A sampling of Kätchen Coley Society grant disbursements:

- $500 to a client of the Start Program to help pay tuition for his final course toward earning his bachelor's degree from the University of New Haven.

- $238 to a client of the Supportive Housing for Families® program in New Haven, allowing her to pay a student loan and continue her studies in criminal justice at Gateway Community College.

- $1,000 to The Connection's Recovery House program in New Haven to provide six months of funding for recovery celebrations. The monthly celebrations allow clients to celebrate their successes with family and other natural supports, reinforce the positive relationships in their lives, help create a sense of connectedness, and provide hope, thereby reducing their risk of substance use.

- $1,000 to the Eddy Shelter to charter a riverboat to take Shelter guests for a cruise on the Connecticut River. In applying for the funds, the Eddy Shelter Program Manager wrote, "Often the only way we can show our residents how much we care for them is to be their support system when they are in need, or try our best to show them how much we respect their aspirations on their journey towards rebuilding their lives."

- $750 to the Park Street Inn in New Haven to purchase a bicycle rack, three bicycles, helmets, locks, and related equipment. The bike rack, bicycles and equipment help clients with chronic mental illness become more independent, social and engaged in healthy practices.

The first round of Cornerstone Society grants include:

- $243 to a client of The Connection's Park Street Residence to attend the Yale School of Drama's annual Gala in New York City. This individual, a Yale School of Drama graduate, attended the gala for the first time in 2013. It was the first time in decades that she had left New Haven, and the experience was very positive—staff reported that they saw in her a hopefulness and independence not previously seen.

- $500 to an avid gardener and client of the Park Street Residence to provide a stipend for the work he does as a volunteer for the New Haven Parks and Recreation Department. His volunteer efforts are a great confidence booster for him, and provide a way to stay focused and be responsible to a given task.

- $780 to The Connection's Recovery House program to purchase new bed linens, including sheets, pillows, and comforters, as well as pictures and other room decor making the clients' lives more comfortable while they are in the program.

- $1,000 to the New Haven-based Behavioral Health Programs to help defray the costs associated with taking clients to see the Holiday Spectacular at Radio City Music Hall. An annual tradition, this trip provides an opportunity for staff and clients to share fellowship, take in the sights, and enjoy the wonder of the holiday season. This trip is a wonderful gift because many clients struggle with strained personal relationships during the holiday season, and consider their peers and staff members their primary source of companionship