



Land Access & Opportunity Board

January 29, 2025

Ornella Matta-Figueroa, *Director of Advocacy & Community Engagement*, Ornella@vhcb.org

Jean Hamilton, *Director of Program Development*, Jean@vhcb.org

Land Access and Opportunity Board Touchstones:

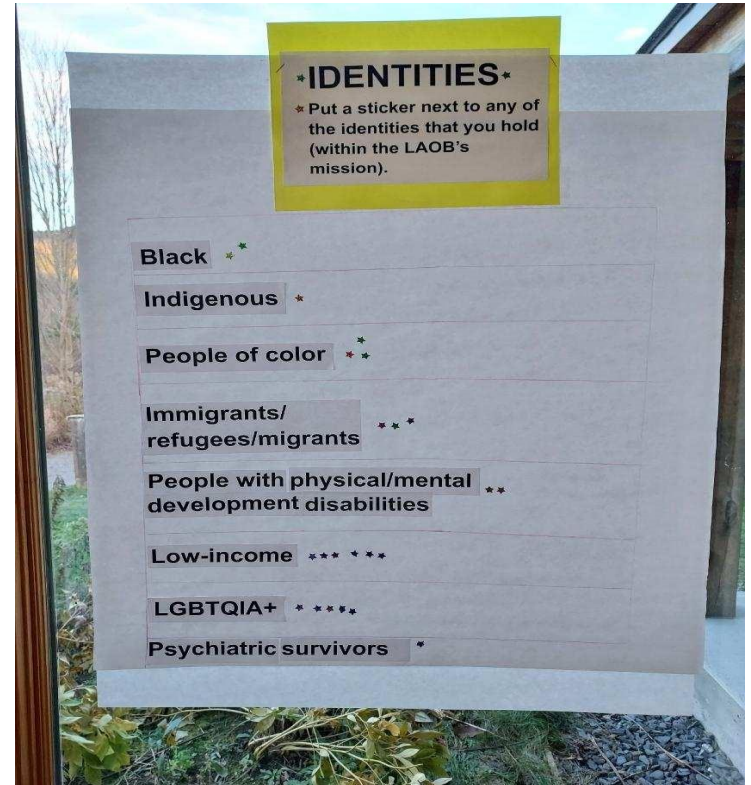
1. Listen generously. Speak your truth from your heart & mind.
2. Make the way we work together an example of what's possible.
3. Trust that we all hold a piece of the puzzle & we need each other's pieces to understand the whole picture

Act 182, 2022

Created the Vermont Land Access and Opportunity Board to promote improvements in access to woodlands, farmland, and land and home ownership for Vermonters from historically marginalized or disadvantaged communities who continue to face barriers to land and home ownership.

LAOB Appointing Authorities

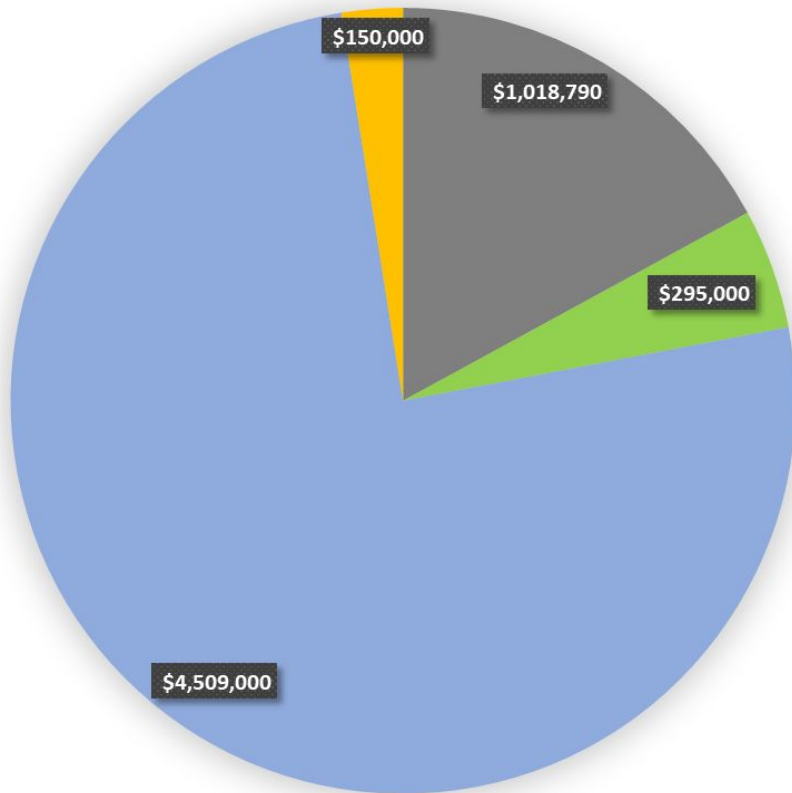
1. Vermont Office of Racial Equity
2. Vermont Commission on Native American Affairs
3. Vermont Branches of the NAACP
4. Vermont Racial Justice Alliance
5. Liberation Ecosystem
6. Vermont Every Town Project
7. National Association of Social Workers (Vermont Chapter)
8. Pride Center of Vermont
9. U.S. Committee for Refugees & Immigrants, Vermont
10. Vermont Developmental Disabilities Council
11. Vermont Psychiatric Survivors



LAOB Priority Objectives

*The Land Access
and Opportunity
Board was
Created to:*

- 1. Address historical barriers** that continue to exist within systems of legal oppression and exclusion, economic domination of people and exploitation of land.
- 2. 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.
- 3. Seek out, create, fund, and build alternative models** for land access, finding home, and mobilizing a network of safe, welcoming communities.
- 4. Create the economic and social conditions to make Vermont a haven** where individuals, families, & collectives of historically marginalized & disadvantaged communities can live, grow & thrive.



- General Operating: Staff, Board, and Admin
- Advisory Powers & Community Engagement Program Costs: Assessments, Conferences, Stipends
- Direct Service Program Costs: Housing Coaches, Emergency Preparedness Grants, Downpayment Assistance Grants, Capital for Emerging Developers
- Capacity Building & TA Program Costs: Thriving Communities, etc.

FY26 Budget - \$5.97 Million

Projected Revenues

\$5.6M = 25% Cannabis Excise Tax Community Reinvestment Fund (pending)

\$150,000 EPA Thriving Communities Grantmakers Anchor Org (year 1 - secured)

\$224,000 projected FY25 carryforward

Projected Expenses

\$1M General Operating: Staff, Board, Admin

\$295,000 Advisory Powers & Community Engagement Program Costs:
Assessments, Conferences, Stipends

\$4.5M Direct Service Program Costs: Housing Coaches, Emergency Preparedness Grants, Down-payment Assistance Grants, Capital for Emerging Developers

\$150,000 Capacity Building & TA Program Costs: Thriving Communities, etc.

Reference: CCB Report to the
General Assembly Pursuant to 7
V.S.A § 989
