

Thursday, Jan. 26
3:30 - 4:30 p.m.

**2023 VIRTUAL
CAPACITY BUILDING GRANT
INFORMATIONAL WEBINAR**

PARTNERING TO END HUNGER



Good Shepherd

FOOD BANK OF MAINE

Call Agenda

Good Shepherd Food Bank's Bold Goal

Grant Overview and Timeline

Project Ideas and Examples of Projects

Projects Funded in FY21-22

Technical Grant Questions

Alignment

Impact on Capacity

Community Need & Voice

Community-Based Organization Collaborations

Impact on Retail Capacity & Collaborations

Scoring Rubric Overview

Partner Agency Project Presentations

from FY21-22

Questions



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The Bold Goal

By 2025, all food-insecure Mainers will have access to the nutritious food they need, when and where they need it

In doing so, we will help stabilize the lives of the people we serve, reduce the economic costs of hunger in our state, and make Maine a stronger, more resilient place to work and live.



Major Goals

Recognizing the interconnected factors contributing to hunger, Good Shepherd Food Bank will pursue three goals across our service area, partnering with communities to develop tailored solutions.

Nourish

The Food Bank believes in the right to nutritious food for all Mainers. Food that nourishes people and supports good health. We dedicate ourselves to work with farmers, donors, and food producers to source the healthy food required to end hunger in Maine.

Connect

The Food Bank commits to being a resource bridge between community organizations and members. Developing strategies to reduce food insecurity in collaboration with those we serve to build resilience and confidence.

Empower

All Mainers deserve to experience self-sufficiency and participate in the process of bettering their own lives. The Food Bank is dedicated to developing long-term solutions to end food insecurity and provide a path out of poverty.



Grant Overview

Good Shepherd Food Bank's Capacity Building Grant program is a competitive grant process that awards funds to partner agencies of the Food Bank who seek to make improvements to their program, allowing them to serve the individuals in their communities more effectively, efficiently, and/or safely.

Who can apply?

All partners in good standing are welcome to apply. To be considered in good standing, your agency must have submitted the FY21-22 Capacity Building Grant Narrative (if applicable), the agency account file must have current documentation, updated food safety training, and no open invoices beyond 90 days past due.

Please note for future grant rounds, to be considered in good standing, your agency must have submitted all retail receipts for each retail store pickup location by the end of every month product was picked up throughout the year (if applicable), in addition to the aforementioned considerations.

What can be applied for?

Examples include but are not limited to:

- Storage & distribution equipment (cold storage, shelving, carts, temp monitoring)
- Transport equipment (vehicles, insulated blankets, reusable cold packs)
- Safety equipment (PPE, sanitizers, space heaters/hand warmers for outdoor distributions, traffic safety jackets)
- Office equipment (computers, printers, software)
- Advertising campaigns, website development, program signage
- Renovations to or an expansion of facilities
- Equipment & storage that will increase capacity around retail pick-ups, with the potential of incorporating more retail product or pick-ups into current operations (thermal blankets, scales, gas cards for volunteers)



We will be accepting grant applications for FY22-23 grant program until

Monday, February 13, 2023

Applicants can expect to hear back on award decisions by

Early April of 2023



Successes from the FY21-22 Capacity Building Grant Program

Projects Funded Include:

- Increasing cold storage capacity
- Equipment needs such as floor scales, tables, shelving, carts, pallet jacks, and thermal blankets
- Transportation investments
- Major building improvements
- Marketing/outreach

Seventy-nine partner agencies received a total \$1,552,740 in capacity building grants to support ending hunger in their communities.

Grant funds ranged from \$979 to \$181,500



Alignment (x25)

How much funding is your organization requesting?

Please provide a brief explanation of your initiative or project with itemized pricing information for what you plan to purchase.

If your project includes components that will require on-going investment beyond this capacity building grant (such as staffing or a vehicle), please tell us about your long-term sustainability plan once these grant funds have been expended.

Sample Answer:

“Our program plans to implement a grocery style shopping model distribution. We are requesting \$1500 in total. \$1000 will be used to purchase a produce display refrigerator, \$300 will be spent on metal shelving to create shopping aisles, \$200 will be used to purchase two used rolling carts to help neighbors with their boxes as they are shopping.”

Tips for Success:

- Before submitting your requests, be sure that the project or investments you are proposing meaningfully expand upon your capacity to effectively, efficiently, and safely end hunger in your community.
- Make sure the information you provide is specific and that reviewers can easily decipher what you need for your project and your itemized costs.



Impact on (x35) Capacity

Please provide a brief explanation of why your agency is applying for this Capacity Building Grant.

How/why did you choose this initiative or project? How will receiving the grant funds increase your organization's capacity to close the meal gap in your community?

Sample Answer:

“Our program is requesting grant funds to purchase equipment for the implementation of a grocery style shopping model distribution. Our goal is to increase neighbor satisfaction with the food they receive and their overall experience at the food pantry. Additionally, we will be adding an evening distribution one day a week to support families unable to attend daytime distributions and increase educational opportunities for volunteers to help support more meaningful interactions with neighbors.”

Tips for Success:

- Make sure the *why* of your project/investment is clear. How will neighbors be better off as a result of your project/investment?



Impact on (x40) Capacity (con't.)

If awarded a Capacity Building Grant for your proposed initiative or project, how will you measure success?

Sample Answer:

"Our program will measure success through neighbor surveys. We will survey neighbors before and after the implementation of the grocery style shopping model with questions specific to neighbor satisfaction around product selection, access to the pantry and overall experience. Success will also be measured by the growth in produce distributed to families after increasing our refrigerated products on display and opening an additional evening each week."

Tips for Success:

- Get specific about what measurements you will use to determine how successful your project was and how you will be collecting the data you'll measure.
- Measurements of success that involve collecting neighbor feedback is a great way to engage your neighbors as experts in building community food security.



Community (x20) Need & Voice

Please list the top five communities your program serves with corresponding percentages of neighbors attending from each town.

Sample Answer:

“Portland (80%), South Portland (5%), Scarborough (5%), Westbrook (5%), and Falmouth (5%)”

Tips for Success:

- If you haven't yet consulted neighbors about their needs and how your organization can best meet them, it's not too late! Your CRR will be happy to help you brainstorm ways to engage the community in planning your projects or investments if you'd like help coming up with ideas for doing so.



Community (x20) Need & Voice (con't)

Tell us how your proposed initiative or project was informed by the needs and feedback of neighbors attending your program and the surrounding community.

Sample Answer:

“We survey neighbors annually to gather feedback around program access, product selection and satisfaction, as well as overall experience. We also have a feedback collection box where neighbors can make requests, share ideas, or give feedback. Through these methods of data collection, we identified the need for evening hours and the desire for more self-selection.”

Tips for Success:

- If you haven't yet consulted neighbors about their needs and how your organization can best meet them, it's not too late! Your CRR will be happy to help you brainstorm ways to engage the community in planning your projects or investments if you'd like help coming up with ideas for doing so.



Community-Based Organization (x20) Collaborations

Please tell us about ways your program currently partners with other organizations or groups in your community to better meet the needs of neighbors or increase impact on community food security.

Are there any opportunities for new or expanded partnerships or collaborations related specifically to the capacity grant funds requested for this proposal?

Sample Answer:

“Our program partners with local community action programs and businesses to build community awareness and maximize fundraising opportunities. We also work closely with other local food pantries and meal sites to coordinate distribution days and times for increased food access in the community.

Our new evening hours are complimentary to the existing food access in our community. Once we have completed the implementation of the shopping model distribution, we plan to host an open house for neighbors, local organizations, businesses, and town officials to learn more about our program and see the changes we have made.”

Tips for Success:

- Who else will you be working with to make sure your project or investments are successful? Are there any ways you could deepen those partnerships to further benefit neighbors using this grant opportunity?



Bonus Points: (x15) Impact on Retail Capacity & Collaborations

If your agency is intending or desires to increase retail capacity, either through additional pick-ups at one or more retailers or the ability to store & distribute more retail product, please provide a brief explanation of your plans.

How/why did you choose this initiative or project?

Sample Answer:

"With increased distribution hours, a new produce display refrigerator, and the implementation of a shopping model distribution, we will be seeking additional retail opportunities. We value the local relationship we have with retailers in our community and we, along with our neighbors, love the fresh produce that comes from local retail donations!"

Tips for Success:

- Enhancing the Retail Donor channel and maximizing direct to partner agency donations will be a renewed focus of Good Shepherd Food Bank as we refresh our Strategic Plan and deepen relationships with retail donors across the state. Regions with the highest remaining meal gap will be prioritized.



Scoring Rubric Overview



Applications will be assessed on a scale of 1 (doesn't meet criteria) to 5 (excellent alignment with criteria) according to the following metrics.

Alignment (x25): How well does the proposal help the partner serve their community more effectively, efficiently, and/or safely?

Impact on Capacity (x35): Is the proposed project likely to build the partner's overall capacity to meet the needs of their community by supporting an increase in neighbors served, hours open, etc.?

Community Need & Voice (x20): Does the applicant serve a community with a high remaining meal gap? How is neighbor and community feedback incorporated into the proposal?

Community-Based Organization Collaborations (X20): Does the proposal provide opportunities for maximizing community impact via community partnerships and collaborations? How does the partner currently work with other partner agencies and/or local community organizations?

Bonus Points: Impact on Retail Capacity & Collaborations (X15): Is the proposed project likely to increase retail capacity, either through additional pick-ups at one or more retailers and/or the ability to store & distribute more retail products?

Scoring Rubric

METRIC	SCORE (1-5)	WEIGHT	TOTAL
Alignment		x 25	/125
Impact On Operational Capacity		X35	/175
Community Need & Voice		X 20	/100
Community-Based Organization Collaborations		x 20	/100
Bonus Points: Impact on Retail Capacity & Collaborations		X 15	/75
Total Score:		X 115	/575

The Burlington Food Pantry

Maureen Bean



Come Spring Food Pantry

Lorain Francis



Footprints Food Pantry

Megan Shapiro Ross



Questions?

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