

Attended Mandatory
Meeting
rec'd 1/16/19

**TOWN OF BRIDGTON, MAINE
&
CUMBERLAND COUNTY**

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT -CDBG

**PUBLIC SERVICE PROGRAM APPLICATION
Program Year 2019**

Applications due Monday, January 21, 2019 on or before 4 PM

FY 2019 Bridgton CDBG Public Service Program

The CDBG Public Service program provides funding to local public service agencies that provide a direct benefit to the residents of Bridgton.

Proposals submitted to the program must be consistent with the Goals and National Objectives of the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD) Community Development Block Grant Program. Any applications submitted that do not meet these Goals and National Objectives will be excluded from review.

Eligible Use of Funds - The Public Service program can fund operating expenses, equipment, and program materials for public service programs or projects that benefit low-to-moderate income Bridgton residents.

Timetable & Requirements

- Applications are due no later than **4 PM on Monday, January 21, 2018** to the Bridgton Municipal Office, 3 Chase Street, Bridgton 04009 c/o Brenda Day
- Applicants are required to attend one MANDATORY "workshop" with Community Development staff to review requirements and project eligibility. There will be two opportunities with 2 different time slots to attend a workshop:
 - Tuesday December 18, 2018 at 10:30 AM
 - Wednesday December 19, 2018 at 2:00 PM
- Applicants are invited to present their application on **February 13, 2019 at 8 am** to the Community Development Committee, which will be reviewing applications and recommending funding to the Select Board. The Select Board will receive the applications and recommendations at their regular meeting March 12, 2019. The Select Board must make their decision for Cumberland County review before March 29, 2019. Funds will be available for disbursement after July 1, 2019.

Rules & Record Keeping Requirements

Funded applicants will be required to sign a contract with the Town of Bridgton that will state all the requirements placed on the applicant, which include but are not limited to:

- You will be required to provide monthly or quarterly reports stating the total number of persons served. These figures are required to be reported to HUD.
- You will be required to obtain written proof of income and ethnic origin for each person or household whom you assist, unless your clients are a Presumed Group or your activity qualifies as Area Benefit. These figures are required to be reported to HUD.
- Grant funds will be disbursed on a reimbursement basis. Written records justifying all expenditures must be maintained for a period no less than four years after the full grant is expended. These records will be subject to review by the Town, Cumberland County, and HUD.

I certify that I have read and understand the above rules and record keeping requirements of the Bridgton CDBG program:

Signature of Authorized Official

Penny Robbins

Date

1/17/19

PUBLIC SERVICE PROGRAM APPLICATION

**COMMUNITY/ORGANIZATION: United Methodist Church Bridgton Food
Pantry**

CONTACT PERSON: Penni Robbins

ADDRESS: 260 Pond Road, Bridgton Me 04009

E-MAIL: penni_robbins@hotmail.com

PROJECT TITLE: Bridgton Food Security Initiative

Select one CDBG "NATIONAL OBJECTIVE":

LOW/MODERATE INCOME:

Area Benefit (services are available to and benefit all people in a specific geographic area that is low/moderate income)

Service Area _____ Bridgton, Maine _____

Limited Clientele (serves individual clients/households, the majority of whom are low/moderate income)

Presumed Group – select one (services benefit a group that HUD presumes to be low/moderate income)

- Elderly
- Homeless Persons
- Disabled Adults
- Battered Spouses
- Abused Children
- Illiterate Adults
- Persons with AIDS
- Migrant Farm Workers

AMOUNT OF CDBG FUNDS REQUESTED: \$7,500.00

NAME OF AUTHORIZED OFFICIAL: Penni Robbins

SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED OFFICIAL:

For additional information and assistance with this application please contact or Brenda Day, Administrative Assistant Town of Bridgton at 207.647.8786 or by email bday@bridgtonmaine.org.

**TOWN OF BRIDGTON AND CUMBERLAND COUNTY FY 2019 CDBG
APPLICATION NARRATIVE QUESTIONS**

NAME OF PROJECT/APPLICANT: Bridgton Food Security Initiative

1). DESCRIBE THE PROGRAM/PROJECT – Please describe and quantify specifically the services or products to be provided as a result of the expenditure of CDBG funds. Who will you serve? What activities will you undertake?: (30 Points)

OVERVIEW

This project will provide emergency food resources to food insecure residents of Bridgton (and the greater Bridgton region) through the existing food pantry - Bridgton Food Pantry (214 Main Street).

FOOD PURCHASE

The Pantry is seeking CDBG funds under this application are partner agencies of Good Shepherd Food Bank (feedingmaine.org), and as such are eligible to access shelf-stable, staple food products – as well as produce – either for free or at \$0.08 or \$0.16 per pound.

In addition to providing food for families, the pantry also offer nutrition education and culinary classes to teach patrons how to prepare meals with recipes based on the food available at the pantry.

FOOD DELIVERY

Cupboard Collective is a cooperative food transportation program that serves pantries faced with transportation barriers accessing food — often in rural areas of the state. While many food pantries are experiencing increased need and decreased supply, less visible than the food needed to fill pantry shelves is the transportation needed to safely move available nutritious (often perishable) food from the food bank's distribution center to food pantry shelves. Lack of transportation is a common and significant barrier for emergency food providers in Maine's outlying communities, often affecting the quantity and quality of food that pantries can provide to the hungry families they serve.

This rural food access program is an attempt to bridge that gap. It is a partnership between Good Shepherd Food Bank, its partner agencies (food pantries, meal sites, and school pantries), and their town governments to provide large-scale deliveries of food into the community two times per month on refrigerated trucks.

Bridgton is currently a Cupboard Collective community, and these CDBG funds will allow this partnership to continue. The community's deliveries are scheduled for the second and fourth Monday of every month.

Bridgton Food Pantry provides a weekly food pantry serving an average of 110+ families and 270 individuals each week. (see attached report)

2). **IDENTIFY THE COMMUNITY NEEDS TO BE ADDRESSED:** (30 Points)

Hunger does not occur in a vacuum. It is often a symptom of unemployment, underemployment, low wages, or an economic crisis such as an acute medical emergency within the family unit or household.

Among Good Shepherd Food Bank's statewide network, research shows that households relying on its partner agencies report having at least one member in poor health (13% of clients), a member diagnosed with diabetes (11%), a member with high blood pressure (41%), and medical insurance related issue such as unpaid medical bills (26%) and having no medical insurance (including MaineCare) (26%). Additionally, food insecure households make trade-offs between purchasing food and other basic necessities. 71% of clients report making trade-offs between food and household utilities. 65% report trade-offs between food and medicine. 52% between food and transportation. 43% between food and housing. And 22% between food and education.

By providing food assistance, the pantries empower low-income households to prioritize their limited resources into other areas, which helps them stabilize their lives.

Additionally, due to the food bank's mission to ensure access to nutritious food, and the pantries' commitment to support that initiative, food insecure families visiting the pantry can expect to find healthy food options (i.e. fruits and vegetables) in addition to staple products.

Research shows that food insecurity often contributes to diet-related diseases such as diabetes, hypertension, and heart disease as a result of 1) a calorie dense, nutrient poor diet, and 2) spikes and dips in blood sugar levels as a result of periodic deprivation of food (causing hypoglycemic episodes). Providing healthy food addresses the former, and represents the food purchase aspect of this application. Providing regular deliveries to ensure stable inventory on the pantry shelves addresses the latter, and represents the food delivery component of this application.

3). CONVEY YOUR ORGANIZATION'S READINESS TO PROCEED – Is this a new program/project? How will the project be managed and staffed? What is your agency's experience providing these services and reaching your target population?: (20 Points)

Bridgton Food Pantry has been a Good Shepherd Food Bank partner agency since 2007, and is run by Director Penni Robbins. They have a consistent team of volunteers who support pantry operations, assist with unloading the Cupboard Collective truck on delivery day, and serve client needs while treating patrons with dignity.

In 2018, the Bridgton Food Pantry distributed a total of 213,589 pounds of food into the community, and received 74,130 in food donations from Hannaford and approximately 30,000 of food from Food City.

4). IDENTIFY THE MEASURABLE IMPACTS OF THE ACTIVITY: (10 Points)

The pantries can measure the number of families, households, and individuals served as well as the pounds of food they distribute. In addition, it is possible to break down the types of food each pantry has received/distributed in order to evaluate whether the product mix meets the recommended nutrition goals and expectations. Good Shepherd Food Bank tracks much of this data at the product category level.

In terms of measuring the need, according to Feeding America, the average food insecure individual is missing 210 pounds of food each year. This is the average gap between food insecurity and food security. Multiplying the 670 food insecure Bridgton residents by 210 pounds allows us to see that 140,700 pounds of food are needed to fully meet the need in Bridgton. In FY2018, the pantry distributed 242,606 pounds of food! This surpasses the town's demand, and demonstrates the pantries' impact on the greater Bridgton community as well.

Looking beyond the food and toward what *reliable food access* means to Bridgton residents, the Bridgton Food Pantry says: "*We can measure the number of families we serve and we hear their appreciation as they thank us for what we do. We see many of the same families each week and they are becoming friends with our volunteers and we enjoy having them join us. Some of the clients will tell us they haven't been to our Food Pantry for a long time and they know they are always welcomed and we try very hard to make everyone feel welcome and we try to provide a very positive environment for them.*"

5). DEMONSTRATE THE NEED FOR CDBG PROGRAM FUNDS: (10 Points)

While the pantry has been able to meet the need in the community through personnel donations and grants, they do so often taking a financial loss. Bridgton Food Pantry has a monthly expense for food of approximately \$1000 to \$1,200 per month with the annual amount approximately \$11,000 to \$13,000. We are a donation only pantry.

6). PROGRAM BUDGET – please fill in the below table with the proposed budget specific to this program.

CDBG ORGANIZATION OTHER

COST CATEGORY FUNDS FUNDS FUNDS TOTAL

ADMINISTRATION				
MATERIALS/SUPPLIES				
OPERATING COSTS				
OTHER- Food	\$7.500			
TOTAL COSTS:	\$7,500			

Date	# Families	# people	donation jar	Month F	Total Dona	Month Pec	Average	# Families
1/2/2018	115	304	\$12.00					
1/9/2018	112	308	\$11.87					
1/16/2018	94	241	\$15.00					
1/24/2018	82	125	\$14.00	held Wed. storm				
1/30/2018	99	235	\$11.00	502	\$63.87	1213	227.25	
2/6/2018	116	334	\$0.00					
2/13/2018	96	247	\$5.00					
2/20/2018	105	259	\$5.11					
2/27/2018	102	265	\$15.00	450	\$25.11	1105	276.25	
3/6/2018	109	262	\$15.00					
3/13/2018	60	136	\$2.60	snow storm				
3/20/2018	111	274	\$18.20					
3/27/2018	104	265	\$8.20					
4/3/2018	98	250	\$20.75	384	\$44.00	937	234.25	
4/10/2018	109	280	\$18.00					
4/17/2018	109	270	\$8.00					
4/21/2018	118	300	\$20.00					
4/28/2018	125	345	\$25.00	559	\$71.00	1445	289	
5/1/2018	116	262	\$20.00					
5/8/2018	125	306	\$23.60					
5/15/2018	109	268	\$32.25					
5/22/2018	100	241	\$24.00					
5/29/2108	109	269	\$16.86	559	\$116.71	1346	269.2	
6/5/2018	112	269	\$17.00					
6/12/2018	104	240	\$14.00					
6/19/2018	116	260	\$19.00					
6/26/2018	118	281	\$14.25	450	\$64.25	1050	262.5	
7/3/2018	119	307	\$8.00					
7/10/2018	113	314	\$10.00					
7/17/2018	115	303	\$13.00					
7/24/2018	102	249	\$9.00					
7/31/2018	109	249	\$35.95	558	\$75.95	1422	284.4	
8/7/2018	112	278	\$43.00					
8/14/2018	111	269	\$16.00					
8/21/2018	113	281	\$8.00					
8/28/2018	106	252	\$13.00	442	\$115.95	1080	270	
9/4/2018	113	272	\$27.70					
9/11/2018	118	289	\$18.00					
9/18/2018	109	263	\$17.00					
9/25/2018	104	245	\$13.00	444	\$91.70	1069	267.25	
10/2/2018	116	287	\$16.00					
10/9/2018	125	308	\$11.00					
10/16/2018	117	287	\$24.00					
10/23/2018	109	251	\$20.00					
10/30/2018	130	308	\$6.00	597	\$77.00	1441	288.2	
11/5/2018	141	361	\$14.00					

11/13/2018	130	303	\$0.00				
11/20/2018	87	219	\$20.00				snow storm
11/28/2018	75	207	\$0.00	433	\$34.00	1090	272.5 Wed. storm
12/4/2018	116	252	\$17.86				
12/11/2018	139	341	\$19.00				
12/18/2018	126	291	\$10.00				
12/26/2018	73	158	\$9.00	454	1042	1042	260.5
yearly total	5801	14240		5801		14240	
					average weekly people		274