



## CFMC Grant Application

### COMPLETE THIS APPLICATION FOR FUNDING REQUESTS FOR THE Community Foundation of Middlesex County Competitive Cycle.

**Instructions:** Complete the application on the website. You may "Save and Continue Later" - the site will email you a link which is active for 30 days. Review instructions document for full details before completing. Complete all questions.

**Section V requires certain documents to be uploaded to the form - see the Application Instructions Document for a list of the required items. All items must be uploaded as PDF Files. The CFMC Budget Summary form is available on the website in Word. This document must be submitted as PDF file as well.**

#### I. Application Information

**Legal Name of Organization**

HOPE Partnership (Housing Opportunities for People Everywhere) Inc.

**Division or Department Name (if applicable)**

**Other Tax Exempt Entity?**

**Are you a 501(c)3 Organization**

Yes

**EIN #**

20-1683627

If your organization is not a 501(c) 3 tax exempt entity or division/department of a 170(c)1 government agency or religious organization, please contact Thayer Talbott, 860.347.0025, for further information before completing the application.

**Total Cost associated with request \$**

123,126

**Dollar Amount Requested \$**

5,000

**Summary Statement**

This grant will fund HOPE Partnership's general work in advancing affordable housing in our region. This funding will specifically support HOPE as we work with our co-developer to create 50 new units of housing in the Pierson School redevelopment in Clinton.

## **II. Funding Request Information**

### **1. Proposal / Purpose**

Affordable housing, and housing, in general, has recently become top of mind in Connecticut. HOPE Partnership, however, started the conversation on this topic in our region twenty years ago when it was founded in Old Saybrook. Since that time, housing has continued to be an area of concern for many who live in Middlesex County. HOPE has focused on expanding affordable housing in high opportunity small towns in our region, as these are the areas where there are few opportunities to find housing that are not single-family homes on large lots (the most expensive type of home). This disparity in the built environment has led to de facto racial and economic segregation in Connecticut, which is evident in the divide between urban and suburban/rural residents.

In addition to there being a current dearth of available homes in our region, we are also seeing continued high levels of households who are "housing burdened." Being "housing burdened" means that a household spends more than 30% of their income on their home. The higher the percentage of housing burden, the more difficult it is for a family to support all other costs associated with their lives. Homelessness has also ticked up over the past few years in Connecticut, an issue that requires myriad dedicated resources, including social services, but one that also cannot be solved without more homes constructed in which people can live.

According to data from the Census Bureau, as of 2021 (the most recent year for which data was collected), 29.8% of households in Clinton were housing burdened. While just one example in our region, you will see similar issues in other municipalities (36.3% of households in Westbrook, 33.1% in Chester, etc.). To help alleviate this problem for some residents and to provide opportunities to break down de facto racial and economic segregation in our region, HOPE has been working to expand affordable housing. HOPE has added 33 affordable rental units in Middlesex County in the past 12 years, and we are currently working with our co-developer, Xenolith Partners, on redeveloping the Pierson School in Clinton into 50 affordable rental apartments. Through a competitive RFP process through the Town of Clinton, HOPE and Xenolith's plan was selected and we are currently in the first phases of working with the Town to do due diligence and facilitate the property's ownership transfer.

One challenge that can always arise with the proposal of affordable housing is public concern about said housing. HOPE started outreaching the community prior to submitting our RFP response for this development opportunity and we are currently working on our outreach plan for the spring to connect with community groups in Clinton.

### **2. Sustainability and Assessing Impact**

Our strategies moving forward are to continue both expanding affordable housing through developing multi-family rentals in small, high-opportunity towns in our region, as well as facilitating further affordable housing in our outreach work with towns, local organizations, and the public.

In addition to gauging demand by tracking applicants for our housing, we also use the number of deed-restricted affordable homes in the towns where we work as a metric to determine success. Increasing the affordable housing stock in the small towns in our region is critical to improving the lives of those who are currently housing burdened. Additionally, creating lower-cost housing in small suburban and rural towns is an important way to reduce the de facto racial housing segregation in Connecticut.

## **III. Grant Program / Project Information**

### **Organization Area of Impact (choose ONE)**

Economic Security/Economic Opportunity

### **Grant Type (choose ONE)**

General Organization Support/Improvement

**Target Demographics (Select all that apply):**

- Adults
- Young Adults (ages 18-25)
- Families
- Retirees
- Veterans

**Geographic Area(s) Served By This Application:**

- Clinton
- Essex
- Old Saybrook

**Total Number of People in Middlesex County Personally Impacted**

75

**IV. Organization Information**

Board of Directors / Trustees Information

**Percent (%) of Directors/Trustees who contribute annually to Operations**

75% or more

**Total Number of Directors/Trustees:**

17

**Average number attending in person:**

12

**Total Number of Board meetings held last year:**

6

**Year of Return:**

21-22

**Date most recent IRS Form 990 was filed:**

5/15/2023

**Organization's Total Operating Budget**

123126

**Organization's Fiscal Year**

July 1 - June 30

**Division Operating Budget Information**

**National Organization Chapter Information**

**Did you RECEIVE a competitive process grant in the:**

- 2022-2023 process (fall 2022 or spring 2023)

**Brief Background Statement of the Organization:**

This year HOPE Partnership is celebrating 20 years of expanding affordable housing in our region. HOPE started as a group of concerned residents of Old Saybrook who noticed the lack of affordable housing. HOPE has been a mostly volunteer-led organization with minimal staff. HOPE developed and wholly owns 2 affordable housing communities in Old Saybrook (Ferry Crossing) and Centerbrook (The Lofts at Spencer's Corner). HOPE is also co-developer of 27 new units under construction in Madison. HOPE has also previously helped to develop two affordable condo units in Old Saybrook and owns 3 parcels of land upon which 3 affordable homes sit in Old Lyme (originally developed by Old Lyme Affordable Housing, which merged with HOPE

several years ago).

## V. Additional Information To Be Included with the Application

**Please Note: Additional information requested below MUST be uploaded in PDF files. Other document formats will not be accepted by the application form. Attempts to upload other file formats could result in a loss of all application data entered.**

### A. Current Organization Operations Budget (Required)

- HOPE-Budget-FYE-June-2024.pdf

### B. Board of Directors and Officers List (Required)

- BOD-List-23-24.pdf

### C. IRS Tax Exempt Determination Letter

- HOPE-Partnership-501c3-2006-Approval-ltr.-3.pdf

### D. For Program/Project Requests only - CFMC Budget Summary Form:

### E. Organizations serving a region greater than Middlesex County - county-based budget summary:

### F. America Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)

No

### ARPA Funding detail

---

**Additional financial documentation, including the organization's most recent audit, annual report, and IRS Form 990 may also be required. Only provide this information if requested.**

For programs or projects which are collaborations among two or more organizations or where an organization provides in-school or after-school programming for schools, the Community Foundation requires a list of organizations or schools partnering with your organization as well as Letters of Support.

For the purposes of this application, collaborations are defined as partnerships where two or more agencies are committed through staffing, funding, and resource allocation to the goals and objectives of the program described. Because the nature of the collaboration requires two or more entities to work together, for the purposes of funding, only one organization may complete the application, and in doing so, accepts responsibility for all evaluative and fiduciary reporting.

For all collaborations, the Community Foundation requires letters of support from the non-applicant organization(s) and/or from the school(s) and school district(s) at which the applicant organization is the program.

**Is this application in collaboration with a School(s) or School District(s)?**

No

**Is this application a collaboration of two or more nonprofit organizations (NOT schools)?**

No

**If this is an On-Going Collaboration, how long has the collaboration existed?**

**If Yes, is this a New or On-Going Collaboration?**

**List of Collaborators**

**Letters of Support (if a collaboration with schools or other nonprofits))**

## VI. Organization Contact Information

### Are you a new nonprofit applicant to the Community Foundation?

No

#### Title

Executive Director

#### Executive Officer's Name

Karla Lindquist

#### Executive Officer Email

[karla@hope-ct.org](mailto:karla@hope-ct.org)

#### Phone

(860) 388-9513

#### Title

#### Contact Person

#### Application Contact Email

#### Phone

#### Mailing Address

99 Durham Road  
2nd Floor  
Madison, Connecticut 06443  
United States

#### Street Address

Connecticut  
United States

#### Website

[hope-ct.org](http://hope-ct.org)

#### Social Media Channels

Facebook - HOPEPartnershipCT, X - HOPEPartCT, Instagram - hopepartnershipCT

## VII. Non-Funding Needs

HOPE is always grateful for the partnership from CFMC! We are looking forward to using the book donation from Jill Butler, connected to us by CFMC, at our 20th Anniversary event! Other than that, we appreciate CFMC working with HOPE in advancing the conversation around affordable housing and creating more housing in our region.

## **VIII. Marketing and Public Relations**

Organizations receiving grants from the Community Foundation of Middlesex County must promote their funding awards according to the marketing and public relations guidelines established by the Community Foundation. By signing the application below, the CEO/Executive Director understands the Community Foundation's marketing and public relations requirements if awarded a grant. The Community Foundation will host a seminar on marketing guidelines and tips for grantees annually. The Community Foundation's Grantee Communications Kit may be downloaded on our website in the Nonprofit Resources section, [middlesexcountycf.org/nonprofits/resources/forms-pr-guidelines/](http://middlesexcountycf.org/nonprofits/resources/forms-pr-guidelines/).



## **IX. Tax Exempt Standing and Use of Grant Funding Certification**

By signing this application, the CEO/Executive Director/Board President is certifying that your organization is a qualified 501c3 organization or other charitable organization recognized and currently in good standing with the IRS, or 170(c)(1) governmental agencies. Should a grant be approved by the Community Foundation of Middlesex County, these funds may only be used for the purpose outlined in your original application; you must notify us if you are unable to do so. If grant funding is provided, you may only use these funds for charitable purpose as described in Section 170(c)2 of the IRS code, and funds may not be used for any political or lobbying activity. In addition, no tangible benefits, goods or services may be received by our donors or by staff members of the Community Foundation of Middlesex County in exchange for grant funding.

### **Signature Certification**

I certify that my printed name as stated and assigned below constitutes my signature and may be accepted as such.

**Title**

Executive Director

**Printed Name**

Karla Lindquist

**Date**

02/27/2024