

MUSEUMS OF THE BETHEL HISTORICAL SOCIETY

“Securing the Future of Our Past Endowment Campaign”



Founded in 1966, the Museums of the Bethel Historical Society collects, preserves, and shares historically significant documents, photographs, books, and objects relating to the history of western Maine and the White Mountain Region of Maine and New Hampshire. Through high-quality programs, exhibitions, and publications, we provide our members, seasonal visitors, and the general public with a deeper understanding of, and appreciation for, local and regional history, art, and culture.

Our historic buildings and state-of-the-art storage facilities are maintained at the highest level. However, if we are to continue to carry out our many services to current and future audiences, we must secure additional financial resources—in the form of a larger endowment—to generate the income necessary to sustain our important operations. Over the past half century, generous supporters have recognized our efforts by helping us create one of the finest museum facilities in northern New England. As a result, our exceptional physical plant has allowed us to collect, preserve, display, and share an unparalleled collection of research materials, decorative arts objects, and regional artifacts that can never be recreated. Based on this success, the time has come to increase our endowment to guarantee the future management of these outstanding resources.



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ENDOWMENT CAMPAIGN GOALS

The purpose of the “Securing the Future of Our Past Endowment Campaign” is to increase our investment income. Our goal is to add to the principal of our endowed funds, which will immediately result in a strengthening of our programs and services by expanding access to our collections and, more especially, guaranteeing that we have the staff necessary to support our day-to-day operations. An increased endowment will allow us to achieve the following important goals:

1. Reduce our reliance on Annual Fund income to support operations, including ongoing maintenance of our museum facilities
2. Assist in funding 2 full-time staff (Executive Director and Librarian/Archivist) and 1 part-time staff member (Administrative Assistant)
3. Allow the hiring of a fourth staff member (full or part-time) to run educational programming, manage volunteers, and conduct outreach programs—especially for school-age children. This position is needed in order to grow our capacity within the community and region.



BECOME A PARTNER IN OUR FUTURE!

In addition to direct cash donations or gifts of stock to be permanently held in our endowment, we welcome legacy gifts/bequests from your will or other estate plans. For more information or to set up a time to speak with us in person and in confidence, please contact us at (207) 824-2908 or (800) 824-2910.