



FY 2013 INVESTMENT IN VERMONT
\$148,121,867

ADDISON	\$7,810,515
BENNINGTON	\$7,218,178
CALEDONIA	\$6,134,225
CHITTENDEN	\$25,752,962
ESSEX	\$611,760
FRANKLIN	\$26,671,748
GRAND ISLE	\$2,376,799
LAMOILLE	\$6,264,415
ORANGE	\$11,791,810
ORLEANS	\$3,963,260
RUTLAND	\$9,108,517
WASHINGTON	\$17,269,367
WINDHAM	\$7,896,217
WINDSOR	\$5,273,219
REAP ZONE	\$1,590,701
STATEWIDE OR MULTIPLE COUNTIES	\$50,000
RENTAL ASSISTANCE – STATEWIDE	\$8,338,174
BROADBAND INITIATIVE PROGRAM	\$0

Brattleboro Area Office

(serving Bennington, Rutland, Windham, and Windsor Counties)
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Montpelier Area Office

(serving Addison, Chittenden, Grand Isle, Franklin, Lamoille, Orange, and Washington Counties)
 USDA Rural Development
 87 State Street, Suite 304, P O Box 249
 Montpelier, VT 05601
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USDA Rural Development is an equal opportunity employer, provider, and lender.

**USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT INVESTMENT IN
ADDISON COUNTY
\$7,810,515**

Town/City of Project	Project Name	Description	Program	FY	Amount
	Four Hills Farm	Aerobic Digester	Producer Payment	2013	\$ 1,468
	Audet's Cow Power	Aerobic Digester	Producer Payment	2013	\$2,505
	Monument Farms Three Generations	Aerobic Digester	Producer Payment	2013	\$380
	Dubois Energy	Aerobic Digester	Producer Payment	2013	\$1,135

\$5,488

ADDISON COUNTY HOUSING PROGRAMS		
Single Family Direct Loans		\$90,035
Single Family Guaranteed Loans		\$7,700,692
Housing Repair Grants		\$8,350
Housing Repair Loans		\$5,950
Labor Housing Loans		

\$7,805,027

**USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT INVESTMENT IN
BENNINGTON COUNTY
\$7,218,178**

Town/City of Project	Project Name	Description	Program	FY	Amount
Bennington	Green Mountain Community Network, Inc.	Additional cost to rehabilitate and reconfigure the Green Mountain Community Network facility (Bennington's multi model facility). A larger garage area will be constructed for bus storage/maintenance; enclosure of the exterior porches will be done so there is a safe and comfortable place for passengers to wait for rides; ADA upgrades will be made. Additionally, there will be an improved shelter area for bus parking; and complete site work redesign for safety and flow is proposed.	Community Facility Direct Loan	2013	\$35,000
Bennington	Town of Bennington	Rural Development funds will be used to Marketing of the Town of Bennington through video, recruitment package, and "View Book" (Area Guide). The project has the potential to impact the residents who live in and around the area, and businesses that employ local residents and that add value to the community at large specifically small businesses; and locally owned businesses as well as improve job creation.	Rural Business Enterprise Grant	2013	\$12,590

\$47,590

BENNINGTON COUNTY HOUSING PROGRAMS		
Single Family Direct Loans		\$320,300
Single Family Guaranteed Loans		\$6,819,638
Housing Repair Grants		\$30,650
Housing Repair Loans		
Labor Housing Loans		

\$7,170,588

**USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT INVESTMENT IN
CALEDONIA COUNTY
\$6,134,225**

Town/City of Project	Project Name	Description	Program	FY	Amount
Sheffield-Wheelock	Sheffield-Wheelock Volunteer Fire Department	Funds used to purchase a 1991 tanker truck that was refurbished in 2008 and had the pump rebuilt in 2012. This truck replaces an older tanker that would have required over \$20,000 in repairs. The new truck represents an important improvement to the volunteer fire department's ability to fight fires and save lives in the remote areas of northern Vermont.	Community Facility Loan and Grant	2013	\$37,667
St. Johnsbury	Catamount Film and Arts Inc.	Digital Cinema Initiative equipment to replace existing projection equipment. This upgrade will allow the two on-site theaters to continue presenting movies	Economic Impact Initiative Grant	2013	\$30,900

\$68,567

CALEDONIA COUNTY HOUSING PROGRAMS		
Single Family Direct Loans		\$588,145
Single Family Guaranteed Loans		\$5,457,206
Housing Repair Grants		\$16,307
Housing Repair Loans		\$4,000
Labor Housing Loans		
		\$6,065,658

**USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT INVESTMENT IN
CHITTENDEN COUNTY
\$25,752,962**

Town/City of Project	Project Name	Description	Program	FY	Amount
Winooski	City of Winooski	Funds used to construct an air-lock vestibule at the main entrance to the City Library, improving energy efficiency and accessibility.	Community Facility Grant	2013	\$7,800
Shelburne	Town of Shelburne	Funds will be used to Technical Assistance to small and emerging businesses to develop and grow an industry cluster for the production of value-added agricultural and forestry products. 10 businesses will be assisted with the potential for 288 jobs being created/saved (274 jobs will be retained at the VT Teddy Bear Factory)	Rural Business Enterprise Grant	2013	\$23,000

\$30,800

CHITTENDEN COUNTY HOUSING PROGRAMS		
Single Family Direct Loans		\$409,300
Single Family Guaranteed Loans		\$25,309,862
Housing Repair Grants		
Housing Repair Loans		\$3,000
Labor Housing Loans		

\$25,722,162

**USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT INVESTMENT IN
ESSEX COUNTY**

\$611,760

Town/City of Project	Project Name	Description	Program	FY	Amount
Canaan	Town of Canaan	Funds will be used to pay additional construction costs due to bids coming in higher than original estimate provided by the engineer. The additional grant funds will allow the town to make necessary improvements and the rates affordable.	Water and Waste Disposal Grant	2013	\$388,000

\$388,000

ESSEX COUNTY HOUSING PROGRAMS		
Single Family Direct Loans		\$111,260
Single Family Guaranteed Loans		\$106,000
Housing Repair Grants		\$5,125
Housing Repair Loans		\$1,375
Labor Housing Loans		

\$223,760

**USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT INVESTMENT IN
FRANKLIN COUNTY
\$26,671,748**

Town/City of Project	Project Name	Description	Program	FY	Amount
Franklin	Rodney Bushey, Jr.	This project will assist in funding the purchase and installation of a Reverse Osmosis system and additional membrane to increase energy efficiency in maple production and reduce oil consumption. The installation of the reverse osmosis system and membrane will save an estimated 2,647 gallons of oil per year.	Rural Energy for America Program Grant	2013	\$12,002
East Fairfield	Lawrence Sloan, Jr.	This project will assist with the purchase and installation of two 4800 gph reverse osmosis systems to increase energy efficiency in maple syrup production. These energy efficiency upgrades will reduce oil consumption by an estimated 65% OR 13,335 gallons of oil per year.	Rural Energy for America Program Grant	2013	\$38,347
	Kane's Cow Power	Anerobic Digester	Producer Payment	2013	\$609
Fletcher	Vermont Cranberry Company	Funds will be used to assist farmers, ranchers, and rural small businesses in developing renewable energy systems, and in making energy-efficiency improvements to their operations. This project will help fund the purchase and installation of a 2 kW on farm micro hydro project to replace electrical usage. The micro hydro system is estimated to generate 5,850 kWh of electricity which is 72% of the farms annual usage.	Rural Energy for America Program Grant	2013	\$5,520

\$56,478

FRANKLIN COUNTY HOUSING PROGRAMS		
Single Family Direct Loans		\$109,210
Single Family Guaranteed Loans		\$26,506,060
Housing Repair Grants		
Housing Repair Loans		
Labor Housing Loans		

\$26,615,270

**USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT INVESTMENT IN
GRAND ISLE COUNTY**

\$2,376,799

Town/City of Project	Project Name	Description	Program	FY	Amount

\$0

GRAND ISLE COUNTY HOUSING PROGRAMS		
Single Family Direct Loans		\$189,715
Single Family Guaranteed Loans		\$2,180,584
Housing Repair Grants		\$6,500
Housing Repair Loans		
Labor Housing Loans		

\$2,376,799

**USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT INVESTMENT IN
LAMOILLE COUNTY
\$6,264,415**

Town/City of Project	Project Name	Description	Program	FY	Amount
Johnson	Deep Root Organic Truck Farmer's Cooperative Inc.	Funds will be used for planning to expand the sales and distribution of the fruits and vegetables grown by the Deep Root Coop that already involves the Neighboring Food Coops Association (NFCA). This planning grant will expand the sales and distribution of the fruits and vegetables grown by the Deep Root Coop members thereby increasing the customer base as well as revenue return to the producer members.	Value-Added Producer Grant	2013	\$37,500

\$37,500

LAMOILLE COUNTY HOUSING PROGRAMS		
Single Family Direct Loans		
Single Family Guaranteed Loans		\$6,219,415
Housing Repair Grants		
Housing Repair Loans		\$7,500
Labor Housing Loans		

\$6,226,915

**USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT INVESTMENT IN
ORANGE COUNTY**

\$11,791,810

Town/City of Project	Project Name	Description	Program	FY	Amount
Randolph	Town of Randolph	Funds will be used to upgrade the town's wastewater treatment plant. The existing plant has been in operation for over 40 years and is in need of replacement for physical/structural reasons and for compliance reasons. It discharges effluent in the Third Branch of the White River. The project will convert the plant from an extended aeration process to a Sequencing Batch Reactor (SBR) process, new chlorine contact tank, sludge storage improvements, conversion to a centrifuge dewatering system and a new septage receiving facility. A non-compliant pump station will also be replaced.	Water and Waste Disposal Loan and Grant	2013	\$7,667,000
White River Junction	Green Mountain Economic Development Corp. and Pompanoosuc Mills Inc.	Funds will be used to acquire the existing manufacturing facility occupied by Pompanoosuc Mills Corporation in conjunction with a global restructure of company assets. The project is critical to saving the existing 137 company jobs and, once stabilized, will be vital to supporting the projected 13 additional jobs to be created.	Business and Industry Guaranteed Loan	2013	\$205,680

\$7,872,680

ORANGE COUNTY HOUSING PROGRAMS		
Single Family Direct Loans		\$235,255
Single Family Guaranteed Loans		\$3,674,175
Housing Repair Grants		
Housing Repair Loans		\$9,700
Labor Housing Loans		

\$3,919,130

**USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT INVESTMENT IN
ORLEANS COUNTY
\$3,963,260**

Town/City of Project	Project Name	Description	Program	FY	Amount
North Troy	Village of North Troy	Funds will be used to construct approximately 1,150 linear feet of new waterline on Geraldine Avenue. The current waterline is undersized and does not provide proper pressures for the residents and for fire protection.	Water and Waste Disposal Loan and Grant	2013	\$265,000
	Chaput	Anderobic Digester	Producer Payment	2013	\$911
Craftsbury	Louise and Randi Calderwood	Funds will be used to assist farmers, ranchers, and rural small businesses in developing renewable energy systems, and in making energy-efficiency improvements to their operations. This project will fund the purchase and installation of a Reverse Osmosis post and membrane unit to increase energy efficiency in maple syrup production. These energy efficiency upgrades will reduce oil consumption by an estimated 120 million BTU's annually.	Rural Energy for America Program Grant	2013	\$1,736
North Troy	Reg Chaput	Purchase farm unit for farm labor.	Farm Labor Housing Program	2013	\$125,000

\$392,647

ORLEANS COUNTY HOUSING PROGRAMS		
Single Family Direct Loans		\$147,910
Single Family Guaranteed Loans		\$3,368,583
Housing Repair Grants		\$24,700
Housing Repair Loans		\$29,420
Labor Housing Loans		

\$3,570,613

**USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT INVESTMENT IN
RUTLAND COUNTY
\$9,108,517**

Town/City of Project	Project Name	Description	Program	FY	Amount
Rutland	Vermont Foodbank	Funds will be used to purchase a large scale freezer and refrigeration unit and related equipment to establish a food distribution center in Rutland, VT. This will expand the local and fresh food option available to the over 6,000 low income and food insecure families in the Rutland County region.	Economic Impact Initiative Grant	2013	\$21,420
Rutland	Vermont Foodbank	Funds will be used to purchase a large scale freezer and refrigeration unit and related equipment to establish a food distribution center in Rutland, VT. This will expand the local and fresh food option available to the over 6,000 low income and food insecure families in the Rutland County region.	Community Facility Grant	2013	\$1,180
Poultney	Village of Poultney	tractor with snow plow, snow blower and sweeper attachments to be used for snow removal and sidewalk maintenance. The sidewalk plow will help keep the sidewalks safe and accessible during the winter in Poultney, VT. With the addition of miles of new and reconstructed sidewalks in Poultney Village, there has also been a significant increase in pedestrian traffic. Much of that increased traffic is due to the new Stone Valley Community Market located on Main Street and Green Mountain College's renovated Bentley House that created additional community meeting space, both projects which included Rual Development funding.	Economic Impact Initiative Grant	2013	\$20,800
	Vermont Wood Pellet	Pellets	Producer Payment	2013	\$7,664

\$51,064

RUTLAND COUNTY HOUSING PROGRAMS		
Single Family Direct Loans		\$1,291,405
Single Family Guaranteed Loans		\$7,725,718
Housing Repair Grants		\$32,830
Housing Repair Loans		\$7,500
Labor Housing Loans		

\$9,057,453

**USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT INVESTMENT IN
WASHINGTON COUNTY
\$17,269,367**

Town/City of Project	Project Name	Description	Program	FY	Amount
Berlin	Town of Berlin	Funds will be used to create a new municipal water system for the Town of Berlin. The proposed service area currently has several hazardous waste sites, history of failed underground storage tanks and other areas of groundwater contamination from road salt and petroleum products. This area is a mixture of residential, commercial and institutional users, each having individual wells and water systems. The new system will include three source wells, a treatment plant, a storage tank and a distribution system that will also provide fire protection.	Water and Waste Disposal Loan and Grant	2013	\$5,534,000
Waitsfield	Town of Waitsfield	Funds will be used to allow the Town of Waitsfield to extend the existing water main approximately 220 feet, complete a horizontal boring under Mill Brook and connect to the existing service lines at the Eagles Resort. The Eagles Resort is a sixteen unit two-bedroom unit condominium association. The Eagles Resort had an existing public community water system that recently experienced a decline in available water quantity, and an unpermitted emergency well had to be utilized to maintain the supply. This past winter the Eagles Resort was forced to haul bulk water to their storage tank to keep up with the demand, costing the association thousands of dollars.	Water and Waste Disposal Loan	2013	\$200,000
Montpelier	Vermont Small Business Development Corporation	Funds will be used to provide low-interest loans to public and non-profit organizations to relend for business and community development. Based on historical funding to the organization the funds will assist 20 rural businesses retain	Intermediary Relending Program	2013	\$1,000,000
Montpelier	VT Fuel Dealers Association	Conduct a feasibility for an advanced biofuel production facility and develop a preliminary business plan for utilizing the waste or low cost throughout feedstocks generated by farms. Project will assist 2 businesses and save 7 jobs.	Rural Business Enterprise Grant	2013	\$55,410

\$6,789,410

WASHINGTON COUNTY HOUSING PROGRAMS		
Single Family Direct Loans		\$573,320
Single Family Guaranteed Loans		\$9,863,787
Housing Repair Grants		\$15,000
Housing Repair Loans		\$27,850
Labor Housing Loans		

\$10,479,957

**USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT INVESTMENT IN
WINDHAM COUNTY
\$7,896,217**

Town/City of Project	Project Name	Description	Program	FY	Amount
Westminster Station	The Compass School, Inc.	Funds will be used to expand Compass School in rural Westminster VT as well as upgrade the energy efficiency of the facility and refinance debt. Serving students in grades 7 to 12, this addition will allow expansion of the science and art labs, two quiet study spaces, and additional classroom space so classes currently held in the basement room can be in an accessible location. Heating, lighting, and insulation upgrades will help the school reduce utility costs as well as energy usage.	Community Facility Direct Loan	2013	\$1,105,000
Brattleboro	Vermont Foodbank	Funds will be used to purchase a staff vehicle for the Brattleboro Distribution Facility to allow for coordination and partnership visits to regional food pantries and partners. This will enable more efficient partnerships and distribution networks that will feed families with fresher, healthier food in Southern Vermont.	Economic Impact Initiative Grant	2013	\$8,500
Brattleboro	Vermont Foodbank	Funds will be used to install equipment and storage upgrades to the Vermont Foodbank's Brattleboro Distribution Center. These facility improvements will allow the distribution center to receive increased donated salvaged food, and provide greater service to wheelchair-bound clients and the elderly, pregnant women and parents of children who will have greater food choices in the "shopping area." These are important improvements that will serve more food-insecure households with healthier, local foods.	Economic Impact Initiative Grant	2013	\$18,200
Westminster Station	Westminster Energy Group, LLD	Funds will be used to assist farmers, ranchers, and rural small businesses in developing renewable energy systems, and in making energy-efficiency improvements to their operations. This project will assist in the funding of a 2nd kW generator to be added to Westminster Energy Groups existing anaerobic digester. The addition of the second generator will allow the farm to accept off farm substrates that will increase energy output by an additional 1,336,771 kWh per year.	Rural Energy for America Program Grant	2013	\$108,654
Brattleboro	Latchis Arts, Inc.	Funds will be used to replace theater seats in the main Latchis Theater in downtown Brattleboro. The seats will be historically accurate to comply with historical design standards but upgraded to safety code requirements and add handicapped accessible areas and features. This will provide comfortable, accessible, and safe seating to enjoy the cultural events provided at the Latchis Theater.	Community Facility Grant	2013	\$32,600
Townshend	Big Picture Farm, LLC	This project will fund the purchase and installation of an 18kw solar photo voltaic solar system on the barn roof of a goat dairy and farmstead confectionery. The solar installation will produce 22,230 kWh of electricity which will replace an estimated 63% of current usage.	Rural Energy for America Program Grant	2013	\$14,501

Brattleboro	New England Center for Circus Arts, Inc.	Funds will be used to purchase equipment and fixtures for New England Center for Circus Arts. This not-for-profit school offers training programs to youth, providing skills in team building, self-confidence, determination, hard work and artistic and athletic skills through the discipline of circus arts.	Economic Impact Initiative Grant and Community Facility Grant	2013	\$44,100
Brattleboro	Strolling of the Heifers	Funds will be used to purchase the Robert H. Gibson River Garden building in Brattleboro VT and provide a venue for Strolling of the Heifers year-round programming including the Strolling of the Heifers Weekend, the Slow Living Summit, the Vermont Farm/Food Business Plan Competition, and the Localvore Index. The facility will feature permanent and changing educational exhibits relating to local farms and food; present classes, lectures and meetings focused on education around local food and healthy living; host the Brattleboro Winter Farmers Market; maintain the location as Waypoint Center with tourist information and public restrooms; and provide rental space to a wide variety of organizations for a wide variety of events.	Community Facility Direct Loan	2013	\$175,000
Wilmington	Mount Snow Region Chamber of Commerce	Funds will be used for marketing the Mount Snow Valley Region by providing support to help small businesses in the service area recover and expand after a long period of decline. The project will develop a clear brand and cohesive marketing strategy to identify target demographics, and promote tourism, to increase business and create new jobs.	Rural Business Enterprise Grant	2013	\$49,000
	Westminster Energy	Anerobic Digester	Producer Payment	2013	\$821

\$1,556,376

WINDHAM COUNTY HOUSING PROGRAMS		
Single Family Direct Loans		\$1,564,050
Single Family Guaranteed Loans		\$4,721,731
Housing Repair Grants		\$23,060
Housing Repair Loans		\$31,000
Labor Housing Loans		

\$6,339,841

**USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT INVESTMENT IN
WINDSOR COUNTY
\$5,273,219**

Town/City of Project	Project Name	Description	Program	FY	Amount
Springfield	Springfield Family Center, Inc.	Funds will be used to purchase energy-efficient freezer and refrigerator units for the Springfield Family Center Food Shelf, serving over 1,000 Springfield VT residents in need of food assistance. These new appliances will allow healthier local foods to be distributed as a nutritious option at the Food Shelf, as well as reduce the energy costs for the Springfield Family Center.	Community Facility Grants	2013	\$1,500

\$1,500

WINDSOR COUNTY HOUSING PROGRAMS		
Single Family Direct Loans		\$695,900
Single Family Guaranteed Loans		\$4,512,609
Housing Repair Grants		\$56,520
Housing Repair Loans		\$6,690
Labor Housing Loans		

\$5,271,719

**USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT INVESTMENT IN
RURAL ECONOMIC AREA PARTNERSHIP (REAP) ZONE - MULTIPLE COUNTIES
\$1,590,701**

Town/City of Project	Project Name	Description	Program	FY	Amount
Caledonia, Essex and Orleans	Northern Forest Service	Meets <i>Investing in Manufacturing Partnership Initiative</i> -funds will be used over a 2 year period to strengthen the long term competitiveness, workforce and profile of wood products manufacturing businesses in the Northeast Kingdom REAP Zone. The project will deliver technical assistance to manufacturing businesses with a focus on enhancing long-term economic competitiveness. Additionally, the project will have a focus on documenting and replicating "best practices". The project is expected to directly assist 4 companies with an ultimate goal of reaching up to 130 companies with the "best practices" isolated in the first 4 cases. The project is expected to bolster up to 150 jobs and has a goal of creating up to 30 jobs.	Rural Business Opportunity Grant	2013	\$100,000
Caledonia, Essex and Orleans	Northern Community Investment Corporation	Funds will be used over a 2 year period to hire an Economic Development Specialist to provide intensive business technical assistance to the Northeast Kingdom REAP Zone. Targeting will be used to identify business that demonstrate strong potential to improve employment. The project is being undertaken in direct partnership with long-standing REAP Zone economic development leaders such as Lyndon State and Northeastern Vermont Development Association. The project anticipates the strengthening or creation of 10 jobs.	Rural Business Opportunity Grant	2013	\$100,000
Caledonia, Essex and Orleans	Northerneastern Vermont Development Association	Meets <i>Investing in Manufacturing Partnership Initiative</i> -project supports area-wide comprehensive economic development planning in the Northeast Kingdom REAP Zone. RD funds will be used over a 2 year period to address the substantial economic planning and development needs that have arisen as a result of major development projects now underway in Jay, Newport, Derby, Conventry and Burke, Vermont. The project will also seek to initiate the operation of the recently approved Foreign Trade Zone and establish a program of business education so as to enable access to the Zone benefits by businesses in the REAP Zone. Lastly, the project will seek to work with local officials throughout the region to help them develop local economic development plans that are now a required Town Plan element under Vermont state statue.	Rural Business Opportunity Grant	2013	\$100,000

Caledonia, Essex and Orleans	Gilman Housing Trust Inc d/b/a Rural Edge	Rural Development funds will be used in the Northeast Kingdom (REAP Zone) to provide grants/and or low interest loans to 15 very low income households for repair/rehab of single family homes to assist in bringing the homes into compliance with applicable housing standards and codes including energy efficiency. The HPG funds from Rural Development will be leveraged with \$500,000.00 from other sources.	Housing Preservation Grant	2013	\$100,000
Caledonia, Essex and Orleans	Northeast Employment & Training	Rural Development funds will be used in the Northeast Kingdom (REAP Zone) to provide grants to 30 very low income households for repair/rehab and weatherization of Single Family homes to assist in bringing the homes into compliance with applicable housing standards and codes for energy efficiency. The HPG funds from Rural Development will be leveraged with \$100,000.00 of NETO's current program funds.	Housing Preservation Grant	2013	\$100,000
Caledonia, Essex and Orleans	Vermont Center for Independent Living	Rural Development funds will be used in the Northeast Kingdom (REAP Zone) to provide grants to 17 very low income households for repair/rehab and weatherization of Single Family homes to assist in bringing the homes into compliance with applicable housing standards and codes for energy efficiency as well as making homes accessible for independent living. The HPG funds from Rural Development will be leveraged with approximately \$150,000.00 of VCIL's current program funds.	Housing Preservation Grant	2013	\$100,000
St. Johnsbury	Northern Community Investment Corporation	Funds will be used to provide specialized Technical Assistance and professional consulting to private small and emerging business in the Northeast Kingdom of VT	Rural Business Enterprise Grant	2013	\$237,435
Hardwick	Center for an Agricultural Economy	Funds will be used to provide small farms with access to light processing of local fruits and vegetables for year-round sale to small grocers, grocers' associations, co-ops and distributors through the Vermont Food Venture Center's Food Hub project. The project will establish the cost of packaging for the businesses. The project builds on a pilot run by the Center in 2012. The project will assist 10 businesses and save 6 jobs.	Rural Business Enterprise Grant	2013	\$141,198
East Burke	Northeast Kingdom Travel & Tourism Association	Funds will be used to assist businesses to develop and deploy adaptive strategies and cooperative marketing to raise awareness of and connect potential visitors to the services offered by small and emerging businesses in the Northeast Kingdom REAP Zone. Project is anticipated to assist 130 rural small businesses and create/save 15 rural jobs.	Rural Business Enterprise Grant	2013	\$113,940

St. Johnsbury	Catamount Film and Arts Inc.	Funds will be used to implement a new regional internet-based on-line reservation and ticketing system. The project is designed to improve efficiency and ticket access to performances at Catamount and other arts venues in the region. The project will bolster outreach and marketing for performances thereby directly benefiting small businesses (artists, production companies and the like) that utilize the Catamount and other regional performance venues. The project will creat 1 job and support 4 existing rural small Creative Economy businesses.	Rural Business Enterprise Grant	2013	\$25,000
Sheffield-Wheelock	Sheffield-Wheelock Volunteer Fire Department	Funds used to purchase a 1991 tanker truck that was refurbished in 2008 and had the pump rebuilt in 2012. This truck replaces an older tanker that would have required over \$20,000 in repairs. The new truck represents an important improvement to the volunteer fire department's ability to fight fires and save lives in the remote areas of northern Vermont.	Community Facility Grant	2013	\$17,333
Newport	Northeast Kingdom Community Action, Inc.	Funds will be used to purchase shared commercial kitchen equipment to support a start-up cooperative local food destination showcase. The project will assist 3 small and emerging local foods businesses and create 15 jobs.	Rural Business Enterprise Grant	2013	\$60,000
Newport	VT Farm-to-School	Funds will be used to provide technical assistance, marketing and production planning with farmers to scale-up the Green Mountain Farm Direct food hub from it current wholesale only to an end-consumer, workplace distribution CSA model. Project will create an online ordering and product information website to enhance sales and provide direct consumer information. The project will assist 6 businesses; 5 small farms and 1 distribution company. The project will save 7 jobs.	Rural Business Enterprise Grant	2013	\$57,185
Newport	Newport City Renaissance Corp	Funds will be used to provide technical assistance to active lifestyle companies and organizations with programs located in Newport and amplify cross-promotion allowing enhancement and expansion of small business. Technical Assistance will include: On-line marketing suport; Develop a recreation map; Marketing and Event-Planning support for a downtown recreation triathlon; Assist in development or expansion of cooperatively owned businesses and enhance value-added based business by cross-promotion with the farms and restaurants that benefit from the Newport Fresh by Nature Project. The project is expected to assist 18 small businesses and create/save 30 jobs.	Rural Business Enterprise Grant	2013	\$83,000

Newport	Northern Community Investment Corporation	Funds will be used to provide Newport area small business assistance. Northern Community Investment Corporation (NCIC) will partner with Northeastern Vermont Development Association (NVDA) to place staff in Newport VT for assisting small businesses. Technical Assistance staff will work with community organizations in understanding challenges of small businesses and develop solutions/projects that will foster small businesses growth. The project is expected to assist 4 rural small and emerging businesses and support 16 local jobs.	Rural Business Enterprise Grant	2013	\$149,110
Jay	Jay Peak Area Chamber of Commerce	Funds will be used to purchase and install two info/web based Kiosks that will be placed at Jay Peak Resort for the purpose of assisting small and emerging businesses in the Jay Chamber Region. Website structure will track site analytics and include mobile device compatibility. Local photographers will be hired to provide up to 80 images for website. Training to JPACC staff on web content management, analytics, and social media interface. The project will assist 5 businesses. The project will save 6 jobs.	Rural Business Enterprise Grant	2013	\$63,500
Caldonia and Lamoille	Vermont Association of Snow Travelers Inc.	Funds will be used to support the development of marketing materials and a marketing strategy so as to benefit small and emerging rural businesses in the towns through which the planned Lamoille Valley Rail Trail will service. 11 business supporting 45 jobs for the Morrisville to St. Johnsbury link of the trail have identified for assistance.	Rural Business Enterprise Grant	2013	\$27,000
Newport	Newport Ambulance Service, Inc.	Funds used to purchase automatic cardio-pulmonary resuscitation equipment for use on ambulance runs in rural northern Vermont.	Community Facility Grant	2013	\$16,000

\$1,590,701

The Northeast Kingdom was designated as a Rural Economic Area Partnership (REAP) Zone, one of only five in the country, in 2000. This was a result of tenacious effort of Senator Leahy and his staff with support from Vermont's Congressional delegation and many Vermont partners. The designation offers the Northeast Kingdom access to additional federal funding for business development, job creation, housing, and water and sewer infrastructure projects from USDA Rural Development and adds priority points to applications for other funding sources. In the 2008 Farm Bill, Senator Leahy with support from Vermont congressional delegation secured a critical extension of the REAP Zone until 2013. As a result of this small but important preference in Federal law the counties of Caledonia, Essex, and Orleans will continue to have greater access to important USDA Rural Development programs.

**USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT INVESTMENT IN
MULTIPLE COUNTIES OR STATEWIDE
\$50,000**

Town/City of Project	Project Name	Description	Program	FY	Amount
Windsor and Windham	Southeastern Vermont Community Action Inc.	Rural Development funds will be used to assist 68 very low income households and 12 low households in resolving serious health and safety issues and weatherization. The HPG funds will help their existing program in reaching more households in need. This area was severely hit by the Irene flood and appears to still need more help.	Housing Preservation Grant	2013	\$50,000