

2016

USDA Rural Development Vermont & New Hampshire Annual Report

Improved
water and wastewater systems
for **70,092**
people



Housed
5,771
families



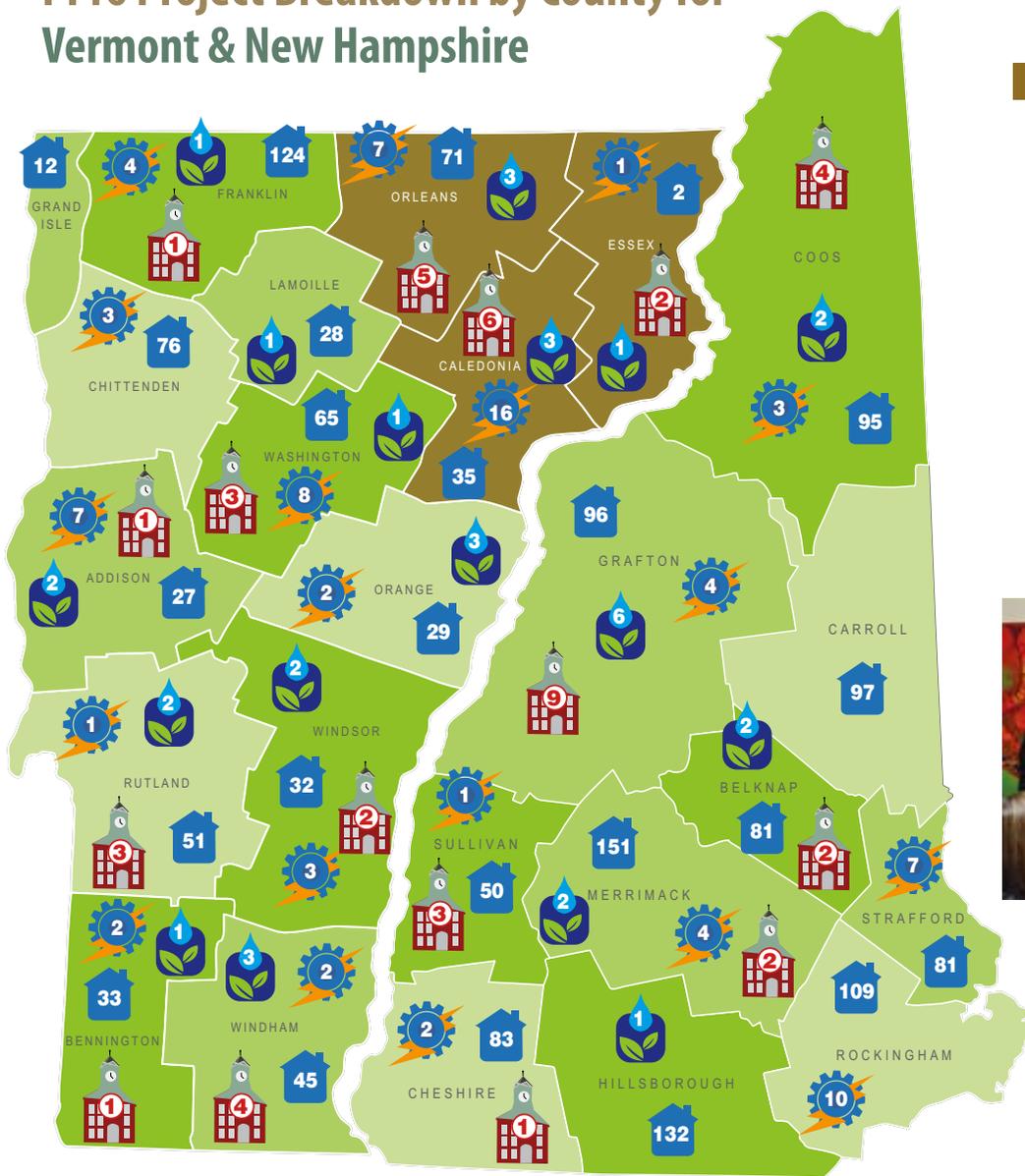
Created
598
JOBS



465
Engaged
communities

Committed to the future of rural communities.

FY16 Project Breakdown by County for Vermont & New Hampshire



Vermont's Rural Economic Area Partnership Zone

Rural Development designated Vermont's Northeast Kingdom as one of America's five Rural Economic Area Partnership Zones in 2001. The designation, reauthorized in the 2014 Farm Bill by U.S. Sen. Patrick Leahy, provides special funding for development projects in the Kingdom. In FY16, this designation brought the region an additional \$6,701,706



Senator Patrick Leahy and Congressman Peter Welch present Northeastern Vermont Development Association with a grant to work with REAP Zone communities to identify community development goals and create action plans to focus local efforts.



BUSINESS & ENERGY



WATER & ENVIRONMENT



COMMUNITY FACILITY



HOUSING

*Multi-family rental properties receiving rental assistance were counted as one project. Each multi-family rental property represents multiple families receiving Rural Development assistance.

VERMONT

PROGRAM AMOUNT

BUSINESS	\$	19,627,043
HOUSING	\$	98,188,822
COMMUNITY FACILITIES	\$	12,943,300
WATER & ENVIRONMENTAL	\$	18,806,892
TELECOMMUNICATIONS	\$	-
TOTAL:	\$	149,566,057

NEW HAMPSHIRE

PROGRAM AMOUNT

BUSINESS	\$	6,065,245
HOUSING	\$	154,798,190
COMMUNITY FACILITIES	\$	38,986,700
WATER & ENVIRONMENTAL	\$	10,900,919
TELECOMMUNICATIONS	\$	5,473,000
TOTAL	\$	216,224,054

FOR A DETAILED BREAKDOWN OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT INVESTMENTS BY COUNTY, VISIT RD.USDA.GOV/VT OR RD.USDA.GOV/NH.

Throughout the Obama Administration, USDA Rural Development invested \$2.9 billion in Vermont and New Hampshire communities to improve the quality of life for rural Americans.

BUSINESS PROGRAMS



USDA Rural Development's Business and Cooperative Programs support rural entrepreneurs, lenders, and non-profit organizations that are creating economic opportunities for the people of Vermont and New Hampshire. Rural Development helps rural residents through investing in job creation, rural businesses through supporting energy efficiency and renewable energy generation, and rural communities through strengthening vibrant downtowns.

- ▶ Business and Industry Guaranteed Loans
- ▶ Intermediary Relending Program
- ▶ Rural Business Development Grants
- ▶ Value-Added Producer Grants
- ▶ Rural Energy for America Program Grants and Guaranteed Loans
- ▶ Rural Microentrepreneur Assistance Program

2,790 VERMONT AND
NEW HAMPSHIRE
JOBS were created through RD Loans
and Grants from '09 to '16.

COMMUNITY PROGRAMS



To help keep our communities viable, USDA Rural Development offers grants and loans to town governments and non-profits that provide essential community services. Our government loans have very favorable rates and terms.

- ▶ Community Facility Grants and Loans
- ▶ Water and Environmental Programs
- ▶ Broadband and Distance Learning and Telemedicine Assistance
- ▶ Rural Community Development Initiative Grants

\$593,009,353

invested in **COMMUNITY
INFRASTRUCTURE** in Vermont and
New Hampshire by RD from '09 to '16.

Cover photos, l-r: Top row: Bethlehem water treatment facility operator Josh Welch explains planned RD funded upgrades to ensure safe drinking water.; Community members celebrate the groundbreaking for the Mascoma Community Healthcare facility in Canaan, NH. **Middle row:** Jasmia and Kharisma Cansler in their new home purchased with an RD loan in Brattleboro, VT. **Bottom row:** State Director Ted Brady leads a community discussion convened by the Vermont Council on Rural Development in Brighton, VT; Vermont Representatives Corey Parent and Kathleen Keenan celebrate St. Albans Co-op Creamery.

Investing in Local Food Systems in New Hampshire's North Country

The Women's Rural Entrepreneurial Network (WREN) is strengthening northern New Hampshire's local food system by working with farmers to grow their businesses. With the support of a **USDA Rural Business Development Grant**, WREN is providing area farmers with technical assistance focused on creating asset-based business plans, connecting entrepreneurs with resources, and developing market outlets for locally produced food. By investing in these farmers, WREN is helping the region capitalize on its agricultural assets to strengthen the broader economy.



Alyssa Sherburn, of Franconia, NH, works with WREN to access new markets and plan her family farm's growth.



Whitefield leaders and community members; representatives of Senator Jeanne Shaheen, Senator Kelly Ayotte and Congresswoman Ann McLane Kuster; and USDA RD State Director Ted Brady celebrate construction with Morrison staff and board members.

Investing in Community Economic Development through Health Services

Seniors in New Hampshire's North Country will have a supportive living facility where they can age close to the support of their communities. The Morrison of Whitefield received a **\$24.7 million USDA Community Facility loan** to construct an 83 unit elderly care community that will open its doors in 2017. The Whitefield Senior Living Community will be the only facility of its kind in the North Country. In addition to providing local elder care, the Morrison anticipates that the project will employ roughly 75 area companies-creating jobs and kindling economic development in Whitefield and the surrounding communities.



184,000 acres
of working lands



21 new jobs



6,818 houses
heated

**Numbers based on projections built on the community scale model of the Vermont Wood Pellet Company mill in N. Clarendon.*

Investing in the Bioeconomy: Kingdom Pellets

Kingdom Pellets is establishing a wood pellet production plant in Gilman, Vermont, with financial support from a **\$2.5 million USDA Rural Energy for America Program loan guarantee** in partnership with Community National Bank. The USDA also provided a **Rural Business Development Grant** to the Northern Forest Center to help develop the wood pellet market and evaluate the plant's economic impact. The new facility will stimulate the region's bioeconomy, helping to keep energy dollars local by preserving working lands, creating jobs, and providing a source of renewable heat and electricity.

HOUSING PROGRAMS



USDA Rural Development Housing Programs support families in need of extra financial assistance to purchase, rent or rehabilitate housing in rural communities.

- ▶ Single Family Housing Programs
 - Low Income Home Loans
 - Guaranteed Loans
 - Home Repair Loans and Grants
- ▶ Multi-Family Housing
 - Rural Rental Housing Loans
 - Loan Guarantees
 - Rental Assistance Program
- ▶ Housing Preservation Grants
- ▶ Farm Labor Housing



12,430 Vermont and New Hampshire families have achieved **HOMEOWNERSHIP** through RD's programs from '09 to '16.

Investing in People— Dennis Miller and his Energy Efficient Modular Home

In June 2016 Dennis Miller became the first homeowner nationwide to purchase a high performance energy efficient modular home using a **Section 502 Single Family Home Loan** through the new Energy Efficient Manufactured Home Pilot Program. This program aims to increase the quality of life for manufactured park residents by helping aspiring homeowners invest in energy efficient homes in manufactured home parks. Thanks to a partnership with the Vermont Housing and Conservation Board, Efficiency Vermont and Windham and Windsor Housing Trust, Miller moved into his VERMOD, a Vermont-built net-zero house. His new home, designed for efficiency and comfort, will help him realize monthly savings on his energy bill while providing him with a safe and affordable place to live for years to come.



Dennis Miller stands in front of his newly purchased energy efficient modular home.

To learn more about news and opportunities from USDA Rural Development, sign up to receive updates via *Gov Delivery* by visiting our website.

VERMONT STATE OFFICE:

www.rd.usda.gov/vt

USDA Rural Development
87 State Street, Suite 324
P.O. Box 249
Montpelier, VT 05601
(802) 828-6080

NEW HAMPSHIRE OFFICE:

www.rd.usda.gov/nh

Concord Center
10 Ferry Street, Suite 218
Concord, NH 03301
(603) 223-6035



USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

