

To: VT. Senate and House Committee on Appropriations

Subject: Funding Support for \$2.8 million to CHT in the Budget Adjustment Act

My name is Ed Townley, I live in Williston, and I am the parent of an adult son who has I/DD. During the past 18 months I have monitored the progress of the Act 186 Pilot Planning Grants that were established to explore innovative housing solutions for Vermonters with I/DD.

With the pilot planning grants now completed, I would like to ask that CHT be funded by the state in the amount of \$2.8 million to begin construction. This project combines permanent housing, individualized support services and community inclusion giving each tenant their own apartment with a lease and the ability to receive support from on-site staff. Legislative support is critical to ensuring its success and sustainability.

The successful implementation of this project will demonstrate the innovative and inclusive approach to housing for adults with I/DD that all Vermonters can be proud of creating. This will give our adult children with I/DD and higher support needs choices in how they want to live in community.

Thank-you

Ed Townley