



VERMONT COMMUNITY LOAN FUND Social Impact Report 2016

July 1, 2015 - June 30, 2016



VCLF LOAN PORTFOLIO July 2016



Dear Friends,

VCLF works to strengthen communities and support families across our state. We work to alleviate poverty by directing socially-motivated, impact-focused capital to local businesses, affordable housing developers, nonprofit service providers and child care programs throughout Vermont.

Day to day, we find ourselves focused on transactions: providing loans, business counseling and financial education. But proper reflection on our work's impact calls us to step back from the transaction to see the transformation. To see the people and communities, the families and farms, the children and youth that are lifted up, set on a healthy path, finding success and sustainability. To see why Vermonters have entrusted us with their capital in order to create the change we all want to see in our communities.

For all those who have supported VCLF with investments, grants and gifts, who have joined with us to fight both the symptoms and effects of poverty in our state, I thank you. Hundreds of thousands of Vermonters — who, because of our work together, today have a home, a job, quality child care or other essential services — thank you too.

Will Belongia

Will Belongia
Executive Director



1,366 Children receiving quality early care & education



1,639 Affordable homes built or rehabilitated



45,602 Vermonters receiving essential services



2,074 Jobs created or preserved



JOIN US!
Support the Loan Fund's efforts throughout Vermont with a donation at:
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VCLF Loan Programs



Community Facilities & Affordable Housing Lending: Building on a Vision

With recent reports confirming Vermont's growing housing affordability crisis, lower-income Vermonters are ever more at risk of homelessness. Partnering with our state's creative, experienced developers of affordable housing, we're rising to the challenge, helping more Vermont families find a safe, secure place to call home.

- Loaned: **\$2,441,285**
- Homes built or rehabilitated: **200**
- Construction jobs created: **74**
- Vermonters receiving services: **3,428**
- Additional project dollars leveraged: **\$13,003,157**

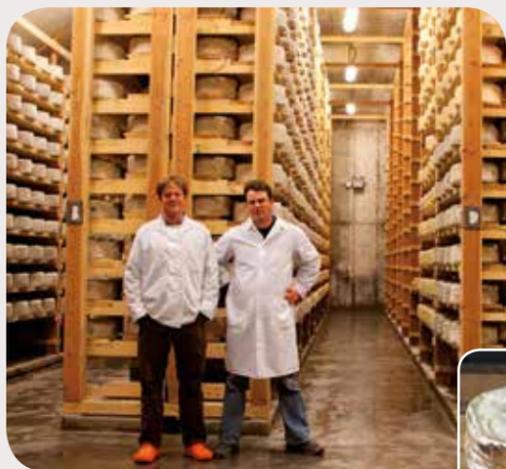


200

Affordable homes built or rehabilitated

"VCLF allows us to do what we need to do, to grow, to be a better member of the community and continue our work."

– Susan Sweetser, Living Well Community Care



"VCLF's mission of local economic development lines up perfectly with our work and mission."

– Mateo Kehler, Jasper Hill Creamery/Cellars at Jasper Hill



Business Lending: Working Wonders

Vermont's small business community is the engine powering our state's economy. For over two decades, VCLF has been committed to offering Vermont's established enterprises and emerging entrepreneurs the loan capital and business development & financial management services that help them thrive. No wonder some of Vermont's biggest success stories come out of our Business Loan Program.

- Loaned: **\$2,143,423**
- Jobs created or preserved: **204**
- Additional project dollars leveraged: **\$2,747,450**



346

Jobs created or preserved

VCLF Grant Programs



Building Bright Spaces for Bright Futures Fund Grants

Funded by legislative appropriations, contributions and revenue from a special-issue license plate, BBSFBFF grants help Vermont's child care providers make additions and improvements to their program space.

- \$57,600** granted
- 8** child care programs received grants
- 446** children and their families benefited



GMP Cow Power Grants

We partner with Green Mountain Power to provide grants and technical assistance for farmers who want to invest in on-farm, methane-based electricity generating plants.



19,000,000 kilowatt hours generated annually by 14 family farms



Child Care Lending: Growing Strong

High-quality early care & education programs have been linked to strong, positive outcomes in adulthood. Still, many Vermont parents can't access or afford quality child care, putting far too many children at a lifelong disadvantage. VCLF works on increasing quality, availability and affordability of care, making the best possible care accessible to all Vermont families.

- Loaned: **\$109,000**
- Child care slots created or retained: **325**
- Jobs created or retained: **68**



325

Child care slots created or retained

"If not for VCLF, I wouldn't have the income that lets me pay for another early educator on-staff. I wouldn't have been able to create care opportunities for four new families last year."

– Melanie Zinn, HoriZinn Early Learning Program

Food, Farms & Forests Fund: Groundbreaking Initiatives

In 2015, we launched the Food, Farms & Forests Fund, a new loan program to deepen our support of Vermont's small farms, food producers and working landscape entrepreneurs. In its first twelve months, the FFF Fund exceeded all expectations, to become a vital agricultural resource in the state. In year one, FFF Funds yielded:

- 7,959,016** lbs. of food
- 931** new acres under management
- 174** jobs



931

New acres under management

"Before VCLF funding, we couldn't easily pursue new channels of distribution, buy raw materials economically or build seasonal inventories to meet increased demand. VCLF has really helped move Village Cannery forward, and we expect to double sales this year!"

– Joe Sheperd, Village Cannery of Vermont



VCLF Technical Assistance

Along with every loan, the Loan Fund's business development and financial management consulting provides free training in a broad range of business skills – from planning to marketing, pricing to accounting, grant writing and more.

- 151** small businesses and child care programs benefited

Project SUCCESS: Supporting Child Care Entrepreneurs with Skills and Strategies

A no-fee resource available to all Vermont child care programs, Project SUCCESS provides business skills training, tailored to the specific needs and requests of child care providers.

- Provided **1,213** hours of 1-on-1 and group Technical Assistance to Project SUCCESS participants
- Trainings benefited **585** children and their families

