

#### WHAT ARE RDCS AND WHAT DO THEY DO?

- There are 12 regional development corporations (RDCs) throughout VT, each covering regions that approximate a county or more (See map on reverse).
- The RDCs are independent non-profit corporations. They were started by local individuals for different reasons at different times and developed organically to address unique economic development circumstances in each region.
- In 2017, the RDCs became eligible to receive State performance grants through the Agency
  of Commerce (24 VSA, Chapter 76, Sections 2781-2787). Under the grant agreements, the
  RDCs serve as the coordinators of economic and community development in each region –
  sort of the eyes and ears, hands and feet on the ground to implement state and regional
  economic and community development goals.
- Each RDC delivers basic business, economic and community development services including:
  - Business development and recruitment;
  - Direct one-on-one assistance to businesses of all types and sizes;
  - Project development, including relocation and expansion resources;
  - Business education and training;
  - o Business and project consulting, mentoring, and referrals to programs and services;
  - Collaboration and coordination with local, regional, state, and federal partners to advance broad economic and community development goals such as workforce development, workforce housing, childcare, and broadband.
- Some RDCs also offer other services such as property ownership/management and operation of revolving loan funds.
- The RDCs are regional one-stop shops for economic development and business services. In addition to RDC staff, other business services such as the Small Business Development Ctr, Vt Manufacturing Extension Ctr, and Procurement Technical Assistance Ctr are often co-located with the RDCs.
- As an association, the RDCs of Vermont often collaborate to implement state policy or deliver state services at the regional level. Recent examples include the 2018 and 2019 regional workforce development summits and the delivery of technical assistance to over 400 small businesses through the RDC's Restart Vermont Technical Assistance program.

# **Regional Development Corporations of Vermont**

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