Fundraising Resources

There are plenty of resources available to get your project started and keep it going but it does take effort to figure out which resources best fit you and your goals. Here are some ideas to get you started or keep you rolling:

- **Seek sponsorships from local businesses including event sponsorships**
- **Seek out small and medium foundations that provide grants to support environmental, education and energy projects aligned with your goals**

Note: Some organizations offer technical support to start-up organizations. These organizations can connect you to resources like guest speakers, help to advertise your events, provide technical support, and help with the fundamentals to make your events successful. Some are willing to offer to be a fiscal sponsor which allows you to seek funds from other foundations prior to getting your own non-profit status. This type of seed support is critical because without successful events and projects it is hard to attract even small scale funding. A good track record is vital when trying to get larger donations. Examples include [https://grassrootsfund.org/](https://grassrootsfund.org/) an environmental fund and [https://www.mainephilanthropy.org/](https://www.mainephilanthropy.org/). Larger national foundations may not provide funding to start-ups but are good resources for project ideas and guidance for how to organize your projects. Examples include [https://www.thesolarfoundation.org/](https://www.thesolarfoundation.org/) and [https://www.packard.org/](https://www.packard.org/).

- **Seek out grassroots donations which include crowdfunding**
- **Seek out private donors who can make large contributions**

Are there people who are already passionate about your goal who might be looking for opportunities to contribute? These donors may seek you out as a result of your events and successes. Note: Your organization should have someone who can talk to these potential donors. These are the most difficult asks and requires major sophistication, someone with fundraising experience and a working knowledge of the intricacies involved to secure these donations.

*Be aware that some funding sources do NOT include operations. Suggestion: Create and maintain lists of funding sources by what they fund (operations, specific projects etc).*
Want more resources? Go to https://www.aclimatetothrive.org/resources-1/

Some of these organizations offer technical support, make connections to resources like guest speakers. This type of partnership is really the first step as an organization can not expect to be partnered with with any larger funding options until the group can show successes.

ACTT Resources Page Conservation Law
https://www.clf.org/blog/maine-solar-fight-continues/

Many of the following resources provided by https://www.meipl.org/

National Climate Justice -https://nationalclimatejustice.org/

State and Federal Energy Efficiency Websites:
- http://www.efficiencymaine.com/
- http://www.dsireusa.org/  Focused on Maine
- http://www.epa.gov/gateway/learn/greenliving.html

Gardening and Farming:
- UMaine Cooperative Extension  http://extension.umaine.edu/
- Maine Organic Farmers Gardeners Assoc.  www.mofga.org
- Raising Backyard chickens:
  https://modernfarmer.com/2014/07/raising-backyard-chickens-dummies/
- https://www.thehappychickencoop.com/
- FarmDrop year-round online farmers’ markets in Blue Hill & MDI -
  https://mdi.farmdrop.us/

Eating lower on the food chain:
- www.earthsave.org
- http://www.vegetariantimes.com/recipes
- www.vegweb.com

Tackling Single-use Plastic:
- Sustainable MDI Restaurant Pledge Program and info on alternative practices and products to single-use plastic - Contact jill@aclimatetothrive.org
- Sustainable Seacoast - eliminating single-use plastic in Kittery and Portsmouth restaurants: https://sustainableseacoast.org  keith@sustainableseacoast.com
• NRCM: Reusable Bag Community Toolkit, great consulting, and seed grants for getting plastic bag and styrofoam ordinances passed. 

Recycling information:
• Computer recycling:  
  http://www.maine.gov/dep/waste/recycle/computerrecy.html  
• Habitat for Humanity in Maine:  
  http://www.midcoasthabitat.org/  
• All Maine Habitat for Humanity locations  
  https://www.habitat.org/local/affiliate-by-state?state=ME

Responsible Consumerism:
• general: www.goodguide.com  
• car shopping: www.greencars.org  
• cold water laundry and clothes line use:  
  http://www.laundrylist.org/Laundry and Clothes Lines:  
• greener gift registry: www.alternativegiftregistry.org  
• fair trade information: www.fairtradecertified.org

State and Local Issues
Maine Conservation Alliance- lists priority bills, legislative contact information, information on state budgeting, how ideas become law, many more “how to’s”  
  https://protectmaine.org/

Natural Resources Council of Maine- lists priority bills, legislative bill tracking and more  
  https://www.nrcm.org/  
NRCM seed grant applications

Foundations and Grant Seeking -

Listed by University of Maine Farmington  
Not specifically environmental but may be helpful if your organization provides environmental education, community development etc  
  http://www2.umf.maine.edu/grants/assistance-resources/funding-sources-opportunities/foundations/  

Maine State Library - Funding and Grant Sources  
  https://www.maine.gov/msl/libs/admin/funding/
Faith Based Grants in Maine-

Green Energy Maine- weak resource site but may have some potential
http://www.greenenergymaine.com/

Clean Energy Research and Education
http://www.ceref.org/our-services

Green jobs in Maine
Limited
http://maine.greenjobs.net/