NH Volunteer Engagement
Project Grant Opportunity Q&A

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NH VOLUNTEER ENGAGEMENT PROGRAM
volunteer NH

Engaging NH communities
to solve local challenges
through volunteerism.

Our team works to…

- ***Connect*** *volunteers with service opportunities (**Get Connected**)*
- ***Celebrate*** *outstanding volunteer contributions (**Spirit of NH Awards**)*
- ***Provide training and other resources*** *to volunteers, volunteer managers, and nonprofits (**Volunteer Engagement Program** & **Governor's Conference on Volunteerism**)*
- ***Steward*** *AmeriCorps resources to tackle our nation's most pressing challenges right here in NH*

NH Volunteer Engagement Project (NHVEP) Grants Overview

Purpose of Funding

NH Volunteer Engagement Project grants will be used to develop the capacity for community-based entities to recruit, manage, and support volunteers through a specific and goal-oriented project.

VNH seeks to fund effective approaches that:

- **Strengthen** the capacity of volunteer programs to recruit and retain volunteers.
- **Develop strategies** to use volunteers effectively to solve problems.
- **Expand** volunteering.
- Can be **developed, executed, and demonstrate progress** towards identified goals within two years.

Overview - Continued

Requirements

All recipients must:

- ❖ Be a local community organization *(nonprofit/state or local agency/institution of higher education)*
- ❖ Serve NH Communities
- ❖ Have a Unique Entity Identification (UEI) number and an *active* SAM.gov registration

Structure

Grant period: October 1, 2024 – September 30, 2026 *(2 years)*

Budget Period (Yr. 1): October 1, 2024 – September 30, 2025 *(1 year)*

Award Range: $15,000 - $25,000 per year

Grant type: Cost Reimbursement

Funding Source: Federal SLFRF- Assistance Listing No. 21.027

Overview - Continued

Funding Priorities

- Volunteer NH State Service Plan Priorities
- Program Geographic Locations
- Previous Funding

Project Activities & Goals

- Should involve specific activities and quarterly benchmarks
- Will need at least one **quantifiable** goal that can be accurately tracked
- Cannot involve Prohibited Activities
- Must be a new/expanded project

Example Projects

Virtual Training Tools

Purpose: To more efficiently and effectively recruit and train volunteers to provide crisis intervention and support to survivors of domestic and sexual violence.

Activities: Recruit and train volunteer advocates; Translate in-person training content into hybrid format

Program Formalization

Purpose: To expand program capacity to recruit and manage volunteers in order to provide grief support throughout NH.

Activities: Formalize policies & procedures around volunteering; evaluate existing training models; engage in strategic recruitment.

Community Event

Purpose: To increase cooperative work toward food security and environmental stewardship.

Activities: Outreach to orgs with similar missions; outreach to local experts; host a county-wide, conservation-focused volunteer fair and training event.

Grantee Expectations

Attend Meetings

- ❖Quarterly NH Volunteer Engagement Network meetings (virtual)
- ❖3 in-person meetings at Volunteer NH in Concord (over the 2 year period)

Attend the annual Governor's Conference on Volunteerism

- ❖Date TBD, generally in May or early June in Manchester

Comply with all reporting requirements

- ❖Quarterly Financial Reports
- ❖Semi-annual program reports

Prompt communication with Volunteer NH staff

- ❖Designate at least two points of contact
- ❖Respond to requests for information in a timely manner

Important Dates

Application Deadline: Friday, August 16, 12:00 PM

Tentative Funding Decisions Announced By: Friday, August 30, 2024

- *Funding decisions may be dependent on clarification responses*

Grant Start Date: October 1, 2024

Continuation (Year 2) Budget Submission Due: August 2025*

Grant End Date: September 30, 2026 *(2 years)*

**Budget Period Yr. 1 (10/1/24-9/30/25), Budget Period Yr. 2 (10/1/25-9/30/26)*

How to Apply

Volunteer NH Online Application System (VNHOAS): *https://volunteernh.smapply.io/*

- Set up user account/organization
- Start Application
  - Multiple users can work on application
- User Guide linked on the main page

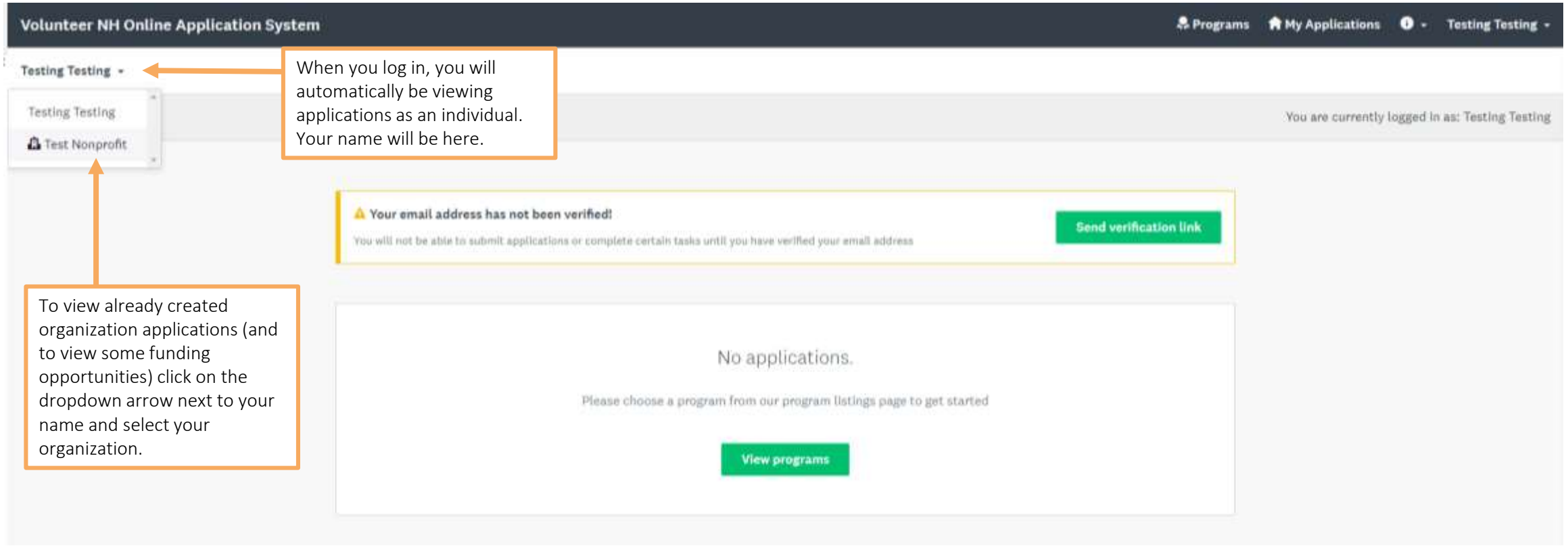
IMPORTANT:
READ ALL INSTRUCTIONS

Application Outline

- Organizational Information
- Project Narrative
- Project Timeline & Goals
- Budget – upload required
- Demographics
- Organizational Financial & Management Survey
- Additional Documents *(as applicable)*

Common Application System Issue

❖Make sure when you log in any time after you initially create an account (and set up your organization) that you toggle your view to your organization.



Application Resources

- Notice of Funding Opportunity: Here
- Project Grant FAQs: Here
- Sample Budgets: Here and Here
- Volunteer NH Online Application System (VNHOAS) Link: Here
- Instructions on how to use VNHOAS: Here
- Prohibited Activities Link: Here
- Volunteer NH Website: www.volunteernh.org

Questions?

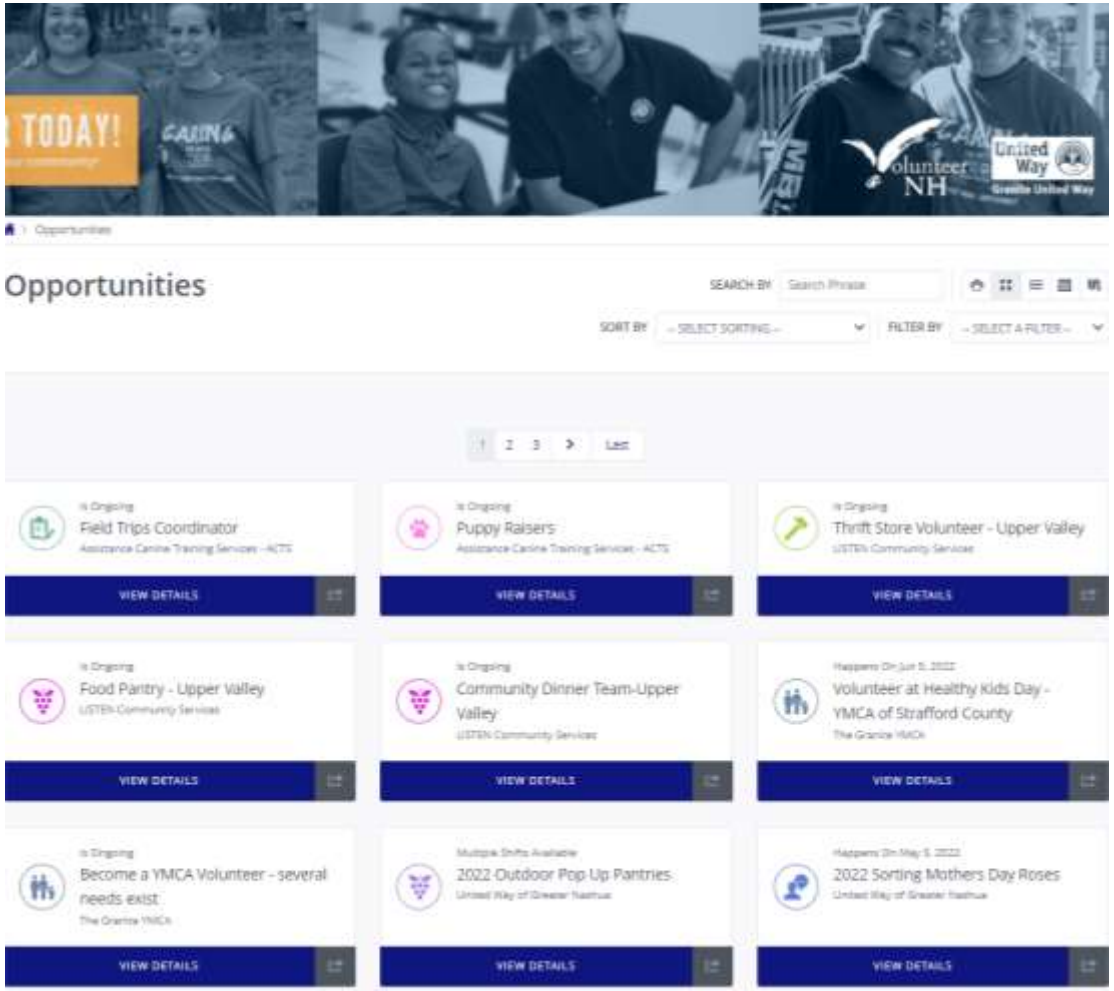
After the call, please reach out to:

***Jamie Browder**, Special Program Assistant*

Jamie@VolunteerNH.org

Other VNH Resources

Get Connected



FREE for Nonprofits & Volunteers

How to Use Get Connected Guide

Nonprofits

- Advertise volunteer opportunities
- Track volunteer hours

Volunteers

- Potential volunteers search our database of thousands of volunteers!

NH Volunteer Engagement Network (NHVEN) & Resource-Sharing Platform

This is a group of volunteer managers that meet quarterly to collaborate, share resources, undergo trainings, and ask questions.

Platform:
Basecamp and regular Zoom meetings

Open to:
People who manage volunteers (you!)

NH Volunteer Engagement Mini-Grants

Purpose:

Volunteer NH invites eligible organizations to apply for a NH Volunteer Engagement Mini-Grant for a **specific, one-time need**. These subgrants are meant to increase the capacity of organizations serving NH to recruit, utilize, manage, and retain volunteers.

Types of Expenses:

Could include paying for a training for volunteers (or your volunteer manager), hiring a consultant for a short-term recruitment project, paying for volunteer technology (like a laptop for volunteers to sign-in on).

Award Range:

Applicants will request a minimum of **$1,000** and no more than **$4,000**.

Next Opportunity

The next opportunity will open in September.

Nominate: Spirit of NH Awards

Nominate an individual, group, nonprofit or business that has volunteered in 2023-2024. We want to recognize and celebrate the wide array of service being accomplished in NH!

Spirit of NH Awards Event:

- **Date:** Monday, October 21st
- **Venue:** The Capitol Center for the Arts (Concord, NH)
- **Nominations Close**: Monday, August 26
- **Learn more**: https://volunteernh.org/news-opportunities/nominate-today-2024-spirit-of-nh-awards/