefield Parks & Recreation, made room for water aerobics, basketball and pickleball; walkers made use of the mile-long trail on our shared campus. Fitness Day gave members the chance to try new classes, access a variety of health screenings, and hear the latest health news from medical experts.

Participating in the fitness program helped members stave off the slings and arrows of aging. We are grateful that you were moved to support it.

Walk into Founders Hall and it's likely you'll be tapping your toes before you leave.

Pulsing tunes motivate members in the fitness room while classical music often inspires creativity in the art studio. Founders Hall Singers harmonize on Mondays; the band jams on Fridays; aspiring pianists take lessons or practice most weekdays.

In 2015, our music appreciation class filled an average of 200 seats each semester. The Ridgefield Symphony Orchestra's music director visited regularly to educate members on selected composers and compositions.

Adding to the music were performances by community singing and dancing groups including members of the Ridgefield Chorale, Ridgefield School of Dance, Ridgefield High School a cappella groups, and local entertainers.

Whether through recordings or live performances, these musical gifts lifted spirits, soothed souls and united strangers. Play on.

Song *and* Dance



Stephen Aden White

Comings *and* Goings



22

In 2015, we welcomed new front desk managers Amanda Nicolella and Kim Petruzzelli as well as new development director, Cindy Nesbitt. Former staff member Michele Kohari returned to help with special projects. Long-time staffers Sarah DeGennaro (front desk) and Lynda Gutman (development) left Founders Hall to pursue other interests and endeavors.

Our Board of Directors also welcomed retired IBM executive and long-time Ridgefield resident Kent Rohrer. Kent was a key advisor throughout our strategic planning process. We are fortunate to have his ongoing energy, expertise and stewardship on our Board.

Board of Directors

Lori Berisford
Nancy Bossidy
John Couri, President
Elaine Couri
Elizabeth Goldstone
Steven Goldstone, Chairman
Jenn Kubick
Gerri Lewis
Rudy Marconi
Kent Rohrer
Rudy Ruggles

Board of Advisors

Max Caldwell
Megan Couri
Lou Ann Daprato
Ira Joe Fisher
Debbie Hayes
Richard Jabara
Joyce Ligi
Neil Marcus
Christopher Pappas
Mary Laura Pritchard

Facts *and* Figures

As of December 31, 2015

Current Members:	3,457
Eligibility:	age 60 or older (or married to a member) and a resident of Ridgefield or of a surrounding town without its own full-time senior center
Average daily visits:	200
Age range:	51-101
Academics:	252 semester courses, speakers and seminars
Fitness:	19 monthly classes
Socials:	103 events
Trips:	19
Donor-supported:	two-thirds of total operating budget comes from philanthropy
Staff:	one director, 9 staff members
Instructors:	70
Average fee for a semester class:	\$30
Cost to Join:	\$0
Hours:	Mon., Wed., Fri.: 8:30am to 4:30pm Tue., Thu.: 8:30am - 8:30pm
Facebook:	Founders Hall Ridgefield
Contact:	www.founders-hall.org 203.431.7000



FOUNDERS HALL
193 DANBURY ROAD
RIDGEFIELD, CONNECTICUT 06877

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Thank You
for fulfilling
the promise
of
and

*Founders Hall is a
donor-supported
education and
recreation center
for individuals
age 60 and
older.*

