

# Community Redistribution Fund Grant Overview

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## Overview

Good Shepherd Food Bank (‘GSFB’) has partnered with [Black Owned Maine](#) (‘BOM’) to relaunch the Community Redistribution Fund (‘CRF’) which was originally launched in 2020. CRF supports organizations’ efforts to address the disproportionate impact of food insecurity and increase access to culturally relevant foods through culturally responsive models. These grants are for organizations led by and working primarily with communities of color, Indigenous peoples, immigrants, asylum seekers, and refugees.

## Eligibility + Funding Priorities

### Eligibility Criteria

- A 501c3 IRS designation or under the fiscal sponsorship of a 501c3 with IRS designation

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- Tribal governments and those applying under tribal governments do not need 501c3 IRS designation
- An organizational budget, including cumulative operations, fundraising, and programming, of under \$2,000,000 for the year of 2023
- Individuals will not be funded

## **Program Requirements**

- Working exclusively or primarily in Maine; 95% of work must happen in Maine
- Organizations must meet two of the following three criteria:
  - 50% of programming serving and led by communities of color, Indigenous, immigrants, refugees, asylum seekers
  - 50% or more of those in leadership or key decision-making roles are from communities of color, Indigenous, immigrants, refugees, asylum seekers
  - 50% of programming serving communities of color, Indigenous, immigrants, refugees, asylum seekers but led by other groups
- Projects and programs that require participants to donate, volunteer, work, pay dues, or attend a religious service before receiving food are ineligible

## **Grant Types + Award Levels**

- This fund will provide the following grants:
  - 3 Planning Grants – \$7,500 each:
    - Designed for organizations that need funding to adequately plan their projects before they go live.
    - Focused on new and innovative projects that require a planning phase.
  - 14 Implementation Grants – \$20,000 each:
    - Aimed at partnering with or improving existing programs that focus on sourcing, distributing, and educating community members about culturally important foods.

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- Intended for programs that have been operating for at least two years and can show proof of concept or demonstrate improvements through innovative methods.

## Focus Areas

- Projects and programs that expand food access to communities of color, Indigenous immigrants, refugees, asylum seekers
- Examples include programs focused on food justice, food sovereignty, food insecurity, food for tomorrow, food empowerment, sustainability, and innovation
- Additional preference for food access work being done in rural areas across the state

## Application Process

### 1. Info Session

- a. Attendance at one info session is **mandatory** for all organizations wishing to apply.
- b. See the timeline below for session dates and RSVP details.

### 2. Submit Application

- a. Applications must be submitted online.
- b. Oral applications are available via House of Languages:
  - i. Organizations opting for oral applications will be matched with an interpreter, who will transcribe their answers verbatim.
  - ii. The transcribed answers will be emailed to BOM, who will submit the application on behalf of the organization.
  - iii. A Word version of the application is available for brainstorming and drafting. We highly recommend preparing your answers in this document before submitting them through the application portal.

### 3. Pre-Submission Meeting

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- a. It is recommended to meet with Rose or Khadija prior to submission to ensure alignment.
  - b. This meeting is required if you plan to work with a grant writer or require the support of House of Languages
- 4. Complimentary Grant Writing Services**
- a. Organizations are eligible for up to three hours of complimentary grant writing services.
  - b. Information about this service will be provided after the alignment meeting.
- 5. Final Submission**
- a. Once an application has been submitted (either online or orally), it cannot be edited or resubmitted.

## **Evaluation Process**

1. BOM and GSFB teams will review each application for completeness and due diligence
2. Schedule call with org contact person to chat about application
3. Grant Committee Retreat
  - a. 6 members from the communities above
  - b. 3 members from Good Shepherd Food Bank
4. Scoring Rubric - To come

## **Relationship Building Opportunities**

- Pantry technical assistance through Good Shepherd CCR Team
- Visit Food Bank's Auburn and/or Hampden locations

## **Timeline**

Application Opens

- Monday, October 14, 2024

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Grant Info Session(s) - **Mandatory to attend at least one info session**

- [October 15, 2024 - 9 to 10 AM](#)
- [October 16, 2024 - 6 to 7 PM](#)
- [October 17, 2024 - 2 to 3 PM](#)
- [October 21, 2024 - 12 to 1 PM](#)

Application Closes

- November 15, 2024

Internal Review of Applications

- Between November 18, 2024 through December 6, 2024
- *Note: Inquiry calls will be scheduled as applications are submitted and through review period*

Decision Notices Emailed

- December 16, 2024

Partner and Food Bank Visits

- 2024/2025

## Contact Information

For any questions or further information, please contact Rose Barboza at 207-849-0008 or [rose@blackownedmaine.com](mailto:rose@blackownedmaine.com).

Please do not contact Good Shepherd Food Bank's headquarters number or via their contact page.