



Dear Community,

We write to you today to share that we, the community that uses the Capital City Grange Hall, have a wonderful opportunity to make another major improvement in our building to benefit our community. With your financial support, we can meet a goal that we have pursued for some time: installing a lift between the two floors and to the stage so that the building's spaces are accessible to all.

Many cultural and community groups have discovered the utility, spaciousness, and bright nature of the Grange Hall for music, theater, dance, community meetings and activities. Recent improvements to the comfort, quality and appearance of the hall's lower level are attracting a wider array of user groups. Yet we know that the stairs to the lower level have prevented some community groups from renting the Hall. Better access to the hall's dining area is frequently noted by our users as a need.

The Friends and the Capital City Grange are committed to making accessibility improvements to the Hall. Our first large project, completed in 2008, installed a new accessible entrance into the Hall and an accessible restroom on the Hall's main level. In 2014, renovations facilitated installation of an accessible restroom in the Hall's lower level. In 2019, lower-level improvements were completed that were a necessary precursor to installing a lift. With each improvement, we inched closer to today's opportunity.

In September, we learned that the Vermont Arts Council accepted our proposal to install a platform lift. The Arts Council will fund 50% of the project's costs of \$53,989 requiring that we secure the balance from other sources. Every dollar you donate is matched by the Arts Council up to \$26,949.

In addition to installing the lift, the project will facilitate minor renovation of the exterior ramp to bring it back into ADA compliance, and a safety improvement identified by the Fire Marshal when he visited the building to review our lift plans.

If you have attended an event at the Grange in 2022, you know that earlier in the year a new wood pellet furnace was installed replacing our old oil furnace with a more efficient and renewal energy source. Looking ahead, the Friends of the Capital City Grange Hall are preparing for further investments in the building, such as additional ventilation, kitchen modernization, and much-needed exterior siding improvements. Donations from you, our local community, provide the required match for grant applications, leveraging the resources needed to make the building healthy, attractive, accessible and open for future hall users.

Please contribute today to guarantee the vitality of the hall and its use as a gathering space for all.

The Friends of the Capital City Grange Hall Board

Patty Giavara, Chair

Tim Swartz

Nancy Turner, Treasurer

Matt Rolland

Merry Shernock

Amy Handy

Mike Ziegler

Give online at: <http://capitalcitygrange.org/donate/>

Or mail a **check payable to FCCGH P.O. Box 192, Northfield Falls, VT 05664**

Donation Reply Form

Enclosed is my \$_____ donation.

Given by: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Email: _____

I want to remain anonymous

I want to make this donation in honor or memory of someone

In honor of _____

In memory of _____

Our Mission:

The Friends of the Capital City Grange Hall is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization whose purpose is to ensure the long term sustainability of the Hall as a venue for traditional dance, music, song, and other arts and as a meeting place in Central Vermont for individuals and organizations. The Friends support the maintenance, improvement, and public promotion of the Hall.