

# NEWS



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**PHOTO ATTACHED.**

## **Liberty Bank Foundation Receives “Outstanding Foundation of 2014” Award from Association of Fundraising Professionals**

NEW HAVEN, CT — The Liberty Bank Foundation was honored as the “Outstanding Foundation of 2014” by the Connecticut and Fairfield County Chapters of the Association of Fundraising Professionals (AFP.) This was one of seven awards for philanthropy presented by AFP at its National Philanthropy Day breakfast on November 14.

The Outstanding Foundation award is presented each year to a private foundation that has demonstrated outstanding commitment through financial support and by encouraging and motivating others to take leadership roles toward philanthropy and community involvement. The Liberty Bank Foundation was recognized for its efforts to promote collaboration in support of causes including summer youth employment, early literacy, and affordable housing, among others.

“We’ve always tried to ensure that our foundation’s impact goes beyond simply making grants,” said Michael Helfgott, chairman of the Liberty Bank Foundation Board of Directors. “As a small foundation, we understand that we can’t move the needle on large social issues by ourselves. So our approach is to build partnerships with nonprofits, government, businesses, and other funders, and work together to maximize our impact.”

Since its inception in 1997, the Liberty Bank Foundation has awarded over \$8 million in grants to nonprofit organizations within Liberty Bank’s market area. The foundation seeks to improve the quality of life for people of low or moderate income by investing in three areas: education to promote economic success for children and families; affordable housing; and nonprofit capacity building. Along with its grantmaking, the foundation strives to foster the convening and collaboration of nonprofits, funders, business, and government to address community issues.



*Michael Helfgott, chairman of the Liberty Bank Foundation, receives the Outstanding Foundation of 2014 Award from Joy DeMarchis (l) and Gervais Hearn (r), co-chairs of the Association of Fundraising Professionals’ National Philanthropy Day breakfast.*

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