

Initial Report of the Land Access Opportunity Board (LAOB) Recommends \$1.2 m for SFY'24

- VHCB would continue to support LAOB in SFY'24 (and beyond)
- Budget recommendations would support two full time, dedicated staff
- Programmatic investments to include equity assessment of relevant state programs and policies, technical assistance and organizational support grants, new reparative grant programs, and increase compensation for LAOB members
- Outreach and education to community stakeholders will be conducted equitably, with opportunities for compensation to participating community members
- Total ask for base budget over 4 years: \$4,800,000

Long Term Priority Objectives for LAOB

- To address historical barriers that continue to exist within systems of legal oppression and exclusion, economic domination of people, and exploitation of land
- To promote opportunities to access land, home security, and welcoming communities for Vermonters from historically marginalized and disadvantaged communities, and all those living at the intersections of marginalization
- To seek out, create, fund, and build alternative models for land access, finding home, and mobilizing a network of safe, welcoming communities
- To create the economic and social conditions to make Vermont a haven where individuals, families, and collectives of historically marginalized and disadvantaged communities can live, grow, and thrive

Created by the Vermont General Assembly in Act 182 of 2022

History:

- Underlying bill, H.273, was introduced to promote racial and social equity in land access and property ownership as part of comprehensive campaign to eradicate systemic racism
- Initial appropriation for SFY'23 of \$200,000.00 is being administered on behalf of LAOB by VHCB
- LAOB meetings scheduled twice per month (beginning last July)

LAOB Appointing Authorities

Vermont Office of Racial Equity
Vermont branches of the NAACP
Vermont Racial Justice Alliance
Vermont RELEAF Collective
Vermont Every Town Project
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Vermont branches of the NAACP
Vermont Racial Justice Alliance
Vermont RELEAF Collective
Vermont Every Town Project
Vermont Psychiatric Survivors
Vermont Commission on Native American Affairs
National Association of Social Workers, Vermont
U.S. Committee for Refugees & Immigrants, Vermont
Vermont Developmental Disabilities Council
Pride Center of Vermont