



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY FUND OF DARIEN LEAVING POST MARCH 2

Jan. 9, 2012. The Board of Directors of The Community Fund of Darien (TCF) announced today that their Executive Director of the past nine years, Kiki Karpen, will leave her post on March 2, 2012.

“Kiki has played a critical role at The Community Fund, guiding us through significant changes and improvements. We will miss her leadership and wish her well in her decision to take on new challenges in the nonprofit sector. As we move forward, TCF is in a position of strength with an active board and donors who are committed to our mission.” said Christie Stone, President of TCF.

Under Karpen’s direction, TCF has broadened its role beyond raising money to fund local human service agencies, to becoming a recognized collaborator, leader and facilitator, addressing needs in Darien, Norwalk and Stamford. Specific accomplishments include:

- Transition from the United Way system to an organization focused on funding local agencies and initiatives, with strict oversight by TCF board members and donor volunteers
- Development and leadership of the Darien Human Services Planning Council, bringing together community leaders to identify needs, find and implement solutions.
- Creation of Aging in Place in Darien, a project to help Darien seniors live independently, which has subsequently merged with Gallivant to become an independent nonprofit in Darien.

Speaking of her experience, Karpen shared, “I am grateful to have had the opportunity to work with so many caring people who contribute their time, talent and financial support to improve lives through the work of The Community Fund! Under the leadership of a strong and engaged Board of Directors, I am confident that TCF will continue to play a significant role in meeting needs in our community!”

A transition team has begun the work of finding a replacement for Karpen.

ABOUT THE COMMUNITY FUND OF DARIEN

The Community Fund of Darien was established 61 years ago to address human service needs in the local community. During that time, TCF has distributed over \$20 million to local agencies and last year had its most successful campaign ever, raising over \$1 million from residents and businesses in Darien and Rowayton. Besides providing annual grants to 26 social service agencies, TCF supports small agencies and projects through a non-recurring small grant program, an emergency grant program and the Touch a Life fund, which supports households in need in Darien.

In addition to grant making, TCF has taken a leadership role in making a positive difference in the communities where their donors live, work and do business. The Darien Human Services Planning Council, and Aging in Place in Darien exemplify this leadership. Other specific examples include Thriving Youth: Connected Community and Darien C.A.R.E. campaign.

TCF actively educates, engages and celebrates volunteers in the community, involving over 100 youth and adults in the allocations process, the Youth Community Fund and Youth Asset Team, as well as co-sponsoring the Annual Darien High School Volunteer Fair and the Darien's Annual Volunteer Recognition Luncheon.

For more information about TCF, visit: www.communityfunddarien.org

More information regarding the search process will follow on the website. All inquiries and resumes should be sent to communityfunddarien@gmail.com.