



## Healthy People Healthy Places Grant Program 2024 Application Guide

Since 2015, Healthy People Healthy Places grants have supported work throughout Maine to improve the well-being of people and the environment. For the past three years, Sewall has been developing a clearer and narrower focus for Healthy People Healthy Places, and we have identified seven focus areas where our board has approved a longer-term commitment. Community-based work in the Katahdin Region, Lewiston-Auburn, Washington County, and Wabanaki Communities and Tribal Governments, will be complemented by statewide efforts in Food Systems and Nature-Based Education, as well as statewide policy, advocacy, and communications work in the Keystone focus area.

***Applications are due February 15, 2024, by 5pm.***

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### Review Considerations

#### Requirements:

- Aligns with one of the Healthy People Healthy Places focus areas: Katahdin Region, Keystone, Lewiston-Auburn, Nature-Based Education, Wabanaki Communities and Tribal Governments, Washington County. The focus area information sheets are located at the back of this document for 2024 focus area priorities, and linked on our [website](#).
  - *Please note that no new grants will be made in Food Systems in 2024, as funds have already been allocated through multi-year grants.*
- Work meets the Foundation's [General Considerations](#)
- The work of the applicant must be aligned with Sewall Foundation's mission and [values](#)

#### General Priorities:

- Organizations led by and serving people in under-resourced populations and geographies, including: African Americans, Indigenous, and people of color; immigrants and refugees; LGBTQ; people with low incomes; differently-abled populations; incarcerated populations; people in recovery; and populations who are homeless or at risk of homelessness
- Collaborative, cross-sector, or grassroots efforts to coordinate or develop new approaches in their field or sector, a geographic region, or a specific community or population
- Efforts that are explicit in their commitment to social, environmental, and racial justice
- Efforts that integrate the well-being of communities and the environment

#### Focus Area Contacts:

- Food Systems: Kristina Kalolo ([kkalolo@sewallfoundation.org](mailto:kkalolo@sewallfoundation.org))

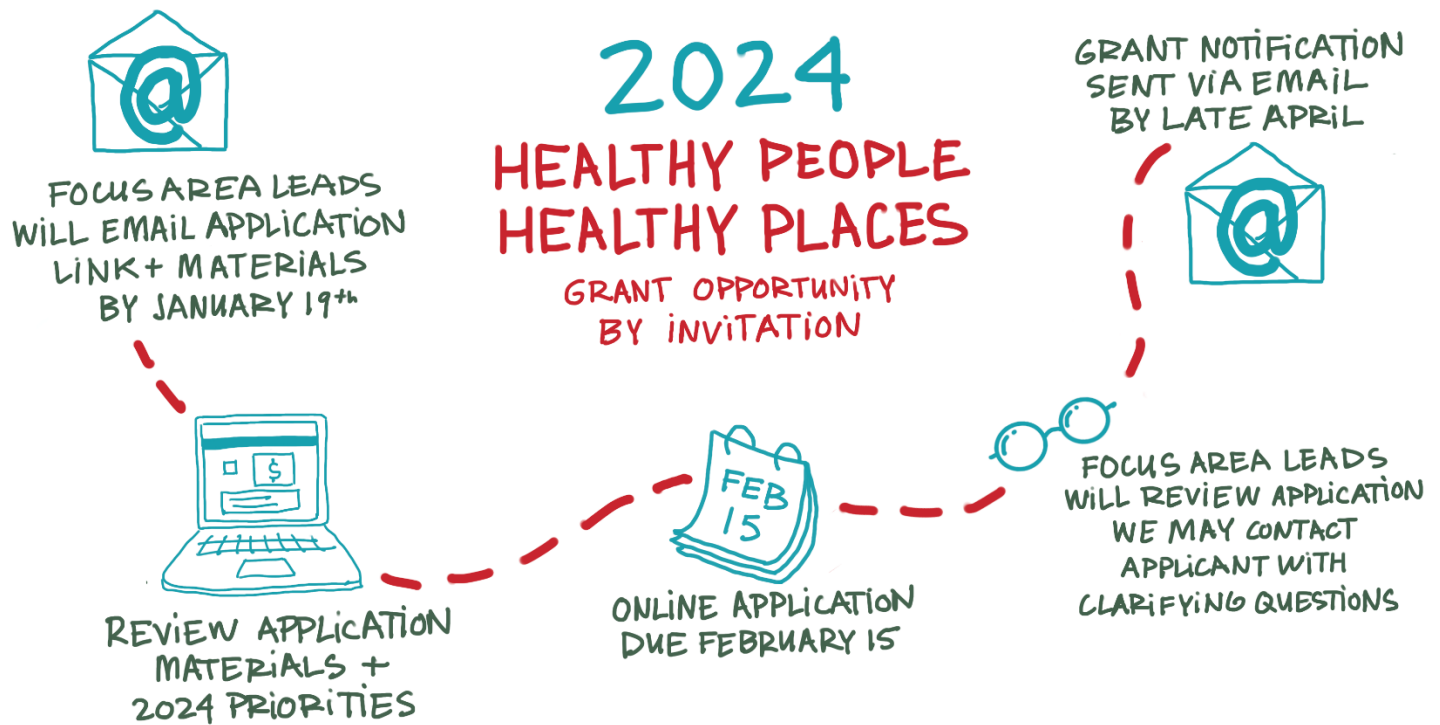
- *Please note that no new grants will be made in Food Systems in 2024, as funds have already been allocated through multi-year grants.*
  - Katahdin Region: Tom Boutureira ([tboutureira@sewallfoundation.org](mailto:tboutureira@sewallfoundation.org))
  - Keystone: Megan Shore ([mshore@sewallfoundation.org](mailto:mshore@sewallfoundation.org))
  - Lewiston-Auburn: Laress Lawrence ([llawrence@sewallfoundation.org](mailto:llawrence@sewallfoundation.org))
  - Nature-Based Education: Tom Boutureira ([tboutureira@sewallfoundation.org](mailto:tboutureira@sewallfoundation.org))
  - Wabanaki Communities and Tribal Governments: Gabriela Alcalde ([gcalcalde@sewallfoundation.org](mailto:gcalcalde@sewallfoundation.org))
  - Washington County: Tom Boutureira ([tboutureira@sewallfoundation.org](mailto:tboutureira@sewallfoundation.org))
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## Eligibility

- Applicants must be eligible to receive tax-deductible donations as outlined in Section 170(c) of the Internal Revenue Code. This includes: 501(c)(3) federal tax-exempt organizations; public schools; public agencies working for the State of Maine; Indian tribal governments (and their political subdivisions) recognized by the Department of the Interior
  - We accept applications from organizations and groups who work through a fiscal sponsor. A fiscally sponsored organization does not need to be a legal entity, but it must have a signed fiscal sponsorship agreement with a 501c3 nonprofit organization. If you are an organization that is fiscally sponsored, please answer the application questions as they pertain to the applicant organization or collaborative, not the fiscal sponsor.
  - Eligible organizations may apply regardless of their funding history with Sewall Foundation
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## Application Instructions

We will only accept applications submitted through our online application system. Please contact Lisa Smith at [lsmith@sewallfoundation.org](mailto:lsmith@sewallfoundation.org), if you run into technical difficulties.



#### START an Application

- Focus Area leads will be sending the application link and support materials to invited organizations by January 19, 2024.
- You can also use this link to return to an in-progress application: [sewallfoundation-portal.givingdata.com](https://sewallfoundation-portal.givingdata.com). Please note, you may need to click the dropdown arrow on the top left of the screen under the Sewall Foundation logo to toggle to the Healthy People Healthy Places screen, if you have an in-progress application from another program area.

#### GENERAL Information

- We encourage you to cut and paste your narrative responses from a word processing application (Word, Google Docs, etc.) to ensure work is not lost should there be an internet connectivity or technology glitch.
- Please feel free to write a short response to the grant application questions. We do not need long responses to each question. We have included suggested lengths to encourage brevity, but we have not set word limits because we recognize these can end up creating more work for applicants. If we need additional clarification regarding any of your responses, we will reach out.
- Questions with a red asterisk (\*) are required for submission.
- Click the “View/Print Application” button at the bottom of any page to view the application form in its entirety. Please note that the printed version will not show the drop-down options.
- We can view your in-progress application. If you have questions or need assistance, please contact the foundation and we can work together to resolve any problems.

#### NAVIGATING the application

- Click the “Next” button at the bottom of each page to move through the application.
- You may also click on the page title tabs on the right-hand side of the application to toggle between pages.
- Page title tabs on the right-hand side will have checkmarks if the page is completed.

- Page title tabs will have checkmarks if the page does not include any required fields. However, please review each page before submitting your application.
- If you wish to flag a page to come back to at a later date, select the "Flag this step" at the bottom of any page. A flag icon will appear on the page title tab for easy reference.

#### SAVE your application

- The portal will automatically save your answers as you work through the application.
- For security purposes, the system times out after 90 minutes. Saving refreshes the system.
- Click the "Save & Come Back Later" button at the bottom of any page to save your information, exit out of the application, and into your online account.
- You will need the email address and password of your organization's account to access the saved application.

#### REVIEW your application

- Click on the "View/Print Application" button at the bottom of any page, to view the application in its entirety. The fields will be populated with your completed answers.
- You will have a final chance to review and amend your work prior to submission on the Review and Submit page. This page alerts you to any required questions missing answers, or any pages previously flagged to return to at a later time. The application cannot be submitted until all required questions are answered and there are no flagged pages.

#### SUBMIT your application

- Click the "Submit" button at the bottom of the "Review and Submit" page to complete the submission process. An email confirming your submission will automatically be sent to the email address associated with your account.

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## Application Questions

Please feel free to write a short response to the grant application questions. We do not need long responses to each question. We have suggested lengths of responses to encourage brevity, but we have not set word limits because we recognize these can end up creating more work for applicants. If we need additional clarification regarding any of our questions we will reach out.

We encourage you to cut and paste your narrative responses from a word processing application (Word, Google Docs, etc.) to ensure work is not lost should there be an internet connectivity or technology glitch.

**\* = Required for submission**

### Organization or Collaborative Narrative Questions:

The following questions pertain to the *applicant* organization or collaborative, not the fiscal sponsor (if applicable).

- **\*Mission:** Please provide your organization or collaborative's mission statement.
- **Organization or Collaborative Update:** Please provide a basic overview of your organization or collaborative's work and share any significant changes in the leadership, mission, finances or

programming of your organization or collaborative. If you have an active grant from the Sewall Foundation, feel free to provide any updates about the work that was funded. 1-2 paragraphs suggested.

### **Leadership Demographics:**

On this page we are asking for you to share demographic information about your organization's leadership, specifically about your board of directors and the head of your organization. These questions are completely optional, and will not impact your organization's eligibility for funding. To learn more about why we are collecting this information and how we will use it, please review the [demographics page](#) we've added to our website.

In our research we found many formats and versions of demographic questions to ask. We have decided to follow Guidestar/Candid's model for demographic data collection because it was created specifically for the nonprofit sector in concert with the D5 Coalition, CHANGE Philanthropy and Equity in the Center. We acknowledge that there are other important demographic categories that are not included here as we try to balance what we are asking of applicants with the very real impacts on time for applicants to collect this information.

At the bottom of this page of the application we have created a text field where we welcome any additional information you may want to share, as well as comments and suggestions.

### **Request Narrative Questions:**

The following questions pertain to the work for which you seek funding. If applying for Operating Support, please consider your organization or collaborative's full body of work and mission when answering the questions. If applying for Project Support or Capital Support, please answer the questions about that specific work.

- **\*Short Description:** Please provide 1-2 sentences that describe your request.

*Why we ask this question: We use this description for internal sharing among our staff, and in communications with our board. If awarded a grant, we may also use this in our national philanthropic reporting and our communications.*

- **\*Proposed Activities:** Please share a brief summary of your proposed activities. This could include the work for which funds are requested, the goals of your work, the ways that you work in collaboration and organizations that you are collaborating with, and ways that you see alignment between your work and the priorities of the focus area to which you are applying. If this is a collaborative grant, please let us know if it is a planning grant or implementation grant. You can write as little as 1-2 paragraphs or a bit more if you choose. We encourage you to write a short response to this question. If we need additional clarification we will reach out. Please feel free to cut & paste from other applications.

*Why we ask this question: This is an opportunity for us to learn more about the work that you are doing and how you work together with others.*

- **\*Use of Funds & Budget Narrative:** Please share any information about the funds you are requesting and how you intend to use them. If you are requesting support for a collaborative effort, please provide a brief summary of how funding will be distributed among partners or projects, if applicable. If

you are requesting general operating support, you don't need to be specific about exactly where funds will be used, but you can provide some information about what areas of your organization these funds will support. 1-2 paragraphs suggested.

*Why we ask this question: Your response helps us understand how you intend to use funds, the needs of your organization, and if you are applying as a collaborative, how you intend to share the funds.*

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## **Financial Information Attachments**

You will have the opportunity to upload the following documents on the "Financial Information" page of the application. Click the "Select File" button to select your document, then click "Open" to attach it to your application.

- **\*Financial Statements:** We recognize that organizations are at various stages of growth and development and have different financial systems in place. Financial documents you could provide are a statement of activities (also called a profit & loss or income & expense) and a balance sheet (also called a statement of financial position) or you can provide your full audited financials (if available). These documents should be for the previous fiscal year or if you are a start-up organization and don't have a full year of financials, you can provide financials for whatever time you have been in existence.

You can submit your information in a format that you already use. We do not have a template you must follow. Please do not submit IRS Form 990.

*Why we ask for this? Financial statements help us understand how your organization or collaborative allocated its financial resources and provides a picture of your financial health and needs. They can also help us assess if there are additional resources we can connect you with.*

- **Financial Statements Narrative:** If you would like to include a narrative to clarify any aspects of your Financial Statements, feel free to do so.
- **\*Budget:** For project requests, please attach a detailed project budget, listing major expense categories and sources of revenue (in hand, pledged, and sought). For operating support requests, please provide your operating budget, including income and expense, for the year in which funds will be used.

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*Thank you for your time and effort in applying for a Healthy People Healthy Places grant. We look forward to learning more about your organization and its work.*

**Please feel free to contact the Foundation with any questions, [www.sewallfoundation.org/staff](http://www.sewallfoundation.org/staff).**



## Healthy People Healthy Places *Katahdin Region Focus Area*

**Available funding in 2024:** up to \$195,000

**Special note on 2024 funding:** Because of the limited funding available this year, our grantmaking will be by invitation only. We will either invite new applications (for new work or for organizations that aren't current grantees) or make amendments to existing grants. If you have work that you would like to have considered for invitation, please contact Tom Boutureira at [tboutureira@sewallfoundation.org](mailto:tboutureira@sewallfoundation.org) to discuss. Our general Focus Area approach remains unchanged and is outlined below.

### **General Description**

The Katahdin Region (which includes the towns of Mt. Chase, Patten, Island Falls, Stacyville, Sherman, Medway, East Millinocket, and Millinocket) has been in a transition for decades predating the closure of two papermills and other significant employers in the region. The Sewall Foundation is focused on the shift from extractive uses of the land and waters to regenerative community and economic development. Our early funding supported the efforts of organizations responding to emerging opportunities in tourism, downtown revitalization, and recreational trail development. In 2018-2019, we supported the [Katahdin Gazetteer: A Roadmap to the Future](#) – a community-informed visioning and planning process that defined shared regional principles and articulated six big ideas.

Since then, Sewall has increasingly aligned our strategies to the goals and action-items outlined in the Katahdin Gazetteer to galvanize regional collaborations, resource-sharing, and capacity-building while validating the community vision. While non-native organizations are increasingly exploring ways to support and partner with the Penobscot Nation and other Wabanaki people and native-led organizations, much work remains to acknowledge tribal sovereignty and self-determination, systemic racism and inequities, and historical injustices.

### **Priorities**

We seek to strengthen collaboration, build capacity, deepen equity, increase shared prosperity, and center the voices of those who live and work in the region, including Wabanaki people. The Sewall Foundation's funding in the Katahdin Region will be focused on the following areas:

- **Organizational Capacity:** Providing operating support so organizations and initiatives have the human capacity to advance regional priorities and the financial resources to participate in collaborative work.
- **Transformative Initiatives:** Resourcing projects that align with the Katahdin Gazetteer, have regional impact, and a high-level of readiness to implement in the next 3 years (2022-2024).
- **Collaboration:** Supporting the backbone organization of collaborative efforts so they are well-coordinated, resourced to follow through on meetings, plans, and shared priorities, and able to communicate effectively with stakeholders. Specific collaborative projects may also be considered.
- **Healing and Racial Equity:** Supporting applied racial equity learning for staff, organizations, and collaborations/partnerships that will lead to healing, true partnership, and shared prosperity with Wabanaki people; tribal sovereignty being acknowledged and reflected in all work in the region; and a region that welcomes new and diverse residents, visitors, and ideas.
- **Evaluation:** Supporting [developmental evaluation](#) to drive meaningful change and measure impact.

- **Convening & Capacity-Building:** Helping organizations and people to gather for shared learning, to develop skills and capacities across organizations, or for emergent discussions. Planning (ex. Strategic planning, financial planning, etc.) and consulting support also fall under this area.

**Contact**

If you have work that you would like to have considered for invitation, please contact Tom Boutureira at [tboutureira@sewallfoundation.org](mailto:tboutureira@sewallfoundation.org) to discuss.





## Healthy People Healthy Places *Keystone Focus Area*

*The health and well-being of people, animals, and the environment are inextricably linked. The Sewall Foundation seeks to support and make more visible these connections and support shifts from extractive, harmful ways of being to those in which all people, animals and environment thrive. Sewall's approach to systems change is informed by [Waters of System Change](#).*

**Available funding in 2024:** Up to \$368,000

**Special note on 2024 funding:** Because of the limited funding available this year, our grantmaking will be by invitation only. We will either invite new applications (for new work or for organizations that aren't current grantees) or make amendments to existing grants. If you have work that you would like to have considered for invitation, please contact Megan Shore [mshore@sewallfoundation.org](mailto:mshore@sewallfoundation.org) to discuss. Our general Focus Area approach remains unchanged and is outlined below.

### **General description of Focus Area**

The Keystone focus area seeks to connect and support policy, advocacy, accurate narratives, and field and movement building efforts that are contributing to a culture of interconnected well-being that will be reflected in narratives, structures, policies, and the ways in which organizations and communities operate.

Keystone work is viewed through a climate justice lens. This calls for racial justice, regenerative and inclusive economies, and humane ecosystems. It calls for Tribal Sovereignty. It calls for free and fair elections and equitable access to broadband and other essential infrastructure as a means of inclusion. Keystone work is further guided by the [Just Transition Principles](#) and focuses at the regional or statewide level.

Work in Keystone is supported through grants, capacity-building and technical assistance, convening, shared learning and impact investment.

### **Program Priorities**

Keystone Focus Area will support organizations and efforts that:

- Demonstrate a clear commitment to climate justice;
- Demonstrate a clear commitment to advance a culture in which the interconnectedness of human, environmental, and animal well-being are recognized;
- Work to create conditions necessary for a just, healthy, sustainable future; with a primary focus on policy, advocacy, [narrative change](#), and/or field and movement building efforts; **and**
- Work statewide or regionally (in Maine or New England, with clear impact in Maine)

Funding will be prioritized for applicants:

- Led by Black, Indigenous, People of Color, rural Mainers, and women;
- Working collaboratively across sectors; *and/or*
- Whose work will leverage and enhance public frameworks, funding, or collaborative efforts (e.g. [Maine Won't Wait](#); [Ending Hunger in Maine by 2030](#); [Working Communities Challenge](#); [Justice 40](#).) infusing a focus on climate justice

**Contact**

If you have work that you would like to have considered for invitation, please contact Megan Shore at [mshore@sewallfoundation.org](mailto:mshore@sewallfoundation.org) to discuss.



## Healthy People Healthy Places *Lewiston-Auburn Focus Area*

**Available funding in 2024:** up to \$1,510,000

### **General description**

Sewall Foundation supports organizations that work together to improve the health and well-being of people and the environment in Lewiston and Auburn (L-A). Currently we are doing this through a 3-year pilot process (2022-2024) to implement an [L-A Systems Approach Workplan](#) that was co-designed with community organizations in L-A in 2021. The goal of this pilot is to develop processes and structures that support organizations working collectively over the long term to address complex systemic issues identified by the community. L-A's systems approach is designed to strengthen collaboration, build capacity, deepen equity, and center community leadership, particularly by Black, Indigenous, and People of Color and youth.

Sewall grants support work in L-A that has been prioritized through a broadly participatory, community-based, collaboration-building process. In addition to grants, multiple strategies – including capacity building and technical assistance, impact investment, convening, and shared learning opportunities – will be used to advance collective work in partnership with the Lewiston-Auburn community and other L-A funders.

### **Priorities**

Grants and other strategies will support collective work in Lewiston-Auburn that addresses one or more of these **five Priority Areas**:

- Equitable Municipal Systems
- Workforce Access and Economic Development
- Community Health and Wellness
- Healthy, Affordable Housing
- Healthy Local Food Systems

**Preference** will be given to organizations:

- that participate in the collaboration-building process introduced in [the L-A Systems Approach Workplan](#)
- that promote equitable civic leadership, especially by Black, Indigenous and People of Color and youth
- that support resilience for people, land and waters in Lewiston and Auburn

### **2024 Grants**

In 2024, grants in the Lewiston-Auburn focus area will support two purposes.

1. \$650,000 will be available to amend existing grants and support new ones to further L-A's collaborative work in 2024. (An additional \$995,000 has already been committed for 2024, including a total of \$110,000 that was deferred in 2023 for special collaborative projects in Housing, Health, and Equitable Municipal Systems.)
2. Up to \$750,000 will be available to support mid-term and longer-term emergency response efforts following the shootings in Lewiston in October 2023.

It is anticipated that new grants and grant amendments in L-A in 2024 will be for one year. Funds will be allocated through the collective decision-making process described below.

### **Funding Allocation Process**

Since 2022, dozens of organizations working in Lewiston and Auburn have been participating in quarterly collaboration-building sessions facilitated by consultants from Tamarack Institute and S. E. Foster Associates. Through those sessions, organizations working in each of the priority areas listed above identified shared goals and priorities, existing collaboratives doing that work, and gaps where more collaboration is needed. Each priority area has designed a collaborative structure and process to support their collective work and shared decision making. **Sewall grants in the Lewiston-Auburn Focus Area are allocated through L-A's collaborative process.**

In January 2024, L-A organizations will meet by priority area to determine how to equitably distribute available resources to advance their collective work. These sessions will be via Zoom on these days and times:

- Healthy, Affordable Housing: Thursday, January 18 at 10am-noon
- Workforce Access and Economic Development: Thursday, January 25 at 1-3pm
- Equitable Municipal Systems: Monday, January 29 at 10am-noon
- Community Health and Wellness AND Healthy Local Food Systems: Thursday, February 1 at 10am-noon

**Guidance for new applicants:** All new applicants to the Lewiston-Auburn focus area are encouraged to participate in a collaboration-building session in order to begin connecting with L-A organizations and the process they are designing to lower competition, increase transparency and trust, and engage in shared decision making about their work and resources to support it. Please contact Laress Lawrence ([LLawrence@sewallfoundation.org](mailto:LLawrence@sewallfoundation.org)) to discuss possible alignment with L-A's funding priorities and process and to request a link to a virtual session. After the session, she will provide a link to the grant application and guidance on how to complete it.

**Guidance for organizations with current one-year grants:** Please attend the quarterly session in January that best fits your schedule and that aligns with the work which Sewall funded in 2023. In that session, you will decide collectively how to allocate funding for 2024. Current one-year grants can be amended for an additional year of funding in alignment with the collective decision, without completing a new application.

Organizations in Lewiston and Auburn that are not being funded by Sewall are still welcome to participate in the quarterly sessions, and some organizations (regardless of funding status) may wish to contribute to shaping the collective work in more than one priority area. In addition, several funders, including Sewall, will continue to meet regularly in 2024 to explore how to work more closely together to support collective work in L-A.

### **Contact**

Please reach out to Laress Lawrence ([LLawrence@sewallfoundation.org](mailto:LLawrence@sewallfoundation.org)) if you have any questions or wish to discuss focus area alignment and receive the Healthy People Healthy Places grant application link.



## Healthy People Healthy Places *Nature-Based Education Focus Area*

**Available funding in 2024:** up to \$131,000

**Special note on 2024 funding:** Because of the limited funding available this year, our grantmaking will be by invitation only. We will either invite new applications (for new work or for organizations that aren't current grantees) or make amendments to existing grants. If you have work that you would like to have considered for invitation, please contact Tom Boutureira at [tboutureira@sewallfoundation.org](mailto:tboutureira@sewallfoundation.org) to discuss. Our general Focus Area approach remains unchanged and is outlined below.

### **General description**

All Mainers deserve the opportunity to enjoy time outdoors, because the more people connect with nature the more we all benefit. When more people have more meaningful experiences outdoors, their quality of life, health and social well-being improve and in turn Maine communities become stronger and more sustainable. The Sewall Foundation's nature-based education funding supports collaborative and organizational initiatives that advance the field, build strong networks that change systems and policy, include and elevate diverse voices and leadership, and result in equitable outcomes for all Mainers.

### **Priorities**

To achieve the impact described above, the Sewall Foundation will continue focusing on building the collaborative infrastructure and backbone for statewide and systems change efforts. That said, we also recognize that organizations and leaders in the field are always innovating and testing new ideas and approaches that can inform these broader efforts. The Sewall Foundation's funding in Nature-Based Education will be focused on the following areas:

#### Collaborative Funding (multi-partner initiatives):

- **Field-Building:** Strengthening the overall field of organizations and practitioners through increased capacity-building and professional development opportunities.
- **Network-Building:** Resourcing networks to address complex systems change work to increase equitable access and opportunity for all Maine students.
- **Diversity, Voice, and Equity:** Increasing diverse youth participation and voice in sector-wide leadership, networks, and decision-making and applying a racial equity lens in the sector. This can include funds for barrier removal to ensure all participants can engage fully.
- **Data & Evaluation:** Creating data sets and other evaluation tools and frameworks to identify barriers and underserved regions/populations, to develop a baseline from which to measure impact and progress and inform advocacy and policy actions, or to measure collaborative/initiative or statewide/fieldwide impact.
- **Advocacy & Policy:** Supporting efforts that advocate and enact lasting policy change and funding for statewide sector priorities.

Organizational Funding:

- **Transformational Opportunities:** General operating grants with priority for organizations led by groups historically underrepresented in the nature-based education sector including youth, BIPOC, LGBTQ+, differently-abled, and low-income communities that will have transformational impact for the field.

**Contact**

If you have work that you would like to have considered for invitation, please contact Tom Boutureira at [tboutureira@sewallfoundation.org](mailto:tboutureira@sewallfoundation.org) to discuss.



## Healthy People Healthy Places

### *Wabanaki Communities and Tribal Governments Focus Area*

**Available funding in 2024:** up to \$430,000

#### **General description**

Sewall Foundation seeks to be a good partner to Wabanaki-led community organizations and tribal governments by supporting work on community priorities through grants, capacity-building and technical assistance, convening, shared learning and impact investment. Understanding that how we work is as important as what we work on, we are committed to ongoing organizational learning about the true history of what is now Maine from indigenous perspectives, to decolonizing our philanthropic practices and perspectives, and to working with the understanding that tribal governments are sovereign entities. Beyond this focus area, Sewall invests and partners with Wabanaki-led efforts by integrating awareness and participation of indigenous perspectives and organizations across all our work.

#### **2024 Updates and Activities**

Since 2022, all the grants in this focus area have been multiyear grants. As a result, there will be limited opportunity for new grants in 2024, as most of the funding has already been committed. As a result, up to \$430,000 will be available for new grants in 2024.

In 2024, staff will be working with the Sewall board to develop our next multiyear grants budget. Because of the limited funding available this year, our grantmaking will be by invitation only in 2024. We will either invite new applications (for new work or for organizations that aren't current grantees) or make amendments to existing grants. If you have work that you would like to have considered for invitation, please contact Sewall's executive director, Gabriela Alcalde, [galcalde@sewallfoundation.org](mailto:galcalde@sewallfoundation.org) to discuss.

#### **2024 Grants**

Generally, grant funding levels in this focus area are:

- Individual organizations/efforts: \$10,000 to \$50,000
  - Increased funding amounts may be available to organizations that work on priority areas across all tribal governments and/or communities
- Collaborations/efforts involving multiple organizations/groups: up to \$200,000
  - Occasionally, organizations may apply for both organizational and collaborative funds
- Transformational opportunities: variable funding levels
  - The purpose and intended impact of transformational efforts is to address critical community priorities and create sustainable, systemic changes. Generally, funding is limited to one to two years.

#### **Priorities**

Our commitment to being responsive to community priorities, needs, and opportunities leads us to take a holistic approach in this work. We rely on ongoing conversations with grantee partners and other Wabanaki community leaders, while also being guided by what we heard during the 2021 community listening sessions.

You can read about the listening sessions here: [Listening+to+Community+Priorities+in+Wabanaki+-+2021.pdf \(squarespace.com\)](#) In 2023, Sewall held its second grantee convening for this focus area, and are guided by the conversations and themes shared at this gathering.

Generally, we will support work that is focused on sovereignty, self-governance and self-determination; collective wellbeing; community culture and community building; and indigenous leadership and resourcing across communities.

Funding in this focus area is restricted to organizations and efforts that meet the following criteria:

1. The organization is led by majority Wabanaki and indigenous people (staff and board).
2. Most of the work of the organization is focused on and/or serving Wabanaki people, communities, and interests.
3. All or most of the work takes place in what is now Maine.

### **Contact**

In 2024, Sewall will be hiring its first full time community partner to lead the work of this focus area. Until we have the new person in place, you should continue to contact Sewall's executive director, Gabriela Alcalde, [gcalcalde@sewallfoundation.org](mailto:gcalcalde@sewallfoundation.org) if you have any questions or want to discuss focus area alignment and receive the Healthy People Healthy Places grant application link.





## Healthy People Healthy Places *Washington County Focus Area*

**Available funding in 2024:** up to \$167,500

**Special note on 2024 funding:** Because of the limited funding available this year, our grantmaking will be by invitation only. We will either invite new applications (for new work or for organizations that aren't current grantees) or make amendments to existing grants. If you have work that you would like to have considered for invitation, please contact Tom Boutureira at [tboutureira@sewallfoundation.org](mailto:tboutureira@sewallfoundation.org) to discuss. Our general Focus Area approach remains unchanged and is outlined below.

### **General Description**

Washington County is a landscape where the people are inextricably interconnected with the environment and where the natural resources have shaped the region's economic base and remain among its greatest assets. Non-native organizations are increasingly exploring ways to support and partner with the Passamaquoddy Tribes at Motahkomikuk and Sipayik and other Wabanaki people and native-led organizations, but much work remains to acknowledge tribal sovereignty and self-determination, systemic racism and inequities, and historical injustices. Because of its remoteness and strong relationships between leaders and communities, organizations continuously put shared goals and values above individual missions to collaborate, leverage resources, incubate creative solutions, and deliver amazing results. These strengths will be needed as the region faces significant challenges that threaten its long-term viability. The county population is drastically decreasing in each 10-year census period and a disproportionate number of working-age adults will be exiting the workforce in the next 10 years. Multi-generational poverty and trauma, coupled with substance use, requires systems change approaches to social service and educational delivery. And the Gulf of Maine is one of the fastest warming waterbodies in the world and both climate change and shifts in global markets are impacting the region's socio-economic fabric. In response to these significant challenges, networks of leaders are engaging community voices to create a future that is resilient and adaptive to the changes ahead.

### **Priorities**

We seek to strengthen collaboration, build capacity, deepen equity, increase shared prosperity, and center the voices of those who live and work in the region, including Wabanaki people. The Sewall Foundation's funding in Washington County will be focused on the following areas:

- **Organizational Capacity:** Providing operating support so organizations and initiatives have the human capacity to advance regional priorities and the financial resources to participate in collaborative work.
- **Transformative Initiatives:** Resourcing projects that have regional impact and high levels of readiness to implement in the next 3 years (2022-2024).
- **Collaboration:** Supporting the backbone organization of collaborative efforts so they are well-coordinated, resourced to follow through on meetings, plans, and shared priorities, and able to communicate effectively with stakeholders. Specific collaborative projects may also be considered.
- **Healing and Racial Equity:** Supporting applied racial equity learning for staff, organizations, and collaborations/partnerships that will lead to healing, true partnership, and shared prosperity with Wabanaki people; tribal sovereignty being acknowledged and reflected in all work in the region; and a region that welcomes new and diverse residents, visitors, and ideas.

- **Evaluation:** Supporting [developmental evaluation](#) to drive meaningful change and measure impact.
- **Convening & Capacity-Building:** Helping organizations and people to gather for shared learning, to develop skills and capacities across organizations, or for emergent discussions. Planning (ex. Strategic planning, financial planning, etc.) and consulting support also fall under this area.

### **Contact**

If you have work that you would like to have considered for invitation, please contact Tom Boutureira at [tboutureira@sewallfoundation.org](mailto:tboutureira@sewallfoundation.org) to discuss.