I am a Massage Therapist and Reiki Master. I opened my massage practice in May of 2012 in Morrisville, Vermont. I am the sole owner and operator and I have benefited significantly from the personal financial education and small business workshops that Capstone Community Action Provides.

I struggled in High School and did not know what I wanted out of life or who I was, I just barely graduated. I worked many minimum wage jobs until Massage Therapy dropped into my lap! I enrolled into the Massage program at Community College of Vermont in 2004. It was exactly where I needed to be and after seven years on and off of learning about Eastern and Western Massage Modalities and Energy work, I graduated in 2012. I was hired at Smugglers Notch and opened and began my small practice in Morrisville. I passed the National Certification Exam in May of 2012, and then applied at Stoweflake in Stowe, Vermont and was hired right away! After working in the Spa environment for four years as well as growing my private practice, I made the leap to support myself solely from my own small practice, and now I am very happy and successful!

Margret Ferguson of Capstone Community Action's Micro Business Development, has helped me to do my taxes every year since 2012, which is such a relief as there are so many things to keep track of! I have also been to small business work shops to learn ways to advertise and conduct my business and meet and network with other small business owners in my area.

With the help of Mary Johnson, who works for Capstone, my money coach, I bought my first home! She helped me understand what my credit score meant and how to be get the most out of using my credit cards. Without Capstone I would never have had the tools to become a home owner!

With the knowledge and support of Capstone I know that if I need help they are always able to help me through an issue and come out the other side more knowledgeable and empowered. Capstone and other community supports are invaluable, and must remain in tact for the strength of this and every community. I really hope that I can continue reach out and be supported by the resources Capstone offers!

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Sincerely,

Joni Martin BCTMB/Reiki Master