



A bulletin for nonprofit leaders from the  
Hartford Foundation for Public Giving



### A Farewell Message from Melanie Tavares

After much consideration and mixed emotions, I will be stepping away from my current position as Director of Capacity Building and Nonprofit Support on August 11<sup>th</sup> to assume the role of President and CEO at the [South Coast Community Foundation](#) in New Bedford, Massachusetts.

While I am excited to return to my home community and embrace this new challenge, leaving my Hartford Foundation colleagues, the fabulous NSP and Greater Together Community Funds teams, and our many nonprofit partners will be bittersweet. I will miss the incredible work we undertook together in service to the Greater Hartford region. I am honored to have been part of such an inspiring community. Your commitment to the Foundation's mission has been the driving force behind our accomplishments, and I do not doubt that you will continue to make a difference in the organizations you serve. I look forward to our paths crossing again and continuing to work together toward a more just and equitable world.

With deepest gratitude and warm regards,

Melanie



### Telling Our Stories - Virtual Workshop for Nonprofits

Good stories can be greatly effective for engaging audiences and inspiring action. However, translating complex issues, goals, and ideas into good stories can be challenging. This hands-on, virtual, interactive workshop for Hartford-area nonprofits will help attendees understand the importance of narrative as a form of communication, learn how to tell effective stories, and capture and use stories in virtually all aspects of your work. The workshop includes interactive breakouts during which participants will develop and share stories. The session will be presented by the [Goodman Center](#), which has been

teaching the craft of storytelling to a variety of audiences for 20+ years.

The session will take place on September 29 from 9:00 a.m. to Noon via Zoom. **Due to the interactive nature of the program, we ask that you come prepared to keep your cameras on and engage fully.**

If you'd like to register to attend, please contact Monica Kelly at [mkelly@hfg.org](mailto:mkelly@hfg.org).



### **NSP's Board Leadership Program Can Help Your Board Achieve a New Level of Effectiveness**

If your board is interested in better understanding and negotiating its respective roles and responsibilities, strengthening its ability to provide adequate resources and financial oversight for your organization, and becoming more effectively engaged in fulfilling your organization's mission, you may wish to consider applying for this program, which will be offered this Fall via Zoom.

The executive director/CEO must attend 3 workshop sessions along with the board chair or board chair-elect, and at least one additional board member, for a team of three. Executive directors will receive invitations to apply in mid-August. If you are interested in applying, you may contact Monica Kelly at [mkelly@hfg.org](mailto:mkelly@hfg.org).



### **Social Enterprise Accelerator Organizations Generate \$8 million in Revenue**

Since 2018, 16 Hartford-area nonprofits ("The Savvy 16") have participated in the Hartford Foundation's Social Enterprise Accelerator (SEA), with the support of **No Margin, No Mission**. Through SEA, these organizations have launched and grown entrepreneurial revenue-generating ventures, aimed at boosting their unrestricted revenue and mission impact. By engaging in a rigorous process that included developing and implementing business plans, raising startup/growth capital, and tracking progress over time, these nonprofits have collectively generated an impressive \$8,087,600 in earned income by selling mission-aligned products and services, resulting in new streams of unrestricted revenue to help sustain and extend their capacity to do good. Another 60+ Hartford-area nonprofits have participated in a series of Learning Labinars and mini-consultations to learn about and explore earned income possibilities.

## Cohort I - Organizations & Ventures

Brain Injury Alliance - [Brain Injury Navigator](#)

Chrysalis Center – [La Cocina and Training & Conference Center \(TCC\)](#)

Community Child Guidance Clinic – [Happy Trails Transportation](#)

CRIS Radio - [CRIS Access](#)

Harc - [SockStarz](#)

Hartford Public Library - [Digital Library Lab](#)

New Horizons – [Sunshine Wheels](#)

RE-Center - [Equity Consulting Services](#)

Riverfront Recapture – [Riverfront Adventure](#)

The Open Hearth – [Open Hearth Works](#)

## Cohort II – Organizations & Ventures

CTData – [Data Strategic Planning](#)

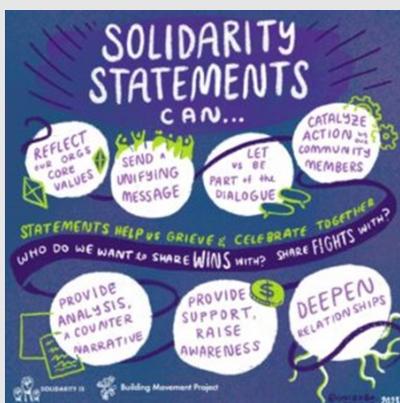
End Hunger CT! – [Full Shelves](#)

Hartford Food System – [Hartford Harvest Farm Share](#)

Health Equity Solutions – [HES Advantage](#)

Noah Webster House – [The West Hartford Gift Shop](#)

YWCA Hartford Region, [Persimmon Petals](#)



## How to Write an Effective Solidarity Statement

Often during movement moments or societal crises, organizations may contemplate drafting and releasing Solidarity Statements to convey their support of the demands and perspectives of partner groups and affected community members. If you're in that position, the [Building Movement Project](#) invites you to utilize its newly developed resource, [Writing A Solidarity Statement: Considerations and Process Questions](#). Through this resource, you'll find questions to reflect on before, during, and after drafting a solidarity statement, examples of important moments that could catalyze a Solidarity Statement, and examples of inspiring statements from different groups and networks.



## Annual Nonprofit Conference - Save the Date!

[The Alliance](#) will be hosting its Annual Nonprofit Conference in person on December 6<sup>th</sup> at the CT Convention Center in Hartford. This annual conference attracts 500+ attendees from across the state. Further information on the conference will be forthcoming. Meanwhile, save the date!



## Workshops for Smaller Nonprofits – Coming Attractions

Each Spring and Fall, the Hartford Public Library offers a series of workshops aimed at smaller

nonprofits, through a partnership with the Hartford Foundation. The Fall lineup will soon be announced on the Library's [web page](#). Meanwhile, you may access recordings of previous sessions [here](#).



## Hire Skilled Professional Volunteers at No Cost to your Nonprofit

The Hartford Foundation has partnered with [Catchafire](#) to match skilled professionals who wish to donate their time, with nonprofits who need their expert talent. Using a user-friendly online platform, nonprofits post projects, and select skilled, professional volunteers. Learn more about how Catchafire works by watching this [2 minute video](#).

Catchafire volunteers have contributed over 7,000 volunteer hours and completed more than 450 projects with Hartford-area nonprofits in the areas of Communications (social media strategy, copywriting, graphic design), Technology (tech systems setup, google ad words setup, Salesforce customization), Organizational Strategy, Human Resources, Language Translation, Financial Management, Business Planning and much more.

If you are interested in learning more or would like to receive a Foundation-sponsored membership with Catchafire, please email Amy Studwell at [astudwell@hfpg.org](mailto:astudwell@hfpg.org).



## Hartford Foundation Announces New Grant Opportunities

Click [here](#) to learn more about the latest grant opportunities from the Hartford Foundation, and to sign up for notifications when new grant opportunities are announced.

## The NSP Team

Melanie Tavares, Director, Capacity Building and Nonprofit Support  
Meher Shulman, Associate Director  
Amy Studwell, Senior Community Impact Officer  
Lucas Codognolla, Senior Community Impact Officer  
Monica Kelly, Nonprofit Support Program Manager

[Visit the Nonprofit Support Program website](#)



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