

GP 8 – Cooperative Giving Programs

Cooperative Giving programs advance the Co-op’s goals of providing value to the local community, regional agriculture, and the broader cooperative economy.

GP 8.1 The Co-op’s giving programs support the following themes:

- Food assistance,
- Community building (including support of regional agriculture),
- Promotion of cooperative principles and activities, and
- Environment, energy and sustainability.

GP 8.2 Hanover Cooperative Community Fund (HCCF)

As a permanently endowed fund managed by the Twin Pines Cooperative Foundation (TPCF), 501(c) (3) organization, HCCF is intended to grow over time and to return a portion of its interest to the community.

GP 8.2.1 The Board will establish an HCCF Advisory Committee with a chairperson chosen from among the board members.

GP 8.2.2 The HCCF Advisory Committee will provide options and implications to the Board for annual disbursements from TPCF interest in accordance with the TPCF contract and the following guidelines.

8.2.2.1. A portion of the disbursements shall be directed to the Gerstenberger Scholarship

8.2.2.1.1. Recipients must be cooperative members, cooperative associations, or employees of cooperatives in the Upper Valley region of New Hampshire and Vermont as defined by the Vital Communities Service Area.

8.2.2.1.2 Recipients must seek to further the cooperative movement through education, training, and/or business development.

8.2.2.1.3 Awards will be made on the basis of application criteria developed by the Committee.

8.2.2.1.4 Disbursement of funds must be to a 501(c)(3) organization or academic institution, not to an individual.

8.2.2.1.5 Recipients must agree to provide members with a presentation and a written report on how the funds were used.

8.2.2.2 A portion of the disbursements shall be directed to Community Project Grants

8.2.2.2.1 Eligible community projects must be located in the Upper Valley region of New Hampshire and Vermont as defined by the Vital Communities Service Area.

8.2.2.2.2 Projects must meet one or more of the four Co-op giving themes (environment, food and hunger, community, cooperatives).

8.2.2.2.3 Awards will be made on the basis of application criteria developed by the Committee.

8.2.2.2.4 Disbursement of funds must be to a 501(c)(3) organization.

8.2.2.2.5 The recipient organizations must provide members with a written report on how the funds were used.

GP 8.2.3 The HCCF Advisory Committee will provide an annual report to the Board of Directors, which will include:

- Disbursement recommendations, including: (a) name and nature of each recipient organization or individual, (b) respective amounts, (c) percentages of the total donation going to each organization, (d) mention of which Co-op giving theme(s) each donation meets, and (e) a list of organizations that have applied.
- Cash flow statements
- Contributions and investments performance.

GP 8.2.4 The HCCF Advisory Committee will provide a brief annual report to the Society at its Annual Meeting.

GP 8.3 The Allen and Nan King Award for Service to the Community

At its Annual Meeting, the Co-op will recognize the achievements of one or more Co-op members who have demonstrated concern for the community by bestowing on them the Allen and Nan King Award for Service to Community.

GP 8.3.1 The administration of this award is the sole responsibility of the Board of Directors, who will set the standards, call for nominations, make the selection, and set the amount of the award.