

Program Overview

Annual Summary of Activities for Program Year 2021 (7/1/2020-6/30/2021)

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: <http://accd.vermont.gov/community-development/funding-incentives/vcdp>

2021 CDBG Program Accomplishments

The CDBG allocation for the last program year was \$7,246,223. 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. As a result this past year VCDP was able to award over \$10 million to 37 projects, which leveraged over \$84 million dollars. The funds were awarded to housing, economic development, public facility, public service and planning projects. A breakdown of awards made this year, by project types, follows on pages 2 and 3. Thirteen previously funded projects were enhanced to continue their services or to ensure project completion due to increased project costs.

By the Numbers [CDBG 2021]

317 affordable housing units created/retained	0 jobs created/retained	\$10.3 million awarded
37 projects	8,519 persons served by public facilities/services	\$84 million leveraged

2021 CDBG-CV Program Accomplishments

Due to the COVID19 coronavirus pandemic the CDBG program received three allocations totalling \$8.8 million of CDBG-CV Cares Act funding. This past year VCDP awarded nearly \$7 million of the CDBG-CV funds to 23 projects. 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. A breakdown of awards made this year, by project types, follows on page 4.

By the Numbers [CDBG-CV 2021]

27 affordable housing units created/retained	500 sole proprietor businesses	\$6.9 million awarded
23 projects	92,869 persons served by public facilities/services	\$2.9 million leveraged

CDBG Economic Development Grants

The VCDP enhanced one economic development grants totalling \$50,000. Due to the COVID19 pandemic other funding sources became available for economic development projects, including CDBG-CV Cares Act funding which is outlined below.

Municipality/Lead Grantee	Project Title	Jobs
Town of Hardwick	Yellow Barn (enhancement)	

CDBG Housing Grants

The VCDP awarded nine and enhanced six grants to housing projects that totalling \$6,753,885 in CDBG funding and leveraged over \$66 million in local, private and other federal and state resources. This collaborative effort will create or preserve 317 units of affordable housing and makes a significant contribution in addressing the affordable housing crisis. An additional \$208,188 will be used by the three 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 598 households.

Municipality/Lead Grantee	Project Title	Units
City of Montpelier (Enhancement)	Supportive housing and services	
City of Rutland	Lincoln Place	19
City of St Albans (Enhancement)	CHT Home Repair Program	25
Town of Bennington (Enhancement)	219 Pleasant Street	
Town of Berlin	Fox Run	30
Town of Brattleboro	47 Flat Street	19
Town of Brattleboro (Enhancement)	5-County Homeownership Services Prgrm	28
Town of Burke	West Burke Housing	23
Town of Calais	East Calais General Store	3
Town of Colchester	Stuart Avenue Apartments	36
Town of Lyndon (Enhancement)	Housing Rehabilitation Program	23
Town of Morristown	Village Center Apartments	24
Town of Rockingham	Bellows Falls Garage	27
Town of South Hero	Bayview Crossing	30
Town of West Rutland (Enhancement)	Comprehensive Home Repair SS 2019	30



Appletree Apartments- Town of Fair Haven



Woolson Block - Town of Springfield

CDBG Planning Grants

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. The VCDP awarded nine and enhanced four grants for planning projects totalling \$501,538 that were provided to communities throughout Vermont.

Municipality/Lead Grantee	Project Title
Town of Brandon	Brandon Free Public Library
Town of Shelburne	Shelburnewood expansion feasibility
Town South Hero	Old White Meeting House Planning
Town of Arlington (Enhancement)	Arlington Community Arts and Wellness
Town of Bakersfield	Brigham Academy Reimagined
Town of Brattleboro (Enhancement)	Tri-Park Cooperative Master Plan
Town of Guilford (Enhancement)	Guilford Free Library Expansion Study
Town of Hartford	Cornerstone Community Center Planning
Town of Randolph	Orange County Parent and Child Center
Town of Rochester	Rochester High School Repurposing Proj
Town of Rupert	Sheldon Store Redevelopment Plan
Town of Woodstock (Enhancement)	Keys to the Valley Initiative
Town of Westford	1705 VT Route 128 Redevelopment

CDBG Public Facility and Service Grants

The VCDP awarded five and enhanced two public facility grants that nearly totalled \$2.5 and leveraged over \$14 million in other resources. The VCDP awarded one and enhanced four public service grants that totalled \$508,188 and leveraged nearly \$2 million in other resources. The following community facilities and service projects will help assist a childcare center, two community centers, a community septic for a mobile home park, a municipal parking garage, a recovery residence, a municipal library with handicapped access, and at risk youth program.

Municipality/Lead Grantee	Project Title	Persons Served
City of Barre	Barre Recovery Residence	6
City of St. Albans	Spectrum Youth Services in St. Albans	75
City of Winooski	Winooski Falls East	6990
Town of Alburgh (Enhancement)	Alburgh Community Child Care Facility	46
Town of Bridgewater	Bridgewater Community Center	124
Town of Castleton	Castleton Free Library 2020 AM Grant	659
Town of Fair Haven (Enhancement)	Fair Haven Community Center Project	
Town of Middlebury	Lindale MH Park Community Septic	67

CDBG-CV Economic Development Grants

Vermont businesses closed and struggled due to the onset of the COVID19 pandemic in 2020. \$250 million of Vermont's Economic Recovery Package went to respond to needs of Vermont businesses. The CDBG program worked closely with the programs disbursing funds to businesses, and through that collaboration found a gap in funding available for sole proprietor businesses. VCDP provided over \$3.5 million of the CDBG-CV funding to assist sole proprietor businesses throughout the state.

Municipality/Lead Grantee	Project Title	Jobs
Brattleboro Development Credit Corporation	Sole Proprietor Stabilization Program	250
Two Rivers-Ottawaquechee Regional Commission	Sole Proprietor Stabilization Program	250

CDBG-CV Housing

The VCDP provided \$60,000 in CDBG-CV funding to provide health and safety improvements to the Dalem's Chalet in West Brattleboro to respond to and prevent the spread of COVID19 to house individuals experiencing homelessness.

Municipality/Lead Grantee	Project Title	Units
Town of Brattleboro	Housing Retention Program	27

CDBG-CV Public Facility and Service Grants

The VCDP awarded 21 public facility and service grants CDBG-CV funding that nearly totalled \$3.3 to prevent, prepare for and respond to the COVID19 pandemic. The following community facilities and service projects will help provide air quality improvement and HVAC systems to several facilities, sanitation and cleaning supplies and operational costs for a child care facilities, food storage for increased food insecurities for families, expand the pool of health care workers and technicians to respond to the spread of infectious disease, expand services for a warming shelter for the homeless, provide financial counseling and emergency payments for housing related costs in the form of mortgage, rental, and utility payment assistance.

Municipality/Lead Grantee	Project Title	Persons Served
Town of Bennington	UCS Head Start Program	84
Town of Bennington	BFYMCA School Age Program	60
Town of Bennington	Sunrise Family Resource Center	1598
Town of Brattleboro	Brattleboro Housing Authority - Cov	443
Town of Marlboro	HVAC air filtration	805
Town of Rockingham	Town Facilities COVID Safety measures	5010
Town of Rockingham	Light Up Bellows Falls	5010
City of Rutland	BROC Additional Refrigeration/Freezer	6508
Town of Bennington	Bennington Family Housing	9
City of Burlington	Health Workforce-LNA certification	35
City of Burlington	COVID HVAC Improvements	71060
City of Burlington	Homeless Warming Center for Winter	50
City of Vergennes	Boys and Girls Club COVID Expenses	87
Town of Brattleboro	Housing Retention Program	250
Town of Lyndon	Housing Retention Program	125
Town of West Rutland	Housing Retention Program	125
City of St. Albans	Housing Retention Program	125
Town of Bradford	The Space On Main COVID HVAC Upgrades	
Town of Fairfield	Fairfield Community Center Pavilion	60
City St. Albans City	Healthy Roots Collaborative	1425

2021 Recovery Housing Program (RHP) Accomplishments

Due to the State of Vermont’s opioid death rate the VCDP program received an allocation totalling \$753,000 from HUD’s Support Act funding, Recovery Housing Program a pilot program to help individuals in recovery from substance used 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 worked with various stakeholders and the Agency of Human Services to get this pilot Recovery Housing Program up and running during this time period.

This past year RHP awarded a total of \$700,000 to 2 projects. A breakdown of awards made this year, by project types follows below.

By the Numbers [RHP 2021]

4

housing units created/retained

18

Beds Available

\$700

thousand awarded

2

projects

35

persons served by public facilities/services

\$2.1

million leveraged

RHP Recovery Housing Grants

The Recovery Housing Program supported two projects: one project in the City of Barre that will provide transitional housing to women and their children that are homeless and suffering from SUD, and another project in the Town of Johnson that will provide 8 beds to women suffering from SUD that will provide transitional housing for up to 2 years. The Town of Johnson’s project was also funded by CDBG funds that supported funding a cafe downstairs that will provide employment to individuals that are recovering from SUD. Both projects will have wrap around services to support the recovery needs of their residents.

Municipality/Lead Grantee	Project Title	People Served
City of Barre	Barre Recovery Residence	15
Town of Johnson	Jenna’s Promise	20