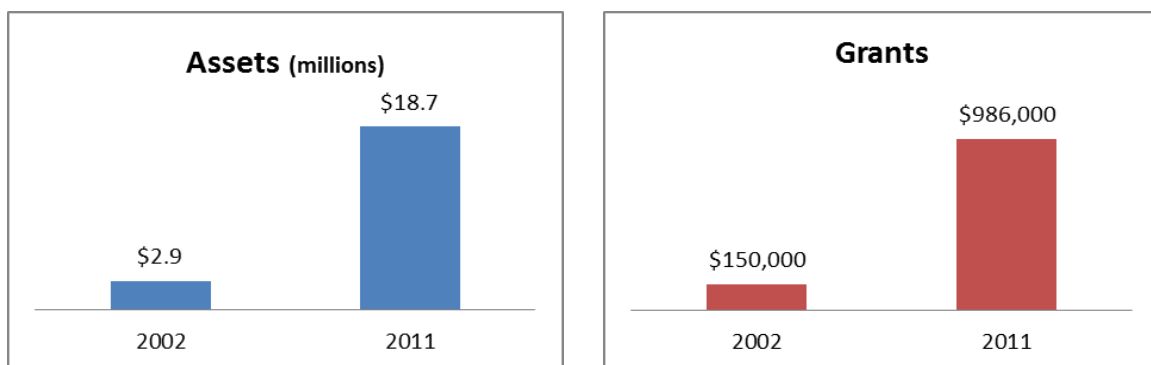


## Women's and Girls Funds in Connecticut - 2012 Summary

In Connecticut, the first women's fund was established in 1993. Today, there are eleven such funds growing and flourishing and the twelfth and most recent has just been established. Eleven of the funds are hosted by community-based foundations; one is a free-standing 501(c)(3).

All of the funds focus on engaging women donors for the benefit of programs for women and girls in their respective communities. They gather and distribute philanthropic dollars to improve the lives of women and girls in their communities, inform women about the most pressing issues affecting women and girls and engage women in decision making around focus areas for the funds and in evaluation of the grant requests.

### Growth in Assets and Grants Over 10 Years



The Connecticut Council for Philanthropy began tracking growth of the funds in 2002. Over the past ten years, the funds have grown dramatically:

- Assets of the funds have increased more than six-fold, from \$2.9 million in 2002 to \$18.7 million in 2011.
- Grants have increased more than six-fold as well, from \$150,000 in 2002 to more than \$986,000 in 2011.
- Donors to the funds now number more than 3,500.

Women's philanthropy includes diverse representation from all walks of life, all of whom bring value to the table—time, creativity, knowledge of the community, special skills as well as dollars. It is a balance of strength and compassion, strong collaboration and the knowledge and will to get things done.

## Sample Women's and Girls Activities

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- The Community Fund for Women and Girls at the Community Foundation for Greater New Haven funded a report by the Institute for Women's Policy Research (IWPR) in partnership with the Consortium for Women and Girls in New Haven under a contract with the City of New Haven. *The Status of Women and Girls in New Haven* examines critical issues that shape the lives of women and girls in the city. The report has four goals:
  1. to provide baseline information on women and girls in New Haven;
  2. to inform policy and program priorities for women and girls in New Haven;
  3. to provide easily accessible data on women and girls in New Haven; and
  4. to create a platform for advocacy and dialogue on issues affecting women and girls in New Haven.
- The Fairfield County Women and Girls Fund recently sponsored their first *Girls Symposium, A Convening to Share Solutions*. Today's girls and young women inhabit a world contaminated by cyberbullying, dating violence, eating disorders, STDs and other threats that can destroy their adolescence and derail their futures. This gathering is about collaborating and partnering to address challenges facing girls today - issues no one should face alone. The conversations will result in sharing solutions that can be collectively carried forward.
- In Eastern Connecticut, home of the Community Foundation of Eastern Connecticut, four women's and girls funds are fueling philanthropy—raising money that will go toward preventing teen pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases, helping the elderly to remain in their homes, preventing domestic violence and investing in family economic security.

## Women's and Girls Funds in Connecticut

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### [Aurora Women & Girls Foundation](#)

860-881-4926  
Cheryl Dumont-Smith - Cheryl@aurorafoundation.org

### [The Community Fund for Women & Girls](#)

The Community Foundation for Greater New Haven  
203-777-2386  
Sharon Cappetta - scappetta@cfgnh.org

### [Fund for Women and Girls](#)

Fairfield County Community Foundation  
203-750-3208  
Suzanne B. Peters - sbpeters@fccfoundation.org

### [The Lillian Fund](#)

Jewish Community Foundation of Greater Hartford  
860-232-7460  
Deborah Rothstein - drothstein@jcfhartford.org

### [Sari A. Rosenbaum Fund for Women & Girls](#)

[Community Foundation of Middlesex County](#)  
860-347-0025  
Cynthia Clegg - cynthia@middlesexcountycf.org

### [Women & Girls Fund – Southeastern](#)

### [Women & Girls Fund – Norwich Area](#)

### [Women & Girls Fund – Windham Area](#)

### [Women & Girls Fund - Northeast CT](#)

#### [Community Foundation of Eastern Connecticut](#)

860-442-3572  
Alison Woods (SE & Norwich) - Alison@cfect.org  
Kip Parker (Windham & NE) - kip@cfect.org

### [The Women & Girls' Fund](#)

#### [Main Street Community Foundation](#)

860-583-6363  
Jarre Betts - jarre@mainstreetfoundation.org

### [The Women's & Girls' Fund](#)

Community Foundation of Northwest Connecticut  
860-626-1245  
Laurie Dunham - ldunham@cfnwct.org

### [The Women's Initiative Fund](#)

Connecticut Community Foundation  
203-753-1315  
Ann Feinberg - afeinberg@connccf.org