













Top left and bottom: fireworks attendees and guitarist in Great River Park; top right: early spring rowing in Riverside Park; middle row: 5K participants in Riverside Park; health and fitness class at Mortensen Riverfront Plaza

In 2018, we continued our work to connect people to the Connecticut River, and we achieved that in so many ways, thanks to your support.

It was a year of accomplishments both large and small, from being named the recipient of the prestigious Bank of America's Neighborhood Builder award to rescuing a Great Blue Heron tangled in fishing line and seagrass at Charter Oak Landing.

Other notable accomplishments from the past year include the launch of the Riverfront Innovation Fund, a program designed to fund innovative, revenue-generating projects in our parks, and being selected as one of just ten nonprofits chosen to be a part of the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving's Social Enterprise Accelerator program. We furthered our commitment to sustainability with the installation of solar panels on the boathouse, which in turn reduced our energy costs by more than half. We worked with CRDA to obtain \$1.32 million to fund improvements in Great River Park and \$1 million to kickstart the development of a new 80-acre riverfront park in Hartford and Windsor.

We encourage you to think of these accomplishments as your own, as your support was essential to each of our successes.

Thank you again for your commitment to our work.

Dave Jenkins Board Chair Michael Zaleski President & CEO

750,037
TOTAL PARK
VISITORS

47.68

MWH PRODUCED BY SOLAR PANELS

8,520
ADVENTURE PROGRAM
PARTICIPANTS

593
ENTRIES IN HEAD OF THE RIVERFRONT

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Right: Dance Current class in Great River Park





In 2018, we connected more than 750,000 people with the Connecticut River – in perfect alignment with our mission. We will see significant change over the next few years as we make our beautiful riverfront park system even more recognized and utilized as a regional asset, in our efforts to fulfill our vision.

There were several "firsts" in 2018: National Dance Day and the Hartbeat Music Festival, and solar panel installation on our boathouse roof. For the year, the building consumed 59.5 megawatts of electricity, and we purchased just 11.82 MW from Eversource. The 47.68 megawatts generated also represents 1858 equivalent number of trees planted or 73,790 pounds of CO_2 emissions kept out of the atmosphere. From a cost perspective, we spent about \$6,500 buying electricity and earned \$4,914 in renewable energy credits, resulting in a net cost of \$1,586 for the year as compared to an average of \$14,500 per year over the last three years of operation.

We also launched the Riverfront Innovation Fund, investing in revenuegenerating ideas that will support the entire organization and bring exciting opportunities for the community to enjoy. The first of those will come to fruition in September 2019 as a three-day Spirit Festival, based on the renowned Bali Spirit Festival.

We are making positive headway in our endeavors to serve and be recognized as a regional asset through our park expansion and connection plans, and have generated substantial support for the following projects:

The stage canopy at Mortensen Riverfront Plaza will be replaced, complete with new lighting and sound system, thanks to the William and Alice Mortensen Foundation.

Surveying began in early January 2019 for a more than two mile riverwalk extension, with design currently underway. Permitting should begin this fall with anticipated construction in 2020. This expansion will connect our Riverwalk to Windsor Meadows State Park and the Bissell Bridge.

Enhancements and improvements will be made in Great River Park. thanks to state bond funding. Collaboration with the Town of East Hartford is key to making these significant improvements.

These large grants afford us opportunities to improve our parks and our ability to generate important revenue. However, they do not overshadow the importance of our donors, whose contributions ensure that our parks are open and available for the community to enjoy. We encourage you to continue to add your support and use your influence to ask others to join you. We are only successful with the help of many hands and generous hearts. Thank you for your belief in and support of Riverfront Recapture.













Top: Chris Montross, Mayor Bronin and Michael Zaleski at The Big Mo'; toasting Brian Wendry at the Boathouse Bash; middle: performers at the Hartbeat Music Festival and Taste of the Caribbean and Jerk Festival; bottom: Riverfront Adventure participants; staff at Arbor Day tree planting in Great River Park













Top: Mayor Leclerc, Dean Marchessault and Michael Zaleski at The Big Mo'; rowers at the Head of the Riverfront; middle: Riverfront Ranger and dogs at the Riverfront Food Truck Festival; bottom: Anne Cubberly's puppets at the Riverfront Dragon Boat & Asian Festival; runners in Riverside Park

Corporate, Foundation, and **Government Support**

Community investment is an important element of corporate, foundation, and government support. At Riverfront, these investments support general operations, arts and culture, youth enrichment, park development, and health and fitness, enhancing quality of life for the broader community. Please share your thanks with representatives of these generous organizations.



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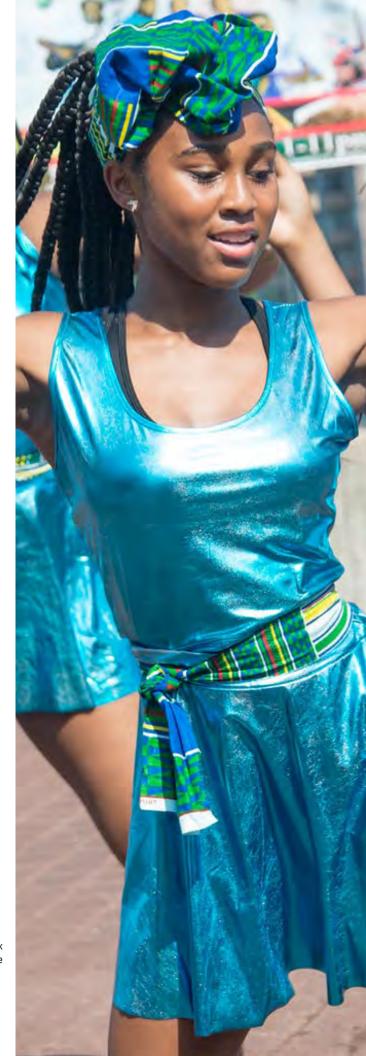
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This page: dancer at Taste of the Caribbean & Jerk Festival; right: dragon boat competitors on the docks at Mortensen Riverfront Plaza





INDIVIDUAL DONORS

There are many ways to show appreciation for the Riverfront, and we are thankful for so many donors who support our mission to connect people with the Connecticut River. Your donation has significant impact on quality of life in our region - more than 750,000 people joined us in 2018 to enjoy the parks and our events and programs.

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Our Founders' Society members have shown support for 10 or more consecutive years. They are clearly committed to the Riverfront and providing access to the Connecticut River through our parks. We appreciate and recognize their steadfast support by identifying them in bold in this report. New members are identified in green.

We welcome the following new Founders' Society members in 2018. Thank you for your dedication to the community, and for encouraging others to follow your example:

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We appreciate the following individuals who choose to honor or remember their loved ones with a contribution to Riverfront.

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Mainstay donors support Riverfront by donating through convenient monthly giving. These regular contributions to Riverfront add up throughout the year, helping Riverfront in its role as a quardian of the river and its parks. This dedicated group of people stays engaged and periodically choose to increase their annual commitment.

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Contact Rob Capossela to learn more about Mainstay at rcapossela@riverfront.org or 860-713-3131 x328.

Riverfront Legacy Society

Ensuring that Riverfront parks are available long into the future is important. Recognizing the value of the parks in the present has inspired people to include Riverfront in their estate plans. They want to be sure that others will be able to enjoy and explore the river and the parks.

We are grateful for the following individuals who have left or intend to leave a legacy to Riverfront, supporting our mission to connect people with the Connecticut River:

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If you would like to learn more about legacy giving please contact Deborah Baker at dbaker@riverfront.org or 860-713-3131 x326.

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Sheryl Hack Erene Hammond

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This page: paddlers at lower Mortensen Riverfront Plaza; right: Joe Marfuggi photo taken by Lanny Nagler; Joe and Sherry Brown-Marfuggi at The Big Joe; Joe in Riverside Park

Remembering Joe Marfuggi

Former president and CEO Joe Marfuggi passed away on October 11, 2018 at age 77 after an extended illness. He led the organization from 1986 until 2015. We are deeply saddened by his passing. We are incredibly grateful to Joe for what he accomplished during his 29-year tenure. Post-retirement, he remained an involved and dedicated member of the organization as a committee member, volunteer, donor, and ambassador. Riverfront Recapture, and the Riverfront parks system, would not be what it is today without his hard work, vision, and dedication.

Joe's work can be seen throughout our parks, from the wood planks on our docks to the paved paths of our Riverwalk. The fruits of his labor will be honored each time someone discovers our parks, learns to row, and in every improvement made through the Marfuggi Parks Fund, which was created to celebrate his enduring dedication and leadership. His memory and legacy will forever be protected in our parks.

Thanks to the following contributors who gave to the Marfuggi Parks Fund or in memory or honor of Joe in 2018:

MARFUGGI PARKS FUND

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Waterford Group



















From top left: volunteer groups from the University of Hartford, Voya, Aetna, Travelers and Catholic Heart Work Camp; middle right: Joe Gianni, Bank of America, and Michael Zaleski in front of the new volunteer trailer

Volunteers are an essential part of our work to connect people to the Connecticut River. We worked with 1,864 volunteers in 2018, and we are so grateful to them for taking the time to work with us.

Volunteers painted, weeded, planted, trimmed, mulched, cleared invasives, repaired fishing equipment, cleaned PFDs and boats and removed debris. Our 48 park clean-up groups benefited from a well-organized, well-stocked volunteer trailer, thanks to Bank of America. Having everything handy optimized each group's time in our parks. Our parks were cleaner and looked more beautiful than ever.

In addition to park maintenance projects and beautification, 380 volunteers worked to make sure that events like the Dragon Boat & Asian Festival and the Head of the Riverfront went smoothly, and surveyed event goers and everyday park visitors. Many event volunteers return event after event, year after year. There's a sense of ownership amongst these volunteers that results in incredibly well-run events. Volunteers checked IDs, counted attendees, facilitated surveys; were dock marshals, team leaders, band assistants and more.

Our parks and events wouldn't be the same without our volunteers. Thank you!

GROUPS

Accenture Interns Aetna Enterprise Brand Team Aetna Underwriting Americorps NCCC Catholic Heart Work Camp CohnReznick Connecticut River Academy Connecticut River Conservancy Conning **CREC Impact Academy** Doosan Fuel Cell America **ESPN** Ernst & Young LLP Global Underwriting Hartford Community Court The Hartford The Hartford ComPAS The Hartford P&C/Corporate Litigation Lindberg & Ripple Lochner Marriott Hartford Downtown OPTUM/UnitedHealthcare Pratt & Whitney

PricewaterhouseCoopers Interns Robinson & Cole Slalom Consulting S.T.E.P. Hartford **Travelers** Travelers Young Professionals Trinity College Men's Crew Team Two Rivers Magnet Middle School UnitedHealthcare Underwriting University of Connecticut University of Hartford Summer Place University of St. Joseph Vova Watkinson School XL Catlin

INDIVIDUALS

100+ hours Dave Guadliana Gretchen Gregg Eric Kasowitz Tory McBrien Jonathan Nyberg Eric Van de Berg

50 - 99 hours Madeleine Kenny Jennifer Lambert

25 - 50 hours **Greg Adams** David McCartney Kimberly McVey Ralph Veenema

15 - 24 hours Nan Boyer **David Crockett** Holly DeYoung Terri Granger Traci Hazelton Roberta Murphy Wally Powell Karen Reinhardt Bill Telech

10 - 14 hours Keith Antava Andy Asensio Hamza Aslam Eliza Byrnes

Stephen Chase Jim Cooper Deb Dodenhoff Susan Hoffnagle Darcy Kirk Rhonda Leonard Mark Melanson Garrett Nicol Kaitlin Nicol Kristen Poulin Matthew Poulin Dom Raphael Jeff Rancourt Susan Ring Rosalie Rioux Leslie Ryan Chip Saccoccio Linda Schernau Rene Twarkins Bill Veronesi Marc Weinberg Ally Zoppa

Contact Margie Girardi-Telech at mgirardi-telech@riverfront.org or 860-713-3131 x305 to learn more about volunteering.

DEBRIS RECYCLED

PLANTED

MATERIALS













Top: rowers at the Head of the Riverfront; yoga class at Mortensen Riverfront Plaza; middle: Olympic rower Meghan O'Leary at the Boathouse Bash, Waldo at the Riverfront Food Truck Festival; bottom: view of the Colt Building from Mortensen Riverfront Plaza, 5K viewer taking in the art at Riverside Park.

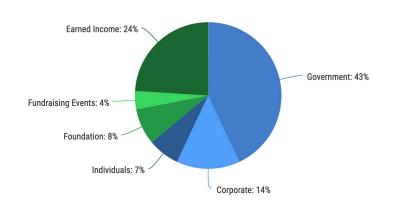
SUMMARY OF FINANCES

ASSETS

Cash and Investments	\$2,567,143
Receivables	\$116,826
Equipment	\$544,720
Prepaid Expenses	\$12,078
TOTAL ASSETS	\$3,240,767

LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS

Payables	\$203,106
Refundable Advances	\$5,075
Net Assets Without Donor Restrictions	\$1,473,971
Net Assets With Donor Restrictions	\$1,558,615
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	\$3,240,767



REVENUE

TOTAL REVENUE	\$3,337,761
Program Fees and other Earned Income	\$786,787
Grants and Contributions	\$2,550,974

EXPENSES

TOTAL EXPENSES	\$3,401,870
Fundraising	\$332,104
General Administration	\$104,938
Program Services	\$2,964,828



General Administration: 3% Fundraising: 10% Program Services: 87%

TOTAL NET ASSETS

Beginning of Year	\$3,324,595
End of Year	\$3,032,586

This summary is derived from the audited financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2018. A copy of the complete statement is available at riverfront.org/financials. Our auditor is Blum, Shapiro & Company, P.C.

Photo, next page: enjoying the riverwalk in early fall; back cover: team-building and trust on the Riverfront Adventure challenge course

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Deborah Baker

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