



VERMONT  
COMMUNITY  
LOAN FUND  
*Invest in Vermont*

# Points of Interest

*An E-Newsletter from the  
Vermont Community Loan Fund*

June 2021

## The Right to Breathe

Dear Friends,

As we continue to bear witness to the seemingly endless onslaught of murders and attacks suffered by people and communities of color across the country, we at the Vermont Community Loan Fund struggle. We search for words and ways to more effectively, more fully, incorporate racial justice into our work and mission.



Executive Director Will Belongia

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## VCLF's Business Resource Center: Growing to Meet the Need



Along with every loan, VCLF commits to providing free-of-charge business advisory services to borrowers: tools, resources and consulting services to help build their successful enterprises.

Now, with a major expansion of the Loan Fund's Business Resource Center, those resources will reach further than ever before.

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## Bringing it All Back Home: VCLF Borrower KAD Models & Prototypes Opens VT Office

### 2021 Year-to-Date Lending Surpasses 2020 Totals



In their specialized corner of Silicon Valley's high-tech hotbed, advanced machining firm **KAD Models & Prototypes** has been developing into a business to watch. But their latest move - locating KAD's new satellite production facility in CEO Brian Kippen's native Vermont - could prove to be their best yet.

Click below to learn more about KAD coming to Vermont, and all the other loans we've made so far this year.

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### 2020 Impacts Under Review: Doing More With Less

The Loan Fund's 2020 impact numbers are in, and they tell a compelling story about the collective efforts of our borrowers and staff during a time of extraordinary challenges.



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### VCLF Staff Notes and News



In January, **Dan Brown** joined our partner organization, the [Vermont Early Childhood Advocacy Alliance](#), as its new **Director of Public Engagement**, working to support Vermont's diverse network of early childhood advocates in skill development, organizing, and lobbying assistance. Before joining the Alliance, Dan worked on the Zuckerman for Governor and Sanders for President campaigns, and for the Vermont Public Interest Research Group. A native Vermonter and UVM graduate, Dan lives in Burlington with his girlfriend and two cats.

In February, we welcomed **Corey Hennessey** to VCLF's growing [Business Resource Center](#), in the role of **Business Advisor**. Corey has extensive business development, marketing, sales and



management experience working with small farm and food businesses, the Center for an Agricultural Economy, the Vermont Compost Company, and more. A Long Island native, Corey is completing her Master's degree in anthropology. In her spare time, she enjoys music, art and reading, her pet chinchilla, and exploring Vermont's trails.

In March, **Ben Green** joined VCLF in the newly-created post of **Business Navigator**, part of our growing [Business Resource Center](#) team. Ben will provide business advisory services and support to businesses throughout Chittenden County, with a focus on New Americans and Black, Indigenous and People of Color (BIPOC) Vermonters. Ben comes to VCLF with experience in the financial sector, and special expertise in financial technology and mortgage banking. He studied economics and history at Middlebury College where he also played football. He lives in Bridport with his wife, Nicole (a pastry chef!), and their English Bulldog, Mozzarella. In his spare time, he snowboards and volunteers as a football coach at Castleton State University. VCLF is grateful to [Mascoma Bank](#) for co-creating and helping fund this new position.



**Sarah Daluisio** joined VCLF in early May as our new **Investment & Grant Manager**. Sarah's resume is strikingly diverse, including stints as goat farmer, business consultant, retail buyer for an organic grocery chain and a stint at the Vermont Community Foundation. Sarah says that fundraising and relationship-building, in both non- and for-profit sectors, have been the consistent threads throughout. She graduated from American University with a double major in business management and gender studies. Along with husband Gary, preschool-age daughter Gigi, and their two dogs, Sarah lives in South Burlington where you can find her creating gourmet meals in her spare time.



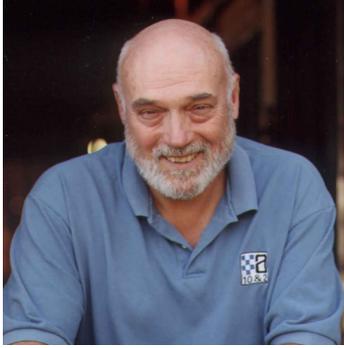
In December, we said farewell to **Charlie Gliserman**, who served as Director of Public Engagement at the [Vermont Early Childhood Advocacy Alliance](#). Charlie now contributes her formidable talents and skills to Planned Parenthood of Northern New England. Best of luck, Charlie! We will miss you!

Many of you will recognize the name of **Susan Hood**, VCLF's longtime Investment and Grant Manager, who retired in April. We'll miss Susan, but we're thrilled that she's embarking on this new chapter, in which, she tells us, she'll explore painting, traveling, and spending as much time as possible with her grandchildren. Thank you, Susan!

## Nominations Open! The 2021 Con Hogan Community Leadership Award

**Winner to Receive \$15,000 Cash Prize**

Nominations are now being accepted for the Con Hogan



Award for Creative, Entrepreneurial, Community Leadership. Launched in 2015, the annual award is a tribute to Con Hogan's life's work and commitment to public service.

The goal of the award is to encourage and reward leaders who share Con's vision for a better Vermont - one that places the highest value on the public good - who seize the responsibility for making that vision real, and who mentor emerging leaders.

Nominations will be accepted through the Vermont Community Foundation's website until 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, June 24, 2021. The awardee must be a Vermont resident who has not yet received the award.

[CLICK HERE](#) for more information or to submit a nomination.

## VCLF is People-Powered. JOIN US!



**Your gift makes VCLF's work possible**, empowering us to be there when we're needed. In 2020, VCLF financing created or retained jobs for 2,231 working Vermonters, quality early care for 1,313 and children & families, affordable homes for 1,313 Vermont households and served almost 35,000 Vermonters with access to essential services.

**YOU can help create opportunities and foster financial stability for all Vermonters. Please consider making your gift today.**  
**Thank you!**

Creating Opportunities Leading to Healthy Communities and Financial Stability for ALL Vermonters

Have news you'd like to share about a Loan Fund borrower?

[Email us!](#)



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