



**Strengthening the resiliency and vibrancy of New Hampshire's communities**

## LAUNCHING THE COMMUNITY CENTER INVESTMENT PROGRAM

The [Community Center Investment Program](#) provides resources to nonprofits and municipalities to support infrastructure improvements to community spaces across New Hampshire. This investment of federal American Rescue Plan Act State Fiscal Recovery Funds, administered in coordination with the Governor's Office for Emergency Relief and Recovery, provide an opportunity to deploy significant resources into and make deeper impacts within New Hampshire communities through one-time, strategic investments in community-based infrastructure. It is a competitive, community economic development investment program.

Prior to the application deadline, CDFA engaged potential applicants in several ways, including:

- More than 400 engagements in workshops about the program
- 70 one on one technical assistance engagements with CDFA staff
- More than 200 hours of engagement, technical assistance or education

All applications were received by CDFA through its online grants management system on November 30, 2023. The total applications received through the Community Center Investment Program by the deadline were 36 applications for a total request of \$24,110,574.78. The Board of Directors approved the recommendation from the Community Development Advisory Committee to use the balance of funds to award the five (5) highest scoring community center applications including Grafton Library Barn, MainStreet Warner Lodge, The Grapevine Family & Community Resource Center, The Town of Marlborough, Community Campus in Portsmouth and the Granite State Adaptive Center, additional information [here](#).

## COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM

CDFA received applications in January 2023 for Community Development Block Grant resources to support housing and public facilities projects throughout New Hampshire. Awards to the projects were considered by CDFA's Community Development Advisory Committee in April 2023 to recommend the following awards,

- The Town of Conway was awarded \$500,000 for Avesta Housing to support construction of a 40-unit, mixed-income residential building in Conway.
- The County of Merrimack was awarded \$194,300.50 for Fellowship Housing Opportunities, Inc. to replace an unsafe exterior fire escape at one property and to add an elevator at a second property.
- The City of Laconia was awarded \$500,000 for Lakes Region Community Developers (LRCD) to complete needed capital improvements at the Millview Apartments consisting of eighteen (18) affordable apartment units in five (5) buildings located on Union Avenue, Jameson Court, and Locust Street in downtown Laconia.
- The City of Franklin was awarded \$500,000 for Woodside Haven, LLC to rehabilitate 36 units of affordable housing that are currently in poor condition due to many years of deferred maintenance and capital improvements.
- The City of Laconia was awarded \$348,829 for the Boys and Girls Club of Central New Hampshire to rehabilitate the outdoor learning space at the Laconia Early Learning Center (LELC) that will benefit a total of 149 children, with a minimum of 97 (65%) children from low-to moderate- income (LMI) households.
- The City of Keene was awarded \$500,000 for Base Hill Cooperative to replace aging water distribution lines in this 54-lot (53 currently occupied) manufactured home community with an 66% LMI constituency. The project will ensure that adequate, reliable, clean drinking water will be available for all households in this Cooperative.
- The Town of Merrimack was awarded \$500,000 for Jewel Estates Cooperative to replace aging water distribution lines in this 44-unit manufactured home community with an 85% LMI constituency. The project will ensure that adequate, reliable, clean drinking water will be available for all households in this Cooperative.

In addition, awards were made to support economic development activities including funds to support technical assistance to microenterprises and business technical assistance.

## TAX CREDIT PROGRAM

CDFA received 38 applications requesting more than \$10.5 million in funding, increased nearly 200% from last year. Applicants were geographically diverse and sought Tax Credits to support community-based infrastructure and services necessary to meet basic human needs, increase access to economic opportunities and transform communities. There was a significant request for capacity building resources – more than \$2.2 million from 16 applicants – demonstrating the demand for funding dedicated to supporting the ability of nonprofit organizations to advance important community economic development initiatives.

Overall, the 2024 Tax Credit Round signals that New Hampshire nonprofits and municipalities are continuing to leverage an influx of resources to advance community-based projects, as well as recognize a critical need to access resources that will help grow their capacity. CDFA continued its Grant Writing Assistance program to provide qualifying applicants with financial resources to help prepare their applications. These efforts also included helping to connect participating nonprofits with consultants to support their grant writing needs.

## QUICK LINKS

[RSA 162:L](#)

[CDFA's Vision, Mission and Values](#)

[CDFA's SFY 2022 Annual Report](#)

[CDFA Financials – Q3 SFY 2024](#)

[CDFA Board of Directors](#)

[CDFA Resource Hub](#)