



Northern New York Community Foundation

John and Dorotha VanNess Family Fund

(In partnership with the Northern New York Community Foundation)

2020 Grant Application

Introduction: The John and Dorotha VanNess Family Fund of the Northern New York Community Foundation was established in 2018 to provide grant funding to nonprofit organizations creating and promoting programs, activities, and initiatives positively impacting citizens and the general welfare of the greater Potsdam area.

John S. VanNess and Dorotha T. VanNess believed in a strong and prosperous Potsdam community. They were actively engaged throughout their lives through local business and volunteer work. This legacy fund is a meaningful way to recognize their devotion to their community, while designating grant funding to nonprofits making a difference in Potsdam.

Mr. VanNess graduated from Potsdam High School and became a local businessman, serving as the president and vice president of VanNess Company Inc. – an electrical supply store in the region. He was a Village of Potsdam trustee and served as the Village of Potsdam mayor from 1955-1961. He was also actively involved in a variety of community activities. Mr. VanNess passed away in 1996. Mrs. VanNess moved to Potsdam to start a career teaching home economics. She married Mr. VanNess in 1941. She was an active community volunteer before passing away in 2012.

The family fund was established by Mr. and Mrs. VanNess' daughter – Susan J. Sewall. Mrs. Sewall was a Potsdam native who admired the civic-mindedness of her parents and created the fund to honor her family's affinity for the community. Mrs. Sewall passed away in 2017 and established this permanent fund through her legacy planning to support the greater Potsdam region forever.

Nonprofit organizations serving the Potsdam area are encouraged to review the following grant application guidelines for the family fund and apply for grant support.

JOHN AND DOROTHA VANNESS FAMILY FUND 2020 GRANT APPLICATION

Eligibility Requirements: Nonprofits must have a confirmed charitable status as a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization through the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). Other publicly supported organizations such as school districts and municipalities are also eligible. Agencies seeking funding through this grant program must confirm partnership with an eligible nonprofit organization or fiscal sponsor at the time a grant proposal is submitted. It is required that a letter confirming this role by the eligible nonprofit or fiscal sponsor is included in the application.

Focus Area: Nonprofit organizations may apply in support of one or more of the following community needs sectors: Health and wellness, arts and culture, economic development, education, recreational programs, community revitalization and beautification, strategic planning and research, other quality-of-life projects and opportunities.

Grant Funding Available – Up to \$15,000 is available this year.

Application Process – Please submit a completed grant proposal as a separate, narrative document, including all materials and information as stated below.

Organization Information:

- Organization Name/Address
- Organization Executive Director/CEO
- Grant Applicant Contact/Title
- Email/Phone
- Organization's Tax ID/EIN number (to confirm nonprofit status)

Proposal Details:

- Description – Outline program/project/initiative for which you are requesting funding
- Community need – Summarize community need(s) addressed by proposed project
- Financials – Provide project and overall organization budgets
- Timeline – Present a clear schedule for project implementation and sustainability
- Personnel – List of organization staff and Board of Directors with contact information
- Partners – List and elaborate on community organizations working on the project
- Funding Sources – Confirm other funders for the proposed project
- Projected Outcomes – Clearly state planned goals for the proposed project

Stewardship: Please clearly explain the following grant stewardship expectations:

- Project Outcomes – Provide detail on planned goals for the proposed project
- Sustainability – How will this project and its impact be sustainable in the community
- Acknowledgment – Identify how your organization plans to recognize the John and Dorothea VanNess Family Fund and the Northern New York Community Foundation, if grant funding is awarded.

Deadline: Grant proposals must be received or postmarked to the Northern New York Community Foundation by **October 23, 2020**.

Grant Award and Review – The Northern New York Community Foundation will review applications through December 2020. All applicants will be notified by the Community Foundation of the status of their grant in January 2021.

Grant Report – It is a requirement that grant recipients submit a complete grant report provided by the Northern New York Community Foundation by the completion of your project. An incomplete report may affect future funding requests.

How to Submit a Proposal – Please send completed grant proposals to the Northern New York Community Foundation, Attn: Kraig Everard, Director of Stewardship and Programs, 131 Washington St., Watertown, NY 13601. Proposals may also be submitted via email to kraig@nnycf.org.

Questions/Clarification – Please contact the Northern New York Community Foundation at (315) 782-7110, or via email at kraig@nnycf.org.