



THE MAPLEWOOD FOUNDATION

LET YOUR LOVE GROW™



A Long-Term Vision for Giving in Our Community

People in Maplewood and South Orange share a passion for ensuring our community remains one of the best places to live. You can see it in the dozens of nonprofits focused on serving our residents as well as in the countless hours our neighbors dedicate to volunteerism. In fact, living among people who look out for each other is one of the many reasons people fall in love with this place – and find it difficult to imagine living elsewhere.

That said, the needs of the more than 40,000 people living in our two towns are multifaceted and ever-evolving. Our neighbors struggle with the rising cost of living. Our students require educational tools and experiences beyond the classroom to realize their full potential. Our seniors seek opportunities to stay active and engaged – and avoid loneliness – as they age in place. Of course, these examples only scratch the surface.

How do we ensure the community is able to care for its residents today and well into the future?

Maplewood and South Orange have changed dramatically throughout their long histories, and they will continue to do so. Today, we have an opportunity to tap into the collective spirit of generosity and compassion that makes our community remarkable to ensure a better future for all our neighbors.

That opportunity is The Maplewood Foundation.

Launched in 2023, this philanthropic effort brings our community together to empower the problem solvers and solution seekers with a bedrock of financial support.



To fund their programs, many nonprofits today rely on annual giving campaigns and public funding, both of which can ebb and flow. And new initiatives to serve important community needs are difficult to launch for people who have great vision, but no access to capital.

The Maplewood Foundation solicits donations, large and small, and uses them to build a sustainable, growing fund to support the nonprofit organizations working tirelessly to improve the quality of life for all of our community's residents. Grant opportunities are accessible to everyone, from established organizations to aspiring nonprofits that need support to bring their new ideas to life. The Maplewood Foundation's leadership stewards this support by investing wisely for longer-term and broader impact within the community. These assets are managed by Corient, an independent financial advisor.

Beyond financial support, The Maplewood Foundation fosters a direct connection between community members and the high-impact organizations that provide essential services to residents of both towns. Through its grant-giving process, the Foundation brings greater public attention to programs that can create a ripple effect by raising additional support for these worthy causes.

Our Beginning

The Maplewood Foundation began as an idea, and an extraordinary act of generosity, when former Maplewood Mayor Fred Profeta and his wife, Susan, provided a total of \$1,000,000 in seed funding to launch the effort. Bringing together a diverse group of residents to serve as volunteer trustees and provide financial support, the Foundation was established in January 2023 and gave away \$50,000 in grants later that year. Each year since, it has welcomed new donors from across the community and increased its support for deserving nonprofit programs.

How We Work

The community foundation model has deep New Jersey roots, and The Maplewood Foundation has joined Summit, Westfield, Princeton and Montclair in expanding this philanthropic movement.

To ensure steady, reliable grants to deserving organizations, all donations are invested in a fund, from which the Foundation aims to distribute a minimum of 5% as either Program or Seed grants through an annual grant cycle. All organizations and emerging nonprofits that benefit Maplewood and South Orange residents are encouraged to apply.



Applications are reviewed by our Grants Committee to ensure that the Foundation's funding will make the greatest possible impact for the people in our community. Our areas of focus include climate and environmental stewardship; diversity, equity and inclusion; educational scholarships, emergency relief for residents; enhancement of public education; programs for individuals with disabilities; promotion of the arts; support for senior citizens; and youth recreation.

To learn more about the application process, visit TheMaplewoodFoundation.org.

Joining a Community of Givers

By making a contribution to The Maplewood Foundation, donors provide the resources to ensure that Maplewood and South Orange remain a community that cares for its people for generations to come. The impact of our collective generosity is exponential – working together, our contributions will provide steady, reliable financial support to the nonprofit organizations that improve people's lives and ensure that our neighbors can continue to live in comfort and safety.

The Maplewood Foundation belongs to all of us. Every dollar you contribute is an investment in what we all love about living here. It's an enduring way to give back to the community that gives all of us so much. And the more we raise, the more we can give.

The Maplewood Foundation. Let Your Love Grow.™



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