

2027 Partnership Grant Program

Community Outreach
Presentation



Freedom's
Way NATIONAL
HERITAGE AREA



Freedom's Way NHA

- One of 60+ National Heritage Areas in US
- Serves 45 towns and cities in MA + NH
- Works in partnership with NPS + local communities to protect and promote the region's natural, cultural, and historical resources

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Partnership Grant Program

- Provides strategic investments in the resources that enhance the region's sense of place
- Catalyst for new, creative projects and programs
- Collaborative process—not competitive!

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Program Genesis

The Association will:

- *Provide support and technical assistance for stewardship in heritage area towns through a small grants program*
- *Support the missions and programming of existing interpretive attractions*

— FWNHA 2015 Management Plan

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FY2027 Funding Cycle

- \$100k allocated; grants up to \$5,000
- Apply online October 1, 2026 – April 1, 2027
- Reviewed and awarded on a rolling basis
- Projects to be completed by September 1st, 2027

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2027 Funding Priorities

- Facilitate meaningful **interpretive experiences** that engage **diverse audiences** and support an **inclusive** and **comprehensive** narrative of the region's history, including that of Indigenous peoples, women, people of color, and other underrepresented communities

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2027 Funding Priorities

- Cultivate a shared stewardship agenda for the Heritage Area through **historic preservation, conservation**, and **curation** initiatives that **interpret, enhance**, and **preserve** the natural and cultural resources of the region for current and future generations.

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2027 Funding Priorities

- Broaden the understanding of themes and stories relating to the **American Revolution** to provide **fresh interpretations and perspectives** that explore the multiple meanings and impacts of that event within the region, including those relating to **collective memory, memorialization, civic and social engagement**, and **political discourse**

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2027 Funding Opportunities

- Storytelling
- Education, Interpretation & Curation
- Community Planning & Resource Conservation
- Historic Preservation
- Freedom's Way 250
- Regional Cultural Events

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Storytelling



Arlington Historical Society



Black Heritage Trail of New Hampshire



Education, Interpretation & Curation



Clinton Greenway Conservation Trust



Community Planning & Resource Conservation



Hudson Cultural Alliance



Lexington Historical Society



Historic Preservation



The Shirley Meeting House



Mason Town Hall Renovation Committee



Regional Cultural Events



Friends of Pine Hawk



Nashua International Sculpture Symposium



Freedom's Way 250



Concord Museum



Westford Historical Society & Museum



Measuring Our Impact

Since the program's inception:

- 270 grants awarded totaling \$391k+
- Direct investments in 2/3 of the Heritage Area's 45 communities
- Generated \$4.9+ million in match
- Leveraged NPS funding 13:1

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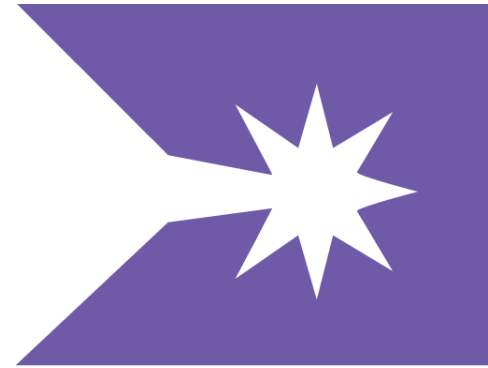
A Partnership Endeavor

- Grantees acknowledged at Community Gathering in Fall 2027
- Projects shared with National Park Service and Freedom's Way NHA communities
- Thank you for advancing the mission and vision of the Freedom's Way NHA!

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Prior to Applying

2027 Partnership
Grant Program





Eligible Applicants

- 501(c)3 non-profits*
- Municipalities + state agencies
- Public academic institutions

**Community groups without 501(c)3 status may apply if sponsored by a fiscal agent.*

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Eligible Projects

- Align with grant program goals and a 2027 funding opportunity
- Impact at least one FW community
- Demonstrate ability to match grant request at a minimum 2:1 (cash or in-kind)
- Anticipate being complete by September 1st, 2027

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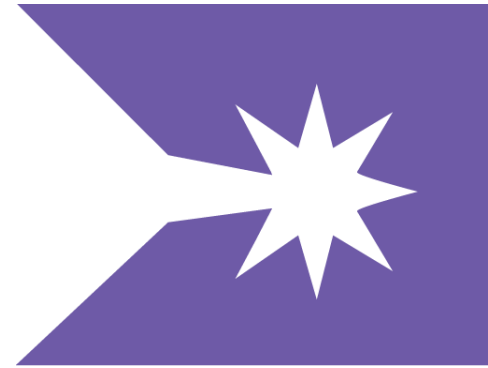
Reach Out to Us!

- Review program guidelines and application materials at **freedomsway.org/grants**
- Email **grants@freedomsway.org** to briefly introduce your project and schedule a call to discuss
- This is a collaborative—**not competitive**—process!

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Preparing a Proposal

2027 Partnership
Grant Program





Reminders

Freedom's Way Partnership Grants are:

- **Reimbursable** – Keep documentation!
- **Matching** – A minimum 2:1, any combination of cash and in-kind
- **Federal funds** – Adhere to all applicable regulations

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Online Submission Form

- Preview now available on website
- Form opens October 1st
- Save & Continue option
- Any questions or technical issues, **please reach out!**

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Preliminary Budget Template

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
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5	Funding Opportunity:		Inclusive Storytelling				
6	Funding Request:		\$3,500				
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9					Cash	In-Kind	
10	Category & Description		Estimate Calculation	Funding Request to be Reimbursed	(Applicant Pays)	(Donated to Project)	Total Project Cost
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12	Professional Services						
13	Consulting Project Manager	\$50 x 8 hr x 20 wk = \$8,000	\$	2,000.00	\$	6,000.00	\$ 8,000.00
14	Graphic Designer	\$75 x 20 hr = \$1,500	\$	-	\$	-	\$ 1,500.00
15	Research Intern	\$15 x 10 hr x 12 wk = \$1,800	\$	1,500.00	\$	300.00	\$ 1,800.00
16							\$ -
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19	Materials & Supplies						
20	Ancestry.com Subscription	\$20 x 6 mos = \$120	\$	-	\$	120.00	\$ 120.00
21	Printing & Reproduction	\$10 x 100 qty = \$1,000	\$	-	\$	1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
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39	Staff Time						
40	Executive Director	\$45 x 5 hr x 24 wk = \$5,400	Not Allowable for Reimbursement	\$ -	\$ 5,400.00	\$ 5,400.00	
41	Curator	\$30 x 5 hr x 20 wk = \$3,000		\$ -	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00	
42						\$ -	
44	Volunteer Time (@ \$40.97/hr, as valued by IndependentSector.org)						
45	Volunteer Researcher 1	\$40.97 x 15 hr x 20 wk = \$12,291	Not Allowable for Reimbursement	\$ -	\$ 12,291.00	\$ 12,291.00	
46	Volunteer Researcher 2	\$40.97 x 15 hr x 20 wk = \$12,291		\$ -	\$ 12,291.00	\$ 12,291.00	
47	Launch Event Volunteer 1	\$40.97 x 5 hr = \$204.85		\$ -	\$ 204.85	\$ 204.85	
48	Launch Event Volunteer 2	\$40.97 x 5 hr = \$204.85		\$ -	\$ 204.85	\$ 204.85	
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51	Mileage (@ \$0.14/mi, as set by the IRS)						
52	Volunteer Researcher 1	\$0.14 x 25 mi x 16 wk = \$56.00	Not Allowable for Reimbursement	\$ -	\$ 56.00	\$ 56.00	
53	Volunteer Researcher 2	\$0.14 x 30 mi x 16 wk = \$67.20		\$ -	\$ 67.20	\$ 67.20	
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58		ESTIMATED TOTALS:	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 7,920.00	\$ 35,314.90	\$ 46,734.90	
59				TOTAL MATCH:	\$ 43,234.90		





Possible Sources of Match

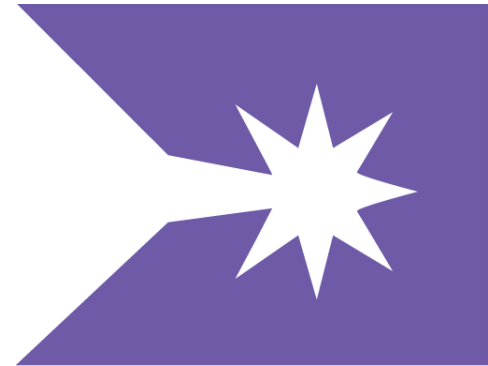
- Operating budget or cash reserves
- Project-specific fundraising
- Non-federal grant awards
- Goods: materials, supplies
- Services: donated professional time, staff time, volunteer time (includes committees)
- Venue space
- Mileage

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Award Process

2027 Partnership
Grant Program





What to Expect

- Proposals reviewed and awarded on rolling basis from October 1, 2026 – April 1, 2027
- Email with award package or follow-up questions, if necessary
- Partnership Grant Agreement to be signed and returned
- Due date for Final Report
- Freedom's Way NHA logos

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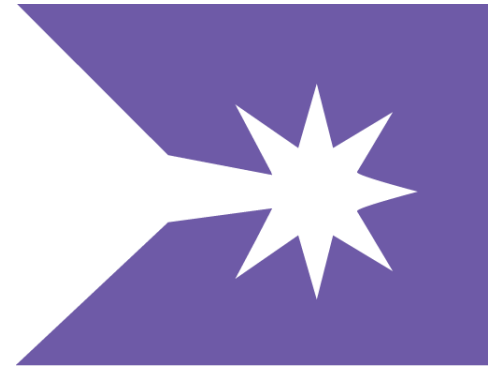
Keep Us in the Loop

- Share updates, events, etc. — we're happy to promote your work and attend if able
- Changes to the original proposal or project delays — just let us know!
- New staff/project manager — please introduce us before your departure

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Closing Out the Grant

2027 Partnership
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Final Report

- Guidelines sent with award package and available on website
- Brief narrative sharing impacts and accomplishments
- Updated budget with actuals
- Documentation of expenses to be reimbursed
- Documentation of match
- Copies of publicity and photos

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Importance of Due Date

- Due 8 weeks after anticipated completion date stated in proposal, or Sept. 1st, 2027—whichever comes first
- Will consider a single extension request on case-by-case basis
- Fiscal year ends Sept. 30th



A Partnership Endeavor

- Grantees acknowledged at Community Gathering in Fall 2027
- Projects shared with National Park Service and Freedom's Way NHA communities
- Thank you for advancing the mission and vision of the Freedom's Way NHA!

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Questions?

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