



Land and Community Heritage Investment Program  
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## **Land and Community Heritage Investment Program Awards Grants to 24 Projects Statewide**

90+ jobs and \$1M in wages associated with projects

Concord, NH—The Board of Directors of the Land and Community Heritage Investment Program (LCHIP) announces the award of matching grants to 24 projects across the state. The awards invest in the protection of 13 historic structures and the conservation of 4317 acres of land, including 233 acres of farmland. Among the 24 projects, 90 people across the state will be employed, adding over \$1,000,000 to New Hampshire's economy.

"LCHIP is about more than land and buildings," says Rusty McLearn, the LCHIP Board Chair. "The grants are a tool to help New Hampshire people protect the quality of life that we all benefit from."

A total of \$1.59 million of LCHIP money has attracted almost \$28 million in total project value. Funds for the LCHIP grants come from \$25 recording fees collected by county registry offices across the state, providing LCHIP with a base of statewide financial support and the opportunity to invest in all corners of the state.

This year's projects include the 1025 acre Black Mountain Forest in Sutton and Warner, 260 acres at Potter Farm in Northumberland, restoration of the cupola on the Gilmanton Academy/town hall, and window and interior restoration to the 1907 Wilton Public and Gregg Free Library.

Thirty-five applications received by LCHIP in August were reviewed by LCHIP staff, professional panels, and the Board of Directors. Project decisions were based on the criteria outlined in the LCHIP law (RSA 227-M), including the imminence of threat, the significance of the resource, local support, leverage, and the ability to sustain long-term stewardship of the resources. This year's match leverage of 1:16 far exceeds the required 1:1 match.

LCHIP is an independent state authority that provides grants to protect and preserve the state's most important natural, cultural, and historic resources through partnerships with New Hampshire communities and non-profits. Its legislatively mandated mission is to ensure the perpetual contribution of these resources to the economy, environment, and the quality of life in New Hampshire. Previous LCHIP funds to 187 projects have helped 125 New Hampshire communities conserve nearly 286,000 acres and 109 historic structures and sites. For more information about LCHIP, visit [www.lchip.org](http://www.lchip.org) or call (603) 224-4113

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