

### Vermont Everyone Eats

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(3) \$5,000,000.00 to the Agency of Commerce and Community Development to grant to Southeastern Vermont Community Action to act as fiscal agent for a statewide program, Restaurants and Farmers Feeding the Hungry, the purpose of which is to provide assistance to Vermonters who are food insecure due to the COVID-19 public health emergency by engaging Vermont restaurants that have suffered economic harm due to the COVID-19 public health emergency to prepare meals using foodstuffs purchased from Vermont farms and food producers.



# THANK YOU!



Vermont restaurants making meals using Vermont grown or produced ingredients for Vermont eaters in need.



program total: 3.5 million meals current average: ~25,000 meals/week peak week: 50,797 meals (Dec 2020)

participating restaurants: 260+ participating farmers/food producers: 300+

statewide: all 14 counties



~\$42 million in federal funding ~\$35 million of that to restaurants ~\$3.5 million of that to farmers/food producers

required: 10% local ingredients actual: 35% local ingredients



Total federal spending of \$41.4 million through November 2022 has potentially spurred as much as \$66.2 million in additional local spending.

(Previous studies have shown that the multiplier effect for spending in food systems is between 1.4 to 2.6.)



#### sustained long-term economic impact (restaurants):

- 1) new private investment in infrastructure and equipment funded by private dollars
  - 2) increased economic resilience largely through diversification of customers and supply chains
- 3) change in business model new markets, new products, additional revenues



#### further economic impact (restaurants)\*

- more than 400 full-time jobs (3.7 jobs per restaurant)
   have been saved, added, or expanded because of VEE
  - 1 in 6 reported that their restaurant would have permanently closed had they not participated in VEE

\*2021 VEE restaurant survey



Hunger is ongoing and is always an emergency.

Restaurants and farmers always face ongoing business challenges in Vermont's seasonal economy.



Innovative programs like Vermont Everyone Eats that cross siloes and leverage the multiplier effect are cost-effective public policy.

Supporting multiple people in need with the same federal dollar is an effective and efficient use of resources.



## vteveryoneeats.org

