

**THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF EASTERN
CONNECTICUT, INC.**

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023



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CONNECTICUT, INC.
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YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023**

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INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

Board of Trustees
The Community Foundation of Eastern Connecticut, Inc.
New London, Connecticut

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinion

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of The Community Foundation of Eastern Connecticut, Inc., which comprise the statement of financial position as of December 31, 2023, and the related statements of activities, functional expenses, and cash flows for the year then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of The Community Foundation of Eastern Connecticut, Inc., as of December 31, 2023, and the changes in its net assets and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS) and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements* section of our report. We are required to be independent of The Community Foundation of Eastern Connecticut, Inc. and to meet our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audits. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about The Community Foundation of Eastern Connecticut, Inc.'s ability to continue as a going concern for one year after the date the financial statements are available to be issued.

Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditors' report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore, is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS and *Government Auditing Standards* will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS and *Government Auditing Standards*, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of The Community Foundation of Eastern Connecticut, Inc.'s internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about The Community Foundation of Eastern Connecticut, Inc.'s ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control related matters that we identified during the audit.

Board of Trustees
The Community Foundation of Eastern Connecticut, Inc.

Report on Summarized Comparative Information

We have previously audited The Community Foundation of Eastern Connecticut, Inc.'s 2022 financial statements, and we expressed an unmodified opinion on those financial statements in our report dated June 6, 2023. In our opinion, the summarized comparative information presented herein as of and for the year ended December 31, 2022 is consistent, in all material respects, with the audited financial statements from which it has been derived.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated June 5, 2024, on our consideration of The Community Foundation of Eastern Connecticut, Inc.'s internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of The Community Foundation of Eastern Connecticut, Inc.'s internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering The Community Foundation of Eastern Connecticut, Inc.'s internal control over financial reporting and compliance.



CliftonLarsonAllen LLP

West Hartford, Connecticut
June 5, 2024

**THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF EASTERN
CONNECTICUT, INC.
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
DECEMBER 31, 2023
(WITH SUMMARIZED FINANCIAL INFORMATION FOR DECEMBER 31, 2022)**

ASSETS	2023	2022
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 5,311,404	\$ 5,283,190
Investments	110,964,597	96,226,018
Contributions Receivable, Net	73,498	38,085
Prepaid Expenses and Other Assets	44,262	61,935
Split-Interest Agreements:		
Beneficial Interest in Perpetual Trust	4,150,450	3,777,185
Charitable Trusts	449,039	392,840
Charitable Gift Annuities	390,549	357,939
Property and Equipment, Net	415,927	395,195
Total Assets	\$ 121,799,726	\$ 106,532,387
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
LIABILITIES		
Accounts Payable and Accrued Expenses	\$ 97,968	\$ 146,495
Grants Payable, Net	1,518,274	1,736,615
Liabilities Under Charitable Gift Annuities	139,755	144,923
Capital Lease Obligation	10,995	1,252
Total Liabilities	1,766,992	2,029,285
NET ASSETS		
Without Donor Restrictions:		
Board-Designated, Administrative Endowment	2,897,778	2,662,410
Undesignated	112,462,004	97,632,582
Total Without Donor Restrictions	115,359,782	100,294,992
With Donor Restrictions	4,672,952	4,208,110
Total Net Assets	120,032,734	104,503,102
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$ 121,799,726	\$ 106,532,387

See accompanying Notes to Financial Statements.

**THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF EASTERN
CONNECTICUT, INC.
STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023
(WITH SUMMARIZED FINANCIAL INFORMATION FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2022)**

	2023			2022 Total
	Without Donor Restrictions	With Donor Restrictions	Total	
REVENUES, GAINS, AND OTHER SUPPORT				
Contributions	\$ 9,419,271	\$ 69,964	\$ 9,489,235	\$ 8,932,114
Government Grants	1,000,000	-	1,000,000	-
Change in Value of Split-Interest Agreements	(20,065)	56,199	36,134	(92,884)
Change in Value of Perpetual Trust	-	373,265	373,265	(952,756)
Net Realized and Unrealized Gain (Loss) on Investments	12,324,725	-	12,324,725	(17,629,172)
Investment Income, Net	1,837,465	-	1,837,465	1,141,774
Total Support	24,561,396	499,428	25,060,824	(8,600,924)
Net Assets Released from Restrictions	34,586	(34,586)	-	-
Total Revenues, Gains and Other Support	24,595,982	464,842	25,060,824	(8,600,924)
EXPENSES				
Program Services:				
Grants	7,025,036	-	7,025,036	5,971,359
Scholarships	992,701	-	992,701	1,047,787
Other Program Expenses	761,323	-	761,323	763,066
Total Program Services	8,779,060	-	8,779,060	7,782,212
Supporting Services:				
General and Administrative Expenses	416,497	-	416,497	362,782
Fundraising	335,635	-	335,635	334,586
Total Supporting Services	752,132	-	752,132	697,368
Total Expenses	9,531,192	-	9,531,192	8,479,580
INCREASE (DECREASE) IN NET ASSETS	15,064,790	464,842	15,529,632	(17,080,504)
Net Assets - Beginning of Year	100,294,992	4,208,110	104,503,102	121,583,606
NET ASSETS - END OF YEAR	\$ 115,359,782	\$ 4,672,952	\$ 120,032,734	\$ 104,503,102

See accompanying Notes to Financial Statements.

**THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF EASTERN
CONNECTICUT, INC.
STATEMENT OF FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023**

	Program Services			Supporting Services		Total
	Grants and Scholarships	Other Programs	Total Program Services	General and Administrative	Fundraising	
Grants	\$ 7,025,036	\$ -	\$ 7,025,036	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 7,025,036
Scholarships	992,701	-	992,701	-	-	992,701
Salaries and Wages	-	493,675	493,675	219,411	201,127	914,213
Employee Benefits	-	99,330	99,330	31,138	35,259	165,727
Payroll Taxes	-	40,495	40,495	17,998	16,498	74,991
Computer and Software	-	32,734	32,734	14,549	19,324	66,607
Contract Services	-	1,837	1,837	95,489	748	98,074
Depreciation and Amortization	-	12,842	12,842	5,707	5,232	23,781
Donor Development	-	-	-	-	22,929	22,929
Dues and Subscriptions	-	7,680	7,680	3,413	3,129	14,222
Marketing and Advertising	-	-	-	-	9,574	9,574
Annual Report	-	11,655	11,655	833	4,163	16,651
Travel and Meetings	-	11,571	11,571	3,413	4,481	19,465
Utilities	-	5,139	5,139	4,862	3,889	13,890
Program Support	-	27,374	27,374	-	-	27,374
Repairs and Maintenance	-	5,998	5,998	2,666	2,444	11,108
Insurance	-	6,095	6,095	2,709	2,483	11,287
Supplies	-	3,053	3,053	1,414	2,099	6,566
Postage and Shipping	-	781	781	-	1,823	2,604
Miscellaneous	-	-	-	3,541	-	3,541
Education and Training	-	-	-	8,536	-	8,536
Equipment Rental and Maintenance	-	1,064	1,064	473	433	1,970
Interest Expense	-	-	-	345	-	345
Total Expenses	\$ 8,017,737	\$ 761,323	\$ 8,779,060	\$ 416,497	\$ 335,635	\$ 9,531,192

See accompanying Notes to Financial Statements.

**THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF EASTERN
CONNECTICUT, INC.
STATEMENT OF FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2022**

	Program Services			Supporting Services		
	Grants and Scholarships	Other Programs	Total Program Services	General and Administrative	Fundraising	Total
Grants	\$ 5,971,359	\$ -	\$ 5,971,359	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,971,359
Scholarships	1,047,787	-	1,047,787	-	-	1,047,787
Salaries and Wages	-	489,042	489,042	217,352	199,239	905,633
Employee Benefits	-	73,977	73,977	25,474	27,316	126,767
Payroll Taxes	-	35,871	35,871	15,943	14,614	66,428
Computer and Software	-	32,104	32,104	14,269	19,068	65,441
Contract Services	-	1,807	1,807	54,061	736	56,604
Depreciation and Amortization	-	13,503	13,503	6,001	5,501	25,005
Donor Development	-	-	-	-	12,756	12,756
Dues and Subscriptions	-	6,685	6,685	2,971	2,723	12,379
Marketing and Advertising	-	-	-	-	8,853	8,853
Annual Report	-	11,585	11,585	827	4,137	16,549
Travel and Meetings	-	10,030	10,030	2,533	3,827	16,390
Utilities	-	4,793	4,793	4,534	3,627	12,954
Program Support	-	56,093	56,093	-	-	56,093
Development Support	-	-	-	-	18,007	18,007
Repairs and Maintenance	-	18,470	18,470	8,209	7,525	34,204
Insurance	-	5,098	5,098	2,266	2,077	9,441
Supplies	-	2,766	2,766	1,668	2,391	6,825
Postage and Shipping	-	874	874	-	2,039	2,913
Miscellaneous	-	-	-	2,798	-	2,798
Education and Training	-	-	-	3,395	-	3,395
Equipment Rental and Maintenance	-	368	368	164	150	682
Interest Expense	-	-	-	317	-	317
Total Expenses	<u>\$ 7,019,146</u>	<u>\$ 763,066</u>	<u>\$ 7,782,212</u>	<u>\$ 362,782</u>	<u>\$ 334,586</u>	<u>\$ 8,479,580</u>

See accompanying Notes to Financial Statements.

**THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF EASTERN
CONNECTICUT, INC.
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023
(WITH SUMMARIZED FINANCIAL INFORMATION FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2022)**

	2023	2022
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets	\$ 15,529,632	\$ (17,080,504)
Adjustments to Reconcile increase (decrease) in net assets to Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities:		
Depreciation and Amortization	23,781	25,005
Net Realized and Unrealized (Gain) Loss on Investments	(12,324,725)	17,629,172
Change in Value of Beneficial Interest in Perpetual Trust	(373,265)	952,756
(Increase) Decrease in Operating Assets:		
Contributions Receivable	(35,413)	(29,839)
Prepaid Expenses and Other Assets	17,673	(6,382)
Charitable Trusts	(56,199)	113,131
Charitable Gift Annuities	(32,610)	37,774
Increase (Decrease) in Operating Liabilities:		
Accounts Payable and Accrued Expenses	(48,527)	(29,947)
Grants Payable	(218,341)	250,204
Liabilities Under Charitable Gift Annuities	(5,168)	(18,947)
Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities	2,476,838	1,842,423
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
Proceeds From the Sale of Investments	103,308,697	4,626,978
Purchases of Investments	(105,722,551)	(5,965,771)
Purchases of Property and Equipment	(31,827)	-
Net Cash Used by Investing Activities	(2,445,681)	(1,338,793)
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES		
Payments on Capital Lease Obligation	(2,943)	(4,751)
Net Cash Used by Financing Activities	(2,943)	(4,751)
NET INCREASE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS	28,214	498,879
Cash and Cash Equivalents - Beginning of Year	5,283,190	4,784,311
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS - END OF YEAR	\$ 5,311,404	\$ 5,283,190
SUPPLEMENTAL DISCLOSURE OF CASH FLOW INFORMATION		
Cash Paid for Interest	\$ 345	\$ 317
Property and Equipment Financed through Capital Lease	\$ 12,686	\$ -

See accompanying Notes to Financial Statements.

**THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF EASTERN
CONNECTICUT, INC.
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2023**

NOTE 1 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Nature of Activity

The Community Foundation of Eastern Connecticut, Inc. (the Foundation), formerly the Community Foundation of Southeastern Connecticut, is a nonprofit corporation headquartered in New London, Connecticut, serving 42 towns of eastern Connecticut. It promotes local philanthropy by building a permanent endowment and making grants to support the programs offered by local nonprofit organizations. It also awards college scholarships to local students. The Foundation solicits and receives contributions from individuals and businesses and trusts, invests them for the long-term, and distributes grants and scholarships from the earnings of those invested funds. It also serves many individual donors in accomplishing their immediate charitable interests by making pass-through grants to eligible nonprofit organizations. The Foundation supports arts and education, health and human services, youth, civic, animal welfare and environmental causes.

Prior Year Summarized Financial Information

The financial statements include certain prior year summarized financial information in total but not by net asset class. Such information does not include sufficient detail to constitute a presentation in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (U.S. GAAP). Accordingly, such information should be read in conjunction with the Foundation's audited financial statements as of and for the year ended December 31, 2022, from which the summarized information was derived.

Adoption of New Accounting Standards

At the beginning of 2023, the Foundation adopted FASB ASU 2016-13, Financial Instruments - Credit Losses (Topic 326): Measurement of Credit Losses on Financial Instruments, as amended, which modifies the measurement of expected credit losses. The Foundation adopted this new guidance utilizing the modified retrospective transition method. The adoption of this Standard did not have a material impact on the Foundation's financial statements.

Basis of Accounting and Presentation

The Foundation prepares its financial statements in accordance with U.S. GAAP. Accordingly, the accounts of the Foundation are reported in the following categories:

Net Assets Without Donor Restrictions – Net assets without donor restrictions represent available resources other than donor-restricted contributions. The Board of Trustees (the Board) of the Foundation has variance power, the unilateral power to redirect the use of a donor's contribution to another beneficiary. Such contributions must be classified as net assets without donor restrictions. Accordingly, the Foundation's financial statements classify substantially all funds, including the corpus of endowment funds, as net assets without donor restrictions. The Board has designated a portion of the net assets without donor restrictions for the purposes of administrative endowment.

**THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF EASTERN
CONNECTICUT, INC.
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2023**

NOTE 1 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

Basis of Accounting and Presentation (Continued)

Net Assets With Donor Restrictions – Net assets with donor restrictions represent contributions that are restricted by the donor as to purpose or time of expenditure and also includes income and appreciation subject to purpose restrictions and split-interest agreements, as discussed below. Net assets with donor restrictions also represent resources that have donor-imposed restrictions that require that the principal be maintained in perpetuity but permit the Foundation to expend the income earned thereon. These include the Foundation's proportionate share of the principal amount of irrevocable trusts with outside directors, for which the Foundation is an income beneficiary.

Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with U.S. GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect certain reported amounts and disclosures. Accordingly, actual results could differ from those estimates.

Cash and Cash Equivalents

For purposes of the statement of cash flows, the Foundation considers all highly liquid investments without donor restrictions and an initial maturity of three months or less to be cash equivalents, exclusive of cash equivalents held by investment managers, which are considered to be investments. The Foundation's deposits in financial institutions may, at times, exceed federal depository insurance limits. However, management believes the Foundation is not subject to significant credit risk on its deposits.

Investment Valuation and Income Recognition

Investments are reported at fair value. Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. The investment committee of the Foundation determines the Foundation's valuation policies and procedures utilizing information provided by investment advisers. The Foundation's investment committee reports to the Board of Trustees on a quarterly basis. See Note 2 for a discussion of fair value measurements.

Purchases and sales of securities are recorded on the trade date basis. Interest income is recorded on the accrual basis. Dividends are recorded on the ex-dividend date.

**THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF EASTERN
CONNECTICUT, INC.
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2023**

NOTE 1 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

Split-Interest Agreements

Split-interest agreements consist of assets placed in trust for the benefit of the Foundation and other beneficiaries. Revocable split-interest agreements are not recorded as contributions unless enforceable by law. Irrevocable split-interest agreements are recorded as contributions at fair value when the assets are received or when the Foundation is notified of the existence of the agreement. The accounting treatment varies depending upon the type of agreement created and whether the Foundation or a third party is the trustee. See Note 4 for a further discussion of split-interest agreements.

Property and Equipment

Property and equipment acquisitions and improvements thereon that exceed \$2,000 are capitalized at cost and depreciated on a straight-line basis over their estimated useful lives ranging from 3 to 40 years. Donated property and equipment are recognized at fair value at the date of donation.

Contributions

Unconditional contributions are recognized when pledged or received, as applicable, and are considered to be available for unrestricted use unless specifically restricted by the donor. Contributions receivable expected to be collected in more than one year are discounted to their present value. The Foundation reports nongovernmental contributions and grants of cash and other assets as net assets with donor restrictions if they are received with donor stipulations that limit their use. When a donor restriction expires, that is, when a stipulated time restriction ends or purpose restriction is accomplished, net assets with donor restrictions are reclassified to net assets without donor restrictions and reported in the statement of activities as Net Assets Released From Restrictions. Contributions received whose restrictions are met in the same period are presented with net assets without donor restrictions. Promises to give that are subject to donor-imposed conditions (i.e., a donor stipulation that includes a barrier that must be overcome and a right of release of assets) are recognized when the conditions on which they depend are substantially met, that is, when the conditional promise becomes unconditional. Unconditional contributions are recognized when promised or received, as applicable, and are considered to be available for unrestricted use unless specifically restricted by the donor.

Government Grants

The Foundation recognizes revenue from government grants as qualifying program expenditures are incurred. Receivables are recognized to the extent costs have been incurred, but not reimbursed. Amounts received in advance are recorded as refundable advances. Grants require the fulfillment of certain conditions as set forth in the grant agreement. There were no grants receivable or refundable advances as of both December 31, 2023 and 2022.

**THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF EASTERN
CONNECTICUT, INC.
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2023**

NOTE 1 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

Donated Assets

Donated marketable securities and other asset donations are recognized as contributions at their fair values at the date of donation.

Functional Allocation of Expenses

The costs of providing various programs and other activities have been reported on a functional basis in the statement of functional expenses. Accordingly, certain costs have been allocated among the programs and supporting services benefited. Such allocations are determined by management on an equitable basis. Salaries and wages, employee benefits, payroll taxes, contract services, computer and software, travel and meetings, annual report, supplies, dues and subscriptions, postage and shipping, and equipment rental and maintenance are allocated based on time and effort. Utilities, repairs and maintenance, insurance and depreciation are allocated based upon square footage.

Income Tax Status

The Foundation is exempt from federal income taxes under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. The Foundation has also been classified as an entity that is not a private foundation within the meaning of Section 509(a) and qualifies for deductible contributions as provided in Section 170(b)(1)(A).

Leases

The Foundation leases office equipment. The Foundation determines if an arrangement is a lease at inception.

ROU assets represent the Foundation's right to use an underlying asset for the lease term and lease liabilities represent the Foundation's obligation to make lease payments arising from the lease. ROU assets and liabilities are recognized at the lease commencement date based on the present value of lease payments over the lease term. Leases were not material to the financial statements and not recalculated under ASC 842.

Subsequent Events

In preparing these financial statements, management has evaluated subsequent events through June 5, 2024, which represents the date the financial statements were available to be issued.

**THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF EASTERN
CONNECTICUT, INC.
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2023**

NOTE 2 FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America establish a framework for measuring fair value. That framework provides a fair value hierarchy that prioritizes the inputs to valuation techniques used to measure fair value. The hierarchy gives the highest priority to unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities (Level 1 measurements) and the lowest priority to unobservable inputs (Level 3 measurements). The three levels of the fair value hierarchy are described below:

Level 1 – Inputs to the valuation methodology are unadjusted quoted prices for identical assets or liabilities in active markets that the Foundation has the ability to access.

Level 2 – Inputs to the valuation methodology include:

- quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities in active markets;
- quoted prices for identical or similar assets or liabilities in inactive markets;
- inputs other than quoted prices that are observable for the asset or liability;
- inputs that are derived principally from or corroborated by observable market data by correlation or other means.

If the asset or liability has a specified (contractual) term, the Level 2 input must be observable for substantially the full term of the asset or liability.

Level 3 – Inputs to the valuation methodology are unobservable and significant to the fair value measurement.

The asset's or liability's fair value measurement level within the fair value hierarchy is based on the lowest level of any input that is significant to the fair value measurement. Valuation techniques used need to maximize the use of observable inputs and minimize the use of unobservable inputs. As a practical expedient, certain investments are measured at fair value on the basis of net asset value. The fair value of these investments is not included in the fair value hierarchy.

The following is a description of the valuation methodologies used for financial instruments measured at fair value:

Exchange Traded Funds

Exchange traded funds are valued at the quoted net asset value of shares reported in the active market in which the funds are traded.

Common Stocks

Common stocks are valued at the closing price reported in the active market in which the individual securities are traded.

**THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF EASTERN
CONNECTICUT, INC.
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2023**

NOTE 2 FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS (CONTINUED)

Mutual Funds

Mutual funds are valued at the quoted price of shares held by the Foundation at year end.

Fixed Income

Investments in fixed income securities are valued using quoted prices for similar securities in active markets.

Alternative Investments

Alternative investments include both multi-strategy and long/short equity approaches. Multi-strategy funds typically involve event-driven, stressed and distressed credit and spread-based arbitrage investments. These strategies tend to be both flexible and opportunistic and incorporate differentiated drivers of return compared to traditional investment strategies. As a result, they are expected to produce returns that exhibit relatively low correlation to broad market indices over longer time horizons. Long/short equity managers typically make both long and short investments in publicly traded equity securities and produce returns that can be expected to correlate more closely with the performance of the equity markets than is expected from multi-strategy managers, though with lower volatility than traditional "long only" equity managers. Investments in hedged assets are generally subject to an initial lock-up of three months with advance notice. The private equity fund is an investment in a partnership with a 10-year holding period. The private debt fund, also classified as private equity, is an investment in private debt with a three-year investment period followed by a five-year harvest subject to two one-year extensions. The real estate income fund invests in direct commercial property assets that offer the investor potential for attractive returns through the implementation of a core and enhanced core real estate strategy. Over time, alternative assets are expected to generate equity-like returns with lower volatility than equity markets.

Private Equity Fund

Interests in private equity and debt are valued using net asset values as determined by the investment manager of the fund. This investment class makes commitments to private investment opportunities with the goal of outperforming market indices over the long term.

Distressed Equity Fund

Interests in distressed equity are valued using net asset values as determined by the investment manager of the fund. This investment class makes commitments to private investment opportunities with the goal of outperforming market indices over the long term.

**THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF EASTERN
CONNECTICUT, INC.
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2023**

NOTE 2 FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS (CONTINUED)

Private Debt Fund

Interests in private debt are valued using net asset values as determined by the investment manager of the fund. This investment class makes commitments to private investment opportunities with the goal of outperforming market indices over the long term.

Real Estate Income Fund

The real estate income fund class includes several real estate funds that invest in primarily U.S. commercial real estate. The fair values of the investments in this category have been estimated using the net asset value of the Foundation's ownership interest in partners' capital.

Beneficial Interest in Perpetual Trust

Beneficial interest in perpetual trust is measured at the present value of expected future cash flows.

Split-Interest Agreements

Fair value inputs used for split-interest agreements are based on the estimated present value of the future payments to the Foundation, which is considered to be the fair value of the assets held in trust.

There have been no changes in the methodologies used at December 31, 2023.

The methods described above may produce a fair value calculation that may not be indicative of net realizable value or reflective of future fair values. Furthermore, while the Foundation believes its valuation methods are appropriate and consistent with other market participants, the use of different methodologies or assumptions to determine the fair value of certain financial instruments could result in a different fair value measurement at the reporting date.

**THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF EASTERN
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NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2023**

NOTE 2 FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS (CONTINUED)

The following table sets forth by level, within the fair value hierarchy, the Foundation's assets at fair

	December 31, 2023	Fair Value Measurements Using			Investments Measured at Net Asset Value (a)
		Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	
Cash Equivalents	\$ 14,408,710	\$ 14,408,710	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Exchange Traded Funds	3,752,959	3,752,959	-	-	-
Common Stock:					
Domestic Equities	42,788,990	39,344,138	3,444,852	-	-
Foreign Equities	3,381,881	3,381,881	-	-	-
Mutual Funds:					
U.S. Equity Funds	2,867,681	2,867,681	-	-	-
International Equity Funds	4,107,764	4,107,764	-	-	-
Emerging market	-	-	-	-	-
Fixed Income:					
Government Issues	18,659,947	-	18,659,947	-	-
Corporate Issues	6,291,602	-	6,291,602	-	-
Alternative Investments:					
Private Equity Fund	5,992,978	-	-	-	5,992,978
Distressed Equity Fund	3,812,379	-	-	-	3,812,379
Private Debt Fund	3,103,060	-	-	-	3,103,060
Real Estate Income Fund	1,796,646	-	-	-	1,796,646
Total Investments	<u>110,964,597</u>	<u>67,863,133</u>	<u>28,396,401</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>14,705,063</u>
Beneficial Interest in					
Perpetual Trusts	4,150,450	-	-	4,150,450	-
Split-Interest Agreements	839,588	-	839,588	-	-
Total Assets at Fair Value	<u>\$ 115,954,635</u>	<u>\$ 67,863,133</u>	<u>\$ 29,235,989</u>	<u>\$ 4,150,450</u>	<u>\$ 14,705,063</u>

- a) Certain investments that are measured at fair value using the net asset value per share (or its equivalent) practical expedient have not been classified in the fair value hierarchy. The fair value amounts presented in this table are intended to permit reconciliation of the fair value hierarchy to the amounts presented in the statement of financial position.

There were no transfers between levels of investments during the year ended December 31, 2023.

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NOTE 2 FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS (CONTINUED)

Additional information regarding investments that report fair value based on net asset value per share or unit as of December 31, 2023 is as follows:

Description	Fair Value	Unfunded Commitments	Redemption Terms	Redemption Restrictions
Private Equity Fund (b)	\$ 5,992,978	\$ 2,577,516	Restricted	Restricted
Distressed Equity fund (b)	3,812,379	1,107,063	Restricted	Restricted
Private Debt Fund (b)	3,103,060	575,037	Restricted	Restricted
Real Estate Income Fund (a)	1,796,646	793,807	Restricted	Restricted
Total	<u>\$ 14,705,063</u>	<u>\$ 5,053,423</u>		

The investment strategies of these investments are as follows:

- a) To diversify investments within asset classes to reduce the impact of losses in a single investment and to provide returns that over the long term provide sufficient income and appreciation to fund the Foundation's spending policy;
- b) To preserve capital and to generate consistent long-term appreciation.

Gains and losses (realized and unrealized) included in changes in net assets for the year ended December 31, 2023 are reported in net realized and unrealized gains on investments on the statement of activities.

The following table presents information about significant unobservable inputs related to the Foundation's investments in Level 3 assets at December 31, 2023:

Type	Fair Value	Valuation Technique	Significant Unobservable Inputs
Beneficial Interest in Perpetual Trust	<u>\$ 4,150,450</u>	Fair Value	Amount and Timing of Distributions From Trust

**THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF EASTERN
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NOTE 3 CONTRIBUTIONS RECEIVABLE

Contributions receivable consists of pledges receivable from various individuals for the Women and Girls Fund initiative.

Contributions receivable as of December 31, 2023 are expected to be collected as follows:

Receivable in Less Than One Year	\$ 43,250
Receivable in One to Five Years	31,000
Total Contributions Receivable	74,250
Less: Discounts to Net Present Value	752
Net Contributions Receivable	\$ 73,498

Contributions receivable in more than one year are discounted at 2%.

NOTE 4 SPLIT-INTEREST AGREEMENTS

Beneficial Interest in Perpetual Trust

The Foundation retains a beneficial interest in a trust held by an unrelated trustee. Under this arrangement, the Foundation receives distributions from the trust but does not have access to the principal. Changes in the carrying amount of the beneficial interest are recognized as increases or decreases in net assets with donor restrictions. Distributions received from the trust and included in investment income in the statement of activities for the year ended December 31, 2023 were \$141,353.

Charitable Remainder Trusts

The Foundation is a named beneficiary in charitable remainder trusts and charitable lead trusts. These trusts represent an arrangement in which a donor establishes and funds a trust that is held by a third party with the grantor or other designated beneficiaries as the named life beneficiary. The trust provides for the payment of distributions to the grantor or other designated beneficiaries over the trust's term, usually the designated beneficiary's lifetime. At the end of the trust's term, the remaining assets are available for the Foundation's use. The portion of the trust attributable to the present value of the future benefits to be received by the Foundation was recognized in the statement of activities as a donor-restricted contribution in the period the trust was established. On an annual basis, the Foundation revalues the liability to account for distributions to the designated beneficiaries and to adjust for the change in market value based on actuarial assumptions.

The liability is calculated using the federal applicable rate for a remainder interest under Internal Revenue Code Section 7520 and applicable mortality tables.

**THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF EASTERN
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NOTE 4 SPLIT-INTEREST AGREEMENTS (CONTINUED)

Charitable Gift Annuity

The Foundation is the beneficiary of charitable gift annuities through their charitable gift annuity program. Under the terms of the program, contributions are received from donors in exchange for a promise by the Foundation to pay a fixed amount for a specified period of time to a donor or individuals designated by the donor. Annuity contracts may be established for either one or two lives and provide that fixed payments be made to the annuitants for the remainder of their lives. Upon termination of the annuity contract, any remaining assets revert to the Foundation for purposes as specified in the charitable gift annuity contract. On an annual basis, the Foundation revalues the liability to account for distributions to the designated beneficiaries and to adjust for the change in market value based on actuarial assumptions.

NOTE 5 PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT

The following is a summary of property and equipment as of December 31, 2023:

Land, Building, and Improvements	\$ 568,460
Furniture, Fixtures, and Equipment	78,742
Subtotal	<u>647,202</u>
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	231,275
Net Property and Equipment	<u><u>\$ 415,927</u></u>

NOTE 6 GRANTS PAYABLE

The Foundation distributes grants and scholarships throughout the year, based on proposals submitted by local agencies/students and vetted by volunteer committees. Award amounts from endowed funds are determined by the spending policy, as described in Note 8, and recommended by the investment committee, with Board approval. Further, the Foundation authorizes grants and scholarships recommended by donors from current contributions. For 2023, the amount of such pass-through grants was \$4,127,397, 58% of the total grants/scholarships awarded. Grants authorized but unpaid as of year-end are reported as liabilities.

Grants to be paid in more than one year are discounted using a rate of 2%. The following is a summary of grants authorized and payable at December 31, 2023:

To Be Paid in Less than One Year	\$ 847,747
To Be Paid in One to Five Years	689,131
Gross Unconditional Grants Payable	<u>1,536,878</u>
Less: Discounts to Net Present Value	18,604
Net Unconditional Grants Payable	<u><u>\$ 1,518,274</u></u>

The Foundation does not have any conditional grants payable as of December 31, 2023.

**THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF EASTERN
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NOTE 7 LIQUIDITY AND AVAILABILITY OF RESOURCES

The Foundation's financial assets available for general expenditures within one year of the statement of financial position date are as follows:

Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 5,311,404
Investments	96,259,534
Total Financial Assets Available Within One Year	101,570,938
Less: Amounts Unavailable Without Board's Approval:	
Board-Designated Administrative Endowment	(2,897,778)
Total Financial Assets Available to Management for General Expenditure Within One Year	\$ 98,673,160

Liquidity Management

The Foundation maintains a policy of structuring its financial assets to be available as its general expenditures, liabilities and other obligations come due. In addition, the Foundation invests cash in excess of weekly requirements in short-term investments. Under the Foundation's Spending Rule Policy and in conjunction with the annual budget approval process, \$5,615,183 has been approved for appropriation from the endowment for general expenditures in the subsequent year. This amount is included within the investments balance of \$96,259,534 reported above. As disclosed in Note 1, the Board has designated \$2,897,778 of net assets without donor restrictions for the purposes of administrative endowment. These funds are invested for long-term appreciation and current income but remain available and may be spent at the discretion of the Board.

NOTE 8 NET ASSETS

Net Assets With Donor Restrictions

Net assets with donor restrictions represent contributions, gifts and income from investments that are restricted based on time or purposes specified by the donor. At December 31, 2023, net assets with donor restrictions are available for the following purpose and time restrictions:

Restricted in Perpetuity:	\$ 4,150,450
Use Restricted:	
Scholarships	328,318
The Southeastern Connecticut Association for the Retarded, Inc.	17,948
Time Restricted:	
Split-Interest Agreements	102,773
Women and Girls Fund Contributions Receivable, Net	73,463
Total Other Assets With Donor Restrictions	522,502
Net Assets With Donor Restrictions	\$ 4,672,952

**THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF EASTERN
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DECEMBER 31, 2023**

NOTE 8 NET ASSETS (CONTINUED)

Net Assets With Donor Restrictions (Continued)

Net assets with donor restrictions in the amount of \$34,586 were released from restrictions by incurring expenses for the use of the Women and Girls Fund.

Endowment

The Foundation's endowment consists of 603 individual funds established for a variety of purposes. Its endowment includes undesignated, field of interest, scholarship, donor-advised funds and donor-designated funds, as well as funds designated by the Board of Trustees to function as an administrative endowment. The Board of Trustees of the Foundation has the unilateral power to redirect the use of a donor's contribution to another beneficiary. Such endowment funds are subject to variance power pursuant to Sections 1.170A-9(e)(11)(v)(B), (C) and (D) of the Internal Revenue Code. The Board of Trustees has adopted a policy describing the criteria and limited circumstances under which the Foundation would exercise this power. For internal management and recordkeeping, the Foundation segregates the portion that is managed as an endowment from the funds that are currently available for grant distribution.

As required by GAAP, net assets associated with endowment funds, including funds designated by the Board of Trustees to function as endowments, are classified and reported based on the existence or absence of donor-imposed restrictions.

Interpretation of Relevant Law

The state of Connecticut adopted the Connecticut Prudent Management of Institutional Funds Act (CTPMIFA). The impact of such adoption was negligible on the presentation of the Foundation's financial statements, given the existing governing documents' inclusion of variance power, the unilateral power to redirect the use of a contribution for another charitable purpose. The criteria and circumstances under which the Board of Trustees of the Foundation would exercise the variance power responsibility are prescribed under the by-laws of the organization.

Under the provisions of the bylaws, the Foundation, in its sole discretion, shall determine to distribute so much of the corpus of any trust or separate gift, devise, bequest or fund. As a result of this responsibility under the by-laws, all contributions not classified as net assets with donor restrictions are classified as net assets without donor restrictions for financial statement purposes. Net assets with donor restrictions consist of irrevocable charitable trusts and lead trusts, which are classified as split-interest agreements, as defined in Note 4. Accordingly, the Foundation's financial statements classify substantially all net assets as without donor restriction; however, all recordkeeping for internal management and external reporting retains the original donor intent for every charitable asset within the Foundation.

**THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF EASTERN
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NOTE 8 NET ASSETS (CONTINUED)

Interpretation of Relevant Law (Continued)

The spending policy and philosophy contained in the investment policy, including the long-term investment management policies and procedures constructed based on the by-laws, were designed to function as integrated processes and are administered to reflect the following factors, as described in CTPMIFA, for prudent stewards of charitable assets, including:

1. the duration and preservation of a fund;
2. the purpose of the organization and the donor designations thereto;
3. general economic conditions;
4. the possible effects of inflation and deflation;
5. the expected total return of the charitable assets;
6. other resources of the organization; and
7. the investment policies.

Return Objectives and Risk Parameters

The Foundation has adopted investment and spending policies for endowment assets that attempt to provide a predictable stream of funding to programs supported by its endowment while seeking to maintain the purchasing power of the endowment assets. Endowment assets include board-designated funds. Under this policy, as approved by the Board of Trustees, the endowment assets are invested in a manner that is intended to produce results that are comparable to a blended benchmark. This benchmark is intended to reflect the diverse asset allocation. The goal is to maximize returns while reducing volatility and assuming a moderate level of investment risk. The Foundation expects its endowment funds, over time, to provide an annual average rate of return of at least the rate of inflation plus yearly spending. Actual returns in any given year may vary from this amount.

Strategies Employed for Achieving Objectives

To satisfy its long-term rate-of-return objectives, the Foundation relies on a total return strategy in which investment returns are achieved through both capital appreciation (realized and unrealized) and current yield (interest and dividends). The distribution includes allocations ranging from 1% to 1.25% for costs associated with administering the funds. The Foundation targets a diversified asset allocation that places a greater emphasis on equity-based investments to achieve its long-term return objectives within prudent risk constraints.

**THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF EASTERN
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NOTE 8 NET ASSETS (CONTINUED)

Spending Policy and How the Investment Objectives Related to Spending Policy

The Foundation has a policy of appropriating for distribution each year 4-6% of its endowment fund's average fair value over the prior 12 quarters through the calendar year end preceding the fiscal year in which the distribution is planned. In establishing this policy, the Foundation considered the long-term expected return on its endowment. Accordingly, over the long term, the Foundation expects the current spending policy to allow its endowment to grow at least at the annual rate of inflation plus yearly spending. This is consistent with the Foundation's objective to maintain the purchasing power of the endowment assets held for a specified term as well as to provide additional real growth through new gifts and investment return. The Foundation has a policy that permits spending from underwater endowment funds, depending on the degree to which the fund is underwater, unless otherwise precluded by donor intent or relevant laws and regulations.

The Foundation's goal is to increase its distributions by at least the rate of inflation annually, but it may hold spending flat during extended periods of poor market performance, recognizing the need to balance immediate needs against those of future generations. In years of sustained market growth, the Foundation may consider creating a future reserve or declare a "community dividend" for that period only. The actual spending rates for 2023 are as follows:

Endowed Funds	4.00%
Administrative Funds	5.25
Agency Funds	4.25
Not-For-Profits	4.25%

NOTE 9 DESCRIPTION OF FUNCTIONAL EXPENSE CATEGORIES

Program Services

Grants

The Foundation distributes grants from discretionary, donor-advised and designated funds to organizations and projects that benefit New London, Windham and Tolland counties. The Foundation's grant-making strategy is intended to strengthen the capacity of local nonprofit organizations and the community as a whole. Grants are awarded across a broad range of fields. Other program expenses represent direct costs associated with the grant-making process.

Scholarships

The Foundation distributes scholarship awards from managed scholarship funds according to the criteria established by the donor. The Foundation also distributes scholarship awards from its own discretionary funds by committee. Recipients are primarily students graduating from high school who are planning to further their education, typically from New London, Windham and Tolland counties.

**THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF EASTERN
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NOTE 9 DESCRIPTION OF FUNCTIONAL EXPENSE CATEGORIES (CONTINUED)

Supporting Services

General and Administrative

These managerial functions are necessary to maintain and ensure an adequate working environment, to provide coordination and articulation of the Foundation's program strategy, to ensure prudent investment policies, and to ensure proper administrative functioning and management of the financial and budgetary responsibilities of the Foundation.

Fundraising

Careful stewardship of donated funds is essential to increasing the grant-making capacity of the Foundation. Development of new donors and cultivation of existing donors serves to enable the Foundation to meet increasing demand for grants and scholarships, offset market fluctuations and build a solid base of philanthropy for the entire service area.

NOTE 10 CAPITAL LEASES

The Foundation entered into a capital lease agreement during 2023 for the lease of a copier. The lease calls for annual payments equal to \$2,793, including interest at 4.60% per annum maturing in May 2028. Leases were not material to the financial statements and not recalculated under ASC 842.

Property held under the capital lease obligation is as follows:

Copier	\$ 12,686
Less: Accumulated Amortization	<u>1,691</u>
Net Equipment Under Capital Leases	<u><u>\$ 10,995</u></u>

Amortization expense relative to the above equipment is included in depreciation and amortization expense as disclosed in the statements of functional expenses.

The following is a schedule by years of future minimum payments under capital leases, together with the present value of minimum lease payments as of December 31, 2023:

<u>Year Ending December 31,</u>	<u>Amount</u>
2024	\$ 2,793
2025	2,793
2026	2,793
2027	2,793
2028	<u>972</u>
Total Net Minimum Lease Payments	12,144
Less: Amount Representing Interest	<u>1,149</u>
Net Capital Lease Obligations	<u><u>\$ 10,995</u></u>



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