



Town of Exeter- CDFA Community Center Investment Program

Exeter Multigenerational Community Center-10 Hampton Rd





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Executive Summary

Briefly describe the project you are seeking funds for, why you are seeking them, the problem you are addressing and the outcome you are expecting.

The Town of Exeter and the Exeter Parks and Recreation Department are working towards renovating a recently purchased facility at 10 Hampton Road. Renovations at 10 Hampton Rd are needed to create a fully ADA-accessible multigenerational community center that would serve all demographics in the greater Exeter area; without these renovations, the full programming capacity of the building will not be met, resulting in less community



engagement, civic pride and a sense of community. The Town of Exeter is seeking assistance with the cost of renovations to lessen the financial burden on residents, especially low-income families (according to nhes.gov, between 2016-2020, 5.9% of the individuals in Exeter alone fell below the poverty level, approximately 945 individuals). The recently purchased facility (10 Hampton Road) will be the future home of Exeter Parks & Recreation Department. As you will see further in this application and backed by two facility assessments, the town's park and recreation indoor facility is insufficient for the town's needs. For example, the Parks & Recreation Department's current offices/programming location at 32 Court Street has very limited parking, is not fully ADA accessible, lacks programming and storage space. The problems we are addressing are both the lack of indoor ADA-accessible programmable space and the escalating cost of construction work. Once renovations are complete, our goal is to collaborate with our current non-profit agencies to expand services and activities for everyone, following the Six Dimensions of Wellness, focusing on Occupational, Physical, Social, Intellectual, Spiritual, and Emotional programming. For example, additional senior services would include Tax assistance, drop-in programming, and senior luncheons. We also plan to offer social services such as Mental Health and health and wellness classes. A few youth programs to mention would be an indoor site for our large summer camp, the home of Exeter's Families First



parent/toddler playgroup, and much-needed teen programming. The facility's close proximity to the regional middle school makes it an ideal location for an after-school program, a much needed program for youth in and around Exeter.

In order to provide all of these desperately needed programs, the newly acquired building must be brought up to code, improve energy efficiency, and make ADA renovations. The Town does not have a multi-generational community center open to the



general public. When the opportunity of acquiring 10 Hampton Rd became available, residents jumped at the opportunity to purchase this important piece of property. Not only did it have a building on site that could become a multigenerational community center, but it also abuts the town's largest recreation facility, the Recreation Park at 4 Hampton Rd. In a short period, the property has already impacted the community by providing parking close to the athletic fields allowing those with mobility issues easy access to the fields. The residents overwhelmingly supported the acquisition of 10 Hampton Rd with a resounding 73% in favor of making this our new community center. This facility will finally centralize the community recreation opportunities creating a hub of recreational activities for the community. 10 Hampton Rd will service a multitude of demographics, from toddlers to seniors. It will become a location where seniors can receive services and socialize in the mornings, toddlers participate in playgroups, and afterschool programs flourish when schools are released. 10 Hampton Rd will become a hub for civic organizations such as the Exeter Area Women's Club and Grange to hold monthly meetings. Other non-profits such as the Exeter Youth Softball/Baseball, Exeter Youth Soccer Club, the Seabreeze quilters guild, along with AA will have a place they can meet without limited parking. There will finally be a space that is accessible for those with mobility issues. It will be a home away from home for our residents, building a sense of community and civic pride, but we have some large financial hurdles we need to overcome.

10 Hampton Rd is a fine example of reinvesting in the public physical infrastructure. The current home of Exeter Parks and Recreation is outdated, small, and insufficient for the community's needs. For example, we have a popular chair yoga program for seniors. This program has grown and requires us to offer it on the second floor because it is our largest space. The downside of this is we don't have a lift/elevator to the second floor, which has made seniors and/or people with disabilities unable to participate. We face this same issue at 10 Hampton. The renovation of 10 Hampton Rd will transform the former commercial space into a vibrant accessible multi-generational community center for generations. Exeter Parks and Recreation currently collaborates with many organizations, such as the The Key Collective #Areuin program (financial assistance for economically disadvantaged K-12 families to participate in out-of-school programming) to offer a multitude of programs that strengthen and impact the community.

The town needs these funds to lessen the financial burden on residents. Exeter has several large projects on the docket before renovations at 10 Hampton Road. Water and Sewer aging infrastructure projects often dominate the town's Capital Improvement Projects, as well as, Police, Fire, and Department of Public Works; even though the Town Manager, Select Board, and Budget recommendations committee create a fair and balanced budget and a capital improvement plan that balances debt. These other projects have been slated for the CIP far before 10 Hampton Rd ever materialized. Without this grant, we would need to seek alternative funding sources to renovate 10 Hampton Road, which would slow down the process for years,



add stress to the residents, and limit our capacity to offer accessible and inclusive programming for everyone.

Property Description

If this project involves the acquisition, construction, or renovation of real estate, provide detailed information on the property. Describe the property, its ownership structure, and the status of site control.

10 Hampton Rd was acquired in 2022 for \$1.1 million after the town overwhelmingly voted to purchase the property with a 73% approval rate. The property is approximately 1.64 acres and sits adjacent to our largest outdoor recreation facility, the Recreation Park at 4 Hampton Rd. On the site sits two buildings, a 4,578 square-foot building and a small detached garage. Also included on the property is a large parking lot that can accommodate 50-plus cars. The site has been maintained and operated by the Town of Exeter since April 8, 2022. The property's potential was examined for future development prior to the purchase. The



property can support a 20,000 sq foot addition, a parks garage for maintenance of the facility as well as expanded parking. The proximity of this property to our Recreation Park presents a unique opportunity to meld both properties together to create a multifunctional community recreation hub. The site location allows easy access from Route 101 for those traveling to the property for future recreation programs. The key part of this acquisition was the building. The large building presents an opportunity for the town to create a multi-generational community center that will address the needs of our youth, teens, adults, and seniors. The town's lack of indoor recreation facilities can be addressed with this renovation with an eye towards the future as Exeter Parks and Recreation expands programming. The renovation will also allow our non-profit partners to expand their programming opportunities. Multiple programming spaces will be created in the building, presenting multiple programming opportunities to happen concurrently, creating a true multi-generational community center.

Historic Significance

Please describe the historical significance of your project property if applicable. Is it listed on the National and/or State Register of Historic Places? Is it located in a local historic district?

This property is not listed on the National or state register of historic places. The property is not listed in the Town's historic district. The property is unique, with a fascinating story. The original structure was built in 1890 by the Nimbs family, who owned and maintained the property until 1992. The property started as a farm, and later, a nursery was opened next door called Churchill's Garden Center. The Nimbs family ran Churchill for years until they subdivided the property and sold the nursery. They remained in the 10 Hampton Rd property until they sold to Seacoast Hospice in the 1990s. Seacoast Hospice was responsible for the addition to the back of the



original structure. Seacoast Hospice remained in the building until 2008, when it merged with a larger agency. The building sat empty for several years until QMMR Realty purchased it, where they removed the barn and performed minor renovations to accommodate the staff. QMMR Realty sold the Town of Exeter the property in 2022. Preserving this property and restoring the glory of the 1890s portion of the building is a priority for the Town.

Project Timeline

When will the project begin? When will it be complete? Include key tasks, estimated completion dates, and who is responsible for completing tasks.

The 10 Hampton Rd project has already begun with minor renovations to get administrative staff in the building. The town has been researching alternative funds to complete the full renovation of 10 Hampton Rd. We were unsuccessful in acquiring direct congressional funding, as well as a community development block grant, in 2022. If selected, the town is working with a contractor to finish conceptual designs so we can submit an RFP for selecting a contractor to complete the work. We plan to do some of the demolition ourselves, such as removing old carpet and non-load-bearing walls. The contractor will work with the Architect/Engineer to complete the renovations. The key components of this renovation will be the following:

- The second floor of the building does not have ADA access. An elevator/lift and 2nd means of egress need to be added.
- The entrance and egress of the building need modifications to meet ADA requirements.
- The bathrooms must be updated to meet ADA standards, including fixtures and wall handles.
- The flooring throughout the build must be changed to support and reduce the number of uneven transitions and changes in flooring types.
- Replace the HVAC with a new energy-efficient unit to conserve energy while combating and preventing the spread of Covid-19 and other airborne contaminants.
- Repairing and replacing broken windows to make the building more energy-efficient
- Replace the vinyl siding and seal up the building envelope
- Address other issues discovered during the Level II energy assessment.
- Create ADA parking adjacent to the building

We anticipate completing the project by early 2024.

Construction/Rehabilitation

If your proposal includes construction, discuss the status of architectural and engineering plans and cost estimates.

Prior to purchasing 10 Hampton Road, The Town of Exeter worked with BL Companies to conduct a site analysis, as well as a preliminary floor layout to determine the potential of the property. The town was able to determine the site capacity for parking along with any future



expansion possibilities. The most important aspect of the analysis was the preliminary floor layout to better understand the potential programmable space. The Town has not finalized official plans with architects and engineers. The Town of Exeter has spoken with several architectural and engineering firms and has several interests for the project. We are preparing an RFP to solicit an architectural and engineering firm to prepare with the following scope and services:

Project scope:

Create an accessible and welcoming community center, and provide ADA-compliant restrooms on both the 1st and 2nd floors. Add an elevator or lift to provide accessibility to the 2nd floor.

Services:

1. Schematic Design

- Develop conceptual plans for 1st & 2nd-floor accessibility.
- Exterior access into the building.
- Accessible restroom(s).
- Study accessible paths and access to all program spaces.
- Develop affordable and show feasible options to add an elevator and/or a lift.

2. Construction Documents

- Developing plans for bidding, permitting, and construction.
- Demolition plans, floor plans, interior elevations, interior & exterior
- Details, sections, finish plans, etc.
- Product selections, including lift/elevator.
- Assist a contractor or owner-provided cost estimator in
- Developing budget project costs to remain within budget.

3. Bidding & Negotiations

The firm will provide documents to selected bidders and respond to questions or provide clarifications.

The firm will analyze bids for thoroughness and adherence to design requirements.

4. Construction Administration

The firm will be available to respond to questions, review shop drawings & product submittals, visit the site during construction (up to six times) and review contractor applications for payments.

By preselecting an architecture and engineering firm through an RFP (RFP would state work is contingent upon grant), we will position ourselves to be prepared if awarded the grant. We plan



to pursue a design-build model. We do have cost estimates we previously had done by third-party vendors and vetted by BL Companies that we used when applying for the CDBG in 2022.

Construction/Rehabilitation Requirements

What permits, approvals, agreements, or other requirements are necessary to complete the project? Have they been secured? If not, describe your strategy and timeline for securing them.

If we are selected, the town will need the Select Board's approval to accept the grant officially, which is only a formality since they have pledged various funding sources for the match. The Town of Exeter will pull all the appropriate building and electrical permits for the contractors and work closely with our DPW and Building Inspector. Since this is a town project, no other permits, approvals, or agreements are required to complete this renovation. If we receive funding, we can move forward with the project immediately.

Energy Policy

1. Indicate how your project plans to meet the applicable "requirements" from the Energy Policy, whether you have completed an energy audit (retrofit projects) or whether you have completed an energy design charrette (new construction) in the past 3 years. 2. Briefly describe any communication with the relevant utility regarding potential energy incentives. 3. Indicate if your project plans to meet any of the "recommendations" from the Energy Policy.

The Town of Exeter recently applied for the Community Facility Energy Assessment grant through your agency. The Town was awarded the grant and has scheduled the Level II energy assessment with the Resilient Building Group. The Town of Exeter has established itself as one of the leading communities in the State of NH regarding Sustainability and Energy efficiency with the creation of the Energy Committee and Sustainability Committee. The Town was among the first communities to join the Community Power Coalition.

The Energy Committee aims to review various energy programs available to the Town of Exeter. The committee may recommend the Select Board and town meeting for potential implementation. One key objective the Energy Committee has is to review methods to reduce town energy consumption (electric, natural gas, fuel consumption, and any fossil fuel consumption). This project and the scope of the renovation would be a project they would review and endorse.

The Sustainability Committee's mission is to guide the development of sustainability policies and practices for the Town of Exeter that simultaneously promote a healthy environment, strong community connections, and economic vitality, including establishing the Town of Exeter Sustainability Office. 10 Hampton Rd is an ideal example of the Town's sustainability effort to reuse an old commercial property into a vibrant community center.

We have worked with the Resilient Building group, which has ensured us of sizeable energy incentives for this project. Please see our attachment of communication with the utility company regarding potential energy incentives.



The Town plans to use the data collected from the level II energy assessment in the needed renovations—especially a new energy-efficient HVAC system. We will implement reasonable recommendations to create an energy-efficient building envelope, including damaged window replacement and attic insulation. The town would implement recommendations from the energy assessment to exceed NH State Energy Codes, Some of the implementation the town plans to do are the following:

- Installation of a properly sized Heat Pump for heating and cooling
- Seal and insulate all HVAC ductwork and piping to exceed the code
- Increase insulation in all walls, basement ceiling, and attic. Sealing all gaps to create a tight building envelope.
- Insulate the foundation wall on all parts of the oldest part of the building.
- Construct basement doors at the bottom of the bulkheads
- Install an insulated door leading to the attic, replace the attached bulkhead to seal drafts
- Replace all broken windows.
- Insulate around all windows and doors.
- Replace all lighting to be LED lighting. Insulation

Community Needs Assessment

Describe the community needs that your project will address. What constituencies will this project benefit? How does the project fit within the community’s broader strategy or plan? Does your project serve a target population? If so, how?

The 2014-15 Recreation Needs Assessment and Planning Report prepared by the University of New Hampshire (UNH) provided an assessment of the Department and its current activities and compared this to input from stakeholder meetings, an input session with the public, and a community needs survey. Its findings showed that the Department could benefit from a new indoor facility that would not only accommodate indoor sports and activities but could also meet ADA requirements and support administrative offices for staff, storage, and other needs... The Final Town Wide Facilities Plan: Space Needs and Building Assessments by HL Turner Group (December 2015) also references the UNH study and supports its findings. Furthermore, Exeter’s Town Master Plan states, “Along with seniors who may have issues getting around or who have other physical limitations, residents of all ages who have disabilities should be a focus of the Town’s recreational programming and facility improvements” (page 12). 10 Hampton Road has the potential to address these deficiencies the Parks and Recreation Department faces regarding ADA-accessible programming space.





The 2017 Exeter Master Plan not only supports the findings of the 2014-15 Recreation Needs Assessment and 2015 Town Wide Facilities Plan, but goes on to mention that, “the growing senior population will continue to create demand for active and passive facilities. Exeter will need to examine its existing facilities to find opportunities for expanding access to sites already in place” (page 12). This statement is supported by the 44% of respondents, approximately 158 people who responded to the 2022 Exeter Age Friendly Community Survey (conducted by Rockingham Planning Commission, Rockingham Nutrition Meals on Wheels and Exeter Parks & Recreation) that they “were concerned about having recreational and social opportunities as they age in Exeter”. If awarded the Community Center Investment Program grant, we would be able to maximize the programmable space at 10 Hampton Road by 2024, thus increasing the opportunities for recreational and social opportunities for people of all ages and abilities.

Youth:

The Town of Exeter lacks adequate space where young families can assemble for programming. We currently partner with Families First to hold a playgroup for low to moderate-income families at our current facility (32 Court Street). It would be important to continue this partnership as the playgroup has become one of the largest Family First programs in the region. This impactful program for new parents and toddlers exemplifies one of our many collaborations Exeter Parks and Recreation has established. Without this grant, we will have limited programming space at 10 Hampton Road, requiring us to cap the number of programs offered to the greater Exeter community. The town also holds a robust summer camp with over 150 campers each summer. On inclement weather days we are forced to transport campers to an off-site location that is not owned by the town. Pop-up thunderstorms can arrive unexpectedly and when they do, we have no other option than to move campers into our small pool building, which can become very crowded. Access to both floors at 10 Hampton road would allow us a safe alternative for rain shelter for our campers and staff, as well as an energy efficient climate-controlled space for specialized camps we also offer to residents and non-residents.



Teens:

The Town of Exeter has missed having an established Teen program since New Heights closed several years ago. The close proximity of 10 Hampton Rd to the Cooperative Middle School offers an opportunity to offer quality after-school teen programming, especially with the adjacent Recreation Park, which offers a hiking trail, playgrounds, basketball, tennis and pickleball courts, as well as soccer and softball fields. Exeter has many working families that desperately need after school programs to address needs such as food scarcity and social connections. According to nhcdfa.org, 11.57% of students in Exeter





qualify for Free and Reduced Price School Meals. These students do not have a reliable after school program and are often seen roaming around downtown Exeter. We would like to create opportunities for help with their homework, participate in a program (after school program to help students create healthy meals with our kitchen at 10 Hampton rd) and socialize with friends in a safe, supervised setting. Without this grant, the envisioned after school program space on the second floor of 10 Hampton rd will not be accessible and we will be forced to wait until funding is secured.

Adults:



The long-term goal for 10 Hampton Road is to add a multipurpose gymnasium that could accommodate sports programs for all ages, as well as community events and programming. If awarded this grant, we would be able to focus our efforts on the gymnasium sooner rather than later. It would also reduce the financial burden on taxpayers.

The immediate benefit of receiving the grant for our adult population would be increased programmable space. It is crucial for us to have

access to the second-floor meeting ADA standards so that we can maximize the space in our building with inclusive programming for people of all interests, ages and abilities. Between youth programs, senior programs and non-profit collaborations, we often run into not having enough space that meets the needs of target populations.

Seniors:

Even though plans are to use the facility as a multigenerational community center, our target population that will benefit from this the most is our senior citizens. The project will benefit our senior population immensely by finally providing an accessible space for programming early in the day. The town has a Senior Center in name only. The current Senior Center was created in 1976 by Doug Dicey, Former Parks and Recreation Director. In 1984, Meals on Wheels signed a lease to use the Senior Center from 7 am to 3 pm, Monday through Friday, creating a direct conflict in providing senior programming. Although Meals on Wheels is an essential service to the community and Rockingham County, seniors need a space where they can gather, at any time of day, to socialize, participate in a program, and feel welcomed. 10 Hampton Road would provide a space for both lunches to be delivered by Meals on Wheels and valuable programming to be conducted simultaneously. This direct partnership will allow Meals on Wheels operations to go uninterrupted and allow Parks and Recreation to create a dedicated community space for not only Exeter senior citizens, but any senior citizen!





In 2019, the town formed a Senior Council, under the leadership of Exeter Parks & Recreation staff, with over 30 senior serving agencies to address the needs of our seniors. Also in 2019, the Town conducted a senior survey (“Exeter Older Adult Survey”) to collect further data on what the senior citizens in the Exeter area needed to enhance their lives. 319 out of 402 respondents (79%) said that a fully accessible ADA multi-generational community center was either very important or extremely important to have in Exeter. Unfortunately, the Town’s efforts to improve senior programs and services came to a halt during the covid-19 pandemic. The senior citizens were suddenly isolated, causing an extreme mental health crisis. The town identified the acquisition of 10 Hampton Rd as a potential solution to offer more programming and social opportunities to meet the needs of the seniors while providing a space the seniors can call their “home away from home”. Unfortunately, all constituents will have to share the limited space on the 1st floor if the town can not renovate the building to gain access to the 2nd floor. The fully renovated facility would finally create an ADA-accessible multigenerational community center that would become the gathering location the senior citizens do not currently have. The renovations would not only provide ADA accessibility but offer expanded space and updated HVAC to ensure the health and safety of our senior citizens. Most importantly, the town would finally have a safe location to address the Mental Health crisis compounded by the covid-19 pandemic. The seniors' needs have been neglected for far too long in Exeter.

Exeter has a rapidly aging population, with approximately 22.6% of Exeter’s population being 65 and over, which equates to 3,641 residents per the 2021 US Census. The town has several manufactured home parks and public housing that lack resources to provide the necessary services for residents to live a fulfilling life. Additionally, Exeter is surrounded by smaller communities such as Kensington, East Kingston, Newfields, Stratham, and Brentwood. In these smaller surrounding communities, there were 3,143 people over age 65, according to New Hampshire Employment Security between the years of 2016-2020. This underserved population would benefit from having a location that could serve as a hub to offer the daily support they need to live a safe and fulfilling life. We anticipate that over 600 seniors will be directly impacted by increased programming, especially our proposed senior drop-in program. 44% of respondents (158 people) from the Exeter Age Friendly Community Survey (2022) stated they were concerned about having recreational and social opportunities as they grow old in Exeter.

Place-making and belonging

How does your project build a sense of place and community? How will you ensure that the project is accessible and open?

This project would build a sense of place and community because it would be a central hub of year-round recreation, located next to our largest and most popular outdoor recreation facility, for not only Exeter, but all SAU16 towns. Renovation of our recently obtained building at 10 Hampton Rd would give residents exactly what they voted for in 2022! We plan to welcome all people from surrounding communities to come and enjoy our new multigenerational community center. Receiving this grant would allow us to offer more community events and programs, create dedicated spaces for seniors and teens, and offer additional space for meetings that many



local groups in and around Exeter seek. We plan to invite stakeholders and organizations we partner with to help us design the space for everyone to enjoy. Although Exeter has a YMCA, their facility is designed more as a gym where one can take fitness classes. The Southern District YMCA facility is a wonderful asset in town; however, our focus is geared more toward community events, social connections, and leisure activities.

To ensure this facility is accessible and open, we would work with contractors and groups like Northeast Passage to design a facility that is fully ADA-accessible and barrier-free. Parks and Recreation staff will work out of this building, allowing the space to be open Monday-Friday, from 8:00 am-4:30 pm. We would be able to hire part-time staff to keep the building open on weekends and into the evenings. Offering inclusive and accessible programs are in our mission statement. We never turn away a person with a disability to participate in our programs. We also create inclusive specific programs, such as: Ceramics for children with Autism (current collaboration with Ceramics Creations and the Greengard Center for Autism). This grant would allow us to convert 10 Hampton rd into a fully ADA-accessible space, allowing us to offer accessible and inclusive programming on both floors.

Community Input and Support

Provide evidence of community resident and stakeholder input and support for your project. What process was used to bring community members together to design this project? Provide the names and roles of any other organizations that will be involved in the completion of this project and provision of the public benefit it will provide.

The discussion on a need for an ADA accessible multi-generational community center started in 2014-15 with the previously mentioned UNH Recreation needs assessment. This topic continued in various reports and survey results throughout the years, ultimately leading us to the acquisition

EXETER PARKS & RECREATION
DESIGN & ENGINEERING PLAN

COMMUNITY INPUT MEETING

Join us for a community input meeting on the Exeter Recreation Complex at 4 Hampton Road.

The Town will gather input for improvements and enhancements to the property.

Discussion may include a multigenerational community center, planet playground, walking paths, ball fields and more.

EXETER RECREATION COMPLEX

Meeting to be held at: **WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18 7:00 PM**
The Exeter Town Hall
9 Front Street
Exeter, New Hampshire

For more information, please contact gbisson@exetermh.gov or 603-773-6151

WHO SHOULD COME?
Seniors, Adults and Families...
The Exeter Recreation Complex Is For EVERYONE!

Tighe & Bond

of 10 Hampton Rd. In 2022, residents supported purchasing 10 Hampton Rd with a 73% approval rate to become Exeter's future multi-generational community center. Before the election in March of 2022, residents were able to see plans and give feedback of what could be done at 10 Hampton Road. Looking at the meeting minutes from that meeting (attached to this application) it is no surprise that so many residents came out on election day and voted to approve the purchase of 10 Hampton. Participants in our programs have been asking nonstop about updates on this project as they are eager to get into the building. We have said from the

beginning that seniors will have their own dedicated space at 10 Hampton and we are eager to give them that space, but it comes down to financing. We hope to give them their own space sooner than later.



As a municipality, we would work primarily with contractors, engineers and architects to complete the project. The town of Exeter has a robust public works department that we have and will continue to work with on this project. The town also has passionate committees that would be included in design and construction, such as the facilities, energy, and sustainability committees. Organizations that would be included in the provision of the public benefit include our current collaborations with groups such as: Exeter Hospital, AARP, Rockingham Nutrition Meals on Wheels, Rockingham Planning Commission, and the University of New Hampshire.

Outcome Measures

What are the goals and measurable outcomes of your project, and what is your methodology for tracking them? How will success be measured or evaluated? Include both quantitative and qualitative outcomes.

Our goals for this project are to increase participation by at least 20% throughout the programs we currently offer, as well as, create 5-10 new, sustainable programs. One of our most important new programs is our after-school program, which we would like to have at least 20 students enrolled in our first session. Another important new program would be monthly senior luncheons. To track these goals, we will use our registration software system (RecDesk) to track the number of registrations in current and new programs. For example, in 2022, we had 10 participants register for our Lego Engineering program. If awarded this grant, we would be able to add a second class, allowing us to accept more than 10 students to participate in a similar program at the same time.

For qualitative purposes, we send out surveys after the completion of a program to gain valuable feedback from participants. In this scenario, we would use a similar approach to measure the outcomes. The Town of Exeter Parks and Recreation would measure success by reaching the 20% benchmark, creating 5-10 successful, sustainable programs and receiving positive qualitative feedback in program completion surveys.

- Total Number of people anticipated to be served annually in the Center: 5,000-8,000
- Total Number of people from Target Populations anticipated to be served annual in the Center: 3,000-5,000
- Total Number of square feet of commercial/community facilities space developed
4,578

Project Funding

Why does your project need the requested funding? Do you have other sources of financing commitment? What other sources are you pursuing and what is the status? How will you meet the 15% minimum match requirement?

The Town of Exeter needs the funding because this project will make an immense impact on the community, stimulate the local economy, meet the needs of target populations, and, most importantly, lessen the financial burden on residents. According to the Core Data Index from



nhdca.org, 2.9% of people in Exeter are enrolled in SNAP. This data is significant because it shows that Exeter is not all affluent families, as many people tend to believe. The building needs to be renovated to utilize both floors as much as possible in a fully ADA-accessible fashion. If we do not get the funding, we will be forced to close the second floor until funding can be secured, which would likely require a warrant article. This will be difficult because the town has several large projects that also need funding. Parks & Recreation projects tend to get passed over because roads, water & sewage and public safety are viewed as more important. Receiving this grant would allow us to swiftly complete all the much-needed renovations at 10 Hampton Road and then open our doors to everyone.

This project will stimulate the local economy by saving residents' tax dollars. Families will be more likely to sign their children up for a program we offer, which in turn requires us to hire more staff who are mostly local students that will spend their money in and around Exeter. A renovated multigenerational community center open to everyone will bring in more people to visit Exeter, who will stop in for a program or event, visit the pool, sports courts or playground next door and likely visit downtown for a bite to eat or some shopping. Additionally, being awarded this grant would allow us to focus on our long-term goal of adding a multipurpose gymnasium, which would also increase economic activity.

Below you will see what the town has pledged toward funding this project. The town has made significant investments in this property to meet the needs of target populations. To date, the town has invested \$1.15 million to purchase the property. Additionally, \$46,000 has been spent to connect the building to the town's fiber network. To meet the 15%, The town's Select Board has authorized the following to be used as the Town's match:

- \$37,000 from Recreation Revolving Fund
- \$25,000 from the Park Improvement Capital Reserve Fund
- \$36,000 from Recreation Impact Fees
- \$25,800 from renovations currently ongoing at 10 Hampton Rd
- \$30,000 from utility credits per Resilient Building Group
- \$1,200 from the Level II Energy Assessment

Total of \$155,000

Other Public/Private Investments

Has your organization received or administered grant funds or loans from other sources in the past five years? If so, please describe.

The Town of Exeter has received multiple grants, loans, and direct Congressional funding in the past five years. The town is experienced in administering and executing these projects with federal funds. We have attached a listing of all the grants we have received and managed from 2017-2021. The Town has received \$27,681,531 in Federal Funds alone.

Project Implementation

Describe your organization's current staff and capacity to carry out the implementation of your proposed project. What will their responsibilities be?



The Exeter Parks & Recreation department comprises four full-time recreation staff and two full-time park staff. We plan to do some of the work ourselves and with the town's public works department. Greg Bisson, Parks and Recreation Director, will issue RFPs for architectural, engineering, and construction. Greg will work with Donna Lane, who will administer the grant. The DPW and Park Department will be responsible for light demolition and other tasks to ensure this renovation goes smoothly. The Parks and Recreation will work with key stakeholders such as the Facilities, Sustainability, and Energy committee to finalize a design that meets the energy requirements, is affordable, and accommodates all users.