



A Report to the Vermont Legislature

The thousands and thousands of people we've helped over the last half century know that from firsthand experience that ***“Community Action speaks louder than words.”***

Steve Geller, ED of SEVCA with over 40 years of commitment to Community Action.

Community Action Agencies

Provided services to

37,311	18,907	3,691	973	9,476	7,058	2,576	1,301
Vermonters With low income	Vermont Households	Vermonters of Color	Vermont Veterans	Vermont Seniors	Vermonters with disabilities	Employed Full time	Experiencing Homelessness

Asset Building

- + **1727** Vermonters received coaching to build assets and increase financial skills
- + **751** enrolled in Financial capability classes
- + Vermont business micro-businesses received help from the E.M.B.R.A.C.E Program led by BROCC Community Action and federal funding
- + **\$2,100,000** was distributed through **E.M.B.R.A.C.E** to over **436** micro-businesses assisted in the midst of a pandemic when business was faltering and Vermont entrepreneurs with low income were struggling
- + **3,919** Vermonters received tax assistance
- + **\$ 5,564,686** in tax refunds were returned to the Vermont economy through the VITA Program with an additional **\$2,432,993** in tax credits
- + **163** Vermonters Increased their Savings
- + **54** New Americans at CVOEO participated in Financial Coaching, House Parties and classes

Children and Families

- + **1267** Vermont children were served
- + **1243** home visits were made
- + **590** Vermont children received dental assessments and **655** children received physicals
- + **824** Vermont parents improved family functioning skills
- + **590** Vermont families attended parenting classes addressing barriers to stability
- + **848** Vermont children became ready for kindergarten

Community Building

- + **962** Vermonters attended Fair Housing workshops to learn about housing discrimination
- + **413** Vermonters found low/no cost clothing, furniture and household items by NEKCA, SEVCA and BROCC
- + **300** Vermonters received training in the BROCC Community Action’s Community Justice Program
- + **184** Vermonters avoided evictions
- + **330** Vermonters improved their leadership skills through engagement in Community Action Programs
- + **534** Vermonters improved self-employment skills to provide for themselves and their families
- + **395** Vermonters found safety in domestic and sexual assault intervention programs at CVOEO
- + **507 hours** of hotline support was provided support to New American community members for help accessing vital resources

Health and Well Being

- + **1.68 million meals** were prepared and distributed through **VT Everyone Eats (VEE)** under the leadership of SEVCA . VEE distributed over \$25 million worth of emergency food relief, injecting \$20 million directly into Vermont's restaurant and food producing economy. **260** participating restaurants are on track to purchase \$1.8 million worth of food from more than 300 Vermont farms and food producers, with **27%** of the ingredients for VEE meals being sourced from Vermont.
- + Community Kitchen Academy employed past graduates to feed the hungry during the pandemic
- + **5,627** Vermonters were assisted in applying for SNAP benefits
- + **59,948** hot meals were made and distributed to those who are food insecure
- + **48,779** boxes/bags of groceries were distributed

Housing Assistance, Homeless Housing

- + VCAP Agencies provided services to the homeless in hotel settings. CVOEO has a Street Outreach Team and is operating a Community Resource Center
- + **743** experiencing homelessness were provided temporary housing
- + **1,301** individuals experiencing homelessness were helped to find permanent housing
- + **1,584** Vermonters received support to find housing
- + **599** Vermonters received security deposits and **671** Vermonters received rental assistance

Weatherization, Climate Action, Emergency Home Heating, Crisis Fuel, Warmth

- + **727** units/homes were weatherized by Community Action Agencies
- + **\$903,092** was spent on labor, materials and replacement systems, through the Emergency Heating Repair and Replacement program
- + **2,225** Vermonters are safer and warmer because of the work of Weatherization
- + **2,270** Vermont households have improved energy efficiency and energy burden reduction
- + There is a zero deferral policy in Weatherization because of funding to include heat pumps, wood and pellet stoves with an over view to energy savings
- + VCAP Agencies are engaged in the effort to make our climate and world safer and more sustainable under the leadership of Capstone Community Action
- + The purchase of Electric/Hybrid Vehicles (Mileage Smart with **189** cars purchased) and home heating and appliance technologies that replace fossil fuel-based equipment is aligned with the Financial and Energy Coach Initiative to strengthen goals of the VT Climate Council
- + **3,414** Vermonters were served through the Crisis fuel Program for short term emergency assistance
- + **\$746,269** was raised in the heating season for the Warmth Program which is a sustained entirely by donations



Sue Minter



Paul Dragon



Jenna O'Farrell



Steve Geller



Tom Donahue



Jenna O'Farrell



Steve Geller