

Everyone Can Make a Difference



Partners in Charitable Giving



"Whether you want to establish a simple donor advised fund or a complicated family foundation, the Community Foundation is the right resource."

Shared Learning



"We used the Community Foundation's Opportunity report to learn more about programs we might support in the state, and targeted our giving to programs focused on helping young people become productive members of society."

When you work with the Community Foundation, we make it easy, so you can concentrate on what matters most —your giving.

Understand Local Communities



"The Community Foundation does an excellent job of presenting the landscape of what's going on in Vermont."

Personal Touch



"Nobody understands Vermont's needs better than the Foundation, and they offered the personal advising we wanted."

**You love Vermont.
Be a part of something bigger.**

Better Together



"I like the 'community' part of the Community Foundation—it's very important. And they helped us organize our thinking around giving and have connected us to a broader network of philanthropists in the state."

Deep Loss Leads to Giving



“We feel we have a responsibility to do something good for the world because we are able to do something good for the world.”

—Joyce Manchester

The terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001 hit close to home for David Stapleton and Joyce Manchester—literally and figuratively. At the time, the two economists were living with their children just outside of Washington, D.C. Soon came devastating news: David and Joyce learned that close friends—a family traveling with their two young daughters—had been aboard the flight that crashed into the Pentagon.

“It could have been us,” said David. They felt compelled to do something to honor their lost friends and help make the world a little bit safer for their own children. That decision began 15 years of both global and local philanthropy. Soon the couple began giving to initiatives to support education, especially for girls, in Afghanistan and central Asia to counter the appeal of extremists and terrorist tactics.

Philanthropy became a “joint project of our relationship and marriage,” said Joyce—as well as a means for gathering with friends. In 2007, they partnered with friends to create the Afghan Education Giving Circle of Northern Virginia, which has since made annual grants to support education for girls in Afghanistan. Many of their grants have been made to Sahar Education International, a program that builds schools and computer centers in Afghanistan; David now serves as treasurer of Sahar’s board.

While much of the couple’s giving has focused on global initiatives, Joyce and David are also committed to giving back locally. After relocating to Vermont in 2014, they set up their fund with the Community Foundation the following year. They used the Community Foundation’s 2015 Opportunity report to learn more about programs they might support in the state, and targeted their giving to programs focused on helping young people become productive members of society.

“We feel we have a responsibility to do something good for the world because we are able to do something good for the world,” said Joyce. Be it at home or halfway around the world, that’s the philosophy that guides their giving.

Visit vermontcf.org/stories to read more about people who work with the Foundation.

Learn how you can make a difference.

Contact philanthropy@vermontcf.org or 802-388-3355 opt. 5.