



GREENHORNS.ORG/CIVICHALLS
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This resource sheet has been created to support “Hall Stewards” as part of the Maine Civic Halls initiative, a project of Maine Preservation, Greenhorns and Friends of Liberty Hall. The survey, and the report from the initial survey of Washington and Hancock Counties can be found on our website. We are now sending out the survey statewide in order to try and get a quantitative grasp of how many halls, where, and what kinds of needs they have on a statewide basis.

Based on our research the needs for support range from “emergency roof funds” to “summer programming / capacity building” as each hall and its community of users figure out how to draw together to create a shared facility and activities that match the demographics of the area.

If you would like to be on the mailing list for this project, please reach out to civichalls@greenhorns.org

PHYSICAL PLANT AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION GRANTS

Here is a link to a public database of opportunities for Civic Halls funding. Some require applicants to be a 501(c)3 organization, however fiscal sponsorship is an option for some of these grants.

BIT.LY/CIVICHALLS-FUNDINGOPPORTUNITIES

Many community organizations seek donations from local businesses to hold raffles/ benefit events, driving monetary donations. In Washington and Hancock Counties, Machias Savings Bank has been a long time donor to community initiatives.

Sometimes National Main Streets organizations, Chambers of Commerce, economic development councils, and other related community or economic development initiatives can provide direct or in-kind support and share additional grant resources or referrals.

Sunrise County Economic Development Council may be able to provide support and also to liaise with CEI (Coastal Enterprises) for loans to mission-driven non-profits.

Sometimes funding can include a combination of creative financing options or historic tax credits.

Private developers, contractors, etc. may also become partners interested in providing services at cost or at a significant discount.

There is perhaps a more grooved pathway for “downtown” historic property development in Maine; however no reason why those opportunities can’t extend to more rural communities and the “cultural infrastructure” of Civic Halls!

COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE AND ARTS PROGRAMMING SUPPORT

Many Civic Halls have ongoing bean suppers / pancake breakfasts. This is a longstanding tradition of how halls have kept the doors open and the lights on.

Other times, Civic Halls will host summer camp programming either as a small business, or as a non-profit organization, to raise funds.

Granges have often worked within the 4H network of support, with **Maine Cooperative Extension**. extension.umaine.edu/4h

The Quimby Foundation provides funding for environmental and cultural programing. quimbyfamilyfoundation.org/what-we-fund

Maine Arts Commission mainearts.maine.gov/Pages/Funding/Grants-Home

GUIDANCE AND ADVICE ON HISTORIC PRESERVATION

Maine Preservation
mainepreservation.org

National Park Service Historic Preservation Planning Program
nps.gov/subjects/historicpreservationfund/preservation-planning-program.htm

Federal Preservation Program Partnership
nps.gov/subjects/historicpreservationfund/technical-assistance.htm

Maine Historic Preservation Commission
maine.gov/mhpc/home

Greenhorns Civic Halls Initiative Plaster Resource List
maine.gov/mhpc/home

SPECIFIC GRANTS

Maine Preservation’s list of Grants available from other organizations mainepreservation.org/grant-programs-2020/2019/12/17/grants-available-from-other-organizations

Maine Preservation’s list of grants for historic preservation projects mainepreservation.org/grant-programs-2020/2019/9/23/1772-foundation-grants-for-maine-historic-preservation-projects

Belvedere Grant of the Maine Community Foundation
requires the hall to be tax exempt

1772 Foundation Grants
1772foundation.org/grants (historic preservation grants)

USDA grants for rural communities
rd.usda.gov

American Library Association Rural Library Grants
ala.org/grants

Maine Steeples Fund
mainesteeplefund.org

National Park Service
requires building to be on the National Historic Register
nps.gov/subjects/historicpreservationfund/grant-programs.htm