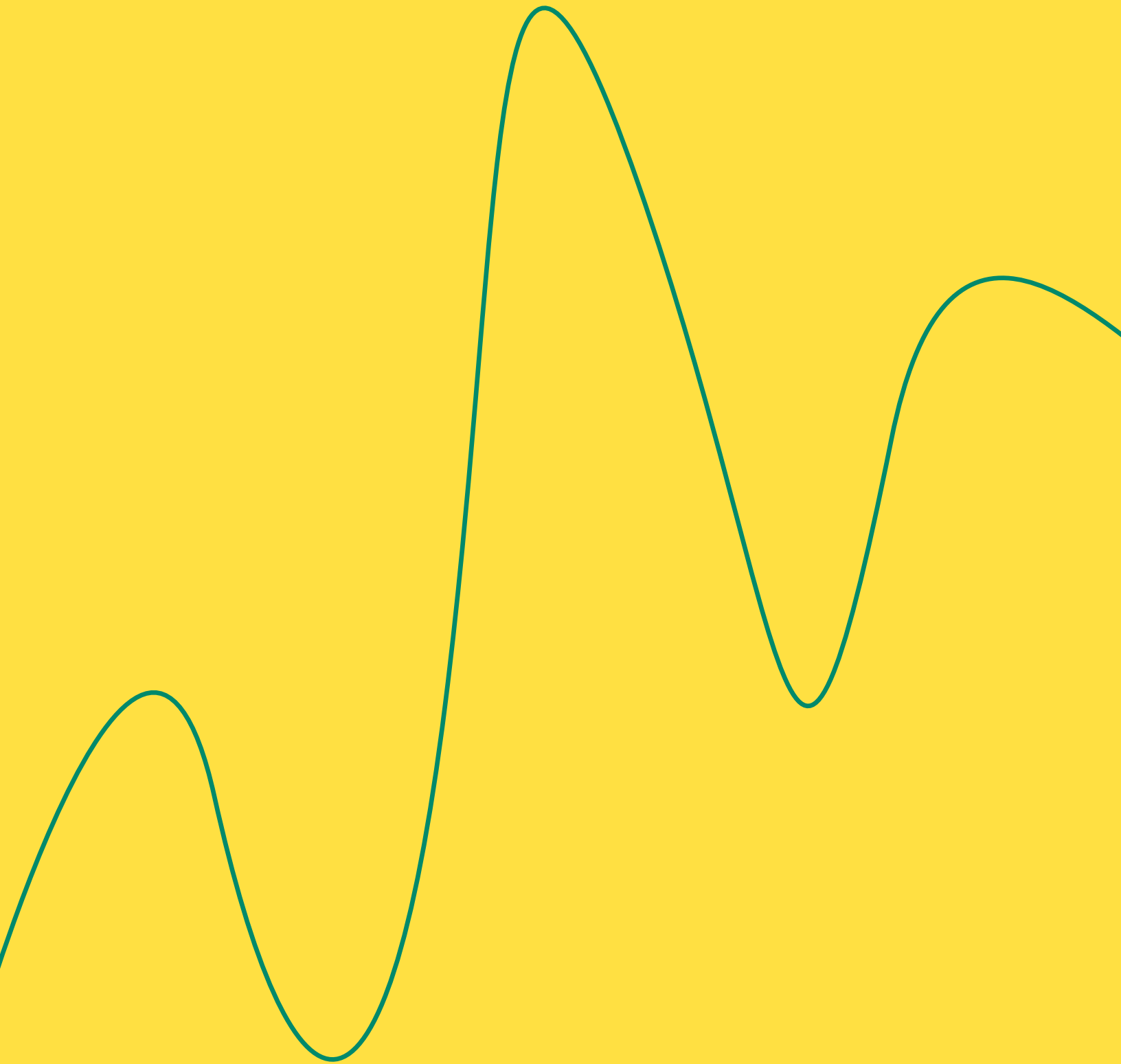


2024 Impact Report

The *New York*
Community Trust







Community Wins!

Our incredible grantees often score major wins that change policy, promote equity, advance justice, and help our region thrive. We're excited to share some recent examples, made possible by generous donors who created charitable legacies at The Trust for the good of future New Yorkers.

Decades later, our donors' heartfelt, visionary gifts continue to make life-

changing work possible.

Stewarded by our expert grantmaking staff, this generosity helps nonprofits offer bold and thoughtful solutions to pressing challenges, securing rights and opportunity for all New Yorkers.

Thank you to our donors, supporters, and nonprofit colleagues for your role in these victories. Together, we can help ensure brighter futures for generations to come.



ARTS EDUCATION

Visual and performing arts education delivered virtually

During the height of the pandemic, as New York City faced the myriad challenges of transitioning the nation's largest school district to remote learning, **Carnegie Hall, Roundabout Theatre, Studio in a School**, and the **92nd Street Y** helped public schools provide virtual dance, music, theater, and visual arts programming to more than half a million students and developed resources and trainings that continue to support teachers citywide.

*The Trust's **DeWitt Wallace Fund for Youth (est. 1982)** helped ensure that young people throughout the city could participate in arts programming during remote learning.*

Above, two fifth grade students participate in **Studio in a School's** multilingual learners art program. Photo courtesy of grantee



OLDER ADULTS & AFFORDABLE HOUSING

\$2 billion won to house low-income New Yorkers

In recent years, the number of older New Yorkers in city shelters has more than doubled, while homelessness among all ages has reached the highest levels since the Great Depression. **LiveOn NY's** advocacy led the city to allocate \$2 billion towards affordable housing, including for older New Yorkers, in its 2024 budget. The New York Times and other media covered the agency's report on homelessness among older adults and the city's affordable housing crisis.

*This grant combined contributions from six funds at The Trust, including the **Lucy Wortham James Memorial Fund (est. 1939)** and the **Frederic H. Leonhardt Fund (est. 1979)**, which provide unrestricted funding for our strategic grantmaking.*

JUSTICE

Legal wins raise and recover workers' wages

Westchester's **Worker Justice Center** represents workers pro bono in class-action litigation to prevent wage theft, illegal discrimination, and labor trafficking. With the Raise Up NY Coalition, it helped raise the hourly minimum wage in Westchester County from \$15 in 2022 to \$16 in 2024, and \$17 in 2026, with future increases tied to inflation. Center attorneys also settled two federal lawsuits that recovered wages owed and damages for Westchester workers.

*The **Dominican Sisters of Hope Empowerment Fund (est. 2014)**, which promotes social justice and the transformation of systems that perpetuate poverty, oppression, and injustice, helped make these wins possible.*

ENVIRONMENT

A New York law leads to cleaner drinking water nationwide

Until recently, a dangerous chemical known as 1,4-dioxane lurked in detergents, baby shampoos, and other personal care products, eventually leaching into drinking water. **Citizens Campaign for the Environment** used our grant to successfully advocate for a first-in-the-nation law requiring manufacturers to greatly reduce the amount of the likely carcinogen in personal care products sold in New York State. This caused industries across the country to reformulate products with dramatically less 1,4-dioxane.

*Our **Henry Phillip Kraft Family Memorial Fund (est. 1996)** supported this grant.*



DEMOCRACY

Community-driven efforts increase voting rates

New York City has one of the lowest voter turnout rates in the country. The **GoVoteNYC** funder collaborative at The Trust supports nonprofits' nonpartisan efforts to increase voter turnout across the five boroughs, reaching close to 2 million New Yorkers each year—many of whom are infrequent voters. One study found that GoVoteNYC grantees nearly doubled voting rates among low-turnout voters through their canvassing.

The GoVoteNYC (est. 2021) funder collaborative housed at The Trust brings together nearly a dozen foundations to make grants and learn alongside grantees how best to advance civic engagement.

Left: **GoVoteNYC** grantee **Center for Law & Social Justice** cohosts Dancing for Democracy, a celebration of voter participation, in Brooklyn. Photo by Karen Smul

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Free storefront space boosts small businesses

High rents can stymie entrepreneurs, while many New York storefronts lie vacant. **Chashama** used our grant to connect 250 creative small businesses owned by women and people of color with temporary rent-free retail space, along with technical and financial assistance to help their businesses grow. Participants earned a total of \$1.2 million and hired 300 new staff. Eighty percent reported plans to expand, and a third are pursuing commercial leases.

*This grant was made possible by the **Richard and Mildred T. Rhodebeck Fund (est. 2012)** and the **Lila Acheson Wallace Fund for the Arts (est. 1984)**.*

NEWEST NEW YORKERS

Coalition helps thousands navigate immigration court

To address increasing demand for immigration legal aid services in New York City, a coalition of nonprofits, including **African Communities Together**, **Catholic Migration Services**, **Central American Legal Assistance**, **Masa**, **New York Legal Assistance Group**, and **Venezuelans and Immigrants Aid**, created the Pro Se Plus Project to train people to represent themselves in immigration court. The Project held 90 community presentations, reaching more than 6,000 people, and trained more than 1,800 advocates to help people apply for immigration relief.

*The **Lucy Wortham James Memorial Fund (est. 1939)** and **Major Fund (est. 1971)**, which both support the good of the region, made these grants possible.*

PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

Paid government internship program expanded

Internships provide crucial training for people with disabilities and help dispel employers' misconceptions about their potential. With Trust funding, **AHRC's** Partnership for Inclusive Internships placed New Yorkers with disabilities in paid internships at city and state agencies in fields such as data entry, architecture, and public policy. The city recently announced plans to expand and fund the project over three years and ultimately incorporate it into its workforce development programming.

*This grant was made possible in part by the **Wilhelm Loewenstein Memorial Fund (est. 1940)**, which supports health and welfare in New York City, and the **Jack Goldring Fund (est. 1986)**, which benefits people with intellectual or developmental disabilities.*

Join our Community of Changemakers



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What's the secret to 100 years of successful community philanthropy? That question has been on my mind as The Trust celebrates our centennial, and one answer stands out: meaningful collaboration.

The wins in this report resulted from thoughtful collaborations between nonprofits, funders, and community members. We were able to invest in these projects thanks to the foresight and generosity of individuals who, decades ago, entrusted us with their charitable legacies.

For 100 years, The Trust has made an art of bringing people together to champion bold solutions and advance positive change. We're carrying that expertise into our second century as we grow our reach, our community, and our impact. I hope you'll join us.

On the cover, Hamilton-Madison House takes part in a week of nonpartisan get-out-the-vote activities organized by grantees of the GoVoteNYC Collaborative Fund. Photo by Karen Smul

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Forever.

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