

From: Jennifer Yakunovich [jenniferyakunovich@gmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 24, 2019 7:23 PM
To: Theresa Utton
CC: Melanie Paskevich; Ludy Biddle
Subject: Testimony in support of NeighborWorks of Western Vermont

Please see the comments below in support of NeighborWorks of Western Vermont request for \$1.25 million dollars

To Whom It May Concern:

I'm writing in support of NeighborWorks of Western Vermont's request for **\$1.25 million in one time money, either all at once or spread out over five years, so the HEAT Squad Program can expand statewide.** The HEAT Squad provides Vermonters, especially low income households, the opportunity to stay warm, safe, and dry in their homes. Currently, the HEAT Squad serves Addison, Rutland, Bennington, Windham, Windsor, Orleans, Essex, and Caledonia counties but there is much more work to be done. The HEAT Squad has had a positive impact on the environment. The program has saved 5,000 lbs of CO₂ per home and 7,500,000 lbs of CO₂ has been saved annually. Additionally, the impacts on the economy are great. Households who work with the HEAT Squad have saved \$900 annually, which is money they can put back into the local economy. The HEAT Squad creates jobs by hiring local contractors and has generated over \$12,000,000 in local revenue. Thank you for your time and please consider supporting NeighborWorks of Western Vermont request for \$1.25 million to expand the HEAT Squad statewide.

Sincerely,
Jennifer Yakunovich
Secretary, NeighborWorks of Western Vermont
Rutland, VT