



## 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.