



Vermont
Housing &
Conservation
Board

House Committee on General and Housing

S.328 and Farmworker Housing

March 31, 2026

Presenters:

Pollaidh Major

Director of Policy and Special Projects



Cobb Hill. Hartland

Farmworker Housing Needs Assessment



Before



After

Report Link: <https://vhcb.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/07/Vermont-Farmworker-Housing-Needs-Assessment.pdf>

- Commissioned by VHCB in 2020
- Built on previous work by UVM, Bridges For Health, and Migrant Justice
- Identified roughly 600 farmworkers in need of improved housing
- Resulted in the establishment of Vermont's Farmworker Housing Program

Farmworker Housing Program



Before



After



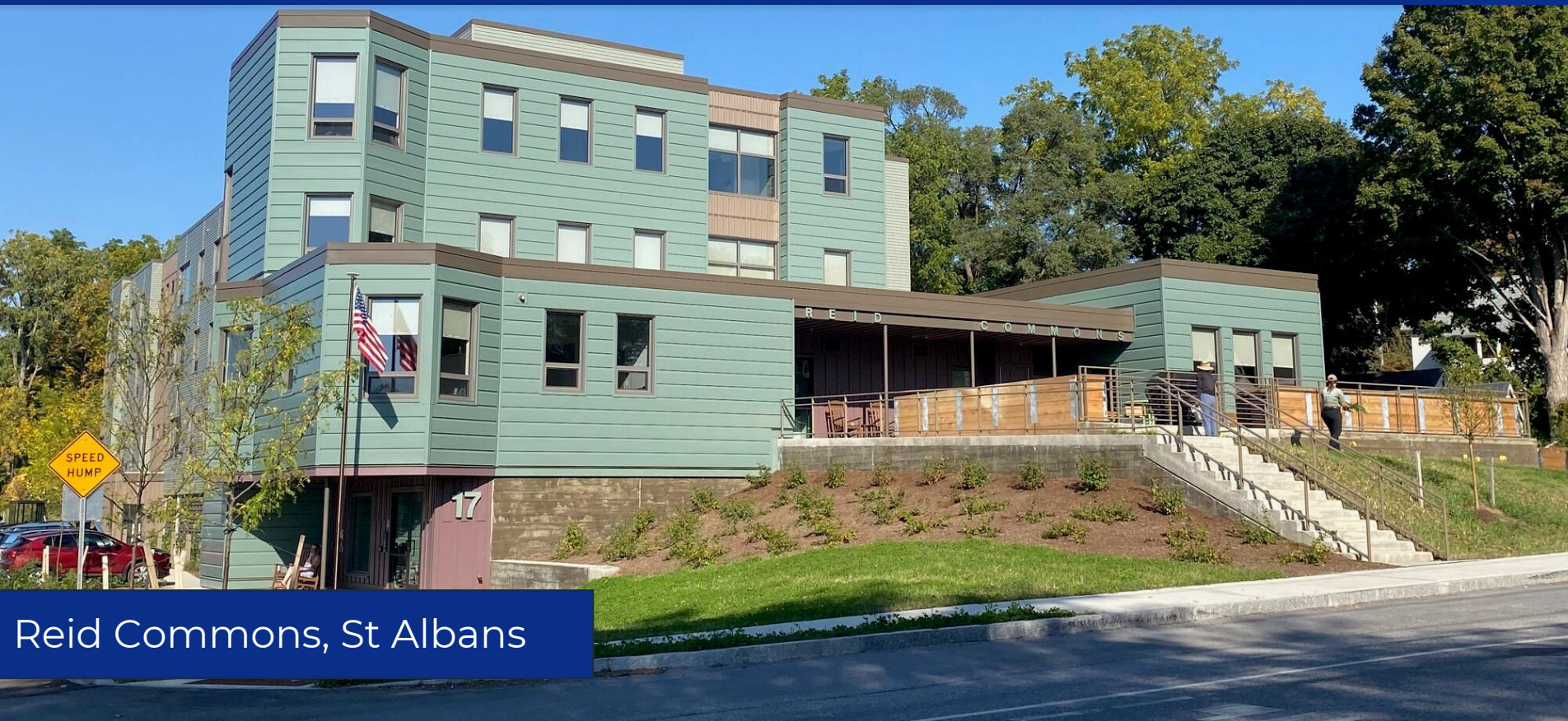
ADMINISTERED BY CHAMPLAIN HOUSING TRUST | FUNDED BY VHCB

Champlain Housing Trust (CHT) loan fund to finance the repair, improvement, and replacement of farmworker housing statewide.

Program Structure:

- **Repair loans:** Up to \$30,000 | 0% interest | Forgiven over 10 years
- **Replacement Loans:** Up to \$120,000 for replacement housing | Up to \$30,000 forgivable over 10 years
- **Eligible repair types:** Septic systems, electrical, plumbing, mold remediation, insulation, roofs, kitchens and bathrooms
- **Key results:** 74 repair units + 6 replacement units = improved housing for over 300 farmworkers

S.328 - VCHB Comments



VHCB broadly supports S. 328 and appreciates the work of the Senate Economic Development Committee in assembling this bill.

In addition to the farmworker housing provision, VHCB particularly supports the following provisions:

1. Tax Credit for Affordable Housing: Down Payment Assistance extension
2. Vermont State Treasurer Credit Facility: Increase to 12.5%
3. Service-Supported Housing Advisory Council



Thank you!

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