The Foundation focuses on the environment, preserving cultural and artistic heritage, advancing education and improving the lives of people.
$24+ million

Since 2002, more than $24M has been invested in partnerships and programs that make our communities more vibrant and sustainable, reduce barriers to access and serve at-risk and vulnerable groups.

“The Avangrid Foundation is committed to creating a healthier, more equitable and sustainable future for people and communities, made possible by being deeply rooted as part of the places we serve.”

— NICOLE LICATA GRANT
Executive Director, Avangrid Foundation

All media pre-dates the known outbreak of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19).
The Avangrid Foundation is an independent, mission-driven, nonprofit organization that funds philanthropic investments that primarily impact communities where AVANGRID and its subsidiaries operate.*

The many companies in the AVANGRID family — of which the Foundation is the primary charitable arm — represent hundreds of years of legacy and lasting relationships from Portland Maine, to Portland, Oregon.

Our companies have been part of the fabric of communities for over a century, helping to build storied businesses, strong institutions, vibrant communities and happy homes with every pole, pipe and wire. Right up to the wind farms of today.

*A VANGRID, Inc. is an affiliate of Iberdrola, S.A. The AVANGRID operating companies include Avangrid Renewables, Berkshire Gas, Central Maine Power, Connecticut Natural Gas, Maine Natural Gas, New York Gas & Electric, Rochester Gas and Electric, Southern Connecticut Gas and United Illuminating.
In 2019, the Avangrid Foundation continued to build on the power of longstanding partnerships and history.

In these pages, you will learn about investments big and small. You will get to know the organizations that are working at both grassroots and global levels. You will read of transformation, innovation and the staying power of simply doing what works. You will meet our colleagues who share what is most important to them and learn how we partnered with organizations to make a difference in the lives of youth and young adults across the United States. You will also meet leaders who are making a difference in the lives of many.
The Foundation donated over $3 million and partnered with more than 300 organizations through direct and matching giving programs in 2019.

The Foundation is driven to help communities and individuals be vital, vibrant and resilient by putting our resources into what really matters, such as reducing barriers to access in education, arts and culture and enhancing health and wellness by preserving the natural environment and creating safe, green places and spaces. This work also means boosting basic services from neighborhoods to nationwide. We also continue to invest in strategic partnerships with leading organizations like the American Red Cross, Habitat for Humanity, RAINN and the National Fish and Wildlife Federation (NFWF) that can leverage our small investments into big change, even in times of uncertainty.

We know that our investments make powerful platforms to connect, collaborate and inform. This is the reason we invest in partnerships with institutions like Yale University and the National Building Museum, who are using science, social policy, humanities, arts and culture as tools for spreading ideas, sharing knowledge and promoting diversity and inclusion for greater social good.

When it comes to building sustainable communities and helping those in need, we are truly “Energized for Good.”
A Commitment to Community

With a particular focus on the environment, preserving cultural and artistic heritage, advancing education and improving the lives of people in the 24 states where AVANGRID does business, including Connecticut, Massachusetts, New York, Maine and Oregon, the Avangrid Foundation supports AVANGRID’s purpose of working together to deliver a more accessible clean energy model that promotes healthier, more sustainable communities every day.

where to find us

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Website: avangridfoundation.org
Blog: avanewsblog.com
Video: youtube.com > avangridfoundation

Social Media Channels:
facebook.com/avangrid
twitter.com/avangrid
instagram.com/avangrid
linkedin.com/company/avangrid
Impact-Driven
Mission-driven giving is anchored by the 17 UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as a blueprint for actionable social and environmental investments. The Foundation works to be a thought leader in corporate philanthropy among its peers and a culture-changing force. It strives for continuous improvement, learning and building on our investments and our partnerships in the short and long term to shape and transform the conversations and communities in which we work and live.

Global Reach & Vision
The Avangrid Foundation is the second largest of five global foundations within the Iberdrola Group, providing a common framework for mission, vision and values. For information on our relationship to Iberdrola, including our mission, vision and values, and our commitment to UN SDGs, visit fundacioniberdrolaespana.org > about us > master plan.

Strong Governance
The Foundation is overseen by an independent Board of Directors who guide the organization and uphold a model of proven excellence based on commitment to the mission, integrity in giving and transparency. For information, visit avangridfoundation.org > About > Board of Directors.

Lasting Benefits
The work of the Foundation is more than giving money to good causes. It’s about commitment. The Foundation is actively engaged in the work that our partners undertake — from providing platforms to promote their work to engaging volunteers and so much more. We connect employees, customers and the community to show what it means to be here — as we always have been — for good.
Who We Support

The Foundation priority giving areas represent a vision to make a meaningful social impact in an informed, sustainable, collaborative and ethical way.

COMMUNITY
Improving quality of life by reducing poverty, increasing wellness, expanding inclusion and acting in times of crisis

ENVIRONMENT
Climate action through education, preservation and conservation for habitats and biodiversity

EDUCATION
Attainment and access to education and the advancement of research

ARTS
Preservation and promotion of arts, culture and heritage

The Foundation, in partnership with NYSEG, supported the Binghamton Philharmonic Orchestra’s Play Your Part helped over 1000 youth and families throughout the Southern Tier experience live performances in a historic theater, free of charge. In one event, 70 students attended a Ties & Tutus concert, dressing up meeting Maestro Daniel Hege!
Supporting the United Nations’ Sustainable Development Goals

The Avangrid Foundation is driven by a commitment to the United Nations’ Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), a common global language and set of priorities for institutions and individuals committed to creating structural change and lasting impact in addressing the most critical issues of our day like human rights, education, health and wellness, and climate action. The SDGs are guides and benchmarks as we strive to help create more equitable and sustainable communities locally and globally. As you read this report, you will learn more about the priority areas from No Poverty (1) to Partnership for the Goals (17).

The Avangrid Foundation has four priority SDGs:
1: No Poverty // 3: Quality Education // 11: Sustainable Communities // 15: Life on Land
2019 Statement of Accounts

In 2019, the Foundation made 100 new grants and contributions, as well as payments on existing liabilities, directly to 97 individual partners, ranging from $2,500 to $400,000.

OVERVIEW
Since 2002, the Avangrid Foundation and its predecessor organizations have invested more than $24M in philanthropic giving. Since AVANGRID was established in 2015, the company and its subsidiaries have contributed more than $11.2M to the Avangrid Foundation.*

ACCOUNTING POLICY
Starting in 2018, the Avangrid Foundation shifted from preparing its financial statements on a cash basis to an accrual basis in accordance with GAAP principles. Revenues and expenses are thus recorded when they are incurred, regardless of when cash is exchanged. As a result, the financial statements reflect a different form of accounting in comparison to prior-year financials (prior to 2018). Most notably, program expenses including grants and contributions reflect both agreements and payments made in the current year (2019) and that which has been pledged for upcoming years in total.

FINANCIAL OUTCOMES FOR 2019
The Avangrid Foundation income in 2019 was $2,050,688. The Foundation had $2,445,967 in program expenses, all of which were grants and contributions, including an adjustment in the form of a refund from prior-year grant payment. Two multi-year agreements were recorded in 2019, adding to future program liabilities by $220,000, although there was a reduction overall as additional payments on prior (to 2019) liabilities totaled $735,000. Additionally, there were management expenses of $127,460 for total expenses of $2,573,427. The net decrease in assets was $522,739. Unrestricted net assets at the end of the period were $4,718,900, including $1,093,000 in committed and designated grants and contributions (liabilities) payable after 2019.

$3.2+ million
total overall philanthropy in 2019 for communities and causes throughout the United States

*Additional resources were incorporated from the former Iberdrola USA Foundation and the former UIL Foundation.
Further details of the audited financials, as well as grants and contributions and future payments can be found in the Avangrid Foundation’s Audited Financials and 2019 PF990, which are linked on the Foundation website.

**FUNDING SOURCES**
The primary contributors to the Foundation in 2019 were AVANGRID, Inc. and its operating companies with further funding approved for 2020. In addition, the Foundation earns revenue through rental and investment income that is used in grant-making.

REAL ESTATE POLICY
The Foundation owns limited real estate and manages the portfolio to offset the expenses and to increase the amount of unrestricted funds to be used in grant-making each year. The Foundation may rent or sell real estate assets as part of the overall financial strategy of the organization. These properties were received via donation to predecessor entities and were transferred to the Avangrid Foundation.

INVESTMENT POLICY
Aside from retaining a reasonable amount in reserves each period, most of the Foundation’s funds are to be spent in the short term. The Avangrid Foundation is not an endowment. Rather, it spends what it has on programs. Therefore, there are few funds for longer-term investment.

**RESERVES POLICY**
Reserves are needed to meet the working capital requirements of the Foundation during a period of growth and development, and the Board of Directors remains confident that the current level of reserves is sufficient to allow for continued activities of the Foundation through 2020.

**This is inclusive of all active partnerships. Total includes grants, contributions and payments on multi-year (2018 and prior) liabilities paid in 2019 only.**
Empowering Employees in Our Communities

The Avangrid Foundation plays an important role across AVANGRID in connecting our employee talents and time to essential causes in the community. Take a look at some of the things we were up to in 2019!
In partnership with AVANGRID’s WomENergy Employee Resource Group, the Avangrid Foundation helped bring together volunteers for a “Day of Service” in honor of the 49th Annual Earth Day, celebrated in April.

This past year, more than 100 volunteers from across the AVANGRID family of companies came together to clean parks, nature preserves, city streets and waterways in New Haven, CT; Rochester, NY; Augusta, ME and Portland, OR … in sun, rain and cold!

Cleaning Up for Earth Day

Volunteers collected more than 500 pounds of lumber and 100 bags of trash from the Connecticut shoreline of the Long Island Sound in New Haven Harbor.
Since 2014, the Sound the Alarm campaign has installed over one million smoke detectors in over 890,000 homes as part of the Home Fire Campaign.

As part of the Missing Types campaign, brands removed the letters A, B and O — the main blood groups — from their logos. When A, B, O and AB blood types are missing from hospital shelves, patient care may be impacted.

“A stable and sufficient blood supply is critical to the health of our communities. Our goal is to help inspire more people to donate blood, starting with our employees.”

— BOB KUMP, Avangrid Foundation Director and American Red Cross CT Chapter Board Member
AVANGRID and the American Red Cross: Partners in Crisis and Calm

As a gas and electricity provider, AVANGRID employees understand what it means to be on the front lines. This includes a history of working alongside the American Red Cross with closely coordinated action in crisis. Since 2018, the partnership has included support for the National Disaster Responder Program, a pre-disaster investment in preparation and recovery with the nation’s leading emergency responder.

The Disaster Responder Program helps Red Cross to remain on-hand to assist more than 100,000 families each year as they experience and recover from disaster including many of the places where AVANGRID customers and employees work and live. It enables the training of more than 80,000 deployed volunteers, assisting people as they recover and ensuring that vulnerable persons and communities have access to critical infrastructure, lifesaving food, shelter, health and other resources from the minute disaster — big or small — strikes.

Our support of the Red Cross and its mission goes beyond the financial backing as a Disaster Responder. Through this partnership, AVANGRID employees are engaged in the work of the American Red Cross from blood drives to home fire safety initiatives.

The proactive investment in our fellow first responders provides one of the highest levels of support toward U.S. relief efforts.

Through this partnership, the Foundation is committed not only to disaster relief but to strengthening community resiliency and preparedness.
The work of Habitat and its legion of dedicated volunteers is a story well known both here in Berkshire County and across the United States. We could not be more thrilled to be a small part of that story here in Pittsfield.”

– FRANKLYN REYNOLDS, President, Berkshire Gas
Special Focus: Pittsfield, Massachusetts

A landmark project spearheaded by local employees brought together crews from Berkshire Gas Company and Avangrid Renewables sites in Searsbury, VT (Deerfield Wind) and Florida, MA (Hoosac Wind) who took part in an all-day build event. Joined by Berkshire Gas President Franklyn Reynolds, the 24 AVANGRID volunteers assembled interior framing and installed windows, vinyl siding and foam insulation. It was one of the most productive build days at the site!

The result is Gordon-Deming Village: six four-bedroom, two-bath townhouses that will provide a place to call home for those families in need within the Berkshire community. But the ties to AVANGRID go back even further. The development is constructed on land donated by Berkshire Gas nearly a decade ago.

All of Gordon-Deming is net-zero energy housing, which means that the home’s total power consumption each year is equal to the amount of renewable energy created on site, minimizing the homeowners’ carbon footprint.

Making a Habit of Building Community with Habitat for Humanity

Homes are the center of life, of community. As articulated in the UN Sustainable Development Goals, access to affordable, permanent housing is a basic need and a critical component to helping families thrive. Housing insecurity affects nearly half of adults in the United States at some point in their lives, forcing these families to make difficult trade-offs, impacting both physical and mental well-being.

No one knows that better than Habitat for Humanity, whose mission it is to build affordable homes and restore communities. And at the Foundation, helping to build sustainable, vital and healthy communities is a cornerstone of our mission.

From Maine to Massachusetts and beyond, our work with Habitat for Humanity brings to life AVANGRID’s commitment to work together to deliver a more accessible clean energy model, promoting healthier and more sustainable communities every day.

In 2019, the Avangrid Foundation launched a new national partnership with Habitat for Humanity that is expected to continue in perpetuity. Over the past year, the Foundation — with the help of AVANGRID’s family of companies — has supported Habitat volunteer and homebuilding projects across our service territory.
We are called to help build homes where families can find stability and thrive, especially in places where AVANGRID’s infrastructure provides a vital resource that powers everyday life and work.”

– NICOLE LICATA GRANT, Executive Director, Avangrid Foundation
**CANning HUNGER WITH THE INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF ARTS & IDEAS**

Talented engineers from AVANGRID offered a winning entry in CANning Hunger, a food-insecurity project benefiting New Haven’s Downtown Evening Soup Kitchen (DESK), held during the 24th annual International Festival of Arts & Ideas. Employees collected and used more than 300 cans and boxes of food in a design called Powering the Home, which included three houses powered by renewable energy from a turbine. Employees walked away with a few awards and a major donation against hunger! The Foundation is a long-time supporter of the A&I Festival, including sponsorship of the Scene on the Green, where free concerts, activities and events take place at the heart of both the community and the Festival.

**WORKING FOR WORCESTER**

Working for Worcester (W4W) is a student-inspired nonprofit with ties to the Collage of the Holy Cross and the local affiliate of Students Helping Children Across Borders. AVANGRID volunteers were on hand for the 2019 annual Build Day, a day of service and community projects in partnership with businesses, community organizations and government agencies for the benefit of Worcester, MA, the second-largest and one of the poorest cities in New England. Build Day focuses on work in the most disadvantaged neighborhoods, including recreation and wellness infrastructure. AVANGRID has supported W4W since its inception, helping them to raise over $1,000,000 and mobilizing more than 4,000 volunteers.

**SOLAR YOUTH CAREER DAY**

The AVANGRID Connecticut Operations Center hosted a career day for Green Jobs interns from New Haven-based Solar Youth. Solar Youth has become one of Connecticut’s most promising solutions for empowering low-income at-risk youth.

During their visit, interns learned about career options in utilities that include emergency operations, engineering, linework and gas operations, as well as supporting roles like finance, accounting, human resources and IT. The Foundation, in partnership with United Illuminating and SCG, helped expand the intern program with a project that improved their own neighborhood.
In 2019, the Avangrid Foundation asked our 6,800 employees to nominate organizations in their hometown communities that are making a difference in the lives of young people. The response and excitement were tremendous. Our employees shared powerful stories of why these organizations were personally meaningful to them and the many thousands they serve.

We called this effort #AVANgives and awarded 10 $5,000 grants to youth-focused grassroots organizations across the country. These organizations are diverse in mission, scope and geography, but all are driven by their service to youth and young people in communities where AVANGRID has an operating presence — from coast to coast and many places in between.

“Immediately, employees across the country embraced #AVANgives as a way to call attention to the underserved, the underprivileged and the selfless people who lead these nonprofits and are making a real difference in our own backyards.”

– NICOLE LICATA GRANT, Executive Director, Avangrid Foundation

Tomy Ortiz, AVANGRID Lead Special Billing Analyst, nominated the New Haven Pride Center and Patrick Dunn, their first-ever permanent executive director. The New Haven Pride Center celebrates nearly 25 years of working across the LGBTQI+ community to address issues from mental health, education, and arts and culture to combating youth homelessness. The grant supported the hiring of a full-time program coordinator to expand reach and services.

Check us out at youtube.com > avangridfoundation
Andrew Haughey, Central Maine Power’s Lead Waste Material Handler, first came from the UK to Maine to work at the Pine Tree Camp (PTC) in 1990. There he made lifelong friendships — including meeting his wife — and has continued to make supporting Pine Tree Camp a family affair ever since. AVANGRID employees throughout Maine have embraced the camp as a favorite destination to volunteer time and talent.

Pine Tree Camp, part of the Pine Tree Society, first opened in 1945 as a therapy-oriented summer camp for children with physical disabilities. Continuously innovating to meet the needs of people with a wide range of disabilities, today Pine Tree Camp has become a place where children and adults are able to participate in all the recreational activities for which Maine is known — camping, hiking, swimming and more, all year round, in a barrier-free setting focused on community-building and making the otherwise impossible possible. The grants supported two campers to attend for a week session.

Angela Owen-Pierce, a lead Customer Service Representative with Southern Connecticut Gas, nominated the Klein Theater Arts (KTA) program after witnessing a radical transformation in her daughter Quentessa who was navigating trauma and questions about self-identity.

The KTA program, the only tuition-free after-school arts education program in Bridgeport — Connecticut’s largest and poorest city — serves hundreds of at-risk youth and adults through music, dance and drama instruction with a focus on building self-confidence and social behavior skills. KTA also offers a technical production certification which provides job and career opportunities to youth. KTA is based at Klein Memorial Auditorium, a 1,450-seat performing arts center that serves as a hub for Bridgeport and surrounding communities and is one of only seven Broadway-sized stages remaining in Connecticut. It is a historic icon in its own right, having hosted the likes of Eleanor Roosevelt and Martin Luther King, Jr.

For Gerard Morin, a Manager at AVANGRID, the mission of the Center for Grieving Children is personal. His wife is a center employee, and for years he has been moved by the hundreds of stories about individuals and families who have been helped by the center to find resilience and healing at their most vulnerable: when experiencing grief and loss. Each year, the center helps more than 4,000 (66,000 since 1987) children, teens, families and young adults overcome trauma and loss in their daily lives — from leaving war-torn countries, to the loss of a parent or guardian to dealing with illness. The center is unique in many ways, providing all services at no cost and employing a community-based model that offers immediate intervention, peer support, outreach and education delivered through a small staff and the help of over 28,000 volunteer hours.

“When you can do one small thing, or many small things that can make someone’s life better, it’s incredible.”

— PATRICK DUNN, Executive Director, New Haven Pride Center
COMPEER in ROCHESTER, NY
Brigitte Diaz, an RG&E employee, and her husband Unai Anton, a contractor working at RG&E, had been brainstorming for a while about two important things: 1) they wanted to get involved in their adopted community and 2) they wanted to have fun as a family while doing it! Brigitte came across a flyer in the RG&E break room for Compeer, an organization that connects mentors to at-risk and other-abled youth and adults to improve well-being, mental health and inclusion through a community-based model of volunteers — just like Brigitte and Unai — and they soon signed up!

Started in Rochester in 1973, Compeer has grown from a small local program to an internationally recognized mental wellness model and organization — one that has demonstrated results and been replicated around the globe. In Rochester, Brigitte and Unai were matched up to be mentors to Josue and Sanet, and after a year together, 11-year-old Josue and 15-year-old Sanet are like family, joining them on outings and special events with their four children (their first Halloween!) and blossoming into healthy young adults.

P:EAR in PORTLAND, OR
On any given day in Portland, OR there are hundreds of homeless youth on the street. For the individuals affected, homelessness is personally devastating. For the community, the financial and opportunity costs are infinite. Victor Cavalcante, a Purchasing Manager with Avangrid Renewables, grew up in Brazil, “a country that didn’t have a lot of resources to help young kids who were marginalized, whether through physical or social disabilities.” He was inspired to think about support for disenfranchised youth by his twin brother, who was born with cerebral palsy and needed support to build a sustainable and independent life.

When Victor learned about p:ear — an organization that creates positive relationships with homeless and marginalized youth through programs in education, art and recreation (p-e-a-r!) to affirm personal worth and create more meaningful and healthier lives — he was moved by a unique model that regards youth homelessness and disenfranchisement as critical human rights issues that need to be addressed through a lens of dignity, respect and positive community engagement. P:ear was founded in 2002 to create a place of hope, growth and nurturance for homeless and parentless young people by helping them prepare for a healthy adulthood. Since then, p:ear has served over 5,000 youth, ages 15-24, providing basic needs, life/work skills and a supportive community. The grant was used to support and expand feeding programs critical to the p:ear service delivery model.

CLIFFORD BEERS in NEW HAVEN, CT
Ted Novicki, AVANGRID’s Key Accounts Manager for both United Illuminating and Central Maine Power, served on the board of the Clifford Beers Clinic and is a passionate advocate for health and wellness, stewarding continued growth and expansion of the first out patient mental health facility in the United States.

Clifford Whittingham Beers was the first advocate for outpatient mental healthcare in the United States, following his own mental health crisis at the turn of the 20th century. In his 1908 autobiography, Beers wrote about his illness and confinement to a Connecticut asylum. As a result, the case was made for outpatient care because “those who are suffering will be better served by remaining in their homes with those who love them while simultaneously getting periodic care/therapy in a nearby community setting grounded in compassion.” In 1913, Beers successfully founded what would later become the multifaceted community-based health institution of today. Over a century later, Beers’ idea is the global standard, and today the Clifford Beers Clinic brings leading-edge solutions to children and families seeking mental, physical and social wellness in Greater New Haven.
CRIME VICTIMS ASSISTANCE CENTER in GREATER BINGHAMTON, NY
Amy Adams, Program Manager in the President’s Office at NYSEG, is passionate about issues facing children and families. Prior to coming to NYSEG, Amy worked for Child Protective Services in New York and understands the longstanding trauma that can be experienced by victims of crime and their families. A former board member, Amy nominated Crime Victims Assistance Center (CVAC) because of the critical work they do for victims of violence — from making a safe harbor for families, to providing basic services, to legal aid.

With four locations spanning Broome and Chenango counties, CVAC is a welcoming environment for all people who have been a victim of, or affected by, a crime. Serving thousands of men, women and children annually, CVAC provides free counseling to survivors as well as a 24-hour crisis line and advocacy program. The grants helped CVAC to provide compassionate support and education, while enhancing the community’s ability to prevent and respond to victims of crime, increase safety and provide stability to all.

TREE STREET YOUTH in LEWISTON, ME
Meet Julia and Tree Street Youth! Since 2011 Tree Street Youth, located in the heart of the Tree Street neighborhood of Lewiston-Auburn, ME, has supported local youth through academics, the arts and athletics with a safe space that encourages healthy physical, social, emotional and academic development while building unity across lines of difference.

Founded by Julia and Kim, two Bates College alumni, Tree Street Youth grew its roots from a volunteer-staffed homework-help program to a robust, cross-cultural, multifaceted organization that offers youth from diverse backgrounds access to learning opportunities specifically tailored to develop leadership, support academic success and encourage solidarity between all groups of people, no matter their differences. Tree Street Youth is an anchor of the dynamic Tree Street neighborhood, recently expanding the educational delivery to include a unique high school model co-created with students and opportunities for career aspirations and outdoor recreation.

“[EmBe] provides the tools to persevere through struggles and be courageous, and this will manifest to others to slowly change the world.”

— NICK THIEL, Avangrid Renewables

EmBe in SIOUX FALLS, SD
Avangrid Renewables’ Nick Thiel knows how important a fit and healthy lifestyle is to character development and achieving big goals. He has a physically and mentally challenging job as the Plant Manager of the Buffalo Ridge II wind farm near Sioux Falls, SD. Nick first learned of EmBe (Empowering You to Be) and their Girls on the Run (GOTR) program over a decade ago when his wife — then a coach — would share her inspiring stories of the young women in the program, some who are considered emotionally incarcerated and need a mentor to help break out of negative situations. Nick was also inspired by his own experiences growing up, where he learned “the importance of having confidence, knowing I had potential contrary to what others told me, and pursuing goals.”

GOTR is a character development and empowerment program for girls in grades three to five that uses non-competitive running and training to achieve the goal of participation in a 5K run/walk event and to teach life lessons that encourage positive emotional, physical, social and mental development with the mission of educating and preparing girls for a lifetime of self-respect and healthy living. GOTR also provides many women with an opportunity to be positive role models. EmBe offers quality and affordable programs, services and opportunities — like GOTR — meeting the needs of women and their families in the Greater Sioux Falls area.
Spotlight on Our Partners

Meet a handful of our Avangrid Foundation partners that received funding in 2019. The stories highlight some new and many longstanding partnerships. They represent our ever-deepening commitment to working with communities in sustained, collaborative and meaningful ways. Many of these efforts are ongoing in nature, building on success from prior years and with impacts that will be realized into 2020 and beyond.
Robosquad – Team 558, New Haven, CT
Ithaca Sciencenter, Ithaca, NY
Solar Youth, New Haven, CT
Binghamton University, Binghamton, NY
CHOW, Binghamton, NY
Pine Tree Camp, Rome, ME
Tackling Climate Action Through Research, Advocacy, Conservation and Preservation

The Avangrid Foundation believes that a sustainable clean energy future for all is necessary, and taking action against climate change is critical. We do this through investment in climate research, direct interventions, advocacy, education and community engagement for the environment. We are also committed to connecting people to the environment as a matter of health and equity, as well as protecting biodiversity and habitat conservation. We continue to partner with scientists, educators, civic leaders, and wildlife and environmental organizations to realize greater impact in our work.
Climate Generation: A Will Steger Legacy Empowers Educators to Engage in Solutions to Climate Change

Based in Minneapolis, MN, Climate Generation: A Will Steger Legacy is a leading national nonprofit, dedicated to climate literacy, climate change education, youth leadership and citizen engagement for innovative climate change solutions. Climate Generation is inspired by Will Steger’s legacy as an iconic explorer who helped inspire generations to explore and discover the natural world. While in partnership with the Avangrid Foundation since 2016, the AVANGRID family of companies was an early supporter through Avangrid Renewables, and was instrumental in helping the organization build capacity and establish its reputation.

Committed to helping the organization continue to grow, the Avangrid Foundation supports Climate Generation in bringing their world-class climate action curriculum and teacher training institutes across the country. The Foundation funds the in-house Summer Institute and the #TeachClimate curriculum and #TeachClimate network.

Climate Generation’s long-term, sustained approach is unique: providing teachers with multiple opportunities to build on their understanding of climate change education and inspire their students to action.

In 2019, with Foundation support, Climate Generation was able to scale activities, taking the Summer Institute outside of Minnesota for the first time to Washington, DC. There, the Institute reached hundreds of educators, a larger and more diverse group than in previous years. The ongoing partnership is helping Climate Generation extend their virtual networks and plan a physical expansion into the Pacific Northwest and California as much as possible during COVID.

Climate Generation’s cohort of teachers has grown over the past decade to include over 6,500 teachers from 40 states and around the world.

The Avangrid Foundation partnership with Climate Action: A Will Steger Legacy strives to ensure that climate-related educational resources and training are available to every teacher in the country — and beyond our borders — to ensure that today’s students are prepared to mitigate, innovate and adapt to the greatest issue of our time.
Living Greener with the Trailblazers Foundation

In a second year of partnership with the Trailblazers Foundation Live, Learn & Play grant program, the Avangrid Foundation with Avangrid Renewables invested in helping underserved communities and marginalized youth in the Pacific Northwest learn about and engage with the natural world around them.

The grantees receiving a second year of support are:

- Camp ELSO Incorporated
- Columbia Slough Watershed Council
- Ecology in Classrooms & Outdoors
- Growing Gardens
- Lake County Resources Initiative
- Lomakatsi Restoration Project
- Mount St. Helens Institute
- Soul River, Inc.

“This experience showed me that I can make a difference, that it’s possible to make a better future.”

– PARTICIPANT

The Trailblazers Foundation is the charitable foundation of the NBA’s Portland Trailblazers. The Avangrid Foundation is the sponsor of the Trailblazers’ Live Greener grants, a three-year partnership that connects youth and the environment through education, preservation and employment. In 2018 and 2019, Live Greener provided grants to nine organizations operating across the region, benefiting hundreds of at-risk youth and families.

In partnership with the Live Greener grant program, Lomakatsi’s Youth Ecological Stewardship Training and Employment Program provides educational and workforce development opportunities
for underserved youth in Josephine, Jackson and Klamath counties to engage with leaders in the fields of ecological restoration, wildlife management, soil science, watershed management, ecological forestry and climate change. In 2019, Lomakatsi recruited 113 applicants from ten high schools and, in partnership with the Klamath Tribes, 14 tribal member applicants. The model creates meaningful, living-wage work experiences that provide a path for the next generation of natural resource and restoration practitioners. Since 2018, Lomakatsi has employed an all-tribal crew who is actively taking on the role as the first, best stewards of their ancestral lands.

Since 1995, Lomakatsi has been a leader in restoration projects across thousands of acres of forests and miles of streams in Oregon and Northern California. In cooperation with a broad range of partners, including federal and state land management agencies, The Nature Conservancy, land trusts, private landowners, watershed councils, city and county governments, and Native American tribes, the work has set precedents on nationally recognized projects.

$150,000
financial commitment investment from 2018–2021, which impacts hundreds of students, educators and community members
In 2019, the Foundation celebrated the first full year of a four-year, $1 million partnership with the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF), the nation’s largest private conservation grant-maker. Through this partnership, the Foundation makes an ongoing and significant contribution to efforts that enhance the protection of critical species and habitats that benefit the diverse areas within AVANGRID’s operational footprint.

$5 million in collaboration with NFWF last year for conservation and restoration efforts to support fish and migratory forest birds through the Northeast Forests & Rivers Fund and grassland-dependent birds and mammals in the Northern Great Plains.
The partnership invests in three initiatives with the following goals:

- **Bats for the Future**: Fund research, treatments and new approaches to managing white-nose syndrome (WNS) disease affecting hibernating bats.

- **New England Forests & Rivers**: Strengthen the health of forest systems in New England by improving management of public and private forestlands to create mixed-age forests; restoring aquatic connectivity and in-stream habitat by removing barriers to fish passage; restoring streamside forest buffers and floodplains to benefit Eastern brook trout, river herring, Atlantic salmon and other fish.

- **Northern Great Plains**: Maintain or improve one million acres of interconnected native grasslands in the Northern Great Plains through restoring habitat, improving land management and working with ranchers to conserve ranch lands and key areas benefiting migratory grassland birds like Sprague’s Pipit Chestnut-Collared Longspur and McCown’s Longspur.

“Sustainability is more a direction than an endpoint. It’s about continually trying to find ways to meet human needs while at the same time minimizing our impacts on fish, wildlife, habitats and ecosystems. It’s about striving to live in ways that protect diverse, resilient ecosystems that can adapt to a changing climate, while continuing to produce clean water, clean air and healthy soils upon which we all depend.”

—**AMANDA BASSOW**, Northeastern Regional Director, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation
Our pioneering role in the Bats for the Future Fund (BFF) has helped bat populations across the U.S. combat white-nose syndrome. WNS is responsible for the deaths of over 6 million bats over the last decade.

- **Temple University** will test a non-toxic polyethylene glycol treatment on non-targeted flora and fauna to ensure its use is not damaging to other vital parts of the ecosystem, hoping to reduce the fungal infection rate by 50%.

- **Bat Conservation International** aims to improve bat survival by concentrating food supply around the hibernation period, helping bats build up critical fat reserves. The goal is to reduce the mortality rate from 71% to 30%.

- **Kennesaw State University** aims to increase survivorship through integrated disease management and fumigation of impacted sites.

### $3 million

in Bats for the Future grants issued since 2017, with recent grants focusing on disease testing strategies and environmental treatments to help affected populations rebound and prevent new white nose fungus infections.

### FUN FACTS

- Bats play a critical role in controlling agricultural, forest and human pests, providing billions of dollars of value to agricultural industries every year. Without a solution, several bat species may be in danger of extinction.

- WNS is caused by a fungus that attacks bats while they hibernate and has spread rapidly across North America.

- First detected in New York in 2006, WNS has now been confirmed in at least 34 states and seven Canadian provinces. Mortality approaches 100% at some sites, and new cases emerge each year. Over half of bat species present in the U.S. and Canada hibernate to survive the winter, leaving them potentially susceptible to the disease.
The Portland-based Gulf of Maine Research Institute (GMRI) is a global leader in marine and climate research, a national innovator in citizen science for education and an essential contributor to science-based, engaged fisheries management in the region. A five-year, $250,000 partnership with the Avangrid Foundation to advance regional climate science will provide support for GMRI scientists focused on issues of climate resilience in fisheries and other coastal industries around the Gulf of Maine. The partnership includes interdisciplinary research objectives across ocean science, fishery management, and business and community resiliency, with a focus on community engagement and social impact in the Gulf of Maine region.

The project will also drive new research into shifting fish populations, vulnerability assessments for fishing ports in the Northeast and advancing new climate-ready fisheries management methods; it supports the Foundation’s commitment to clean, healthy and sustainable communities, which is helping to identify solutions to the challenges of global warming and climate disruption.

This investment builds on a longtime partnership with the Avangrid Foundation and Central Maine Power, including investments in innovative STEM-learning programs such as LabVenture, engaging students from all over the state of Maine.

The Gulf of Maine is one of the most important marine habitats in the world and home to a wealth of marine life, from giant blue whales to North Atlantic right whales to microscopic plankton.
Bridgeport, Connecticut’s largest city and the fifth most populous in New England, has long been known as “The Park City” due to historic leadership in preserving urban green space and public parks. In recent years, some of Bridgeport’s neighborhood gems have been in need of revitalization. The Trust for Public Land (TPL) and partners like the Avangrid Foundation, in partnership with Southern Connecticut Gas and United Illuminating, have stepped in to help.

In 2018, the Avangrid Foundation joined forces with TPL and its national Parks for People Program to transform Johnson Oak Park, located in Bridgeport’s East End. The park — named for a towering oak tree which stood for over 500 years — serves nearby residents and doubles as playground space for the Jettie S. Tisdale School and its 700 K-8 students.

View the story of Bridgeport’s waterfront through an interactive map at tplgis.org > storymaps > newengland > bridgeportwaterfront
In 2019 and continuing in 2020–2021, TPL turned its focus to the water. Located along the Long Island Sound and at the mouth of the Pequonnock River, Bridgeport is home to 24 miles of waterfront, 70% of which is currently inaccessible to the public. Like many coastal cities, Bridgeport’s large population is vulnerable to threats of sea level rise and frequent, extreme weather events.

In response, the TPL is working alongside residents, community groups and philanthropic supporters such as the Avangrid Foundation and its partner, the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, to envision a new, accessible and resilient waterfront pathway. When complete by the decade’s end, the pathway will link nine of Bridgeport’s 13 neighborhoods, enhancing recreational opportunities and connecting 40,000+ residents to the natural landscape — as well as to each other — as part of the City of Bridgeport’s pledge to have each of its nearly 150,000 residents live within a 10-minute walk of a quality park by 2050.

The multimillion-dollar transformation will be made possible through public and private funding and will continue over the next decade. At every step, TPL has worked to ensure community participation and participatory design, as well as an inclusive process reflecting environmental justice principles.

In 2020 and 2021, the Foundation will support TPL in a collaborative design and community engagement process, focusing on three sites identified by community stakeholders and city officials. These sites include ‘Sliver by the River’, a three-acre sliver of land along the Pequonnock River which will enable TPL to analyze what types of green infrastructure may help mitigate coastal hazards, improve water quality, and increase resilience to storms and flooding.

In August, with support of the Foundation, TPL jump-started its efforts through a Park and Paddle activation event at Knowlton Park, a public park located along the Waterfront Pathway route. The successful event drew 75 attendees of diverse backgrounds who collectively participated in a day of engaging activities on the city’s urban waterfront, including river kayaking, yoga and learn to ride a bike training modules.
Maine is a global leader in the forest economy. Nearly 90% of the state is forested, more than any other in the country, much of which is concentrated in Maine’s northern areas. Many Mainers depend on these natural resources, which are critical to ensuring a strong, yet sustainable economy that equally supports strong communities.

Since 2017, the Avangrid Foundation and the University of Maine’s Center for Research on Sustainable Forests have partnered to advance climate change research and its impact on resilience and livelihoods in Maine’s rural communities.

According to the Maine Forest Products Council and the FOR/Maine initiative, in 2016 the state’s forest products industry contributed $8.5 billion to the state economy and supported over 33,000 jobs – or roughly one out of every 24 jobs in Maine.

A study funded by the Avangrid Foundation and conducted by University of Maine’s Dr. Sandra De Urioste-Stone and graduate student Alyssa Soucy, alongside other School of Forest Resources staff, sought to understand critical risks perceived by those who work closely with Maine’s forests; identify vulnerable areas and understand the potential impacts at both a biophysical and socioeconomic level; and designate strategies that best promote healthy forest systems in Maine.

The winning outdoor entry in the 2019 Carbon Sinks Sculpture Contest at University of Maine, Orono.

University of Maine: Showcasing Sustainability in Research and Art
The Foundation also supports the University’s Climate Change and Carbon Sinks Sculpture Contest, beginning with its inaugural year in 2018. The competition is a starting point to spark a larger and ongoing discussion about the role Maine’s forests play in absorbing and retaining carbon dioxide, and how that process can consequently slow climate change.

The contest is open to all University of Maine at Orono students and allows for both individual and team submissions. There are two categories: Outdoor Environmental Installation and Indoor Wall Mounted. The work can be viewed along the bike trail in the University forests and displayed in the University’s Nutting Hall. Entries are required to use local wood grown and harvested in-state, emphasizing the ways the community benefits from both sustainable art and environmental care. The first installation took place in spring 2019.

The winning outdoor sculpture is a simple but powerful message — that it takes widespread action to achieve widespread impact and that the time to secure a better tomorrow is today. The sculpture, built from 862 pounds of Eastern Hemlock, acts as a “carbon sink” that absorbs more carbon than it releases, reducing the concentration of CO₂ in the atmosphere.

The next Climate Change and Carbon Sinks contest is planned for fall 2020.

A survey of members of Maine’s Cooperative Forestry Research Unit found that …

- 64% believe climate change will have a significant impact on the forest sector within the next 50 years.
- Only three in 10 believe there are specific land management practices available to adapt.
- Less than two in 10 believe current policies consider climate change impacts.

64% believe climate change will have a significant impact on the forest sector within the next 50 years.
The California Condor, the iconic Thunderbird, is the largest North American land bird with a wingspan of almost 10 feet. Condors are also critically endangered, with populations dwindling to 27 in the mid-1980s due to habitat loss, poaching and lead poisoning.

Today, a coalition of more than 15 regional governments and nonprofits in California and the Pacific Northwest has helped the population recover to over 500, mostly flying free.

The Oregon Zoo Foundation in Clackamas County, OR welcomes seven to 10 baby condors each year due to the Avangrid Foundation partnership with Avangrid Renewables through an investment of $50,000 with additional funds pledged.
As part of a mission to support biodiversity with protection of avifauna as a primary focus, the Avangrid Foundation, in partnership with Avangrid Renewables supports the Oregon Zoo Condor Recovery Center, a 52-acre campus in remote Northwest Oregon, known as the Jonsson Center for Wildlife Conservation. The center supports condor reproduction in a protected environment, managed by a team of wildlife biologists. A grant from the Foundation will be used to purchase a freezer to increase food availability for the growing number of condors and nestlings in their care.

The facility has already had success increasing genetic diversity among the hatchlings and releasing condors back into the wild, with the additional goal of reintroducing the condor in Northern California in 2020–2021, in collaboration with the Yurok Tribe, for whom the condor has special significance.

Additionally, as part of a grant program to support on-the-ground wildlife rehabilitators throughout the United States, the Avangrid Foundation is also funding the Condor Care Improvement Project at Liberty Wildlife near Phoenix, AZ. The project includes enhancements to enclosures used for some of the most high-profile wildlife and raptors at Rob and Melani Walton Campus, including California Condors, bald eagles, and golden eagles.

“The new equipment funded by the Avangrid Foundation will enhance our ability to rear and care for juvenile condors ... this supports our goal of restoring California Condors to their historical range across the western United States.”

— JULIE FITZGERALD, Executive Director, Oregon Zoo Foundation
Embracing Arts & Culture for Change

Art, culture and heritage are at the center of what makes a place unique. The Avangrid Foundation supports arts and culture as a means to celebrate identity, explore social issues, and engage and elevate diverse voices. We focus on improving the personal experience: removing barriers to access, advancing use of science and technology and creating a more equitable and informed experience through work in conservation, restoration, public events and so much more.
AVANGRID is firmly rooted in the communities in which we operate, from our poles, to our pipes, to our people. We are part of the infrastructure that makes communities — and homes — safe, vibrant and vital.

If there is an issue that underlies much of the work we do, it is to power the homes in which we live, work and service on a daily basis.

In our work in building communities, we know that in the past generation, a lack of housing opportunity has had serious impact on the stability and health of people and cities across America, including places where AVANGRID has an operating presence. Many of these communities are struggling with disproportionately high eviction rates, lack of access to housing, growing homelessness and, in turn, high rates of generational poverty. For the Avangrid Foundation, examining housing through many lenses is a flashpoint to consider roots of poverty and how to change outcomes for future generations of families, especially in a time of global crisis.

Our commitment to innovation, rigorous research and our communities compels us to contribute to broader conversation in pursuit of sustainable solutions, including in the area of stable housing and poverty reduction in partnership with the National Building Museum to take the exhibit “Evicted” to more than a dozen communities across the U.S. over the next four years.

“We have failed to fully appreciate how deeply housing is implicated in the creation of poverty.”

— DR. MATTHEW DESMOND, Evicted: Poverty and Profit in the American City
Evicted, the narrative and inspiration for the exhibit, is based on Desmond’s years of living and working with families in Milwaukee, WI, subsequently studying how eviction, markets and the housing crisis affected families in their attempt to survive and overcome poverty, and speaking to a national crisis. The book follows the lives of a number of tenants and landlords in order to examine how access to housing affects the poor.

With the support of local partners including libraries, housing authorities, chambers and development groups, the traveling exhibit, fully funded by the Foundation, launched in Milwaukee, WI, in June 2019 and finished the year in Fresno, CA. Other confirmed locations include Anchorage, AK; Kansas City, MO; Hartford, CT; Chicago, IL; and Ann Arbor, MI, over the next several years.

As the lead sponsor, Avangrid Foundation was on hand in Milwaukee and Fresno, with Desmond himself, to launch the experience. Thousands of patrons visited these pop-up locations, which are free to the public and located at sites in areas most impacted by evictions.

“It is hard to argue that housing is not a fundamental human need … the reason is simple: without stable shelter, everything else falls apart.”

— DR. MATTHEW DESMOND, Evicted: Poverty and Profit in the American City
The impacts on health, job stability and educational stability, resulting from repeated disruptions and lack of consistent community, are seen firsthand. Visitors witness this cycle through original audio interviews and photography of a specific family facing chronic eviction, charting their journey through the housing search and court system.

Dr. Desmond addresses the concept that shelter is central to an individual’s life, happiness and stability. He speaks to evictions as an example and a symbol of the housing crisis in America that is at the root of the nation’s ability to access the American Dream, to create and maintain wealth, to build and maintain stable communities and create equality and access for the next generation of Americans.

Why “Evicted” As Art, Why Now?
“Evictions used to be rare. Only in the last 30 years have they become more prevalent, with African American women and children often hit the hardest. Incomes for poor, renting families have remained stagnant, while housing costs soar higher than ever. The federal government does not fill this gap. In fact, 70% of qualified families do not receive federal housing aid, and low-income families face a shortage of affordable housing in almost every single county in the country,” says the National Building Museum “Evicted” exhibit.

The “Evicted” exhibit is a step in unpacking the larger conversation — rooted in data, analysis and storytelling — around what it truly means to build stable and sustainable communities, from the ground up.
The Avangrid Foundation, along with United Illuminating and Southern Connecticut Gas, has partnered with the Barnum Museum to help preserve and illuminate the iconic and eclectic museum structure in downtown Bridgeport, CT.

The Barnum Museum is the last surviving building attributed to the American visionary entrepreneur, civic leader and entertainer Phineas Taylor Barnum (1810–1891), of circus fame, and is on the list of National Historic Places.

Completed in 1893, the Museum has shown incredible endurance and relevance, personifying the life of P.T. Barnum, and is integral to the rich cultural legacy of the region. The Barnum Museum’s restoration and re-envisioning was the result of damage from three natural disasters between 2010 and 2012 (EF1 Tornado, Hurricane Irene, Super Storm Sandy). The project includes restoration and preservation of the decorative terracotta and brownstone façade, with the grant from the Foundation supporting a state-of-the-art, energy-efficient illumination design. The lighting will showcase the extraordinary architectural details of the building, carefully balancing its historic significance while acknowledging the modern, urban context of Bridgeport’s Main Street.

With this investment, the Foundation looks to ensure that the Barnum Museum can continue its legacy as a place of intellectual exchange and community engagement, providing education and entertainment to a global audience.

“The Barnum Museum welcomes visitors of all ages, backgrounds and beliefs, and celebrates the uniqueness in all humanity much as our founder, P.T. Barnum, did during his lifetime. The Barnum is a vital part of American history and cultural heritage; and we are steadfastly committed to the protection and preservation of the historic building so it can serve as a symbol of innovation and invention now and for generations to come.”

— KATHLEEN MAHER, Barnum Museum Executive Director
Portland Museum of Art: Inviting All to Art and Making “Art for All”

The Portland Museum of Art (PMA) is one of the leading arts and civic institutions in New England. Maine, though one of the oldest and least diverse states in the U.S., is diversifying rapidly. Starting in 2017, PMA took on a museum-wide invitation to make diversity part of its museum identity, so as to ensure community engagement for generations to come.

In a second year of partnership in 2019, the Foundation, with Central Maine Power, expanded a longtime relationship and joined in supporting PMA’s Art for All — an initiative to create a museum for all, through exhibitions and programs that reflect Maine’s community, and create experiences with art that strengthen bonds and bring people together.

Art for All was developed as an ongoing initiative that builds on efforts to diversify programs, digitize the collection, improve physical accessibility, expand community engagement and feedback, and create more ways to remove financial means as a barrier to the museum. The PMA reopened in summer 2020 and continues to reach new audiences and evolve as a cornerstone of a sustainable arts and cultural heritage in Maine.

- Over 53,000 visitors (11,000 children) accessed PMA through free Community Days and other access programs.
- PMA hosted community events, including a Naturalization Ceremony, in which 45 people representing 23 countries became citizens of the U.S.
- The museum supported exhibitions bringing artistic diversity and new voices such as Relational Undercurrents: Contemporary Art of the Caribbean Archipelago and Open-Ended: New Acquisitions at the Portland Museum of Art, which includes a Ghetto Wall by David Driskell that addresses the Civil Rights movement.
- PMA sponsored talks such as “Art = Feminism” and the spirit of innovation in the black artistic practice in the 1960s.
Investing in Education & Innovation for a More Equitable Future

The more we invest in innovation and learning, the better chance we have for a more equitable, prosperous and sustainable future. The Avangrid Foundation partners with universities, museums, schools and workforce organizations to expand learning and development opportunities, especially to underserved communities. We help individuals overcome barriers to completing education and aim to inspire youth in S.T.E.A.M. programs like museum science and robotics.
Holberton School: Taking Down Barriers for the 21st Century

The Avangrid Foundation invests in innovative educational models and workforce development programs. The goal of these investments is to help individuals equitably access and successfully harness the benefits of a rapidly changing and digitized workplace while increasing diversity among the future workforce.

The Holberton School was founded in San Francisco by Silicon Valley leaders Sylvain Kalache and Julien Barbier to solve a problem seen throughout the tech world: aspiring software engineers would devote years to studying, sometimes accumulating over a hundred thousand dollars of debt, and would still not have the skills necessary to find a job in software engineering.

Since 2018, the Foundation has partnered with the Holberton School New Haven, pledging $150,000 for start-up costs as well as cost-of-living stipends, providing individuals from all backgrounds access to high-quality education and a college-alternative pathway to a career in software engineering.

Holberton is part of the District Arts and Education Center and one of 12 campuses worldwide.

Since its inception, Holberton New Haven has enrolled 71 students across four cohorts, with nearly 40% representing communities of color. A majority of students come from historically disadvantaged backgrounds, are low income and are diverse in gender, age and educational background. Foundation support for Holberton extends to a robust network of mentors, career coaching and coding camps for young learners in the summer.

*Part of the magic of Holberton is its innovative tuition design. Students attend with no upfront tuition. They are asked to contribute a portion of their salary to the school for the first three and a half years of their post-Holberton employment. In addition to making the program more accessible, this model creates a process by which alumni give back to the next generation of students.*
The Yale Vlock Building Project: Creating a New Haven for Neighbors in Need

Designed to be an alignment of intentional and informed urban design and community building, each year first-year Yale School of Architecture (YSoA) Master of Arts candidates participate in the design and building of a home in an underserved or distressed neighborhood in New Haven. The project is both an investment in creating sustainable, green, energy-efficient and affordable housing in New Haven and training the next generation of architects in urban design with a focus on the practical implications of design and instilling a mandate for social justice in their work. The program serves as a national education model for architects nationwide.

In 2019, some 66 students worked in teams, submitting their designs. A panel of faculty, client representatives and community members selected the winning design, ensuring input from the neighborhood itself. From there, the students got to work from May to June prepping the build site, laying the foundation and framing. A smaller group of 14 stayed on after, working through the heat of summer to complete the build.

“Like the Avangrid Foundation, the Yale School of Architecture feels it is important to contribute to the larger community to which we both belong. New Haven is a dynamic city, and with the houses created through the Jim Vlock First Year Building Project, architecture students are able to contribute to the growth and revitalization of the city.”

— DEBORAH BURKE, Dean, Yale School of Architecture
At various times, neighbors lent a helping hand where they could, offering use of water and hoses to help mix concrete as the site did not yet have its own supply. It was completed in September.

The house was designed with specific attention to what those transitioning out of homelessness require:

- Floor plan is mirrored across all three units, but rotated to preserve privacy and avoid disruptive noise.
- Each unit features an outward-facing balcony or porch which cannot be seen from the other levels — encouraging connection and interaction with the community, but on the resident’s own terms.
- The roof of the house was also designed with the optimum slope and orientation to take advantage of solar energy.

Three to five New Haveners will initially call 168 Plymouth Street home, and is a the third in a series designed and built in collaboration with Columbus House, a New Haven-based homelessness services provider.

Since 1989, 30 houses have been built in New Haven, housing over 50 individuals and families as part of the Vlock Building Project. The Avangrid Foundation will continue the partnership with YSoA in 2020 on a single level structure in Newhallville. The Vlock project is in its 52nd year.

As part of a commitment to invest in creating sustainable and affordable communities, especially where we are a vital part of the grid, the Avangrid Foundation partnered with the Yale School of Architecture (YSoA) and the Columbus House in support of the 2019 Jim Vlock First Year Building Project, a three-unit transitional home in New Haven’s Hill neighborhood. Each of the three units on Plymouth Street houses a person or family transitioning out of homelessness.
The Erie Canal and the Genesee River are iconic parts of Rochester’s landscape, history and identity as a sustainable city of the future. Expanding on a 15-year partnership first stewarded by Rochester Gas & Electric (RG&E), the Avangrid Foundation is partnering with Corn Hill Navigation (CHN) to help illuminate the importance of waterways.

CHN’s mission is to foster the improvement and sustainability of the Erie Canal and Genesee River through education, awareness and enjoyment. CHN operates the *Sam Patch* tour and education vessel. It is part of a consortium driving the regional Environmental Education on the Erie Canal initiative. Dubbed “E3C” and developed in cooperation with St. John Fisher College, Monroe BOCES, Delta Environmental and Seneca Park Zoo, the leading-edge program is part of CHN’s larger educational outreach efforts, which last year provided more than 2,300 students from schools across the Rochester region with an on-the-water, experiential learning opportunity.

The *Sam Patch* was transformed into a floating science lab where students investigate water quality and aquatic ecology and measure the effects of pollution and human activities on the canal. The Avangrid Foundation support is helping boost access for underserved youth to experience the *Sam Patch*.

*The Avangrid Foundation, in partnership with RG&E, has also invested in CHN fleet building of a second vessel to reach a growing student body.*
Getting SMART: Advancing Literacy in Oregon

The Avangrid Foundation knows that the best way to develop the leaders of the future is to ensure that kids have a grasp of the fundamentals from an early age with proven methods.

For more than a decade, AVANGRID has been a leader in promoting children’s literacy in Oregon through a partnership with SMART Reading (formerly Start Making a Reader Today), working to help achieve a shared vision of an Oregon where all children can realize their full potential through reading. SMART is an award-winning nonprofit preparing thousands of Oregon children to be motivated, successful readers.

Each year, SMART mobilizes 5,000 volunteers to read with 11,000 pre-K through third-grade kids, building confidence, literacy skills and a love of reading. SMART provides each child with 14 new books a year to keep and add to their personal library. More than 222,000 Oregon kids are impacted, and more than 2.7 million books have been provided since 1992.

This past year, the Avangrid Foundation and Avangrid Renewables provided resources to support programs across Oregon — Condon Child Care in Condon, Conger Elementary in Klamath Falls, Crooked River Elementary in Prineville and Irvington Elementary in Portland. During the 2019–2020 school year, this support is helping to bring a love of reading and learning to more than 230 kids in Oregon communities and connect over 150 volunteers to students where employees live and work. Even while displaced by coronavirus, SMART continues the even more critical efforts virtually.

88% of SMART students showed improved confidence in their reading skills, and more than two-thirds met or exceeded reading benchmarks.

SMART Reading serves kids in Oregon’s highest-need schools statewide with two critical ingredients for literacy success: one-on-one reading time and access to books.
Working Together for Community

Coming together to serve the needs of people is what defines a community. Every year, the Avangrid Foundation partners with hundreds of organizations — working grassroots to globally — to improve people’s lives and build communities that are inclusive, livable and healthy. In times of great need, the Foundation stands beside the families served for generations to help respond, rebuild and stay resilient. In 2019, community-focused programs reached well over a half million individuals.
The Avangrid Foundation and Ronald McDonald House Charities: The Houses That Love Built

The Avangrid Foundation mission includes a focus on helping the critically ill, particularly children. We know that when children get sick, the emotional and financial burden on families is often enormous, especially when caring for a child away from home.

This is why since 2016, the Avangrid Foundation has been partnering with Ronald McDonald House Charities (RMHC) to keep families with sick children together and near the care and resources they need. At RMHC, families are provided the resources needed free of charge, enabling families to focus on what matters most: the health and well-being of their child.

The Mental Health & Wellness Lounge in Rochester opened in September 2019 with AVANGRID representatives on hand. It is fully staffed and expected to host over 1,100 visits each year.

The Avangrid Foundation's work with RMHC started close to home, having been a committed partner of the Ronald McDonald House of Connecticut since 2016, first helping to build the new and expanded house at Yale-New Haven Hospital that opened in 2017. With stays ranging a few days to over a year, the House now serves more than 370 families annually from around the world and continues to grow! In 2018, the Foundation continued to deepen that partnership, providing seed
Ronald McDonald Houses are a free-of-cost “home away from home” for thousands of children and their families who are being treated at hospitals around the world.

Each year families travel to the House, sometimes with nothing more than the clothes they are wearing, to receive world-class pediatric medical care at nearby facilities. In doing so, they face the tremendous burdens of navigating the healthcare system, extraordinarily high hospital and housing costs, and the emotional and physical stress associated with caring for a child away from home.

The homes are a place of respite and provide many of the basics (food, clothing and basic services) that families need to stay intact so that they focus on helping their child get well. They are served 24 hours a day and 365 days a year by dedicated staff and hundreds of volunteers who ensure that fresh laundry, hot meals and warm hugs are available around the clock.

In 2019, the Foundation expanded support to three additional chapters in Massachusetts, New York and Maine.

With the support of the Avangrid Foundation, the RMHC of Connecticut and Western Massachusetts opened the Foundation Respite Room at the Springfield, MA location in 2019. Here, families can utilize the House for short periods of time while their child is being treated or while waiting for treatment or test results.

The Respite Room offers an opportunity to refresh, rejuvenate, meet and interact with other families experiencing similar situations. Over 3,000 people are expected to benefit from this room per year.

funding to support a new “Pantry Pals” program that ensures families have basic provisions during their stay, free of charge. The program was recognized for its innovation and received private funding to allow it to scale up and operate for several years to come.
In Maine, the Foundation is helping to build community and expand hope by supporting the expansion of the Ronald McDonald House in Portland. For many years, the Maine chapter has recognized a growing need for family-centered care in the Greater Portland area. Ronald McDonald House Portland will add 15 new guest rooms, growing to a 36-room, fully operational House in early 2020. As a result, RMHC Maine will be able to reach an additional 500+ families per year.

In New York, the Avangrid Foundation partnered with RMHC of Rochester and Rochester General Hospital to launch the very first Mental Health & Wellness Lounge (MHWL) in the country!

RMHC Rochester is dedicated to an innovative model to serve families and kids in the community, providing comprehensive and tailored support as they move through the complexities of mental health care. This first-of-its-kind respite space, funded by the Avangrid Foundation, is designed specifically for families of kids receiving care in the inpatient psychiatric unit as well as the partial-hospitalization program.

The MHWL incorporates a range of activities and support services to reduce the stress, loneliness and financial burden associated with a mental health crisis:

- Companion support and self-care
- Nutritious snacks and beverages
- A kid-friendly play area for siblings to enjoy, including books, arts and crafts
- Laundry services: RMHC Rochester even has new clothing available
- A computer station for families use
- A library with a range of books and literature: RMHC Rochester also provides books to take home
- Art therapy so families can spend time together in a productive setting

The financial need is clear: of the chapters with which the Avangrid Foundation partners, on average, over 80% of families are low income, and many are from communities of color and/or non-English-speaking.
In April 2019, the Avangrid Foundation announced its second year of partnership with RAINN, in honor of Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month, in order to support RAINN’s mission as the leading organization in the U.S. to carry out programs that support survivors, educate the public, prevent sexual violence and ensure that perpetrators are brought to justice.

With the help of the Foundation and other generous partners, RAINN reached 304,275 clients in 2019 — representing some 40,000 additional persons over the prior year. Specifically, support from the Avangrid Foundation enabled RAINN’s victim and trauma services program to actively recruit, hire and train staff, augmenting capacity to meet steadily increasing demand for RAINN’s 24/7 National Sexual Assault bilingual hotline — 800.656.HOPE. A service for anyone seeking information or support, the line is safe, free and anonymous, both via phone and online, and offers an essential element of care and support to whomever is calling during those moments that matter.
Our partnership with RAINN supports survivors and their families while helping to create safer, healthier, more equitable and sustainable communities for our customers, employees, and future generations while promoting human rights and justice. We are proud to work alongside RAINN to ensure that all survivors have access to the support they need and space to be heard.

RAINN’s Facts About Sexual Assault

- Every 73 seconds someone in the U.S. is sexually assaulted.
- One out of every six women and girls in the U.S. is a victim of rape or attempted rape.
- Sexual violence affects men and boys as well — in the U.S. one in 33 men has been the victim of rape or attempted rate.
- News outlets around the world, from the BBC to the New York Times, are now reporting the terrible reality that incidences of domestic violence and child sexual abuse are likely to increase due to social isolation resulting from coronavirus prevention measures.

“The need for RAINN’s advocacy and support network has grown during the last few years as numerous high-profile social issues have come to the forefront of public discussion, including the #MeToo movement and national dialogue about the sheer prevalence of sexual assault on our campuses and in our workplaces ... RAINN stands at the epicenter of a social crisis that transcends all parts of our country. They offer education and advocacy along with critical support for survivors when, at many times, support is tough to find.”

— PETER CHURCH, AVANGRID CHRO and RAINN Board Member
Unmet Needs in Maine: Helping Curb Youth Homelessness Through Flexible Engagement

“Unmet Needs” is a common term in philanthropy for addressing the day-to-day necessities that are critical to any organization in making long-term impact. They can often be hard to fund because they are the ongoing building blocks of change, rather than intervention or other programs at scale. At the Foundation, we know that without foundational support it is hard to make measurable change, and we have made it our business to help organizations do the basics: keep the lights on, improve tools, staff up, provide basic items to clients and so much more.

For a second year, the Foundation, in partnership with Central Maine Power, has focused on a strategic effort to combat homelessness and meet basic needs, with a focus on the growing issue of youth homelessness in Maine.

On any given day in Maine, thousands of young people and their families are experiencing crises in their lives preventing them from having a stable place to live. Most youth who are experiencing homelessness have been asked to leave home or have chosen to do so because of violence or intense family conflict, including over issues like substance abuse and sexual identity. Other at-risk youths may have families who are homeless or unable to support them financially, or they may be aging out of the foster care system.

Building on a successful partnership in 2017 and 2018, this year the Foundation provided over $100,000 in funding to support access to operational expenses and food, clothing, hygiene, healthcare, shelter, basic services and job support with a specific focus on at-risk and homeless youth and the working poor. This funding supports programs in 2019 into 2020, at a time when many partners are facing exponential growth in need as a result of COVID-19.
There is a disproportionate impact on communities of color, as a percentage of population.

OUR PARTNERS

- **Kennebec Valley United Way (KVUW) in Augusta:**
  A partnership benefiting Bread of Life Ministries Family Shelter Services, which provides shelter and services for individuals, families and veterans facing or at risk of homelessness. This builds on prior-year giving to capital expansion. This gift honors CMP employees’ dedication to KVUW, raising over $60,000 in 2019.

- **Preble Street in Portland:**
  Support for the Youth Homeless Center including basic services, crisis intervention and case management for over 250 youth experiencing homelessness each year.

- **Trinity Jubilee Center in Lewiston/Auburn:**
  Support for the anchor feeding project and service expansion impacting over 5,000 clients per year. The center works to provide holistic, comprehensive and dignified support to address barriers to overcoming poverty. Services include food assistance, Day Shelter, Resource Center and Refugee Integration Program.

- **United Way of Greater Portland:**
  Supports the Locker Project for COVID emergency meal and literacy care packages serving 575 families in Portland, South Portland and Westbrook.

- **United Way of Androscoggin County in Lewiston/Auburn:**
  Support directed to Homeless Youth Services with New Beginnings, a leading agency working to reduce youth homelessness in Maine. Funding helps the Emergency Shelter (one of three in the state serving ages 12-19) and the Transitional Living Program (serving age 16-21). New Beginnings leads the Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (YHDP), part of a HUD-funded two-year, $3.35M initiative in Maine to work in a collaborative way to combat youth homelessness across the state.

- **United Way Mid-Coast Maine (KVUW) and the Mid-Coast Alliance (MCA) in Brunswick:**
  Support for the regional Merrymeeting/Anti-Homelessness Coalition. Since 1995, the Merrymeeting Project (MP) has provided critical services to at-risk and homeless school-age children and youth up to age 20 in the three school districts served by UWMCM and MCA. MP works directly with youth to increase school attendance and stabilize school and community life, including assistance with access to food, medical and mental healthcare, school supplies, clothing and shelter. The outreach coordinator helps youth navigate complex systems to obtain and/or maintain benefits, housing, college admissions and employment. Funding of this project is intended to provide expanded critical, direct outreach services to 40-50 students in three school districts in the 2019/2020 school year. Additionally, the Merrymeeting Project will serve approximately 200-250 homeless students and families indirectly (those who do not require long-term, ongoing support services).

- **Good Shepherd Food Bank Throughout Maine:**
  Support for more than 50,000 meals distributed statewide through Maine’s primary food bank. Ongoing expanded statewide reach through the new Hampden cold storage facility, is additionally supported by the Avangrid Foundation.
2019 Partnerships

This list includes the organizations and entities that received direct grants, contributions and payments from the Avangrid Foundation in 2019. It does not include organizations receiving matching grants through employee giving programs, nor does it reflect all active and ongoing partnerships funded in prior years to which no additional funding was committed or paid in 2019. Select partners listed below may have received one or more gifts for different program designations.

Education Training & Research
Binghamton University – Thomas J. Watson School of Engineering*
Blue Hub Capital – Federal Reserve Bank of Boston – Working Communities Challenge*
District Innovation & Venture Center – Holberton School
Kennebec Valley Community College Foundation
Monroe Community College Foundation *
University of Maine Foundation
Yale University – Institute of Preservation and Cultural Heritage
Yale University – School of Architecture

Biodiversity & Environment
Adirondack Research Consortium
Blue Mountain Wildlife
Climate Generation: A Will Steger Legacy
Corn Hill Waterfront & Navigation Foundation
CT Public Broadcasting
Gulf of Maine Research Institute
Hawks Aloft
Liberty Wildlife
National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF)*
Nature’s Nursery
Oregon Museum of Science & Industry
Oregon Zoo Foundation
Riverkeeper
Rochester Museum & Science Center
Saving Our Avian Resources (SOAR)
Trailblazers Foundation*
Trust for Public Land – Connecticut
Red Creek Wildlife
Regents of the University California, Davis
Sciencenter Discovery Museum
Whispering Willow Wildcare
Wildlife Works

Art & Culture
Barnum Museum Foundation
Barrington Stage Company
Binghamton Philharmonic
Geva Theatre Center
International Festival of Arts & Ideas
National Building Museum*
Portland Museum of Art
Rochester Area Community Foundation/Rochester International Jazz Festival

Community Partnerships
American Online Giving Foundation
American Red Cross
Camp Sunshine at Sebago Lake
Catholic Charities – Archdiocese of Hartford – Centro San Jose
Catholic Charities Food Bank of the Southern Tier Chelsea Hicks Foundation
Center for Grieving Children
City of New Haven – Elm City Robo Squad
City of Rochester – Cool Sweep
Clifford Beers Clinic
Compeer Rochester
Connecticut Food Bank
Crime Victims Assistance Center

*Partnerships with multi-year agreements
“Philanthropy is most effective in building more equal, just and sustainable societies when it empowers constituents to identify, advocate for and activate investments that reflect community aspirations. We are thankful for our customers, colleagues and communities who truly energize us to do good as partners.”

— NICOLE LICATA GRANT, Executive Director, Avangrid Foundation
The Avangrid Foundation is an independent, nonprofit organization that funds philanthropic investments that primarily impact communities where AVANGRID, Inc. and its subsidiaries operate. Since 2002, the Avangrid Foundation and its predecessors have invested more than $21 million in partnerships that focus on building sustainable, vital and healthy communities; preserving cultural and artistic heritage; advancing education; and improving people’s lives. The Avangrid Foundation is committed to advancing the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals in the United States. For more information, please visit avangridfoundation.org.