ANNUAL REPORT
2023
SUPPORTING THE STUDENTS AND ALUMNI OF CHARTER OAK STATE COLLEGE
Brighter Futures One Degree at a Time
185 Main Street
New Britain, CT 06053
In 2023, Charter Oak State College celebrated its 50th Anniversary Year. In celebration, the all-volunteer Board of Directors of the Charter Oak State College Foundation launched a campaign to Raise More AND Give More. Long-time and newly appointed members committed to a bold fundraising goal of $250,000.

We raised $249,238 (just shy of $250,000) AND we awarded $221,000 in scholarships and grants!

We increased scholarship and grant award amounts to offset inflation and encourage our students to stay in their programs.

The combined generosity of many was crucial in reaching our goal! Thank you!

But, please know, our work is not complete. The Vision of the Foundation Board, to make higher education a possibility for all, stems from the belief that as we educate our community members, we help eliminate gender and racial inequities, reduce wage and poverty gaps, and ultimately enrich the lives of students, their families, and our communities in which we live and work.

As we look to the future of the College and of the Foundation, we aim to continually increase our fundraising goals. Are you looking for an opportunity to make a difference, pay it forward or honor loved ones? Gifts of any size added together make a real difference!

Contact me or Carol Hall to learn how you can be part of the audacious vision and transform lives today!
In 2023, more students received more awards. Financial assistance was increased to offset inflation and ensure persistence, and provide encouragement, as follows:

- 92% increase in financial aid to students
- 60% increase in value for each Tech Support Grant
- 18% increase in value of each scholarship awarded
- 15% more participants in the WIT and PIIT programs for low-income single mom’s or parents

The Charter Oak State College Foundation Raised $249,000 and Gave $221,000, 90%+ Increase over 2022

W gave to 151 students—but we had to say “no” to over 100 other students. Therefore, the PLAN for 2024 is to Give Even More!
THANK YOU FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The 50th Anniversary Year of Charter Oak State College gave us all an opportunity to reflect on the past, honor our history, to raise and give [more], and to celebrate. We gathered volunteers, recruited story tellers, and planned an Anniversary Weekend which featured the 50th Anniversary Gala.

This Annual Report highlights our generous donors and sponsors who made our auction, fundraising, and paddle raise a success! It also includes the results of our Raise More to Give More (to students) campaign.

I personally am incredibly grateful to have met so many interesting and wonderfully generous people during the planning and execution phases of the celebration. Thank you, sincerely, for sharing from your heart, for opening your wallets, and for acknowledging the success and trajectory of your life in relation to your Charter Oak degree.

Take a moment to feel good and feel proud. Together we are providing hope, connection, and opportunity!

I look forward to meeting more of our alums, benefactors, faculty, and friends as we head with hope and encouragement into the future!

Cheers to another Fifty Years!

Carol Hall
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
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Kryystyna Gorniak-Kocikowska

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DORELY SHARES HER CHARTER OAK STORY

A single mom of twin boys, Dorely entered the Women in Transition Program (WIT) in 2014. A first-generation college student, she is from Hartford’s North End, and is one of 8 siblings. In May of 2023, Dorely graduated with her bachelor’s degree in healthcare administration AND was promoted to the Manager of Community Health and Health Promotion at Hartford Hospital.

Dorely explains that “The Women in Transition program has helped me to become a better me!”

“I know that one of the reasons I was given the opportunity to lead is because I was in the process of getting my degree. I believe Charter Oak State College has equipped me with the skills I need to be a great leader, in this my first management position!”

She continues, “Last but certainly not least, I want to say Gracias for giving me the opportunity to obtain my degree. Because you gave so generously, I am not only graduating with a bachelor’s degree, but I am going to be student loan debt free too! Thank you to Foundation, Wanda, and the generous donors, the WIT program changed my life!”

A Letter of Gratitude

Dear COSC Foundation Board of Directors & Donors,
First and foremost, thank you for taking the time to read my scholarship entry and selecting me as the recipient of the Fall 2023 Foundation Scholar Scholarship. I feel beyond honored to receive this award. I have only two semesters left until the completion of my degree in general psychology. This scholarship has taken the burden off the financial strain that comes with pursuing a college education.

The Foundation Scholar Scholarship will help me continue pursuing my goal of becoming a pediatric developmental psychologist. My youngest daughter experienced developmental delays after contracting bacterial meningitis and neonatal sepsis at birth. I became deeply interested in child development as we navigated through that very trying time. I hope to help children and their families who face a similar path to the one we once ventured.

Many thanks,
Christina B.