

# UVM Extension Legislative Testimony February 22, 2014

## **Mission:**

Improve the quality of life of Vermonters by providing research-based educational programs and practical information concerning Vermont communities, families and homes, farms, businesses, and the natural environment.

## **Fast Facts:**

- UVM Extension faculty was successful in securing over 4.2 million dollars in grants and contracts for outreach activities in Vermont.
- More than 39,000 direct personal contacts were made by UVM Extension faculty and program staff.
- More than 9,400 youth contacts were made with UVM Extension programs.
- More than 4,700 citizens volunteered nearly 36,000 hours with UVM Extension
- UVM Extension offered more than 1,000 significant educational events (6 hours minimum) to over 13,000 non-traditional Vermont students (residents) covering a wide range of subject areas.
- The "Across the Fence" daily television program reached an estimated 20,000 households each day.

## **Budget: (see attachment)**

## **Program Areas:**

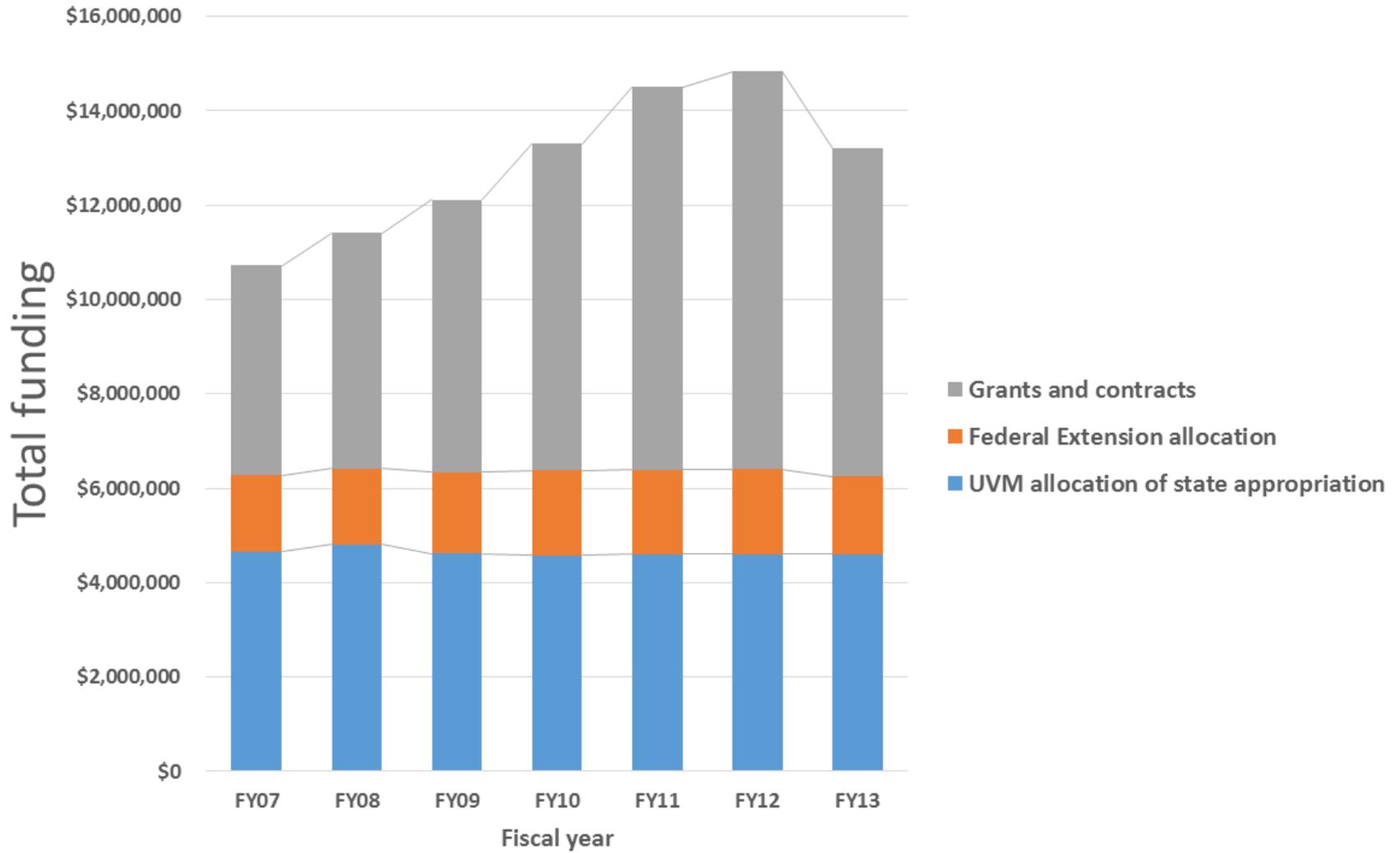
- Educate individuals and families
  - Engage youth through 4-H and other programs
  - Teach nutrition and food safety
  - Provide home gardening information
  - Manage soil health and water quality
- Support agriculture and the environment
  - Increase agricultural business profitability with planning
  - Support forest and farm stewardship and safety
  - Test new crops and expand markets for locally produced foods
  - Facilitate farm transfers and support new farmers
- Strengthen communities
  - Teach leadership and communication skills
  - Promote economic development and collaborative community projects
  - Support local urban forestry programs
  - Support Master Gardener educators and volunteers

## **New Opportunities:**

- Hemp as a new crop?
- Health care in the agricultural community?
- State Agency collaboration?
- Incentive Based Budgeting

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## University of Vermont Extension funding FY07-FY13



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