



Strengthen Vermont's Nonprofit Sector – A Call to Action

Appropriations Request, FY26-27

Vermont State Legislature

Uncertainty at the federal level is creating challenges for nonprofits serving Vermonters and our communities. Common Good Vermont is ready to help lead the effort to coordinate solutions to these challenges and seeks support from the State.

Funding this proposal will strengthen the nonprofit sector that employs one in five Vermont workers and delivers services on which the State relies. Vermont's nonprofits are ready to coordinate, adapt, and safeguard essential services with State partnership. The proposed public-nonprofit partnership will protect essential services, strengthen the workforce, and help Vermont respond to federal disruptions with coordination and resilience.

What We Are Asking For

Common Good requests that the State of Vermont provide:

- **\$295,665 in one-time funding** to help nonprofits navigate federal cuts, executive orders, and policy shifts that affect service delivery. 75% of funds will be allocated to nonprofit technical assistance.
- **\$267,777 in base funding** to improve nonprofit capacity, financial management, and compliance, strengthening the State's own grantmaking and contracting systems.

Why This Matters

Vermont's nonprofits are essential to Vermont communities. Nonprofits provide food, housing, health care, childcare, mental health services, arts and culture, and community development. Many organizations operate without the resources needed to keep pace with rising demand. Without coordinated action, federal changes could erode services that Vermonters rely on every day.

What This Proposal Delivers

Federal Impact Response (one-time funding)

- **Nonprofit Task Force:** Six meetings over one year, including one hybrid session, producing **two policy reports** with recommendations for State leaders.
- **Cross-Sector Convenings:** Two statewide convenings with nonprofits, municipalities, RPCs, lawmakers, state agencies, and small businesses. A **published report** will outline shared risks and coordinated response strategies.
- **Technical Assistance for 100 Nonprofits:** Support for organizations facing federal disruptions, including strategic planning, Medicaid scenario planning, legal guidance on conflicting directives, and evaluation of collaboration, merger, or dissolution options.

Sector Capacity Building (base funding)

- **Training and Resources:** Targeted training on grants, compliance, and financial resilience.
- **Improved State Partnerships:** Collaboration with state agencies to streamline grant and contracting processes and reduce administrative burdens.
- **Sector Data:** Sector specific data on wages and benefits to benchmark and set nonprofit compensation, inform policy decisions, and monitor employment trends.
- **Technical Assistance Fund:** Support for nonprofits working through state contract requirements, financial management, reporting, or compliance concerns.

For more information, contact:

Emma Paradis, Manager of Policy and Strategic Initiatives
Emma@commongoodvt.org, (802) 861-7842

The following organizations have signed on in support of this proposal. The list will be updated over the course of the legislative session.

Vermont Nonprofit Organization	Town (where based)	Counties Served
ACLU Vermont	Montpelier	Statewide
Advance Vermont	Winooski	Statewide
AIDS Project of Southern Vermont	Brattleboro	Bennington, Windham
ARC Rutland Area, Inc.	Rutland	Rutland
Bennington County Coalition for the Homeless	Bennington	Bennington
Bennington County Multicultural Community Center	Bennington	Bennington
Burlington Farmers Market	Burlington	Chittenden
Cambridge 360	Cambridge	Chittenden, Franklin, Lamoille
CCTV Center for Media + Democracy	Burlington	Chittenden
Central Vermont Adult Education	Barre	Lamoille, Orange, Washington
CIDER	South Hero	Grand Isle
Co-lab	Morrisville	Statewide
Education Justice Coalition of Vermont	Statewide	Statewide
Elevate Youth Services	Barre	Statewide, Washington
Essex Pediatrics Strengthening Families Initiative	Essex Junction, VT	Statewide
Fair Chance Alliance	Williston	Statewide
Generator	Burlington	Addison, Chittenden, Essex, Franklin, Grand Isle, Lamoille, Orleans, Washington

Good Neighbor Health Clinic	White River Junction	Orange, Windsor
Good Samaritan Haven	Barre, Berlin, Montpelier	Washington
Green Mountain United Way	Barre	Caledonia, Essex, Orange, Orleans, Washington
Housing & Homelessness Alliance of Vermont (HHAV)	Burlington	Addison, Bennington, Caledonia, Essex, Franklin, Grand Isle, Lamoille, Orange, Orleans, Rutland, Washington, Windham, Windsor
Institute for Sustainable Communities	Montpelier	Statewide
Interaction	Brattleboro	Windham
Intervale Center	Burlington	Statewide
Kidpower Vermont	North Ferrisburgh	Statewide
Kingdom Recovery Center	St. Johnsbury	Caledonia
Lake Champlain Maritime Museum	Vergennes	Statewide
Lamoille Family Center	Morrisville	Lamoille
Lamoille Restorative Center	Hyde Park	Caledonia, Lamoille, Washington
Local Motion	Burlington	Statewide
Lund	So. Burlington	Statewide
MENTOR Vermont	Burlington	Statewide
Montpelier Performing Arts Hub	Montpelier	Statewide, Washington
Morrisville Alliance for Culture and Commerce	Morristown	Lamoille
Nonprofit Legal Hub	South Burlington	Statewide
North Branch Nature Center	Montpelier	Statewide, Caledonia, Chittenden, Lamoille, Orleans, Washington
Northeast Kingdom Learning Services, Inc.	Newport	Caledonia, Essex, Orleans
Old Spokes Home	Burlington	Chittenden
Pathways Vermont, Inc.	Chittenden	Statewide
Prevent Child Abuse Vermont	Montpelier	Statewide
Prevention Works! VT	Londonderry	Statewide
Rainbow Bridge Community Center	Barre	Orange, Washington
Recovery Partners of Vermont	Brattleboro	Statewide
Smokey House Center	Danby	Statewide, Bennington, Rutland

Spectrum Youth and Family Services	Burlington	Chittenden, Franklin
The Janet S. Munt Family Room	Burlington	Chittenden
The Vermont Mountain Bike Association	Waterbury	Statewide
Tiny Seed Project	East Hardwick	Statewide
Turning Point Recovery Center of Springfield	Springfield	Windham, Windsor
United Way Lamoille County	Morrisville	Lamoille
United Way of Addison County	Middlebury	Addison
United Way of Northwest Vermont	South Burlington	Statewide, Chittenden, Franklin, Grand Isle, Washington
United Ways of Vermont	Remote	Statewide
Vermont Afghan Alliance	Burlington	Statewide
Vermont Arts Council	Montpelier	Statewide
Vermont Asylum Assistance Project	Burlington	Statewide
Vermont Businesses for Social Responsibility	Burlington	Statewide
Vermont Center for Independent Living	Montpelier	Statewide
Vermont Collaborative for Practice Improvement & Innovation	St. Albans	Statewide
Vermont Community Loan Fund	Montpelier	Statewide
Vermont Council on Rural Development	Montpelier	Statewide
Vermont Energy Education Program	Montpelier	Statewide
Vermont Environmental Justice Network	South Burlington	Statewide
Vermont Parent Child Center Network	Middlebury	Statewide
Vermont Student Anti-Racism Network	Statewide	Statewide
Vermont's Free & Referral Clinics	Barre	Statewide
Washington Central Friends of Education	Montpelier	Washington