



Who We Are: A diverse group of funders, both big and small; from private, family, community and corporate foundations as well as donor advisors and individuals.

What We Do: We work together to support the restoration of Long Island Sound. For some of us, it's a large part of our work. For others, it's just one of many priorities. We network, we learn, and we pool our resources for greater impact.

Why We Care About the Long Island Sound: A healthy Sound benefits wildlife, boosts the quality of life for millions of people, and bolsters the long-term resilience of its communities. The Sound region – stretching across Connecticut and New York – is a vibrant area shaped by its unique geography, geology, biology, and ecology, alongside a tapestry of people and communities. The area includes 215 communities in all 9 CT counties and parts of 5 NY counties. It's home to 9 million people living, working, and playing around its lands and waters. It's a recreational paradise with 115 harbors and rivers, as well as an economic powerhouse contributing over \$9.4 billion to the economy annually! We're ALL connected to the Sound.

Opportunities We See: We value nonprofits that collaborate and have buy-in from local, state and federal governments. We're able to work together with the *Long Island Sound Partnership*, the bi-state leader of Sound-wide activities and a robust community of 60 partners. The *Partnership* has been doing great work for 40 years and includes representatives ranging from government to business to nonprofits to educational institutions - plus dedicated *Citizens* and *Science and Technical Advisory Committees*. We have the partnerships we need.

How We Work Together: We create greater impact by addressing challenges that no single foundation or donor could tackle alone. Our members benefit from rich networking and learning opportunities, which in turn enhance their own grantmaking strategies. Some of our members engage in aligned grant making, and many contribute to our pooled grant making effort, the *Long Island Sound Stewardship Fund*, *amplifying our collective reach and effectiveness*.

Impact and Return on Investment: We have a proven track record of developing innovative projects. We have delivered value to our non-profit and government partners. Most of our projects result in further investment by other funders, resulting in significant returns on investment.

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