

# NEIL AND LOUISE TILLOTSON FUND

Grant Programs



NEW HAMPSHIRE  
CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

# Today's Agenda

## About the Neil and Louise Tillotson Fund

- Background and Purpose
- Geography
- Community Investment Framework

## Grant Programs

- 2025 Grantmaking Highlights
- Large Grants
- Local Grants
- DASH Grants
- How to Apply & Application Questions

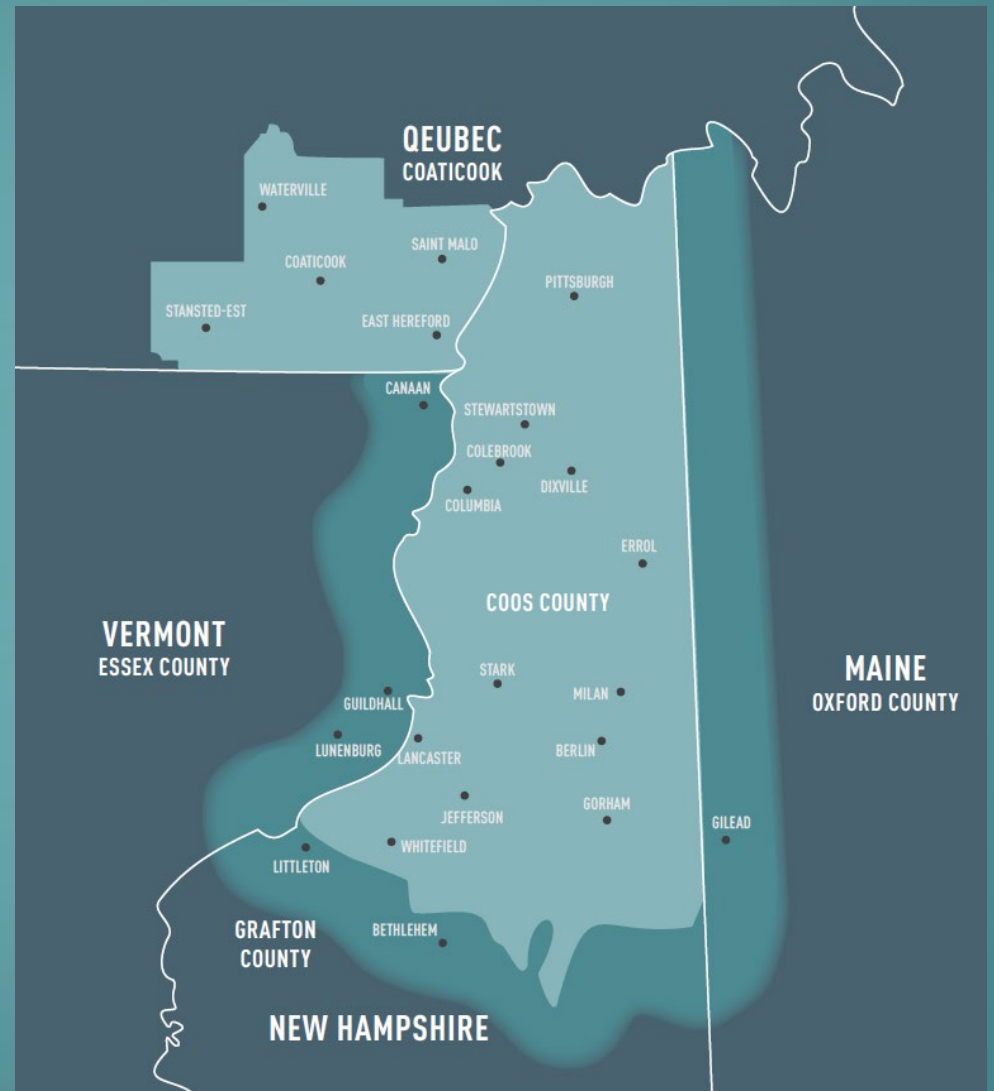
The Neil and Louise Tillotson Fund serves as a resource for the people of our region to forge their own pathways to well-being and cultivate a region that thrives.





# Tillotson Fund Geography

- ✓ Coös County, NH and communities in Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont that share a border with Coös County
- ✓ MRC de Coaticook, Quebec, Canada
- ✓ Programs, projects or agencies that operate outside the region but offer clear benefit to the people or landscapes of Coös County
- ✓ The higher the request, the more the organization or program should benefit residents of Coös County



*Not sure about geographical fit? Please contact us!*

# COMMUNITY INVESTMENT FRAMEWORK

Our Commitment: Support community-identified and community-driven strategies and solutions.

Our Tools: Grantmaking, social impact investing, advocacy, convening and partnerships.



## Well-being for All

**Goal:** Support individuals and families to meet their essential needs and achieve well-being.



## Thriving Workforce

**Goal:** Strengthen the capacity of local employers to maintain and/or grow operations, build and retain a dynamic workforce, stimulate innovation and entrepreneurship, ensure business continuity and plan for the future.



## Healthy Environment

**Goal:** Address the impacts of climate change by investing in climate mitigation and adaptation strategies, responsible stewardship of natural resources and efforts that foster the human connection to the natural environment.



## Resilient Communities

**Goal:** Support initiatives and activities that build trust, belonging and connection and lead to stronger, more resilient communities.

# COMMUNITY INVESTMENT FRAMEWORK



## Well-being for All

- Meet essential needs for families and individuals: food, accommodation, transportation, health care, learning, childcare etc.
- Strengthen systems of care, defined as a broad array of supports for individuals and families that focus on:
  - inter-agency collaboration
  - individualized, strength-based practices
  - cultural competence
  - collaborative community-based services
  - full participation of families at all levels of the system
  - Shared responsibility for successful results

### Strategic Priority: A Whole Family Approach

Expand early childhood development strategy to a “whole family” approach, further aligning investments with the work of partners to accelerate improvements in family and child well-being in Coös County.



## Thriving Workforce

- Attract and retain the workforce.
- Establish workforce housing solutions.
- Help companies and employees build skills and systems for sustained success.
- Link employers and employees to financial supports.
- Increase access to affordable quality childcare.

### Strategic Priority: Invest in Workforce Housing

Establish a workforce housing seed fund for planning and concept development of housing solutions; and a workforce housing investment fund for development and construction.



## Healthy Environment

- Be good stewards of the land, air, forests, waterways and wildlife.
- Encourage and support responsible tourism and recreation.
- Build and enhance sustainable food systems.
- Promote, sustain and scale energy efficiency, clean energy and green building.
- Implement climate smart forestry solutions.

### Strategic Priority: Protect Our Natural Capital

Invest in environmental stewardship in recognition that preserving the region’s natural capital is crucial for a thriving economy and healthy communities.



## Resilient Communities

- Empower youth.
- Convene, collaborate, celebrate.
- Build skills, knowledge and approaches to advance equity.
- Support community builders and change agents.
- Revitalize population hubs and preserve cultural and historical assets.
- Improve civic health.
- Strengthen municipal capacity and leadership.

### Strategic Priority: Champions for Our Communities

Hire up to three full-time Community Stewards who live in or near Coös County to serve as community champions and to help community members advance local priorities. Create the Community Builders Hub to strengthen the skills, confidence, motivation and connections of community builders.

# Grant Program Considerations

# 2025 Grantseeker Guide

A Grantseeker Guide in English and French has been developed, including:

- Overview of the Fund and eligibility information
- Grant review considerations & instructions for applying
- Clarity around geography, what is funded, and what is not funded
- Efforts towards understanding and growing in an equity journey: to learn and grow alongside partners



# Application Considerations

- Exclusion, Discrimination and Hate Policy of the NH Charitable Foundation.
- Schools: In general, the Fund does not make awards to schools with exceptions for extracurricular or one-time activities.
- Municipal, County and State: May only be awarded for projects or services that are one-time investments and/or supported by other nonprofit entities.
- Religious organizations: May only be awarded for services that are non-sectarian, non-discriminatory and benefit the larger community.

# Grant Review Criteria



**INFORMED BY  
COMMUNITY**



**GUIDED  
BY EQUITY**



**MEANINGFUL  
COLLABORATION**



**MEASURABLE  
IMPACT**



**BROAD RANGE  
OF SUPPORT**

# Types of Support

## OPERATING SUPPORT

1–3 YEAR REQUESTS

GENERALLY, REQUESTS SHOULD NOT EXCEED 30% OF THE ORGANIZATION'S OPERATING BUDGET FOR A SINGLE YEAR.

FLEXIBLE CAPITAL

## PROJECT SUPPORT

1–3 YEAR REQUESTS

FUNDS ADDRESS A SPECIFIC ORGANIZATIONAL OR COMMUNITY NEED, PROGRAM, TIMELINE, OR LOCATION.

## CAPITAL PROJECT CRITERIA

PREFERENCE TO SUPPORT MIDDLE TO LAST DOLLARS

COMPETITIVE APPLICATIONS INCLUDE:

- + MIX OF FUNDING SUPPORT
- + BUILDING PLAN THAT INCLUDES OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE PLAN
- + BROAD BASE OF COMMUNITY SUPPORT
- + COMMITTED STAFF & BOARD TO STEWARD THE PROJECT

# Operating Support

- 1, 2, or 3-year requests
- Generally, requests should not exceed 30% of the organization's operating budget for a single year.
- Flexible capital



# Project Support

- 1, 2, or 3-year requests
- Funds address a specific organizational or community need, program, timeline, or location.

# Capital Project Criteria

- Preference to support middle to last dollars
- Competitive applications include:
  - Mix of funding support
  - Building plan that includes operations and maintenance plan
  - Broad base of community support
  - Committed staff and board to steward the project

# Grant Program Descriptions

# Did you know:

- We encourage applications for multi-year operating support.
- We prefer that you apply to one Tillotson program per year (except for DASH).
- You can apply for Tillotson grant and a NHCF grant in the same year.
- **We love to hear from you, and we are here to help!** Please reach out in advance of submitting your application.
- A list of previous Tillotson Fund grant awards is available on our website.





# Local Grants

Up to \$20,000 over 1, 2, or 3 years

Deadlines: January 23 & July 17, 2025

Decisions: March & September



# Local Grants: Need to Know

- Awards/Declines recommended by a team of NH Charitable Foundation staff.
- Concise applications are appreciated
- Final approvals by Tillotson Fund Advisory Committee
- Each grant round = 15 - 18 proposals



# Large Grants

\$20,001 to \$300,000 over 1, 2, or 3 years

Deadline: Rolling

Decisions: Every 2 months

# Large Grants: Need to Know

- Invited applications with a rolling deadline.
- Applicant develops and finalizes their proposal with a grant reviewer.
- Grant reviewer makes a recommendation to the Tillotson Advisory Committee.
- The Advisory Committee makes final funding decisions.
- Timeline:

Contact Tillotson Staff no later than:	Finalize Application in GrantSource:	Notified of Award/Decline:
Early November	Mid-December	Mid-January
Early January	Mid-February	Mid-March
Early March	Mid-April	Mid-May
Early May	Mid-June	Mid-July
Early July	Mid-August	Mid-September
Early September	Mid-October	Mid-November





# DASH Grants

\$250 to \$2,000

Deadline: Rolling

# DASH Grants: Need to Know

- One time, project-based requests
- One year (or less) timeline
- Application: One question and a project budget
- Funded projects include:
  - Providing marketing materials
  - Sponsoring a school field trip
  - Offering training to staff or volunteers
  - Hiring a consultant
  - Purchasing equipment, furniture or supplies





Questions?