



THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

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Community Foundation CEO Makes First-Ever Philanthropy Power 50 Statewide List

Jennifer Leonard, who has been leading Rochester Area Community Foundation since 1993, has been named to the inaugural Philanthropy Power 50 list compiled and published by City & State New York.

Leonard is No. 24 on the 2020 list, which includes several colleagues at community foundations across the state as well as leaders from larger foundations and philanthropic institutions that direct giving and remain influential in the state. See the City & State story and list [here](#).

City & State is known for its news coverage of the state's politics and policies and its varied Power Lists in a variety of areas — health care, politics, environment, diversity, finance, labor, nonprofit, etc. For 2020, the staff decided to compile a movers and shakers list in the world of philanthropy. The Philanthropy Power 50 list appears in the *City & State New York* [February magazine](#).

During Leonard's tenure at the Community Foundation, first as executive director and later as president and CEO, the community assets held by the Foundation to improve our eight-county region have grown more than fifteenfold to \$492 million. Of this, \$307 million is permanently endowed. The Community Foundation, which is the largest grantmaking foundation locally and the second largest in Western New York, distributed \$36.7 million in grants and scholarships last year.

Leonard led implementation of the first national standards for community foundations and chaired her field from 2004 to 2006. Before coming to Rochester, she served as vice president of the California Community Foundation in Los Angeles and a national writer and consultant in philanthropy. Leonard is a member of the Rochester-Monroe Anti-Poverty Initiative's steering committee. Previously she chaired our community's ROC the Future education initiative and served on the boards of Center for Governmental Research and Causewave Community Partners.

She and her husband, investigative journalist and author David Cay Johnston, live in Brighton.