

### The Center for the Advancement of Rural Living

#### ***Planning a Bilingual Navigator Program in Northern Aroostook to Enable Equitable Health Care for Franco-American and Other Marginalized Residents***

*This grant will support The Center for the Advancement of Rural Living's collaboration with marginalized community members to develop a volunteer bilingual Navigator program that will help individuals to overcome barriers in accessing equitable healthcare. The planning process seeks to develop an evidence-based plan to establish and sustain trained Navigators in Northern Aroostook, with an aim to assist marginalized, low-income individuals, especially for older Franco-Americans, to overcome existing barriers, access healthcare, and achieve self-sufficiency.*

**Community Impacted:** Older Adults

**County of Focus:** Aroostook County

**Award:** One-Year, \$30,000 Planning Grant

### Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians

#### ***Maliseet Nation Recovery Residence - Healing Through Culture and Community***

*This grant will support a community-driven planning process to develop a culturally grounded, evidence-based Recovery Residence intentionally designed to meet Maliseet Nation Recovery Residence Level 3 Standards. This planning grant will allow the community to create a comprehensive program design, culturally aligned policy and governance framework, operational blueprint, and readiness plan for full implementation. The residence will serve the entire Houlton-area community, with preference given to Maliseet Tribal Citizens, offering a supportive living environment rooted in cultural identity, safety, accountability, peer support, and holistic healing.*

**Community Impacted:** Maliseet Tribal Citizens & Wabanaki People impacted by substance use disorder

**County of Focus:** Aroostook County

**Award:** One-Year, \$30,000 Planning Grant

### Hospice Volunteers of Somerset County

#### ***Supporting Palliative and Hospice Care in Somerset County***

*This grant will support the implementation of lessons learned from a previous MeHAF Planning Grant, enriching palliative and hospice care by developing the role of assistant volunteer coordinators and recruiting, training, and retaining volunteers throughout rural Somerset County. This project aims to implement these learnings by increasing knowledge of palliative and hospice care, as well as the number of assistant volunteer coordinators, volunteers, and clients served throughout rural Somerset County.*

**Community Impacted:** Individuals in palliative and hospice care

**County of Focus:** Somerset County

**Award:** Two-Year, \$100,000 Implementation Grant

### Mabel Wadsworth Center

#### ***Expanding Mental and Behavioral Healthcare at Mabel Wadsworth Center***

*This grant will support a planning project for the expansion of mental and behavioral healthcare services for five rural Maine counties. The goal of this process is for Mabel Wadsworth Center to complete the necessary preparations to become a mental health agency, and to increase its capacity to provide additional individual and group therapy sessions as well as case management services.*

**Community Impacted:** MaineCare, Uninsured, LGBTQIA+

**County of Focus:** Aroostook, Hancock, Penobscot, Piscataquis, and Waldo Counties

**Award:** One-Year, \$30,000 Planning Grant

# 2025 Community Responsive Grants Projects

## Maine Access Points

### ***Creating Community-Driven, Clinical Care for People Who Use Drugs in Rural Maine***

*This grant will support the planning stage of Maine Access Points (MAP) integrating virtual and mobile clinical care into its programs. MAP will engage participants in a needs assessment around clinical care, network with mentors to support the expansion of services, and create an action plan consisting of next steps and best practices for implementing this new programming.*

**Community Impacted:** People who use drugs; People experiencing homelessness; Substance use disorder

**County of Focus:** Statewide

**Award:** One-Year, \$30,000 Planning Grant

## Maine Community Integration

### ***Pressure Points: Improving Hypertension Awareness & Access in Immigrant Communities***

*This grant will support a culturally responsive hypertension initiative delivering education, mobile screenings, and care navigation for immigrant and underserved residents. Maine Community Integration seeks to increase access for over 1,500 high-risk individuals to early detection and lifesaving preventive care.*

**Community Impacted:** Immigrant & BIPOC

**County of Focus:** Androscoggin & Cumberland Counties

**Award:** Two-Year, \$100,000 Implementation Grant

### Maine Family Planning

#### ***Sexual and Reproductive Health Workshops for and Led by Immigrant Women***

*This grant supports a partnership between Maine Family Planning, Empowered Immigrant Women Unite!, and Maine Community Integration in the curriculum development and training of cultural brokers to deliver monthly sexual and reproductive health education sessions to immigrant women in the Lewiston/Auburn area. This train-the-trainer, peer-to-peer model will provide culturally-appropriate education, ensuring they have the knowledge, resources, and support to make informed decisions about their reproductive health and rights.*

**Community Impacted:** Immigrant Women

**County of Focus:** Androscoggin County

**Award:** Two-Year, \$100,000 Implementation Grant

### Needlepoint Sanctuary of Maine

#### ***Integrating HIV/HCV Navigation Holistically: Building Community Trust and Participation***

*This grant will support the scaling up of Needlepoint Sanctuary of Maine's infectious disease testing and navigation services through the creation of an HIV, PrEP, and hepatitis navigator position embedded within its Syringe Service Program. This position will be responsible for streamlining processes and systems related to sexually transmitted infection (STI) prevention and helping program participants navigate testing and treatment for STIs, in conjunction with community partners.*

**Community Impacted:** People who use drugs; People experiencing homelessness; Substance use disorder

**County of Focus:** Penobscot & Piscataquis Counties

**Award:** Two-Year, \$100,000 Implementation Grant

### Pine Tree Sex Work Collective

#### **Statewide Planning for a Peer-Led Sex Worker Collective**

*This grant will support the Pine Tree Sex Work Collective in conducting statewide listening sessions, coalition-building, and organizational development to lay the groundwork for a peer-led, rights-based movement for sex worker health, safety, and dignity in Maine. This project will establish foundational infrastructure, community priorities, and a shared vision to guide future programming and advocacy for a sex worker movement and support organization in Maine.*

**Community Impacted:** Sex Workers

**County of Focus:** Statewide

**Award:** One-Year, \$30,000 Planning Grant

### United Youth Empowerment Services

#### **Healing & Leadership: Youth Empowerment Through Trauma-Informed Wellness**

*This grant will support a youth-led wellness initiative focused on trauma healing, leadership development, and culturally grounded mental health education for immigrant and refugee youth in Lewiston-Auburn. Its goal is to train 20 youth leaders, host 12 healing events, and establish a youth wellness peer support network.*

**Community Impacted:** Immigrant & Refugee Youth

**County of Focus:** Androscoggin County

**Award:** Two-Year, \$75,000 Implementation Grant