



August 27, 2020

Appropriations Committee  
Vermont House of Representatives  
115 State Street  
Montpelier, VT 05633

Dear Chair Toll and Committee Members:

I am writing to you today to thank you for the support you have provided Pathways Vermont in order to help better serve those in dire need during this crisis. Your support for expanded appropriations to allow the Pathways Vermont Support Line to provide 24/7 access to non-judgemental and compassionate connection has made a large and tangible difference in the lives of so many of our neighbors. We have seen an increase in the need for this service as folks around the state are struggling with feelings of isolation, depression, and anxiety. The Pathways Vermont Support Line has become a lifeline for many, helping Vermonters get through this difficult period, knowing they are not alone.

I would also like to express my gratitude for your support of our housing programs. As you know, the state has been tackling the issue of homelessness head on. Pathways Vermont is on the forefront of the work to house Vermonters who have nowhere else to turn. Recently, we were awarded a CARES Act Rapid ReHousing grant to expand our service capacity and serve over 90 individuals and families around the state, including in the Northeast Kingdom and Bennington county, which have been historically underserved.

Recently, Pathways Vermont was awarded a CARES Act grant in conjunction with HUD CARES Rapid Re-Housing vouchers to expand our service capacity to house and serve over 90 individuals and families around the state, including in the Northeast Kingdom and Bennington Counties, areas of the state that we have not been able to serve, until now. We look forward to partnering with state and other local agencies to achieve the dream of ending homelessness.

Again, all of us at Pathways Vermont are incredibly grateful to the committee for your continued support on behalf of those we serve. We look forward to updating you on our work as this next legislative session progresses.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Hilary Melton", is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

Hilary Melton  
Executive Director