

Program Overview

Annual Summary of Activities for Program Year 2024
(7/1/2023-6/30/2024)

The Vermont Community Development Program (VCDP) administers funding from the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) under the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program. Activities that support economic development and affordable housing continue to be VCDP's top priorities for funding. The VCDP assists communities on a competitive basis by providing financial and technical assistance to identify and address local needs in the areas of housing, economic development, public facilities, public services and handicapped accessibility modifications. The program is designed to predominantly benefit persons of low and moderate income. In addition, financial assistance is provided to communities with urgent needs, such as threats to health and safety and removal of slums and blighted properties. Website: <https://accd.vermont.gov/community-development/funding-incentives/vcdp>

2024 CDBG Program Accomplishments

The CDBG allocation for the last program year was \$7,334,647. This past year VCDP was able to award over \$6.2 million to 20 projects, which leveraged over \$74 million dollars. Program income from previous grants, other returned funds from prior grants, and a forward commitment of next year's allocation made it possible to fund all the projects below. All the CDBG funds for this program year have been obligated. The funds were awarded to housing, public facility, public service and planning projects. A breakdown of awards made this year, by project types, follows on page 2. Nine previously funded projects were enhanced to continue their services or to ensure project completion due to increased project costs.

The VCDP awarded 11 housing grants totalling \$5,232,010 in CDBG funding and leveraged over \$71 million in local, private and other federal and state resources. This collaborative effort will create or preserve 227 units of affordable housing and will make a significant contribution in addressing the affordable housing crisis. An additional \$271,800 of public service funds will be used by the five revolving loan fund programs below to provide first time homeowner educational training and financial counseling to income eligible homeowners in need of home repair. The programs anticipate serving 540 households.

The Town of Windsor later rescinded their \$500,000 award due to new Build America Buy America federal regulations.

CDBG By the Numbers [2024]



20 projects
awarded/
enhanced



20 communities
served



\$6.2 m
CDBG funds
awarded



\$74 m
leveraged with
CDBG funds



227
Housing Units
to be created/
rehabbed



0 jobs to be
retained/
created



986 persons
to be served by
public facilities/
services



SHELBURNE - BAY RIDGE HOUSING

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The VCDP continues to see a decline in economic development grant requests, this year again none were received. We suspect the reasoning for the lack of requests is due to the unprecedented other funding sources that became available for economic development projects due to the ARPA, COVID19 pandemic, along with other state resources specifically for economic development, including CDBG-CV Cares Act funding which is outlined below.

The VCDP awarded two and enhanced two previous public facility grants totalling \$497,000 and leveraged over \$3.1 million in other resources.

The VCDP did not receive any public service grant requests this past year.

The VCDP awarded four planning grants and enhanced one totalling \$225,658. Vermont communities are afforded opportunities to undertake community development planning through technical expertise and professional resources for one or more of the VCDP areas of eligibility – housing, economic development, public facilities and public services.

CDBG 2024 Awards and Enhancements

Municipality/Lead Grantee	Award Amount	Project Title	Grant Type	Jobs, Units, person served	County
City of Montpelier	\$360,000	Green Mountain Home Repair Downstreet	Housing	18	Washington
City of Rutland	\$500,000	East Creek Commons	Housing	35	Rutland
City of St. Albans	\$540,000	CHT Home Repair Loan Program	Housing	27	Franklin
Town of Bennington	\$613,810	Benn High Redevelopment	Housing		Bennington
Town of Brattleboro	\$440,000	WWHT Homeownership Services	Housing	22	Brattleboro
Town of Lyndon	\$400,000	NEK Home Repair Program	Housing	22	Caledonia
Town of Pittsford	\$450,000	Pittsford Village Farm Adaptive Reuse	Housing	2	Rutland
Town of Shelburne	\$700,000	Bay Ridge	Housing	68	Chittenden
Town of Underhill	\$500,000	Harvest Crossing Affordable Housing	Housing	8	Chittenden
Town of West Rutland	\$500,000	Comprehensive HOME/RENTAL Repair 2022	Housing	25	Rutland
Town of Windsor	\$500,000	Central and Main	Housing		Windsor
City of Vergennes	\$150,000	All Access Project Vergennes Opera	Public Facility	389	Addison
Town of Bridgewater	\$47,000	Bridgewater Community Center	Public Facility		Windsor
Town of Milton	\$50,000	Milton Mobile Home Community Water Sewer Project	Public Facility		Chittenden
Town of Rockingham	\$250,000	GRAS -Biomass Wood Chip Heating System	Public Facility	57	Windham
City of Rutland	\$60,000	Merger of HTRC and NWWVT	PG-HSG		Rutland
Town of Granville	\$59,058	Granville Town Hall Accessibility	PG-PF		Addison
Town of Randolph	\$54,000	Playhouse	PG-ED		Orange
Town of Rochester	\$10,000	Rochester High School Repurposing Proj	PG/ED		Windsor
Town of St. George	\$42,600	St. George EOC Accessibility Planning	PG-PF		Chittenden
Total Awards & Enhancements	\$6,226,468				

CARES Act CDBG-CV Program Overview

Due to the COVID19 coronavirus pandemic the CDBG program received three allocations totalling \$8.8 million of CDBG-CV CARES Act funding in 2020. The funds were awarded to housing, economic development, public facility, and public service projects to prevent, prepare for and respond to the spread of the coronavirus. The state received 7% of the funds to administer the program.

To date twenty-five projects have been awarded CDBG-CV funds. Some grants served specific communities and some grants provided funds to entities who were on the ground that provided direct assistance to individuals and businesses throughout the state struggling due to the pandemic. A complete list of all the projects can be found on DHCD's website: <https://accd.vermont.gov/community-development/funding-incentives/vcdp/cdbg-cv>

This program is nearly complete and only has \$867 remaining. This past year VCDP awarded one enhancement totalling \$230,000 in the CDBG-CV funds for eligible construction costs. The enhancement made this year can be found below.

CDBG-CV 2024 Enhancements

Municipality/Lead Grantee	Award Amount	Project Title
Town of Springfield	\$230,000	Huber Building Ventilation System
Total Enhancements	\$230,000	



CDBG-CV By the Numbers

[2020-2024]



25 projects awarded



17 entities served



\$8.2 m CDBG-CV funds awarded



26 Housing Units rehabbed



278 Sole Proprietor Businesses retained



169 Business provided Technical Assistance



81,323 persons served by public facilities/services

Recovery Housing Program (RHP) Overview

Due to the State of Vermont's opioid death rate the VCDP program has received allocations for FY20, FY21, FY22, FY23 & FY24 totalling \$4,409,4837 from HUD's Support Act funding, Recovery Housing Program a five year pilot program to help individuals in recovery from substance use disorders (SUD) become safely housed. This funding is to support the creation of transitional housing for Vermonters suffering from SUD and safely house them for up to 2 years. VCDP staff continue to work with various stakeholders and the Agency of Human Services on this pilot Recovery Housing Program to assure these funds are creating safe housing for Vermonter's in recovery.

This past year RHP awarded a \$300,000 enhancement to one existing project that had a funding gap due to rising construction costs. To date over \$2.8 million has been awarded to five projects, and leveraged nearly \$6 million in other resources. At the completion of all the projects listed below, there will be 64 beds available in 17 housing units for transitional recovery housing.

The program currently has \$1.6 million remaining to allocate to additional eligible recovery housing program projects. VCDP collaborates with staff from the Agency of Human Service Department of Substance Use and Department of Corrections on projects received for the program. VCDP intends on preparing a NOFA regarding the remaining funds.

The following projects have completed and are serving individuals: Jenna's Sober Living and Barre Recovery Residence now known as Foundation House.

We anticipate Gage Street, Essex and Squires projects to be completed and serving individuals in 2025.

Website: <https://accd.vermont.gov/community-development/funding-incentives/vcdp/recovery-housing-program>

RHP By the Numbers [2021-2023]



5 projects awarded



4 communities served



\$2.8 m RHP funds awarded



\$6 m leveraged with RHP funds



64 beds to be created with RHP funds



17 Housing Units to be rehabbed

RHP Projects

Municipality/Lead Grantee	Award Amount	Project Title
City of Barre	\$500,000	Barre Recovery Residence
Town of Johnson	\$200,000	Jenna's Sober Living
Town of Bennington	\$1,000,000	Gage Street Recovery Housing
Town of Essex	\$460,540	VFOR Essex Recovery Housing
Town of Bennington	\$500,000	Squire Recovery Housing
Total Awards	\$2,860,540	

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