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Hello,

I'm Angelike Contis, a resident of Jericho and board chair of the Vermont Access Network. Please support our \$1 million one-time FY25 funding request, while a permanent funding source is being discussed in the legislature.

We are made up of 24 community media centers. This funding will make it possible for us to continue to say "Yes!" instead of "Maybe" or "No" when our communities reach out for support.

At Mount Mansfield Community Television, where I've worked for 12 years, we say "Yes!" If the MMU high school band director asks us to stream their winter concert, yes, we will definitely hire a student to do it. If the local selectboard has a special budget meeting before Town Meeting Day, of course, yes, we'll cover it; after all, we processed 369 meetings in 2023! If our library is hosting a talk on Jericho's own Snowflake Bentley for his birthday...you guessed, it a thousand times "Yes!" The same goes for camp scholarships, candidate Q&As, 24/7 hybrid meeting tech support, and livestreams from venues including fields and barns.

We are still saying "Yes!" despite the threat to our main revenue source (cable funding) as viewers shift to watching us online. We don't want to start saying "no" when it comes to helping our state, towns, cities, schools and countless nonprofit partners (over a hundred of which signed a letter of support submitted by the Vermont Access Network).

We are maybe most visible on Town Meeting Day or graduation, but every day my colleagues throughout the state are behind the scenes nodding "Yes!" when it comes to supporting Vermont's civic, cultural and community life.

Please support the Vermont Access Network's FY25 one-time funding request of \$1 million, while a permanent funding source is discussed in the legislature.