

The Community Development Finance Authority (CDFA) is nonprofit state authority that is uniquely positioned to work in partnership with state and federal initiatives to strengthen New Hampshire communities through the distribution of resources to municipalities, nonprofits, and businesses. In the thirty-five years since our formation, CDFA's investments have helped to revitalize downtowns, ensure high-quality childcare facilities, expand job opportunities through business expansions, and increase the supply of clean, renewable energy in New Hampshire.



### COVID-19 Crisis Response

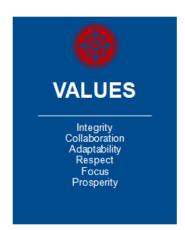
CDFA recognized the need to quickly adapt to the needs of New Hampshire communities as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Immediately following the onset of the crisis, the organization reached out to partners to provide flexibility while working to understand needs and deploy resources to support critical work within New Hampshire communities.

The organization's response to the crisis to-date includes:

- Providing flexibility to existing grantees and borrowers;
- Launching the NH Nonprofit Response Fund;
- Shifting existing resources to meet immediate needs and plans for rebuilding;
- Partnering to assist the State administer the Nonprofit Emergency Relief Fund; and
- Deploying additional Community Development Block Grant resources provided through the CARES Act.

CDFA continues to work with a variety of partners to ensure the organization's resources and response is aligned with the evolving needs of municipalities, nonprofits and businesses.





#### **NH Nonprofit Response Fund**

CDFA and the Business Finance Authority launched the NH Nonprofit Response Fund in April 2020 to provide nonprofit organizations impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic with resources to offset new costs related to COVID-19, as well as to support working capital and programming expenses. Funded in part by contributions from the business community, these resources are assisting New Hampshire's nonprofits meet community needs and helping microenterprises become more resilient during this time of crisis and economic disruption. Funding priority was given to community-based organizations impacted by the crisis and those serving vulnerable populations.



Shortly after launching the fund in April, CDFA raised nearly \$400,000 in Tax Credit donations from thirteen business donors to support grants to New Hampshire nonprofits. The organizations received a total of 64 applications from eligible nonprofits requesting more than \$3.4 million in support between April and June 2020. Due to the overwhelming demand, CDFA and BFA offered organizations a combination of grant funds supported by the Tax Credit donations and low-interest loan resources. Fifty-two applications were approved after programmatic and financial review with eighteen nonprofits accepting an award as of June 30, 2020.

Organizations awarded funding through the NH Nonprofit Response Fund include:

- Ascentria Community Care, Inc. (Concord);
- CATCH Neighborhood Housing (Concord);
- Concord Coalition to End Homelessness (Concord);
- Farmsteads of New England (Hillsborough);
- Hampton Area Chamber of Commerce (Hampton);
- Krempels Center (Portsmouth);
- M&D Productions (North Conway);
- Mascoma Community Healthcare Inc. (Canaan);
- Mountain Top Telecom (Franconia);
- Nathaniel J. Williams Foundation, Inc. (North Conway);
- New Generation, Inc. (Greenland);
- New Life Ministries of New England (Manchester);
- Overcomers Refugee Services (Concord);
- Reach for the Top Therapy Services (Dover);
- Revive Recovery Center (Nashua);
- Rochester Agricultural & Mechanical (Rochester);
- Seacoast Community Radio (Portsmouth);
- Seacoast Village Project (New Castle);
- Spark! Community Center, Inc. (Lebanon);
- Special Olympics NH (Manchester);

#### **Donors**

Meredith Village Savings Bank
Merrimack County Savings Bank
Savings Bank of Walpole
Piscataqua Savings Bank
Amoskeag Beverages
Sugar River Savings Bank
True North Networks
Salem Cooperative Bank
New Business Directions LLC
Eastern Bank
Franklin Savings Bank
Cambridge Trust Company
Lowell Five Cent Savings Bank
Volvo of Exeter

- Sullivan County Oral Health Collaborative (Claremont);
- The Family Resource Center (Gorham);
- The Margret & H.A. Rey Center (Waterville Valley); and
- The New Hampshire Challenge (Merrimack);
- Weathervane Theatre Players, Inc. (Whitefield).

Applications for funds were received through June 12, 2020 and continue to be reviewed in State Fiscal Year 2021.

#### Supporting New Hampshire Microenterprises

Through a generous donation of \$100,000 from Citizens Bank, CDFA was able to rapidly deploy resources through its existing network of nonprofit Microenterprise Technical Assistance Program partners to provide assistance to 67 microenterprises throughout New Hampshire impacted by the crisis. Grants of up to \$2,000 supported expenses related to resiliency planning, innovative business shifts, rent, payroll, working capital, and utilities.



Mary Ann Kristiansen of the Hannah Grimes Center in Keene, one of CDFA's Microenterprise Technical Assistance Program partners, was heartened to see the micro-grant recipients invest whole-heartedly in the future as well as provide relief from ongoing expenses that did not stop when their income did.

It was amazing to watch these entrepreneurs grow and learn over the six weeks, and so important for funders to see that a little bit can go a long way in terms of bolstering small businesses, and therefore, the local economy. This incredibly bold and creative idea from Citizens

Bank and CDFA helped a group of very small business owners.

- Mary Ann Kristiansen, Executive Director, Hannah Grimes Center in Keene

CDFA will continue to explore ways it can leverage resources to support microenterprises and small businesses as they are critical components of New Hampshire communities and will be vital to the State's recovery from the crisis.

## **Crisis Response Impact Spotlights**



**Boys & Girls Club of Central NH Laconia** 

The Sullivan County Oral Health
Collaborative has a mission to enhance oral
health through education and access to care
for all individuals and families. The
organization also operates the Sullivan County
Dental Initiative which offers in-school
education, oral health screening, preventive
treatment and referrals to children in Sullivan
County. Funds will be used to update the
facility with negative air pressure units in
patient care areas to reduce exposure to
COVID-19 and ensure safety for employees
and patients.

Revive Recovery Center is a non-profit, peer recovery support center whose mission is to open doors and open minds for the recoverees in the community while providing a wide range of services for their mental, physical and spiritual well-being. Clients have mostly depended on the organization's physical space for support. Funds will enable the Revive Recovery to purchase software, online subscriptions, and temporary cell phones to be able to provide essential peer recovery support services virtually.





# **State Fiscal Year 2020 Impacts**

\$17.8 million infused into New Hampshire communities

109 community-based initiatives supported

214 business donors engaged

