



Meet the 2020 First Term Trustee Nominees

Dr. Rebecca Eleck Bruce is a family physician and the medical director for Wheeler Clinic. In that role, she supervises medical providers in four federally qualified community health center locations and sees patients herself in all four locations. She provides routine primary care to patients of all ages, womb to tomb, prescribes medication assisted treatment for substance abuse disorders, treats HIV and Hepatitis C, and prescribes gender affirming hormones. She also volunteers with the Greater Waterbury YMCA and sometimes teaches yoga at YMCA Camp Mataucha. She has worked for and with nonprofits in Haiti, Guatemala, and Honduras and is passionate about initiatives that extend health care to all. She is a proud mom to two awesome little kids and enjoys getting outside with them as often as possible. In her remaining spare time, she enjoys open water swimming and trail running.



Deborah Foord had a long career in investment management, working with



institutional clients in the US, Europe and Asia while based in New York City. Her current pursuits include board service and volunteer activities in her hometown of Litchfield, focusing mainly on food insecurity. She serves on the board of the Litchfield Community Center where she started Family Dinner Night serving free, home cooked meals to families with young children and others seeking companionship. Deborah also continues her longstanding role organizing public art exhibitions along Broadway on the upper west side in New York City as a member of the board of the Broadway Mall Association.

Linda C. Halgunseth is an associate professor in the department of Human Development and Family Sciences at the University of Connecticut. Her research focuses on sociocultural influences on parenting, culturally sensitive parenting measurement, and family engagement with diverse families. Dr. Halgunseth holds and has held many leadership positions in national associations such as Society for Research in Child Development (SRCD) and Society for Research on Adolescence (SRA). She currently serves as Associate Editor for the Journal of Research on Adolescence. Linda is also very active in serving the Waterbury community through her work on the UConn Waterbury campus and as a former board member of Madre Latina Inc.



Subira Gordon is the executive director of Connecticut Coalition for Achievement Now (ConnCAN), where she works to reimagine our public schools through an effort to recreate a better system that reflects the America of today—and tomorrow. Subira was born and raised in Jamaica, in a small rural community with a 2 percent literacy rate. Subira attended Bates College and became engaged in organizing and advocacy efforts, and subsequently completed a master's degree in Public Policy from New England College. She served as the executive director of the Connecticut General Assembly's Commission on Equity and Opportunity, where she worked closely with grassroots advocates and legislators to create equitable solutions for communities of color. Subira has championed issues including a diverse educator pipeline, affordable housing options and comprehensive criminal justice reform, and is dedicated to excellence and equity in our state's educational system.

