



# CAVENDISH COMMUNITY FUND

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P.O. Box 605 • Cavendish, Vermont 05142

## **Cavendish Community Fund**

The Cavendish Community Fund seeks to strengthen the bonds of community that are the source of dynamic and reciprocal social interaction. These interactions build social capital, the dense network of relationships that generates trust, which, in turn, provides the basis for collective problem-solving in everyday life. Community activities provide the opportunity to make new connections with others and, with each new opportunity for connection, to deepen the understanding of how to initiate and maintain new relationships with other local citizens who may be strangers. Activities and events that the Fund sponsors provide the venue for these opportunities to narrow the sometimes formidable divide between groups with different interests and backgrounds. Furthermore, growth within our community becomes the impetus to broaden the circle of opportunity for involvement and active participation in our larger social world. The Fund supports this commitment through the administration of modest monetary grants for programs that provide significant opportunities for new connections between residents. The Cavendish Community Fund is affiliated with the Cavendish Community and Conservation Association, a Section 501(c)(3) federally tax-exempt non-profit membership organization chartered under the laws of the State of Vermont.

### **GRANT APPLICATIONS**

By granting modest sums, the Community Fund seeks to assist local organizations in building stronger community relationships and quality of life in Cavendish. The projects, programs or events that the Fund will normally consider are education in its broadest sense, cultural events and the promotion of the arts. Grant money comes from donations and from fund raising events sponsored by the Fund operates from annual revenues received as donations.

Although the Fund places no limit on the amount that an applicant may request, most awards will be within the \$500 - \$1,000 range. Grants will rarely exceed these amounts although, on occasion, the Fund may make an exceptional grant to a particularly worthwhile project. The Community Fund will consider applications that are wide ranging but will not normally consider funding an organization's ongoing operations. The Fund application review committee members, who select qualified grantees, are Cavendish residents.

### **CRITERIA FOR GRANT ELIGIBILITY**

**Tax Status:** The Fund accepts applications from private, non-profit organizations that are tax exempt under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, other non-profit

organizations, public institutions or individuals. The fund encourages individuals to partner with a local tax exempt organization.

**Location of Project:** The organization and the project, program or event to be funded must be located in the Town of Cavendish, Vermont.

**Type of Project:** The projects, programs or events that the Fund considers are those that deal with education in its broadest sense and can include such areas as land preservation and development, historic preservation, education and promotion of the arts. The types of projects, programs or events may be wide ranging and include special initiatives, seed money for pilot projects or new organizations, capital funds, and matching and challenge grants. The Fund will not normally consider funding an organization's ongoing operations.

**Collaboration:** The fund strongly encourages collaborative efforts amongst various groups, organizations and individuals, which include at least one Cavendish group or organization, for an event, project or program that will enjoy broad community support and that will positively impact the quality of life within the community.

**Exclusions:** The Fund will not provide direct support for efforts such as endowment campaigns; individual projects, fellowships or scholarships; or programs run by profit making ventures, businesses or organizations.

## **SUBMISSIONS**

The Fund will receive applications at any time of the year and reviews and funds them at least once a year. Prior to submitting a formal application, organizations may make inquiry as to their eligibility to apply. The fund encourages pre-application questions. Please see the media announcement of grant deadlines for contact names and numbers. The Fund will accept only one application per year per applicant. The Fund cannot accept faxed or e-mailed applications. Send applications to:

Cavendish Community Fund  
P.O. Box 605  
Cavendish, VT 05142

The Fund will notify all applicants by mail of its decision about 4 weeks after the deadline.

### **Please include the following information in the application:**

1. A completed Grant Application Cover Sheet in the format specified herein signed by both the person responsible for the project and by an officer of the sponsoring organization, if any. Please note that the application is considered incomplete and will not be reviewed if it does not address each of the required items in some manner. The Fund reserves the right to request an organizational budget as part of the process.

2. A Proposal in narrative form, no longer than 3 pages, that includes:

a) A description, including history and the current position of the applicant organization, or a background summary of the individual applicant.

b) Your goals and specifically who and how many, where, when and a projected timeline.

c) Your rationale for why this project will encourage new community relationships

d) A list of other Funds, Foundations or other organizations from which the applicant has requested money for the project program or event described above.

3. A budget.

4. An organizational background description that includes: List of key project staff, the names of the current Board of Directors, the IRS 501 (c)(3) Determination Letter if applicable.

5. Those who receive a grant are expected to furnish CCF with a narrative report in the form of a letter within a month after conclusion of the project, program or event, to describe the outcome.