Quick Facts about Philanthropy in Connecticut

Annually the Council gathers information regarding what Connecticut individuals and foundations give.

What do Connecticut individuals give?
Based on the itemizer information from 2010 IRS tax returns, compared with 2009 information. This does not include giving by non-itemizers.

$2.98 billion Charitable giving in Connecticut by a total of 632,429 returns reporting contributions (36.6% of 1.7 million filers – US average 26.7%) – up nearly 15% from 2009.

State ranking
#1 in average household income (CT $84,305 – US $56,220) – CT up nearly 6% from 2009
#4 in rate of top wealth holders (of CT’s nearly 1.4 million households, 7.13% include a millionaire - per Phoenix Marketing International September 2011)
#2 per capita income (CT $44,628 – US $27,969)
#3 in % of returns with itemized contribution deductions (36.6%)
#18 in average contribution (CT $4,714 – US $4,434) – up from #25 in 2009
#13 in average contribution for those with income greater than $200,000 (CT $21,022 – US $17,788) – up from #19 in 2008, CT average increased 16%, while the US increased 8%.
#26 in amount contributed as a percent of Adjusted Gross Income – up from #31

What do Connecticut individuals give through their estates?
Based on IRS returns for estates settled in 2010, compared with 2009 information.

$156 million Charitable gifts made through 56 Connecticut estates (19% of 292 filers – US average 20%)
$7.7 million Average estate settled in Connecticut (US average $8.6 million)
$2.8 million Average bequest of individuals who included a bequest in their estate (US average $3.9 million)

What do Connecticut Foundations look like?
Source: Foundation Center data for 2010 from 2012 Foundation Yearbook, compared with 2009 information.

1,514 Number of foundations in Connecticut – (2% of 76,610 foundations in US) down from 1,531 in 2009.
$7.4 billion Assets of Connecticut foundations (1.2% of $644 billion in the US) up from $7.3 billion in 2009.
$708.3 million Gifts received by Connecticut foundations (1.9% of the nearly $38 billion in the US)
– an increase of nearly 18% from $602.3 million in 2009
$811.9 million Total giving by Connecticut foundations (1.8% of the $45.9 billion in the US)
CT ranks #16, in giving, compared to other states
11 New Connecticut foundations formed in 2010 (down from 36 in 2009)
$1.37 billion Assets of 16 community foundations in Connecticut (2.5% of the $55.6 billion in the US)
$67.5 million Giving by 16 community foundations in Connecticut (1.6% of the $4.2 billion in the US)

*A federal estate tax return must be filed when the deceased’s estate exceeds a certain amount. The majority of estates file a federal estate tax return in the year after a decedent’s death. So, in 2009, most returns were filed for deaths that occurred in 2008. For deaths that occurred in 2004 and 2005, the amount was $1,500,000; in 2006 the amount went up to $2,000,000 and to $3,500,000 in 2009. For 2010, 2011 and 2012, the threshold is $5,000,000 with a special elect-out option for 2010.