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Main Street Skowhegan Launches Technical Assistance Grants for Entrepreneurs

Skowhegan, Maine—Representatives from Main Street Skowhegan announced Thursday that they are launching a technical assistance (TA) grant program to support and grow Skowhegan businesses.

A project of Main Street Skowhegan's Business Enhancement Committee, the TA grant program will consist of mini-grants ranging from \$500 to \$2,000, awarded to fund need-based technical assistance and equipment. All current Skowhegan business owners and entrepreneurs who plan to start a business in Skowhegan are eligible to apply.

"We are excited to unveil a new technical assistance grant program that will help new and existing businesses grow in the Skowhegan area," said Sam Hight, chair of Main Street Skowhegan's Business Enhancement Committee. "Skowhegan is currently experiencing a positive entrepreneurial movement, and we are excited to play a supportive role."

Hight added, "Main Street's Business Enhancement Committee has partnered with local lending institutions—Skowhegan Savings Bank, Franklin Savings Bank, New Dimensions Federal Credit Union, and Franklin-Somerset Federal Credit Union—who have not only funded our grant program but who have also joined our committee to better facilitate future business growth in Skowhegan."

Examples of grant-eligible technical assistance projects include, but are not limited to, hiring a professional to help with marketing, brand identity, or web development; attending a course or mentoring opportunity; hiring an architect, engineer, business advisor, or other specialist; buying a needed piece of machinery; or obtaining legal support. To apply for a TA grant, applicants should visit mainstreetskowhegan.org/ta to review application instructions, then submit a complete proposal to info@mainstreetskowhegan.org.

"Based on what we have learned through past entrepreneurial competitions and in conversations with our business owners, there's a need for grant support that will provide that extra boost to kick-start a business idea or help a business grow," said Kristina Cannon, executive director of Main Street Skowhegan. "We are so thankful to our funding partners who have made this opportunity possible, and we can't wait to start awarding grants to our hardworking entrepreneurs and business owners"

About Main Street Skowhegan

Main Street Skowhegan is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit focused on the ongoing revitalization of historic Skowhegan, Maine. Founded in 2005 by a group of citizens, Main Street is now driven by three full-time staff members, a passionate and engaged board of directors, and more than a hundred volunteers. Our mission is to celebrate Skowhegan's rich heritage while achieving our brightest future as a thriving economic, cultural, and recreational community where residents enjoy a high quality of life.