



Meeting Needs | Changing Lives

SEVCA

SOUTHEASTERN VERMONT COMMUNITY ACTION

2014–15 Annual Report

**50 Years of Action in Your Community
1965–2015**

Message from the Executive Director

The past year was a time of transition for SEVCA: It was the year we crossed the threshold of our first half century of helping Southeastern Vermonters cope with and overcome the hardships of poverty, and moved forward into the next 50 years of striving to do the same, do more, and do it better.

To prepare ourselves for the challenges of the next 50 years, we engaged in an ambitious and comprehensive Community Assessment and Strategic Planning Process to better understand the needs facing low-income residents, assess available community resources, and address our own capacity-building requirements in order to more effectively meet the identified needs. Led by Director of Planning & Development Becky Himlin, and with significant involvement from many staff and Board members, this process was a great success. In fact, a number of other Community Action Agencies (CAAs), state personnel, and consultants have asked for our Community Assessment to use as a model.

Last year was transitional for SEVCA in a number of ways...some welcome, like the celebration of our 50th anniversary honoring those who have helped to fulfill our mission over the years...and others not so much. The harsh reality of the marketplace forced us to make the difficult decision to close one of our longest-serving "Good Buy" Thrift Stores (at the Hartford Recycling

Center), as well as our entire Textile Recycling operation. The rest of the stores have continued to serve our communities' needs admirably, and our other programs have likewise continued meeting the needs of the clients and the communities we serve, even expanding into new areas, such as our "Ready for Work" job readiness program.

We certainly weren't alone in facing challenging transitions...Two of the five Vermont CAAs have undergone leadership changes, hiring new Executive Directors, and in some cases, other key management staff last year. Similarly, around Northern New England, an unusually high number of long-time anti-poverty warriors retired or, sadly, passed away. That shouldn't surprise us, since many of those leaders were among the pioneers in the War on Poverty and served in those roles for many decades; but it's hard to accept nevertheless.

The lesson of all this transition is clear: Time marches on and we must be able and ready to develop a new generation of warriors who will continue this honorable battle for another half century or for as long as it's needed. Many of the new leaders are already in our midst, and I know that they'll take the helm and continue steering us effectively toward our ultimate goal of one day ending poverty.



Steve Geller



Steve Geller, with Board members Gladys Collins and Carson Hoag, honor past Board members Bill Morlock, Mark Truhan, Hugh Haggerty, and Catherine Cadieux at SEVCA's 50th Anniversary Celebration.

Board of Directors

October 2014–September 2015

Kimberly Bovill, President
Amanda Rundle, Vice President
Kathryn Poston, Secretary
Andrew Winter, Treasurer
Carson Hoag, Member Emeritus
Donald Skekel
Lisa Pitcher
Gladys Collins
Suzanne Swanson
Crystal Zimmick
Mandy Giles



SEVCA's IMPACT October 2014 – September 2015

Overall, SEVCA served 10,429 people in 4,576 households.

Emergency Services

1,189 households received **\$491,415** in crisis fuel assistance

315 households received **\$136,704** in emergency housing assistance

1,747 households (3,823 individuals) received **11,029 diverse services** from our Family Services program

Housing and Energy

176 homes were **weatherized** with a total value of **\$1,435,673**

88 homes received **emergency heating system repairs or replacements** valued at **\$121,558**

42 homes received **emergency home repairs** valued at **\$62,532**

Financial Education and Asset-Building

33 households increased their **assets**, earning a total savings match of **\$80,430** via the Individual Development Account program.

55 individuals received **training to help them reach their financial goals** in our Financial Fitness program.

309 households claimed **\$263,053** in **credits and refunds** via tax preparation assistance

Early Childhood Development

97 families (372 individuals) received **comprehensive early childhood development education & family support** from our Head Start program.

Health

264 households (701 individuals) received help to access **affordable health insurance** through the Health Navigator program.

Workforce Development

29 individuals in our Ready for Work program benefitted from comprehensive **job readiness education and support**.

52 entrepreneurs received **counseling & support** for new or existing businesses.

Clothing and Household Essentials

264 households obtained **\$11,378** in **free clothing and furniture** from our Thrift Stores

We recycled **approximately 544,000 pounds of textiles** that otherwise would have ended up in landfills

SEVCA History: 50 Years of Community Action

PEOPLE

May 12, 1965

SEVCA is incorporated as a Vermont non-profit: Incorporators – Francis C. Daigre, James Howland, Clifford R. Vermilyn, Frank H. Dearborn, Hazel D. Frey.

1965 Bill Schmidt was hired as Coordinator; in 1968, he became the **1st ED of the Windham Regional Planning Commission.**



1965 Charlie Russell hired as **1st Outreach Director.**

May 20, 1965 **Thomas C. (Tom) Davis**, son of the future VT Governor Deane Davis, was hired as the **1st SEVCA Exec Director.** He became director of the VT Office of Economic Opportunity in 1968. He was later staff director for Sen. Leahy, and authored books on Vermont's history.

1969-1972 Joyce Strom served as **1st Head Start Director.**

1975 Ellen Paquette started a food shelf in Bellows Falls, and was involved in several other Food and Nutrition programs. She left in 1978, **but returned in 1999 and still works at SEVCA as of 2016!**



1974-1983 After coordinating the CETA housing rehab program, **David Deen was hired as ED;** after his resignation, he helped establish the Vermont Community Foundation with SEVCA as a financial conduit. He then served for many years in the Vermont Legislature, where he serves currently.

1971-1974 After a period of leadership turnover, SEVCA hired a new Executive Director, **Michael (Mick) Beaudoin**, formerly Peace Corps Liaison to community groups in the US and ED of a CAA in D.C.



1979 Christel Holden established the **Nutshell Food Co-op & Community Center in Wardsboro**, a SEVCA project, which later became an independent non-profit. Location served as a SEVCA Outreach office, with Christel & Cindy Holden, and Paul Rush as Outreach Workers.

1960s

1970s

May 1965 The SEVCA Board applies for **initial development grant of \$20K.**

1965-1969 Joyce Strom & Ann Reynolds started **first Head Start as summer program** at Union School in Springfield. By 1968, it became a full-year program.

1968-1971 SEVCA/HS staff worked to organize a **Poor People's Congress & welfare rights groups** with help from National Welfare Rights Organization.

1970 Head Start program transferred to Consumer Controlled Community Child Care from 1970-99.

1973 Arab Oil Embargo/Oil Crisis gave rise to **1st Weatherization program**, staffed by CETA workers.



1970 Free clothing room established in Bellows Falls as part of Outreach Program, which evolved into 1st Thrift Store.



1974 Development of nationally-recognized **SEVCA Stoves**, a CETA project. SEVCA purchased a building in Westminster to produce them commercially, but program ended when federal funding was cut in 1981.

1972-1973 Housing rehabilitation program created using **CETA workers**; which focused on youth who were high school dropouts and had 1st encounter with the law.

1975-1979 SEVCA operated **USDA Commodity Food Distribution program**; formed Homestead Nonprofit Housing, Inc. to **develop affordable rental housing**; initiated Rural Community Assistance to **install safe drinking water and waste disposal systems**; and began **Fair Housing Initiative.**

PROGRAMS



In 2015, SEVCA celebrated its 50th anniversary, and we were inspired to develop a timeline of important people and programs to enable a greater appreciation for the organization's history and achievements, presented at our Annual Celebration in May 2015. The following is an abridged version of our history.

For a more detailed timeline, visit our website at: <http://www.sevca.org/images/pdf/SEVCAHistoryTimelinefinal5-11-15.pdf>



1983-1990 John Durgin, formerly a Peace Corps volunteer, became SEVCA's ED, after working for SEVCA as Special Projects Coordinator and coordinator of the VT Fair Housing Coalition.

1989-1990 Donna Stevens and Todd Clough staff Homelessness Prevention Outreach program; in 1991, Donna left SEVCA and started **Our Place Drop-in Center**, and SEVCA transferred its food shelf to it. SEVCA also hired Barbara Ternes to serve as Director of **Parks Place** until funding was raised for it to become independent.

1990-1993 Judith Sutphen, formerly Program Dir. for MS Foundation for Women and Dev. Dir. for Grassroots International, was hired as SEVCA's ED.

1990-1991 SEVCA staff Bonnie Price and Myrtle Birsky helped start the **Shareheat (CVPS) and Warmth (GMP) funds** to increase available crisis fuel assistance resources.

2002-2004 Deb Osienski, formerly SEVCA's Finance Director, served as ED; after her departure, **Weatherization Director Harald Schmidtke served as Interim Director** and helped stabilize SEVCA during a financially-challenging period.



2004-present Steve Geller, an ED of a CAA in New Hampshire for 18 years, was hired as SEVCA's Interim ED, and Vern Lindamood was hired out of retirement as Interim Finance Director. Together with the management team and Executive Committee, they turned SEVCA around and established longer-term stability. Vern retired and returned twice more, finally retiring for good in 2013. Steve was made ongoing ED in Feb. 2005 and continues in the position today.

1994-2002 Gloria Dawson, who had been Family Services Director, was hired and served as ED.



1980s



1980-1985 1st Thrift Store opened in Bellows Falls; **Community Food and Nutrition Program** ran summer feeding program, community gardens; Outreach program for **solar greenhouse construction**; **Action for Children** initiative to reduce child abuse/neglect; **Transportation program** for Medicaid patients.

1985-1989 New programs included: **Rural Older Workers Employment Service**, Non-traditional **Job Training program for women**, first Micro-business Development Program, **Homelessness Prevention Outreach**.



1990s

Early 1990s Medicaid transportation service evolved into separate entity—**Town & Village Bus, which was at first overseen by SEVCA**; expanded to full-range transportation service; and became independent organization in 2000. Thrift store opens branch at the Hartford Recycling Center in 1993.

1990 SEVCA began development of a **Community Land Trust**, which became RACLT. SEVCA collaborated with Rockingham CLT, Central Elementary School, and Windham NE Supervisory Union on **development of Parks Place in Bellows Falls**, a multi-service community resource center.

1990s Programs started: **Tenants' Rights Program, Employment Readiness/"Welfare-to-Work" program**, and **Summer Lunch pilot program** at Bellows Falls Central School. **Head Start program** in Windsor County reverts back to SEVCA at end of decade.



2000s

2000s New "Good Buy" Thrift Stores open in Springfield and White River Junction in mid-2000s; **Textile recycling program** started in late 2000s. **Federal Stimulus (ARRA) Funding from 2009-11** allows SEVCA to respond to national economic crisis and expand and develop new programs, including **Emergency Home Repair, Housing Stabilization** (case management for homeless and homelessness prevention), **Vermont Green**, and **Employment and Training**. SEVCA also responds quickly to the disaster caused by **Tropical Storm Irene** in 2011, gets major statewide recovery grant, and serves as key partner in long-term recovery response.



Stories of Lives Rebuilt from the Ashes

FAMILY SERVICES

“The hearts of the staff are huge”

In the early morning hours of Saturday, November 7, 2015 a fire is started by an arsonist at an affordable housing complex on Valgar Street, Brattleboro. Someone raises the alarm, and panicked residents evacuate as the fire rages through their apartments. Miraculously, no one is killed or seriously injured. But seven families, almost all of whom have children, lose their homes and most of their possessions. Furniture, clothing, photos, toys, treasured family keepsakes....all gone in minutes.

Amanda Bragg's family lost almost everything they owned that day. With nowhere else to go, Amanda, her husband, and their three young children (ages 3, 5, and 9), were forced to stay at a motel. SEVCA's Family Services staff stepped in to help the Braggs and the other displaced families. We worked with each family individually to obtain alternative housing; assisted with moving costs; coordinated support from the Red Cross; purchased beds with a \$5,000 contribution from the local emergency response coalition; provided clothing

and furniture vouchers to be used at SEVCA's Good Buy Thrift Stores; helped coordinate local donations to ensure they got to the families that needed them; and connected families to other available resources.

A month later, the Braggs moved into a new apartment and were able to start their lives over again.

“SEVCA was there with us right from the start, and they kept in contact with us, making sure that we got everything we needed,” Amanda explains. “The hearts of the staff there are huge, they make you feel cared for every time they talk to you.”

Amanda says her family has begun making new, happy memories. **“Even though we faced this horrible tragedy, all the love and support that was wrapped around our family has almost made us feel as if nothing bad has happened,”** she said. “We needed that, and we are so grateful.”

“The IDA really helped us make a fresh start”

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

December, 2014: the house the Kehoe family had been renting in Whitingham goes up in flames. All 11 family members escape with their lives, but their beloved family pets are lost. Recovering from the tragedy in the home of a family friend, the Kehoes think long and hard about what they are going to do now.

As luck would have it, the Kehoes had recently completed SEVCA's Individual Development Account (IDA) matched savings program and were working on a plan to purchase a house.

Both Robin and her husband Dan had completed SEVCA's Financial Fitness course in preparation for the IDA. Among the many financial topics covered was home purchase, and they had learned about the USDA Rural Development loan program for first-time homebuyers. At the time of the fire they were beginning to pursue this. Then, the necessity of finding a new home after the fire “kicked us into high gear.” For several months, this large family had to double up in their friend's house, but finally in April of 2015 they closed on a new house and were able to stabilize their lives. “The timing was phenomenal,” said Robin Kehoe. “(The IDA) really helped us make a fresh start.”

The family now has a new chicken coop (courtesy of USDA), a dog, and a kitten. Finally “...it feels like home,”

Robin said. She says the IDA program helped reinforce her family's commitment to being smart with their money and getting the biggest “bang for the buck.” As a result, they are making more than the minimum payment on their mortgage each month so they can pay it off faster.

Robin says **“It's a commitment, and it takes time to save. But it's absolutely worth it. With the IDA, homeownership is a real possibility!”**



**"Each day as we have a cup of coffee,
I look out my window and smile!"**

WEATHERIZATION

Daniel and Darlene Lique, both previously widowed, have had their share of grief and heartbreak, but circumstances brought them together in their golden years (Dan is 74 and Darlene is 77) and they now have the love and companionship they both deserve. Thanks to the Weatherization program, they also now have a warm, more energy-efficient home and pay less than half of what they were paying to heat it before it was weatherized.

"Each day as we have a cup of coffee, I look out my window and smile. My home is warmer and I do feel so much more secure—and we have you to thank for this!" Darlene enthused.

Like many other Vermonters, both Daniel and Darlene worked in area factories and other local companies all their lives, raised families, and now depend entirely on social security because they never earned enough to put away anything for retirement. Being able to reduce their energy bills was a huge relief for them. And the challenge of taking care of their health—Darlene has emphysema and has to be on oxygen for a large part of the day—is a little easier now that cold winter air is not rattling through the windows and seeping in through previously-uninsulated walls.

Dan and Darlene's Springfield home was built when Darlene's three children were still young by her now-deceased first husband, Maynard, a laborer at the Fellows Gear Shaper factory. Their previous home on the site, which Darlene had inherited from her mother, burned down one winter, and they had no insurance. A neighbor let them stay in his trailer for the two years it took for Maynard to build their new home. In an effort to keep his home affordable, Maynard built the home as a cellar, and then added a pitched roof. While the ground the home is built into has some insulating effect, the house had no other insulation. They continued to heat it with a wood stove until Maynard died, at which point Darlene had a propane gas heater put in.

Dan was the one who called SEVCA about the Weatherization program; at the time, he and Darlene were using 550 gallons of propane per year and paying \$167/month on a budget plan. The Weatherization crew insulated the walls and the attic, replaced one window and frame and caulked the others, fitted plastic sheeting to several windows, put a vented fan in the bathroom, properly vented the dryer, and got them a new, energy-efficient upright freezer and refrigerator. They use about a third less fuel than they used to and their monthly cost on the budget plan is now only \$78/month.



"That was a lifesaver!" Darlene said, "I was on a really tight shoestring!" The Weatherization crew went a step further, too, by bringing several boxes of food to Dan and Darlene during the holiday season. "A lot of my family was coming and I didn't know what I was going to feed them, then those two angels showed up with the food. It was a godsend!" she said.

Weatherization is one of the many programs that SEVCA proudly offers to benefit area residents with lower incomes, many of them elderly households on fixed incomes like the Liques. The unique advantage of Weatherization is that it not only benefits the household assisted, but also our community's sustainability over the long-term through the energy savings achieved.

HEAD START

“My child is friendly and loving...he just needed a little help”

When Cori Fletcher and her husband, Jon, were first looking for an early education program for their eldest son, Tristano, they didn't have to look much farther than their own backyard. A friend recommended SEVCA's Head Start program in Windsor, and they found out it was only a short walk away from their house. Tristano, now 8 years old, had such a great experience in Head Start that it was an easy choice to enroll their younger son, Grayson, when he turned 3.

As Cori says, “every child is different,” and at first Grayson's preschool experience wasn't as positive as his brother's. It was soon apparent that her second child had behavioral issues and acted out because he had difficulty managing his emotions. Cori said her son could go from a good mood to a tantrum in an instant, and it would take him a long time to come out of the tantrum. Fortunately, the teachers at Head Start were prepared to help Grayson, and advised Cori and her husband on specific techniques to work with him. The teacher also recommended an early intervention program run by Health Care and Rehabilitation Services (HCRS), and Grayson was soon receiving extra help from this program through home visits. By the end of the year,

he was no longer having problems in the classroom, and the teachers remarked that he had “progressed tremendously.”

“As a parent, you want to help your child, get him on the right track, but we didn't know how best to do that,” Cori said. “Head Start gave us all the tools we needed. Grayson still has his moments, but he now knows how to stop and take a breath, take a time out, and calm down. He's really a friendly and loving child, he just needed a little help!”

When the Windsor Head Start program lost the space it had leased for many years in the middle of the 2014-15 school year, Grayson continued in the home-based program, which involved weekly home visits and twice monthly 'socialization' experiences with other children in the program, including special field trips. This year, Grayson continued to participate in the home-based program, while spending his afternoons at the Essential Early Education (EEE) program based at the Windsor elementary school his older brother attends. Cori feels confident that the support Grayson has received has prepared him well for kindergarten next year. “I love Head Start,” she said. “It's almost like a family.”

“I feel human again, for the first time in a long time....”

THRIFT STORES

SEVCA's “Good Buy” Thrift Store on Hartford Ave. in White River Junction is located directly across the street from the Upper Valley Haven, an organization that provides food, shelter, education, clothing, and support to people struggling with poverty and homelessness. In April of 2015, the two organizations strengthened their already-close relationship through a new partnership.

According to Executive Director Sara Kobylenski, the Haven had assessed its services and determined that their free clothing room was actually duplicating a service that the “Good Buy” store could provide “more deeply and better than we could do it,” due to the store's greater selection of sizes and items than their clothing room could hold. They approached SEVCA's Thrift Store Director, who agreed to provide clothing based on written vouchers provided by the Haven to its clients, and the Haven agreed to reimburse SEVCA for half the cost of the items provided.

In the first year of the partnership, 335 clothing vouchers were provided and 731 people assisted. Tory Emery, Family Programs Supervisor at the Upper Valley Haven, spoke about some of these clients. One man, who

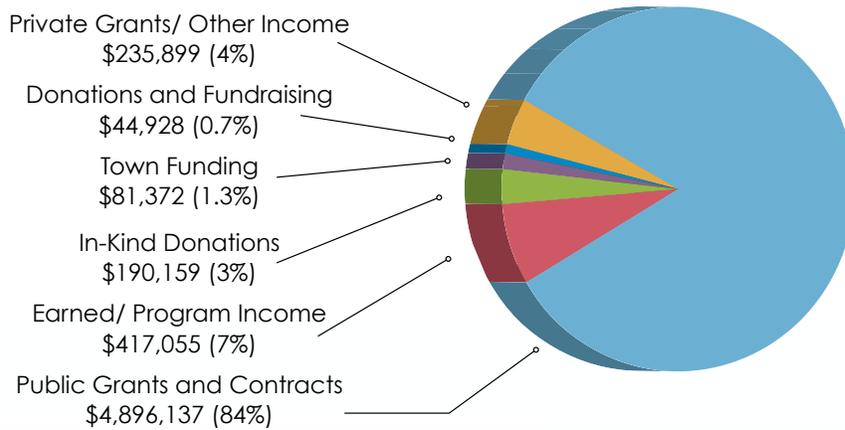
had been living outdoors for over a year, had only the clothing he was wearing when he came to the Haven for help. Once he was given pairs of pants, shirts, socks, and underwear, he remarked, “I feel human again, for the first time in a long time.” A family with a toddler arrived one day with only the possessions they could fit in the cab they took to the shelter. The father soon got a job in which he worked outdoors, so the free clothing provided for the family included rubber boots and a raincoat that he needed to do his job. They felt they were treated with respect and dignity—and because the parents were tall and could not locate all items in their sizes, they were encouraged to return for the rest.

“This exemplifies how human service agencies can collaborate to produce better outcomes for the people they serve,” said Steve Geller, SEVCA's Executive Director. “We're pleased to be able to help whoever is in need of our services and to encourage them to use our “Good Buy” stores as an ongoing resource for all of their essentials at the lowest possible cost.”



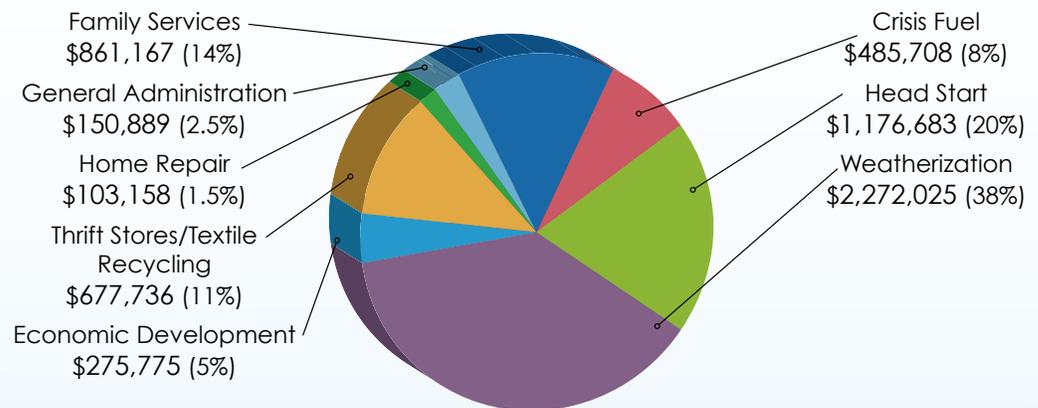
FY 2015 Financial Summary

FY2015 Revenue and Other Support



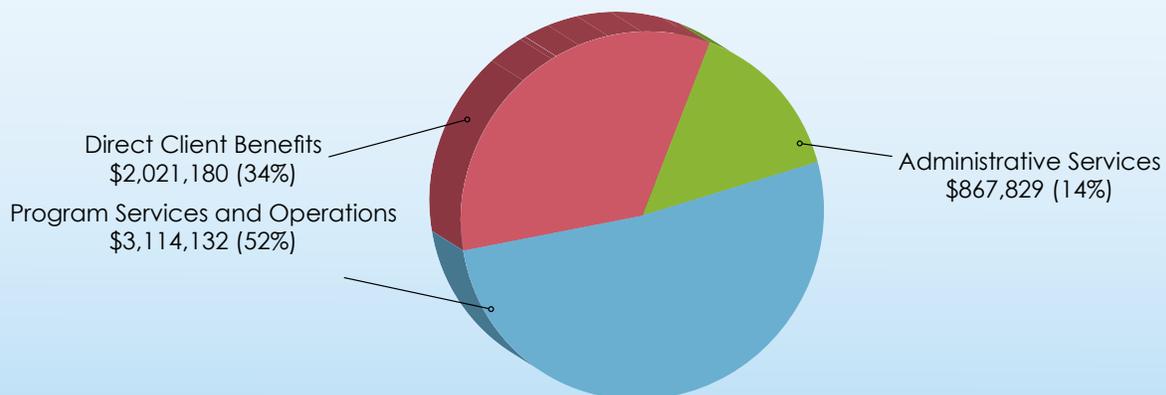
TOTAL \$5,865,550

FY2015 Uses of Funds by Program/Function



TOTAL \$6,003,141

FY2015 Allocation of Expenses



TOTAL \$6,003,141

FUNDING SOURCES FY2015

SEVCA would like to thank all of our funders and donors for helping us to achieve our mission. You have made it possible for us to assist 10,429 people with lower incomes (4,576 households) in the past year.

DIRECT FEDERAL

Dept. of Health & Human Services (HHS)

- Head Start Program

Dept. of Agriculture (USDA)

- Housing Preservation Grant (HPG)

FEDERAL VIA STATE

Agency of Human Services (AHS)

Dept. for Children & Families (DCF)

- Crisis Fuel Assistance (HHS / LIHEAP)
- Child & Adult Care Food Program (USDA / CACFP)
- 3Squares Vermont (USDA / SNAP)

Office of Economic Opportunity

- Community Services Block Grant (HHS / CSBG)
- Emergency Food & Shelter Program (EFSP)
- Job Start Grant (USDA / SNAP)
- Weatherization (DOE)

Dept. of Labor

- Workforce Investment Board (WIB)

FEDERAL VIA OTHER SOURCES

Capstone Community Action

- Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF)
- Individual Development Accounts (IDA)

Champlain Valley OEO (CVOEO)

- Vermont Health Connect Navigator
- Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA)

Connecticut Association for Community Action (CAFCA)

- Regional Performance & Innovation Consortium (RPIC)

STATE OF VERMONT

Agency of Human Services (AHS)

Dept. of Vermont Health Access

- Vermont Health Connect Navigator

Dept. for Children & Families (DCF)

- Childcare Subsidies

Office of Economic Opportunity

- Weatherization (HWAP / EHSRP)
- Micro Business Development Program (MBDP)
- Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG)
- Community Housing Grant (CHG)
- Housing Opportunity Program (HOP)
- Financial Fitness (IDA Match)

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Springfield School District
Two Rivers Supervisory Union

Towns of:

Andover
Athens
Baltimore
Brattleboro

Bridgewater

Brookline

Cavendish

Chester

Dover

Dummerston

Grafton

Guilford

Halifax

Hartford

Hartland

Jamaica

Londonderry

Ludlow

Marlboro

Newfane

Norwich

Putney

Rockingham

Springfield

Townshend

Vernon

Wardsboro

Weathersfield

West Windsor

Westminster

Weston

Whitingham

Wilmington

Windham

Windsor

Woodstock

FOUNDATION / PRIVATE / COMMUNITY GRANTS AND DONATIONS

Allen Brothers Oil

Bellows Falls Emblem Club

Bellows Falls Polish American Club #1

Berkshire Bank Foundation

Black River Good Neighbor Services

Black River Produce

Brattleboro Development Credit

Corporation

Brattleboro Country Club

Brattleboro Ford-Subaru

Burtco, Inc.

C. Cowles & Company

C&S Wholesale Grocers

Cavendish CCA

Christ's Church (Saxton's River)

Cigna Health

Clark's Quality Foods

Claypoint Associates

Cota & Cota

Dakin & Benelli, P.C.

Don's Heating, LLC

Durand Toyota Ford

EFI

Elsberg Family Foundation

Emily Landecker Foundation

Entergy Services

Farnum Insulators

First Baptist Church of Bellows Falls

First Baptist Church of Saxton's River

First Congregational Church of

Newfane

First Congregational Church of

Westminster

First Universalist Parish

Gay & Lesbian Fund of Vermont

Granite United Way

Greater Hartford United Church

Greenfiber

Green Mountain Power (GMP)

(Warmth)

Green Mountain United Way

G.S. Precision, Inc.

Halladay's

Harriman's Heating

Inn at Weathersfield

IPG Employee Benefits Specialists

John T.'s Appliance Repair

Joy Wah Restaurant

King's Daughters & Sons

Kinney-Pike Insurance

Leone, McDonnell, & Roberts

Lucas Industries

MacLaomainn's Scottish Pub

Magee Office Products

Main Street Landing Company

Mary Mitchell Miller Real Estate

Merchant's Bank

Mutual of America

North Springfield Baptist Church

Northeast Delta Dental

Norwich Congregational Church

Norwich Lions Club

Old South Congregational Church

PayData

Periwinkle Foundation

Putney Food Coop

Rise Up! Vermont

Robert & Lynne Schwartz Fund

Sam Streeter, LLC

Savings Bank of Walpole

Simon Operation Services

Springfield Medical Care Systems

Springfield Housing Authority

Springfield Moose Lodge 679

Springfield on the Move

St. Barnabas Church

St. Mark's Episcopal Church

Sunset Tool, Inc.

Taftsville Chapel Mennonite Fellowship

The Fanny Holt Ames and Edna Louise

Holt Fund

The Patrick Foundation

The Vermont Community Foundation

(VCF)

The Thompson Trust

The Wurster Family Foundation

Thomas Cowles Trust

United Church of Bellows Falls

Vermont Country Store

Vermont Low Income Trust for

Electricity (VLITE)

VSECU

Walmart Foundation

Westminster Auto Service

Weston Priory

Whitney Blake Company

William A. Morse Trust Fund

Windham Foundation

WW Building Supply



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Ways to Donate

On-line donations can be made by clicking on the **Donation** button at www.sevca.org. You may also mail a check to SEVCA, Attn: Annual Appeal, 91 Buck Drive, Westminster, VT 05156. For further information, please contact Becky Himlin, Director of Planning and Development at 802-722-4575 ext. 163.

Donations are used to:

- Help ensure that local families in crisis can get help to prevent homelessness, keep the heat on, access affordable health insurance, and build personal assets.
- Support our efforts to build people's skills, help them create sustainable livelihoods, and lay a strong foundation for children's educational success.
- Enable us to improve the energy efficiency and habitability of area homes.
- Sustain our thrift stores as a low-cost resource for the basic needs of clothing, furniture, and household goods.





91 Buck Drive
Westminster, VT 05158

Our mission is to enable people to cope with, and reduce the hardships of poverty, create sustainable self-sufficiency, and reduce the causes and move toward the elimination of poverty.

Management Team

- Steve Geller, Executive Director
- Harald Schmidtke, Director of Weatherization and Home Repair
- Denise Mason, Director of Economic Development
- Pat Burke, Director of Family Services
- Lori Canfield, Director of Head Start
- Darline Rhoades, Interim Director of Thrift Stores
- Tom Clews, Finance Director
- Becky Himlin, Director of Planning and Development
- Paul LaFreniere, IT Administrator
- Linda Brooks, Executive Assistant

Acknowledgements

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Graphic design by Meg Lucas

OFFICE LOCATIONS

Main Office

91 Buck Drive, Westminster, VT 05158
Tel. 802-722-4575
Fax 802-722-4509
Toll Free 800-464-9951

Thrift Stores

Bellows Falls	463-9084
Springfield	885-7074
White River Junction	359-4183

Outreach Offices

Brattleboro (outreach)	254-2795
Brattleboro (housing)	579-1314
Springfield	885-6153
White River Junction	295-5215
Windsor Satellite	674-2900

Head Start

Chester (GMUHS)	875-3904
Main Office, Springfield	885-6669
Springfield classroom	885-6664
White River Junction (Northwoods)	295-1122