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Company/Organization: Hypertherm

**Hypertherm HOPE Foundation Grant Approval Process**

**Challenge or Opportunity:**
Grant applications for the Hypertherm HOPE Foundation need to be reviewed quarterly. Grant amounts have to be approved, letters and emails must be drafted to applicants, and checks sent.

**Approach or Solution:**
Create a grant review committee made up of associate volunteers to review grants for completeness, provide a rating for each grant, and visit non-profits if more information is needed. These associates prepare the grants for decision making by the HOPE team (also Hypertherm associates) and email the applicants regarding the decisions.

**Impact:**
Associates have become more engaged and educated about the non-profits in the Upper Valley. By placing the decision making in the hands of associate owners, we have increased the sense of ownership over our giving in the community. Associates have also identified and cultivated volunteer opportunities with organizations above and beyond initial grant requests.