

**General Eligibility Guidance:**

Organizations applying must be:

- A 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, local, state, or tribal government entity, or educational institution, or be fiscally sponsored by an organization that is
- In compliance with MeHAF's nondiscrimination policy
- Located in and serving populations in Maine

MeHAF grant funds may not be used for the following activities:

- Grants or scholarships to individuals
- Academic or graduate research
- Fundraising efforts
- Supplanting lost state/federal funds

MeHAF grants funds may be used in limited capacity for the following activities:

- Capital expenditures (See definition and restrictions below)
- Direct care and service costs (See definition and restriction below)
- Public Awareness campaigns (See definition and restrictions below)

Key Definitions:

Capital Costs – MeHAF defines a capital cost as:

- expenses related to purchase or renovation of a building or property that exceed 10% of the total grant amount requested
- the purchase or repair of a vehicle
- equipment of over \$2500 per piece (with an exception for medical equipment in a setting designed to serve uninsured or medically underserved people).

Direct Services – MeHAF defines direct services as hands-on activities that benefit an individual or limited group of people for a limited time, with no means of continuing those services once the grant funds are spent. The goal of our grants is to support *projects* that help grantees change systems, care, and services to make them more efficient, coordinated, and cost-effective. The intent is for the funded work to have an impact on the broader community rather than solely on individuals.

For costs related to direct services to be allowable expenses, they must be:

- part of a grantee *project* that aims to change policies, practices and/or perceptions to make systems or organizations more equitable. The intent is for the funded work to have lasting impact for the broader community rather than solely those individuals directly served.
- not activities that are generally the responsibility of other parties to fund such as MaineCare or other state or federal programs, insurers, etc. That is, MeHAF grant funds may not be used to supplant other sources of funding.

General operating support – MeHAF defines general operating support as unrestricted funding that does not have to be spent on a specific *project*.

Project – MeHAF defines a project as a temporary effort to create a unique product, service, or result. A proposed project for funding should include:

- *Focus*: Delivering a specific outcome or output within defined constraints.
- *Scope*: Defined and specific scope with a clear end product.
- *Timeframe*: Has a definite start and end date.

Public Awareness Campaign – MeHAF defines a public awareness campaign as an informational campaign focused on a specific disease or health condition aimed at the general public. Activities such as “ad buys” (e.g., newspaper ads, television ads) or disease-focused campaigns (e.g. breast cancer awareness, health screening campaigns) will not be funded.

Costs related to outreach regarding programs/services that are part of an eligible project may be included in grant budgets.

In all cases, if you have any questions about costs specific to your project and whether they are an eligible use of MeHAF grant funds, please contact the lead program staff person to clarify before submitting your application.