



**Guidance for 2014-2017 programs, projects, initiatives, to be reviewed annually.**

**Mission:**

**The Connecticut Trust for Historic Preservation preserves, protects and promotes the buildings, sites, structures and landscapes that contribute to the heritage and vitality of Connecticut communities.**

**Visions:**

- 1- Historic preservation activity results in economic growth in Connecticut, through job creation and leveraging public and private investment.**

In FY 2013-14 CTHP awarded 50 grants

- Totaling \$580,002 in preservation planning, maintenance and repair projects,
- Leveraging \$747,276 in private investment
- Creating approximately 163 jobs for project professionals, predominantly architects and structural engineers and additional jobs during the construction phase of projects.
- Since November, 2013, staff working on the Making Places project that aims to stimulate redevelopment of industrial places in the state have visited over 40 mills to offer technical assistance and grants.

- 2- Historic places are preserved and used to enhance community character, safeguarding our cultural heritage.**

In FY 2013-2014, CTHP awarded \$324,620 in Vibrant Communities Initiative (VCI) grants that are not matched but **leverage major steps forward for preservation in the communities** where the grants are awarded.

- The VCI grants have resulted in plans to stabilize and/or restore underutilized or abandoned buildings, including mills; creation of a city-wide preservation ordinance; enactment of village district zoning regulations; nominations of historic areas to the National Register of Historic Places

In 2013-14, Circuit Riders made 226 field visits to 86 towns to work with local officials, organizations and owners of historic houses to protect historic resources.

- Circuit Rider visits strengthen the local capacity for successful preservation of historic buildings and structures by evaluating current conditions, recommending appropriate treatments, promoting adaptive reuse, and encouraging effective municipal planning,
- Circuit Rider visits result in requests for grants to address specific preservation issues as well as advocacy support on local issues.



### **CTHP work is results based, multifaceted and falls into four interrelated program areas.**

- The specific goal for 2014-2017 is that the four interrelated program areas, **Grant and Loans, Field Work, Research and Education** will work in tandem with each other and be supported through governance, finances, legislative activity and partnerships to reflect the mission and two visions of this plan. As new programs are developed, they will be incorporated into all parts.
- By 2017, the Revolving Fund, a separate 501c3 entity, will emerge as a key partner to the work of the CTHP, with at least three successful projects and program personnel in place.
- During 2015 a strategic business plan will be developed for the Revolving fund.

### **Programs:**

The lead partner in CTHP programs is State Historic Preservation Office at Department of Economic and Community Development. Other key partners are CTHP members, both individual and corporate, private and community foundations, Restoration Services Directory sponsors and other advertisers.

#### **Grants and Loans**

- Grants for pre-development studies, for maintenance and repair, for community planning, and for planning for re-development of industrial places.
- Current Grant offerings:
  - Historic Preservation Technical Assistance planning grants (HPTAGs)
  - 1772 Foundation Maintenance and Repair Grants

- CTHP Maintenance and Repair Grants
  - Barns grants to municipalities and non-profits
  - Vibrant Communities Initiative grants (VCIs)
  - Making Places planning grants for mills/industrial
- Revolving Fund: loans for rehabs of historic buildings for affordable housing; investments to take option on endangered properties. Further program development, 2015-2017

**Grants will result in:**

- Historic buildings are Used and contribute to quality of community
- Direct service to the community
- Rewarding those who don't need major help but grant gives bandwidth to do more
- Jumpstarting stuck projects

**Revolving Fund options and loans will result in:**

- Historic buildings are Used and contribute to the quality of community
- Loans for affordable housing rehabs
- Options on historically designated buildings that need new owners/developers

**Field Work**

- Immediate response to requests for preservation assistance
- Provide specialized professional assistance through mini-grant program
- Work with grantees on particular grant programs
- Outreach for research projects, field visits to sites begin researched.

**Field work results in:**

- Moving historic preservation projects forward
- Bringing a knowledge base for preservation to a lay audience

**Current Research**

- Making Places Historic Inventory of CT's mills.
- Creative Places State Register nominations.
- Connecticut architecture inventory for guidebook.

**Recommended Research**

- Research that supplements M&R grants and work with homeowners: White paper on energy efficiencies, insulation, dirt basements etc. Reprint Vinyl siding for broader distribution. Co-sponsor Windows repair workshops.
- Need to measure impact of our research projects
- Develop projects that closely connect to our outreach and grants.

**Research projects result in:**

- Broad recognition of variety and quality of historic assets in State of Connecticut
- Broad commitment to use historic buildings, no matter style, type.
- Broader understanding of fitting modern energy efficiency into historic restoration/rehab guidelines

**Education**

- *Connecticut Preservation News*; social media; municipal workshops; Making Places education programs; Creative Places trail; awards.

**Publications, social media, workshops and awards result in:**

- New audiences
- Increased membership
- New partnerships
- Deeper outreach to legislators and municipal leaders



**Governance and Finances**

- Build broader audience for our work using board positions.
- Board representation should reflect program priorities
- Emphasis on competence, reliability and creative energy
- Finances reflect program priorities.
- Funds from State of Connecticut, private foundations, individuals, donors and corporation.

- Program development trumps availability of money. Board will take leadership in developing new programs and projects.
- A new type of development officer, especially for Revolving Fund, should be explored.
- New Membership development should reflect program priorities.
- Restoration Services Directory will be expanded to encompass more variety, especially more historic consultants.
- Financial Reporting Systems will be assessed and updated to reflect state reporting requirements and variety of programs and projects underway.

## **Partners and Legislation:**

- Lead partner is State Historic Preservation Office at Department of Economic and Community Development. Other key partners are CTHP members, both individual and corporate, private and community foundations, Restoration Services Directory sponsors and other advertisers.
- Partners emerge as part of programs identified above and new programs.
- Legislative outreach should reflect programmatic priorities, especially mills and the tax credits essential to their funding for rehab, and protection of the critical preservation funding source, the Community Investment Act.

