

Program Report Card: Local Arts Agency Cultural Leadership Program “LAA” (Commission on Culture & Tourism “CCT”)

*Quality of Life Results: Participation in arts, historic preservation, and tourism experiences contributes to the development of creative and productive citizens at all stages of life.*

*Contribution to Result: The Local Arts Agency Cultural Leadership grant program and accompanying professional development services will support and/or train organizations to research, assess, and provide a broad spectrum of educational services within their town or region.*

*Partners: Existing cultural services agencies and local arts agencies, community foundations; private foundations; and the New England Foundation for the Arts.*

**Performance Measure 1:** Cultural service agencies and local arts agencies have been successfully supported to provide services on a local level.

Year	Avg. grant	# grantees
FY06	\$21,000	5 grantees in pilot program
FY07	\$15,357	14 grantees
FY08	\$17,277	14 grantees
FY09	\$13,333	18 grantees
FY10	\$18,966	20 grantees

**Story behind baseline:** Prior to the creation the program, the state’s cultural service agencies and local art agencies were not networked together, did not cooperate regionally, did not support each other via peer development and did not have formal relationships with the state/CCT. This grant program, established in 2005, provides professional development support and consistent grant funding via a competitive,

two-year grant award which employs a rigorous outside professional review process.

**Proposed action to turn the curve:**

*Support the LAA program via technology* – a hosted list serve will support intrastate communications among all cultural service agencies and local arts agencies whether or not they are involved in CCT’s grant program.  
*Support the LAA program via national professional development* – encourage LAAs to attend Americans for the Arts (AFTA) national conferences, which would dramatically improve LAA’s knowledge of and connection to national trends and treasures.

*Maintain and evolve the current level of professional development support and grant funding* – It is increasingly difficult for service-based organizations to raise operating funds. Professional development and the state’s acknowledgement and endorsement are critical. Staffing levels at local arts agencies need to increase in order for these organizations to leverage more private

funding, recruit key board members, continue to plan and implement regional initiatives.

**Performance Measure 2:** The successful partnership with five (5) cultural service agencies to administer the Peer Advisor Network (PAN) program and to expand the program’s outreach into the cultural community. (See PAN report card.)

Cultural Alliance of Fairfield County
Greater Hartford Arts Council
Northwest Connecticut Arts Council
Shoreline Arts Alliance
Windham Arts Collaborative

**Story behind baseline:** The LAAs listed above have expanded their capacity and regional stature due to their alliance with the state’s PAN program.

**Proposed action to turn the curve:** Increase capacity of other local arts agencies and cultural services agencies via the PAN program’s short-term consulting support.

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