



Greater Together Community Funds

2nd Quarter 2025 Town Hall



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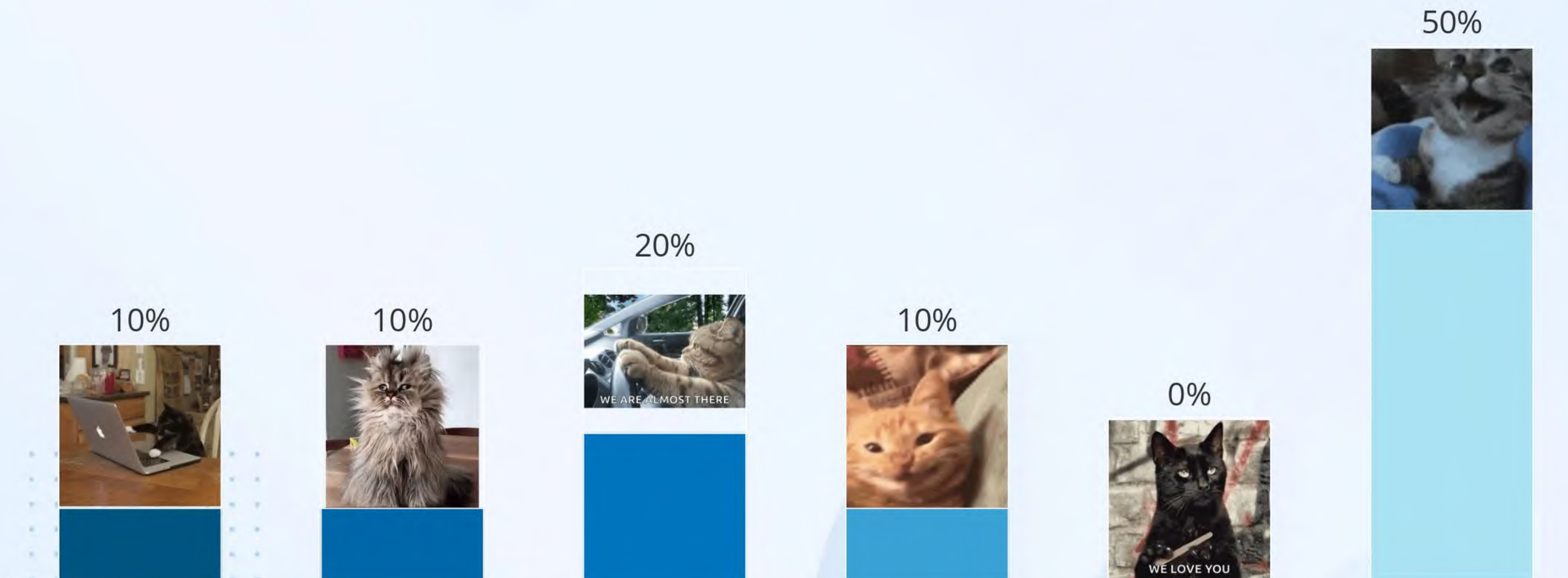




Agenda for our time together

1. WELCOME
2. VOLUNTEER SHOUTOUTS
3. REMARKS FROM JAY
4. CELEBRATE KAREN
5. PROGRAM UPDATES
6. NEXT STEPS AND CLOSING

How are you showing up today...?







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THANK YOU
THANK YOU
THANK YOU

Mike F., West Hartford

“Very good job keeping committee on track and updated.”
- Jacob J.

Rie P-C., Canton

“Since our founding, she has led the grant review meeting so that everyone comes prepared, the process is smooth, everyone gets a chance to be heard, and we reach consensus. This efficient, collaborative process has resulted in productive dialogue, listening, and collective decision-making. She has also served as co-chair all those years.” - Theresa B.



Janelle Z., South Windsor

“Janelle is the chairperson for South Windsor committee. She has demonstrated strong leadership, made sure every voice is heard and ensure all the tasks are completed in timely manner. Entire South Windsor team appreciates and thanks her for her contributions to the committee.” – Anurag J. + the South Windsor Team

Lisa L., Avon

“Lisa is always a committed member. Most recently, she displayed her commitment by devoting a lot of time and thought to evaluating 15 grant applications and providing lots of notes even though she was out of the country during our deliberation meetings. This is just one example of how Lisa always goes above and beyond for our committee work.” - Haleigh G.

**Kathy S., Ed D., Gail T., Melanie S., and
Alisha S., Somers**

They are an awesome team that helps us run our committee efficiently. Everyone does their part. We would not be successful without everyone's contributions! - Teresa M.

Emily K., Farmington

“Great communications, runs efficient and effective meetings, respects and makes sure everyone is heard.”
- Dean D.

Ceil D., East Windsor

“Ceil is an integral part of our committee activities, handling grant applicant/recipient email communications, document preparation/maintenance/archival, monitoring and responding to committee emails, Facebook account oversight, just to name a few of her contributions. She is an awesome and valuable committee member.”
- Kim F.





Give a shout out to a fellow committee member!

Tasheenah has been a great addition!

Jen
East Granby

I want to give a shout out to the students who have been and are on our committee! Great energy!

Jen
East Granby

Our group chair is also a Jen! She keeps on volunteering!

Jen
East Granby

Thanks so much to Tasheenah for being so responsive to our committee! We will miss your support.

Mike Fournier
West Hartford

Melissa - is a great co-chair. She keeps us organized and is receptive to all ideas.

Cathy N
Bolton

Hayleigh (Avon), Kelly (Bloomfield), Lara (Hartford), Laura and Laura (Glastonbury) for being available to answer questions and share their experiences with me!!!

Mike Fournier
West Hartford

David- Hartford - Always willing to give above and beyond. Founding member

Greg
Hartford

To the entire West Hartford committee who just completed our 5th grantmaking cycle!

Mike Fournier
West Hartford

Thanks to Gail, Melanie and Tasheenah with all of your help on our Info Session! Wouldn't have been successful without you.

Teresa
Somers

To Jay for the continued commitment!

Jen
East Granby

Tasheenah and Melissa have been so wonderful to work with. Always responsive and ready to help our committee!

Stephen Haynes
Wethersfield

To Lucas for offering a glass of wine to all who have weathered the tech updates! 🍷🍷🍷

Jen
East Granby

Let's Celebrate Karen!

Karen has been SO supportive of her committees - it has been amazing learning from her. Congratulations on a wonderful career with such an immense impact. ENJOY retirement!

Melissa (HFPG)

Enjoy your retirement!!!

Wendy Osada - Enfield

We've only just met, but your dedication is Obvious. Thank you for all you've done. Enjoy your retirement!

Carol Grasis

Thank you Karen for being a FRIEND!

Thanks for all you do for us!

Kathleen Sanner / Tolland

Thank you for always looking for ways to answer our questions/requests and for smiling through it all.

Cathy N

Congratulations Karen! Enjoy this next chapter and know that you have left quite a legacy!

Megan (Windsor Locks)

Thanks for your years of service to the Foundation!

Teresa

A role model!
A friendly smile!
Helpful!

Jen

Your engagement with the Foundation and us is inspiring

Greg



GTCF Program Updates & Announcements

New GTCF Liaison Assignments:



Town	New Assignments (Tasheenah or Melissa)
Andover	Melissa
Avon	Melissa
Bloomfield	Tasheenah
Bolton	Melissa
Canton	Tasheenah
East Granby	Tasheenah
East Hartford	Melissa
East Windsor	Tasheenah
Ellington	Tasheenah
Enfield	Tasheenah
Farmington	Melissa
Glastonbury	Melissa
Granby	Tasheenah
Hartford	Tasheenah
Hebron	Melissa
Manchester	Melissa
Marlborough	Melissa
Newington	Melissa
Rocky Hill	Melissa
Simsbury	Tasheenah
Somers	Tasheenah
South Windsor	Tasheenah
Suffield	Tasheenah
Tolland	Melissa
Vernon	Melissa
West Hartford	Melissa
Wethersfield	Melissa
Windsor	Tasheenah
Windsor Locks	Tasheenah

- *GTCF Liaison Assignments*
- *Volunteer Application & Agreement*
- *GTCF Resources Webpage*
- *GTCF Grantmaking*
- *New Grantmaking System Timeline*
- *2026 Volunteer Summit*



New GTCF Liaison Assignments

Next Steps:

- For Committees ***with a new liaison*** – Be on the lookout for communication from Melissa & Tasheenah.
- As the transition continues, we ask you to extend grace and patience <3.
- We are working as an internal staff team to support you in any way – **Reach out to us!**

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Volunteer Application & Agreement:

We have introduced a streamlined **Volunteer Application** and **Volunteer Agreement** process to help us stay aligned, informed, and accountable as a community.

Why This Matters:

1. Helps ensure that we are all aligned on our current volunteer policies, expectations, and responsibilities, as outlined in the [Volunteer Handbook](#).
2. Helps us to ensure information is shared equitably.
3. Helps us ensure data is secure.
4. Helps us create an active database of volunteers.

Next Steps for Volunteers:

Sign Volunteer Agreement by Monday, June 30th

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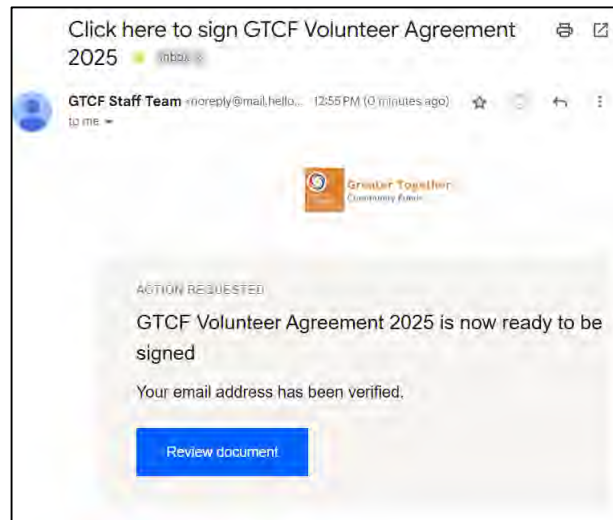


Volunteer Agreement Process:

Step 1: Click on the Agreement Link sent to you and enter your email to verify.



Step 2: You will receive email in your personal inbox, click review document.



Step 3: Review agreement and enter appropriate information and click to sign and submit.

A screenshot of the 'GTCF Volunteer Agreement 2025' form. The form is titled 'GTCF Volunteer Agreement 2025' and contains several sections. Section 6 is 'Release/Termination' and Section 7 is 'Emergency Contact'. Section 8 is 'Signature'. The form includes fields for 'Emergency Contact Name', 'Phone Number', 'Email', 'Relationship', 'Printed Name', 'Signature', and 'Date'. There is a blue button labeled 'Click to sign'.

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GTCF Resources Webpage:

Bookmark www.hfpg.org/gtcfresources

This page is designed to be your go-to resource for all things related to GTCF including:

- Volunteer Handbook
- Foundation-wide Policies
- Volunteer Position Descriptions
- Town Hall Materials
- Community Café Materials
- Program Memos
- Google Workspace Instructions

And more to come!

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GTCF Grantmaking – By the Numbers:

82 Grants
awarded
YTD

Total of **\$337,022**
awarded YTD

740 Grants
awarded since
the beginning
of the program.

Total of **\$2,814,837**
awarded since
beginning of
program.

**** 43 Applications currently in the process!**

As of May 19th, 2025

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New & Upcoming GTCF Grantmaking System:

Why it matters and why now?

- Responds directly to volunteer feedback: Need for a **consistent and easy-to-navigate system**
- Builds greater **accessibility** for all volunteers
- Empowers volunteers with better **tools and training** to lead with confidence
- Strengthens the **participatory grantmaking model** by removing barriers

Benefits for GTCF Committees:

1. Streamlined tool and reports
2. Clearer Process
3. More efficient grant review for Committees
4. Faster Processing and Due Diligence

Benefits for Nonprofits:

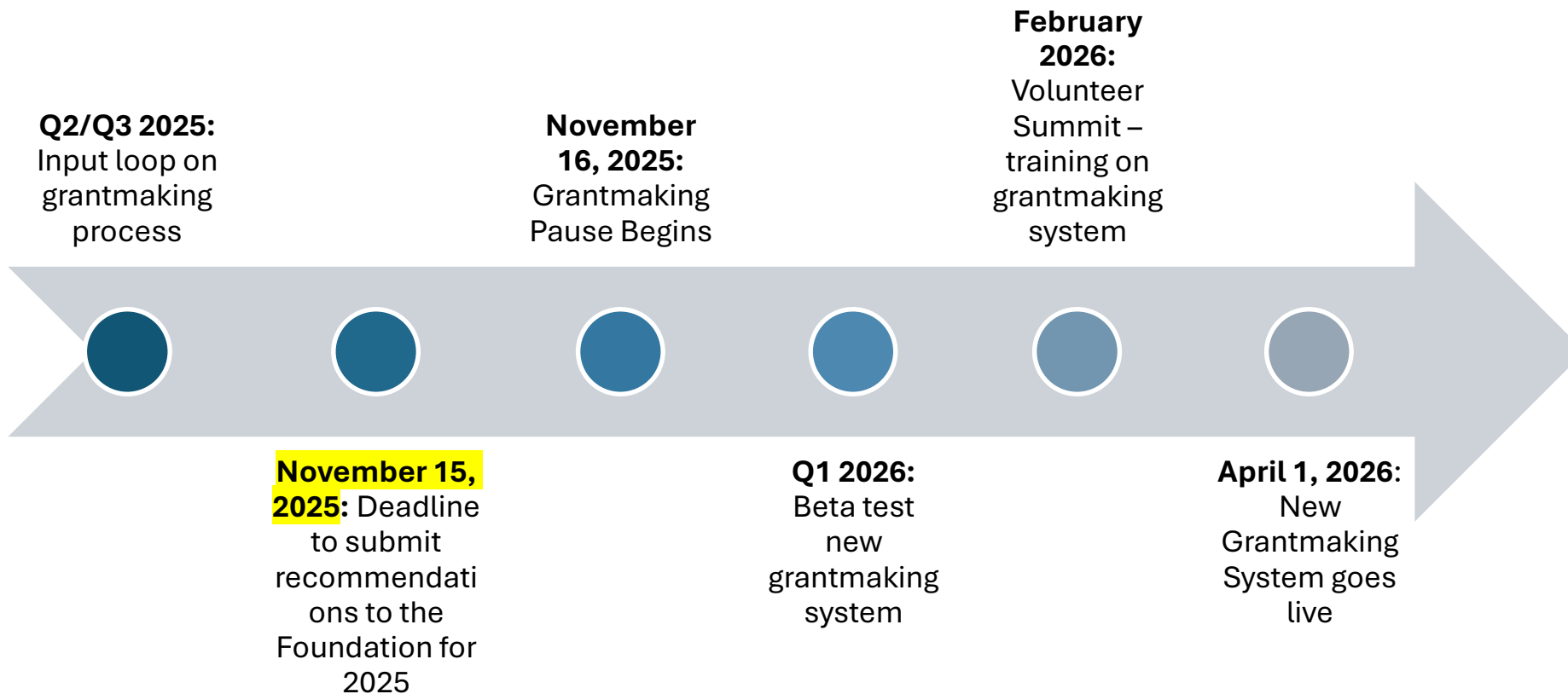
1. Opens access to Foundation Opportunities & Resources
2. Familiar process to other grant programs
3. Clearer Communication from Committee & Foundation

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New & Upcoming GTCF Grantmaking System Timeline:



Grantmaking pause: November 16, 2025 to March 31, 2026

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New & Upcoming GTCF Grantmaking System Timeline:

Why a Pause?

- Allows time to implement and train on the new system
- Ensures a smooth, supported transition for all volunteers
- Aligns with GTCF's commitment to intentional, community-led change

During Pause – Key Focus Areas For Committees:

1. Volunteer Engagement & Recruitment
2. Leadership Development of Committees
3. Training & Readiness
4. Stay Connected!

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2026 Community Funds Volunteer Summit – What to Expect:

A Half-Day In-Person Gathering Before the Portal Launch
Date & Location TBD

Purpose:

- Prepare for the new grantmaking system
- Strengthen relationships and leadership
- Celebrate and support our volunteer network



Your Input Matters:

Tasheenah and Melissa will be reaching out to gather your ideas to help design a summit that's energizing, useful, and reflective of your needs!

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Next Steps & Closing...

- ✓ Complete your volunteer agreement – **DUE June 30th**
- ✓ **Reflect on your grantmaking process** – be prepared to provide input on developing a Universal Program Application
- ✓ **2025 Grant recommendations due to the Foundation by Nov. 15th**





THANK YOU!

For Questions and Feedback, contact your GTCF Liaison:

- Melissa Marsh at MMarsh@hfpg.org
- Tasheenah Brown at TBrown@hfpg.org