



Partnership Building and Grant Opportunity Information Packet

Contents

| | |
|--|----------|
| Overview | 2 |
| Partnership building and grant opportunity | 2 |
| Step 1: Collaboration Lab - November, 2024 | 2 |
| Step 1: Collaboration Lab, cont... | 3 |
| Step 2: Strengthening the Safety Net Planning Grant - February, 2025 | 3 |
| Step 3: Weaving the Safety Net Implementation Grant - April, 2025 | 3 |
| Step 4: Adirondack Regional Leadership Cohort Retreat - June, 2025 | 3 |
| How to participate and apply | 4 |
| Eligibility | 4 |
| Frequently Asked Questions | 5 |
| Interest Form Questions | 6 |
| Questions? | 7 |



Strengthening the Regional Safety Net



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Overview

The [2024 Adirondack Regional Social Safety Network Report](#) tells us that the data and regional practitioners believe housing, transportation, workforce readiness (including childcare), access to healthy food, access to specialty healthcare, and social cohesion within communities are the top needs in our regional communities.

Further, during convenings aimed at identifying action across the region, we heard from almost 100 leaders representing organizations of all sizes, types of service delivery, and corners of the region, practitioners described a desire to examine the blueprint of service delivery and willingness to develop bold actions to truly strengthen the Adirondack regional safety net. An [executive summary of this work is described in this document](#).



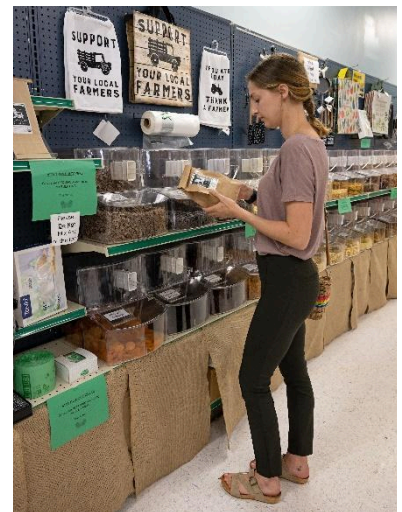
This opportunity is a direct response to the convenings. Supported by **Mother Cabrini Health Foundation**, Adirondack Foundation is offering a partnership building and grant opportunity with activities to begin in November. It includes four steps and supports partnerships as they consider how to boldly move forward to truly strengthen the region's safety net.

Partnership building and grant opportunity

Step 1: Collaboration Lab - November, 2024

If you are considering big ideas to reimagine service delivery and help provide programs more efficiently, effectively, and ultimately serve more people, this is an opportunity to work with partners to brainstorm, build trust, formalize relationships, plan and receive funding.

The Collaboration Lab, is a one day workshop that focuses on partner organization mission and program alignment, offers sample collaboration tools such as MOU's, and provides significant, supported, time to work with prospective partners on your collective idea.



- **Collaboration Lab Interest Form Deadline is October 21, 5pm:**
interest forms are brief, and accepted on a rolling basis through 5pm October 25, 2024.
- **Up to three staff members attend ONE Lab from 8:30am - 3pm in November:**
 - November 12, Plattsburgh, MHAB Life Skills Campus
 - November 13, Old Forge, The View Arts Center
 - November 14, Lake George, Fort William Henry Conference Center

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Step 1: Collaboration Lab, cont...

- \$250 per organization is available for travel, time, and expense reimbursement.
- Applicants will have confirmation of attendance one week after Interest Form submission

Partnership building and grant opportunity

Step 2: Strengthening the Safety Net Planning Grant - February, 2025

Planning grants are intended to support partnerships developing bold initiatives that will help them deliver their programs more efficiently, effectively, and reach more people who need them. Following the Collaboration Labs, Adirondack Foundation will offer up to six \$10,000 planning grants to attending partnerships to further develop their strengthening the network ideas.



- **Planning grant application deadline is February 3 at 5pm:** applications are accepted on a rolling basis following the Collaboration Lab.
- **Up to six Planning Grants will be awarded by February 17, 2025.**
- One grant is available per partnership group.
- Planning grants will be encouraged but not limited to projects and ideas that address the need areas identified in the [2024 Adirondack Regional Social Safety Net Report](#) and are related to the recommendations in the [Convening Executive Summary](#).

Step 3: Weaving the Safety Net Implementation Grant - April, 2025

Up to four \$150,000 catalytic implementation grants will be awarded to four partnership groups, disbursed over a three-year period. These partnerships will begin to implement their innovative ideas that expand, deepen, and more effectively deliver relevant services in their part of the Adirondack region.

Weaving the Safety Net Implementation Grant application will be available as soon as the Planning Grants are awarded.

- Weaving the Safety Net implementation **grant deadline is April 7 at 5pm.**
- **Up to four Implementation grants will be awarded by April 25, 2025**
- Partnerships will have both the planning and implementation grant applications for their own planning purposes at the November workshops.

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Step 4: Adirondack Regional Leadership Cohort Retreat - June, 2025

If your partnership receives an implementation grant, leaders from each organization will be invited to participate in a 2–3-day Adirondack Leadership Cohort Retreat. The aim of the cohort is to build trust among partners, provide time and support in furthering their work, and offer leadership skills training.

How to participate and apply

Submit your Interest Form through our online grants manager:

1. Login at:

[adirondackfoundation.org/granting/
online-grants-manager](https://adirondackfoundation.org/granting/online-grants-manager)

The screenshot shows the Adirondack Foundation's online grants manager interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with a home icon, a circled 'APPLY' button, and an 'ORGANIZATION HISTORY' link. On the right, it says 'ROLE (APPLICANT)'. Below the navigation bar, the main content area has a title 'Apply Adirondack Foundation' and an 'Enter Code' field containing 'lab2024'. There is also a search bar with a magnifying glass icon and a close button. Below the search bar, there is a welcome message and instructions for using the grants manager.

2. After logging in, select the “apply” button from the top left.

3. Enter **lab2024** in the “enter code” box to access the interest form.

The interest form is for participation in Step 1: Collaboration Lab. Subsequent planning and implementation grant applications will be available after the November Collaboration Lab workshop.



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Eligibility

Step 1: Collaboration Lab

We are committed to partnering with nonprofit organizations, schools and municipalities located in or serving the people of the Adirondack Region, defined for this purpose as all of Clinton, Essex, Franklin, and Hamilton counties as well as the parts of Herkimer, St. Lawrence, Warren, and Washington counties within the Adirondack Park boundary.

- Completed the Collaboration Lab Interest Form by **October 21, 5pm**. Forms are open and accepted on a rolling basis.
- All partners hold chosen November Collaboration Lab date on your calendars.
- Applicant organizations and partners may be nonprofit and volunteer organizations, local government, schools, businesses, and quasi-governmental agencies based in the Adirondack Foundation's region.
- One organization will apply on behalf of the partnership but does not have to be, or remain, a lead entity.
- Will include an area of need described by the 2024 Adirondack Regional Safety Net Report: housing, transportation, workforce readiness/including childcare, access to healthy food, access to specialty and healthcare, social cohesion.
- Projects specifically addressing recommendations laid out in the Regional Safety Net Convening Executive Summary may receive greater consideration.
- Partners have a commitment to collaboration, and a majority bring up to three staff, volunteers, board members to the Collaboration Lab.



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Frequently Asked Questions

When will I hear if our partnership can participate in the Collaboration Lab?

Organizations will have confirmation of Collaboration Lab attendance one week after the Interest Form submission.

If our partnership does not attend the Collaboration Lab will we be eligible for this grant opportunity?

Only partnerships attending the Collaboration Lab will have access to the planning and implementation grant opportunities. If 100% of your partners are unable to be represented at the Collaboration Lab, your partnership is still eligible for the grant opportunity.

Will we still be eligible for the grant opportunities if our partners change?

Your partners and roles may change following the Collaboration Lab.

Who can apply for support?

Nonprofit organizations, schools, and municipalities located in or serving the people of the Adirondack Region, defined for this purpose as all of Clinton, Franklin, Essex, and Hamilton counties as well as the parts of St. Lawrence, Warren, Herkimer, and Washington counties within the Adirondack Park boundary.

How can we apply for support?

Applications must be submitted online: adirondackfoundation.org/online-grants-manager

How often are applications accepted?

This is a one time partnership building and grant opportunity.

Can we still apply to Generous Acts if we participate in this opportunity?

Yes, you are eligible to apply for Generous Acts if you have received other grants, including this one, from the Foundation.

Can I apply with a Fiscal Sponsor?

If your organization does not have 501(c)3 status, you might be able to use a Fiscal Sponsor, which is an organization with 501(c)3 status and a mission that is supported by your project. They must be willing to accept money on your behalf, and they would be ultimately responsible for making sure the project is completed and that all grant reports are filed as required. Some organizations charge a fee to be a sponsor. If you need to use a fiscal sponsor, we require the EIN Number from the sponsor's 501(c)3 determination letter and a copy of the sponsor's financial statements with your application.

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Interest Form/Application Submission Instructions

Strengthening the REgional Safety Net Collaboration Lab Interest Forms must be submitted online - please review the following steps to submit your application through our Online Grants Manager portal. A copy of the Interest Form questions is included at the end of this packet.

Is this the first time your organization is applying for a grant from Adirondack Foundation?

Step 1: Review this [Applicant Tutorial](#). Make sure you have all of your organization's information including your tax ID(EIN) number before getting started.

Step 2: Once you are ready to begin the application go to the [Online Grants Manager](#) portal and select the Create New Account button

Step 3: Now that you have created your organization's profile navigate to the Apply Page where you will see all the currently open grant opportunities. Enter **lab2024** in the "enter code" box to access the interest form and select the blue Apply button.

Are you not sure if your organization has applied for a grant from Adirondack Foundation in the past?

Step 1: Please contact Leslee Mounger at leslee.mounger@adkfoundation.org or 518-523-9904.

Have you applied in the past but forgotten your password?

Step 1: Go to the [Online Grants Manager](#) portal, enter the Email Address used for previous applications and select Forgot your Password?

Step 2: Follow the instruction to reset your password then navigate to the Apply Page where you will see all the currently open grant opportunities. Enter **lab2024** in the "enter code" box to access the interest form and select the blue Apply button.

Is your organization already set up and you have your login information?

Step 1: Once you are ready to begin the application go to the [Online Grants Manager](#) portal and login.

Step 2: Navigate to the Apply Page where you will see all the currently open grant opportunities. Enter **lab2024** in the "enter code" box to access the interest form and select the blue Apply button.

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Interest Form Questions

- Which location do you plan to attend:
 - November 12, Plattsburgh, MHAB Life Skills Center
 - November 13, Old Forge, The View Arts Center
 - November 14, Lake George, Ft. William Henry Conference Center
- Recognizing it may change, please list all current partner organizations and partner types (school, public health department, nonprofit.) Please include partners unable to attend Collaboration Lab.
- List partner missions and websites.
- List people attending Collaboration Lab, title, and potential partnership roles if developed.
- Why do your partnership organizations want to participate? e.g. describe a specific project or big idea to develop OR why partners are committed to working together and to what end.
- What community/region will your partnership target?
- Are partners committed to attending the workshop?

Contact

If you have questions, please contact Lori Bellingham at lori@adirondackfoundation.org prior to submitting your Interest Form.