

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:

Non-profit Organization Group/Association^ Individual* Other (please describe):

2. Name of Applicant (organization, group, individual): Shaun Campbell, Project Phoenix

^If you operate under the umbrella of a larger organization (for example, [the Hub](#) operates under Umbrella), please provide the name of the organization:

***If an individual, please provide the name of your fiscal sponsor organization: NCHC**

3. Applicant's (organization or fiscal sponsor as applicable) Street Address (Street/Road, City, State, Zip Code):

4. Primary Contact Person Name (for project): Shaun Campbell

5. Primary Contact Person (for project) Email Address: shauncampbell@gmail.com

6. Primary Contact Person (for project) Preferred Phone Number: 802-673-0050

7. **Tax Identification Number** (organization or fiscal sponsor as applicable):
8. **Amount Requested** (no less than \$2,500 or more than \$50,000): **\$19,000**
9. **Schedule of Work:**
 - Start Date: **10/01/2022**
 - End Date (no later than May 31, 2023): **05/31/2023**
10. **Project Name** – Provide a one-line name for your project: **Project Phoenix**
11. **Project Purpose Summary** – Provide a short three to four sentence summary of the purpose of your project:

This project will fund the work of an Equity Ambassador to provide more adequate compensation and appropriate work environment to be part of community efforts and coalitions while facing systemic adversity. It will also fund a Cooperative Economic Consultant and Community Organizer to organize and discuss, design, and implement cooperative solutions and pathways to address systemic barriers to thriving communities. This project aims to organize and work with existing institutions and local efforts, improve and transition existing systems, and research and establish the missing pieces.
12. **What Vermont town(s) will be directly served by your project?**

Lyndon, Barton, St. Johnsbury, Glover, Hardwick, etc, NEK
13. **Describe the Project** - the work you'll do, the overall timeline and how you'll use the requested funds (will also need to attach a Project Budget – see example on Page 3) (funded portion must be complete by May 31, 2023) (no more than 1,500 characters):

Equity Ambassador: Participate in collation groups and other non-profit spaces to: Increase visibility, identify unmet needs, enhance program relevance, and extend the reach of programming within underserved communities, as well as supporting emergent strategy and independent projects. The Equity Ambassador will negotiate deliverables and help to design a position and role that allows them to thrive and be flexible, passionate, and creative.

Organizing and Cooperative Consulting: organize and discuss, design, and implement cooperative solutions and pathways to address systemic barriers to thriving communities.

Overall Timeline

09/27/2022 - Community Builders program starts, Project Phoenix will be part of the cohort with the work from this project, and that program will support this work.

10/01/2022 - Establish pilot of models in testing and development to protect and support disabled workers living and working and facing systemic adversity such as poverty.

10/01/2022 - Begin to grow and establish relationships, build work and meeting schedules, negotiate deliverables, etc with coalition groups and initiatives (NEK Prosper CANs, etc.)

09/01/2022 - 05/31/2022 - Organizing, consulting, research, and development of Transportation, Affordable Housing and Land Access, and Health Equity, some planned and ongoing.

1. Transportation

1. Feasibility Report #1 - Car Share Cooperative - 12/31/2022.

2. Affordable Housing and Land Access

1. Relationship building, education, skill, experience sharing - ongoing

3. Health Equity

1. Pitch for Humanized Chronic Care System - 10/15/2022

2. NEK Prosper meetings and organizing work - ongoing

14. Describe the Focus Population (who will benefit?) (no more than 500 characters):

This project intends to focus on populations facing economic hardship or instability and/or disability, but the broader impact aims to build stronger, healthier, and more resilient communities at a culture level through decreased stigma and increased inclusion and belonging, pathways for growth, and capacity for democratic decision making, communication, and healthy relationships.

15. Describe how this project was identified or designed by the intended beneficiaries (no more than 500 characters):

The work in this project revolves around reducing the adverse effects and harm to bodies of poverty and other systemic challenges. The groundwork for this comes from many years of lived experience, not only from Shaun, but through community organizing and listening and centering the voices of those most impacted, most recently through the disability justice group with Northeast Kingdom Organizing. This project intends to continue to use Community Organizing and the principles of listening and centering leadership.

16. Describe the Project Goals and Desired Results (what will success look like?) (no more than 500 characters):

- o Establish a Equity Ambassador and Cooperative Economic Consultant**
- o Pilot of Disabled Worker Support Models**
- o Re-establishment of Disability Justice group with NEKO**
- o Establish and build relationships among coalition groups and institutions**
- o Shaun will be more able to equitably establish relationships, participate, and collaborate with coalition groups because of the models that will be created.**
- o Continue development and pitch of a Humanized Chronic Care System.**
- o Feasibility studies of car share and transportation models in the NEK**

- **Establish relationships and pathways for community engagement and growth with low-income housing landlords and residents**

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? (no more than 1,500 characters):

- **Equity Ambassador will be a part of coalition groups right away and will be negotiating deliverables with partnering non-profits and groups**
 - **NEKP CANs, Financial, Physically Healthy, Mentally Healthy, etc.**
 - **Community Builders Cohort**
 - **WCC**
 - **Community Hub**
 - **Barton Organizing**
- **Independent Organizing Projects Emergent**
- **Cooperative Economics, Deliverables**
 - **Car Share Feasibility Report #1 - Local Resources, Various Models**
 - **Car Share Feasibility Report #2 - Other Resources, Various Models**
 - **Affordable Coop Housing Feasibility Report #1 - Local Resources, Various Models**
 - **Affordable Coop Housing Feasibility Report #2 - Other Resources, Various Models**
 - **Coop Affordable Land Access Feasibility Report #1 - Local, Other Resources, Various Models.**
 - **Cooperative Mental Health Feasibility Study**
 - **Pitch for Humanized Chronic Care System, enter next phase of feedback - 10/15/2022**

18. Describe your team (the project champions and any community partners you are working with / intend to work with to achieve these results). **If not yet working with these partners, please describe your plan to outreach and engage these partners** (no more than 1,500 characters):

Shaun Campbell has a broad set of skills and perspectives that can bring innovation and lived experience to the work. He has been the champion of this work so far, and has spent many many hours laying the groundwork. He will be doing the work of the Equity Ambassador and the Cooperative Consultant, and will be involved in many aspects of the work, but also has another main purpose of building teams and facilitating collaboration to increase capacity for the work overall. Relationship building and safe spaces will be continual, ongoing, emergent, and is considered a critical part of the work.

Current relationships:

- **Andrew Stachiw (Contracted through CDI for technical support to Project Phoenix for 2023)**
 - **VT State Worker Co-op Organizer for the US Federation of Worker Co-ops** (<https://www.usworker.coop/home/>)
 - **Co-op Business Developer for the Cooperative Development Institute** (<https://cdi.coop/>)
- **Matt Cropp, Executive Director for The Vermont Employee Ownership Center** (<http://veoc.org/>)
- **Northeast Kingdom Organizing**
- **Vermont Workers Center**
- **Working Communities Challenge groups**
- **St. Johnsbury Community Hub and expansion project**
- **Center for an Agricultural Economy** (<https://hardwickagriculture.org/about>)
- <https://www.nekcollaborative.org/>
- <https://www.nchcvt.org/>
- **NEK Prosper**
- **Vibrant ONE**
- **Social Tinkering, JEDI Movement, Etc.**
- **Many individuals inside and outside of the work**

Planned outreach, always adding more:

- **Community Builders cohort networking**
- **Carsharevt**
- **Rural Edge**
- **Rural Community Transport**
- **UVM Transportation Study**
- **NEK Transportation Forum, Rights and Democracy**
- **Montpelier RideShare**
- **Ride Share VT**
- **NVRH and Housing Project**
- **NCHC**
- **Northern Physical Therapy**
- **Greensboro Zoning and Affordable Housing Project**
- **Start.coop**
- **Opolis.co**
- **Tribeworks.io**
- **Vocational Rehabilitation Vermont**
- **Caledonia Food Cooperative, Low-income and inclusion**

- Other cooperative projects working on similar things around the country and the world.

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 (no more than 1,500 characters):

This work is approaching the problems in new and innovative ways that use regenerative models and cooperative economics to transition the systems we have available to us to more humanized and sustainable options. All of the work of this project is intended to create space in our communities for everyone, and lift up the voices of those most impacted and offer a chance to be a part of the solution. The focus of this work is to create real tangible options for people to choose, that are designed from the ground up to be regenerative, democratic, emergent, and just. This is also just the foundation from which larger emergent regenerative projects can grow and be incubated. This work will involve listening and organizing with people around the issues they face and collaborate to design and build solutions. It is the intent that these solutions are grounded in community and are regenerative to ensure that they are sustainable and are able to grow and be a large part of the long term vision and culture. It is the intent of this project to help build the democratic and participatory capacity of the communities of the NEK, so that our systems as a whole can function better.

20. (Optional) 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? (no more than 1,500 characters):

The Equity Ambassador is inspired by similar efforts in Washington State, and researching the feasibility of starting a similar initiative here has already begun and will continue including reaching out to other projects doing similar things, including this program. A stretch goal of this project would be to begin to lay the framework for a larger program in the NEK.

(<https://www.cha.wa.gov/news/2021/10/14/equity-ambassador-program>)

Grant Total \$19,000.00		
2022		
Project Phoenix Collective	\$10,000.00	
Consulting	\$7,500.00	Co-operative economics, technical support, community organizing
Equity Ambassador	\$2,500.00	Community based Equity Ambassador
Disabled Worker Cooperative Models (Momentum)	\$5,000.00	
Startup Costs for Pilot of Models for Disabled Worker Support	\$2,000.00	Legal, Tax, Establishment of Business Benefits and Services
Organizing Budget	\$1,000.00	To start to organize members
Legal and Business Support	\$2,000.00	Book keeping, Tax prep, etc
Affordable Community Transportation Access	\$2,000.00	
Legal and Business Support services	\$1,000.00	Tax, legal, and business consulting
Organizing Budget	\$1,000.00	
Affordable Housing and Land Access	\$1,000.00	
Organizing Budget	\$1,000.00	
Health Equity	\$1,000.00	
Consulting	\$1,000.00	graphic designers, UX, and related help with the Humanized Chronic Care system pitch