

VT Community Health Equity Partnership Community Project Funding to Address Health Inequities: Funding Application

Deadline: Midnight on September 9, 2022

Funding is intended to assist **NEK Prosper! Caledonia + Southern Essex Accountable Health Community to address health inequity(s) experienced in the St. Johnsbury District which were exacerbated during COVID-19, and which are described in a Data Driven Problem Statement as: *Due to stigma, marginalization and systemic inequalities, not everyone in Caledonia and Southern Essex Counties has fair and just opportunity to prosper (be financially secure, mentally healthy, physically healthy, well-housed and well-nourished), nor safe, accessible and inclusive opportunities to participate in planning and decision-making about the health and well-being of themselves, their families and their communities. This is true particularly for those experiencing stigma, marginalization and avoidable systemic inequalities associated with socioeconomic status; race, ethnicity and culture; sexual orientation and gender identity; visible and invisible disabilities; trauma, mental health and substance misuse disorders, and justice-involvement.***

NEK Prosper! is interested in supporting projects which help us achieve a Vision of prosperity for *all* and our Aspiration to build our collective and community capacity to dismantle systemic inequality and marginalization, foster community leadership and community-driven solutions and ensure fair and just opportunity to health and prosperity.

1. **Type of Applicant:** Kingdom East School District
 Non-profit Organization Group/Association^ Individual* Other: School District
2. **Name of Applicant:** Morgan Moore, Kingdom East School District
3. **Applicant's Street Address:** 64 Campus Lane, Lyndon Center, VT 05850
4. **Primary Contact Person Name:** Morgan Moore
5. **Primary Contact Person Email Address:** morganmoore@kingdomeast.org
6. **Primary Contact Person Preferred Phone Number:** (802) 535-0387
7. **Tax Identification Number:** WHT-10905518
8. **Amount Requested** (no less than \$2,500 or more than \$50,000): \$44,680
9. **Schedule of Work:**
 - Start Date: Sept 6, 2022
 - End Date: May 31, 2023
10. **Project Name:** Kingdom East After School & Experiential Learning Bike & Ski Club

11. **Project Purpose Summary:** The purpose of this project is to connect Kingdom East School District students with outdoor recreation opportunities. Through this funding, we will be able to run bike and ski clubs that get students recreating outdoors, with access to all the gear and instruction needed. We chose these activities because they are lifelong recreation activities that students can enjoy in this area for years to come.
12. **What Vermont town(s) will be directly served by your project?** Burke, Concord, East Haven, Lunenburg, Lyndonville, Newark, Sheffield, Sutton, and Wheelock.
13. **Describe the Project:** This project will run a mountain bike club from September 6th, 2022 - October 27th, 2022 and May 1-31, 2023, and a cross country ski club from February 1-March 31st, 2023. All of these clubs will happen on the Kingdom Trails, twice per week for each indicated date. We will also run school day bike and ski programs, during these dates, in partnership with the local schools. The funding from this grant will help pay for instruction for students in biking and skiing, so that they can learn these new skills, and progress in their abilities to recreate.
14. **Describe the Focus Population:** The focus population for this program is 5th-8th grade students at all Kingdom East Schools.
15. **Describe how this project was identified or designed by the intended beneficiaries:** Bike and cross country ski clubs were previously run afterschool at Burke Town School. Other students and parents began to ask about joining. This project seeks to maintain a Kingdom East bike and ski club, which allows any students in the district to participate.
16. **Describe the Project Goals and Desired Results:** The goals for this project are to increase the numbers of students regularly attending bike and cross country ski clubs. We hope that through regular attendance, and instruction, students will progress in their skills and build a lifelong passion for outdoor recreation in the Northeast Kingdom. Our goal is to have participation from every school in the Kingdom East School District, to ensure that all students have access to this type of recreation.
17. **Identifying milestones provides a way to monitor the progress of your project and make course corrections, if needed. When and how will you identify milestones for this project?:** We will evaluate the program's progress at the end of each season (October, March, and May). By surveying students and collecting participation data we can make changes to the program based on student feedback, outreach to schools with low attendance, etc.
18. **Describe your team. If not yet working with these partners, please describe your plan to outreach and engage these partners:** Kingdom East After School Program (KEAP) will run the program, through their partnership with the school district and 21st Century Grant. We are working with Village Sport Shop to maintain the bikes, and provide cross country rental equipment. Kingdom Trails donates day memberships for students to recreate on the trails, and education on the trail network so that students can stay involved. Kingdom Trails also maintains a bike trailer, to transport the bikes and provides insurance for our staff to move the trailer. Kingdom Cycling and Experiences and Northwoods Stewardship Center will provide instruction for students, and Burke Town School allows us to utilize the bike fleet for after school programming.

19. Please explain how the intended work may positively impact the data driven problem statement and/or help NEK Prosper! achieve our Vision and Aspiration described above:

This project positively impacts the NEK Prosper! Vision of addressing health inequities in Caledonia and Essex counties, which were exacerbated during COVID-19. At KESD, we see many students who do not have equal opportunities to prosper due to systemic inequalities. Specifically, this project seeks to allow students who do not have access to outdoor recreation, a chance to build skills and create lifelong hobbies that increase the health and well-being of themselves, their families, and their communities. Due to socio-economic divides, many of our students are not able to mountain bike or cross country ski on the Kingdom Trails. Students often do not have the transportation or gear to do so. Our program is able to transport students to the trails and provide gear. This grant would further our mission by allowing students to receive instruction in these sports, so that they can build skills and hopefully a love of outdoor recreation that will last them a lifetime. Furthermore, our schools have seen an uptick in behavioral incidents since the COVID-19 pandemic. We know that our students, their families, are stressed emotionally and financially. Students have also had limited options to socialize with others. This project furthers our goal to provide healthy afterschool programming to KESD students, which alleviates childcare burdens on families. It allows students to socialize in a supervised setting, while recreating and building healthy skills.

20. Feel free to provide additional information you think may be useful to the reviewers in evaluating this application. What else should we know about the project that we didn't ask?:

We are excited to see these programs grow. They were launched last year, and we also provided mountain biking through our Kingdom East Summer Camp program. We have a cohort of students who are excited to continue this programming, and will be excellent outreach to other students in the district who are not yet connected!

VT Community Health Equity Partnership Community Project Funding to Address Health Inequities: Project Budget Example

Organization/Group/Grantee Name: Kingdom East After School & Experiential Learning Program			
Title of Project: Kingdom East After School & Experiential Learning Bike & Ski Club			
Expense Category*	Description	Request	Please note any other secured funding or in-kind donation toward expenses for Project
Instruction	Northwoods Stewardship Center Bike & Ski Instructors \$325 (2 instructors per session) 72 Sessions Total	\$ 23,400	KESD staff will supervise students, provide transportation and assist instructors.
Instruction	Kingdom Cycling & Experiences Bike & Ski Instructors \$620/week (2 instructors per session) 24 weeks total	\$ 14,880	KESD staff will supervise students, provide transportation and assist instructors.
Gear Rentals	Cross country ski and fat bike rentals: \$800/week, 8 weeks total	\$ 6,400	KESD will provide bikes and snowshoes.
	Total Request	\$44,680	Kingdom Trails will donate day passes for students and bike transportation.

*If a category is not applicable, please leave it blank