

## ***Opportunity: 11 Critical Paths for Philanthropy in Vermont***

You will find a list of citations for each of the opportunities in the report below.

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### Help Working Families Thrive (pages 10-11)

1. “An estimated 46,000 working families....”

The Working Poor Families Project, “American Community Survey,” 2013.

2. “Vermont’s cost of living is the 9<sup>th</sup> most expensive....”

U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, “Federal Cost of Living Index,” 2014.

3. “46,000 working families (nearly 1 in 4) in Vermont are not earning enough...”

Ibid. “American Community Survey.”

4. “More than one in five renting households in Vermont spends over 50% of its paycheck on rent.”

Bowen National Research, prepared for the Vermont Department of Housing & Community Development, “Vermont Housing Needs Assessment,” February 2015.

5. “The average Vermont family with two kids spends between \$15,000 and \$20,000 a year on child care.”

Department for Children and Families, Child Development Division, “Market Rate Survey,” 2012.

6. “Forty percent of all Vermont families rely in some measure on the food bank/food support system.”

Hunger Free Vermont Website: <https://www.hungerfreevt.org/>

7. “The hunger rate among Vermont seniors increased 60% between 2012 and 2014.”

Ibid. Hunger Free Vermont. <https://www.hungerfreevt.org/>

## Improve Access to Mental Health Care (pages 12-13)

1. "In certain geographic pockets of the state, some residents have virtually no access to mental health services."

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute, "2015 County Health Rankings: Vermont," 2015.

2. "5.8%: the percentage of Vermont adults who had a serious mental illness..."

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, "Behavioral Health Barometer: Vermont, 2014," 2014.

3. "24,000: the number of Vermont adults who had serious thoughts about suicide..."

Ibid. "Behavioral Health Barometer: Vermont, 2014."

U.S. Census Bureau, "State and County QuickFacts: Vermont," 2014.

4. "Suicide is the second leading cause of death for Vermonters ages 15-34."

Center for Health and Learning, Vermont Youth Suicide Prevention Coalition. "Vermont Youth Suicide Prevention Platform." 2008-2012.

5. "One year: the approximate length of time patients spend on the waitlist for the pediatric psychiatry clinic at the University of Vermont Medical Center."

Remsen, Nancy, "For Psychiatric Help, Vermont's Children Must Wait," Seven Days, January 2015.

6. "43%: the percentage of Vermonters with depression who are not treated."

Ibid. "Behavioral Health Barometer: Vermont, 2014."

Bring Quality Education to All Residents (pages 14-15)

1. "Vermont has among the lowest rates in the country for children from low-income families attending academic and enrichment programs outside of school."

Vermont Afterschool Alliance, "Every Hour Counts Report," December 2014.

Vermont Afterschool Alliance Blog, January 2015.

2. "Vermont has one of the lowest rates in the country for children from low-income families..."

Vermont Student Assistance Corporation, "Special Report: Gaps in Post-Secondary Aspiration," April 2014.

3. "While Vermont ranks well in high school graduation rates, our pipeline..."

Vermont Student Assistance Corporation, "Senior Survey Vermont High School Class of 2012."

4. "62%: the percentage of low-income three- and four-year-olds who do not attend preschool. "

Data collected by Kids Count Data Center, Annie E. Casey Foundation, 2011-2013.

5. "Vermont ranks last in the nation for the percentage of low income children who participate in academic and enrichment programs outside of school time."

Ibid. "Every Hour Counts Report."

6. "Vermont high school students who are the first-generation of their family to consider college have aspirations that range from 20% to 26% lower than non-first-generation students."

Ibid. "Special Report: Gaps in Post-Secondary Aspiration."

### Clean up Our Rivers and Lakes (pages 18-19)

1. "The Green Mountain State is the largest contributor of pollution to Lake Champlain..."

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. "Phosphorus TMDLs for Vermont Segments of Lake Champlain." August 2015.

2. "The problem extends beyond the state's most iconic water body to the many state lakes, rivers, and streams that do not meet national water quality standards."

Vermont Agency of Natural Resources, Department of Environmental Conservation, Watershed Management Division, "2014 Vermont Surface Water Quality Integrated Assessment Report," August 2015.

3. "A recent resident-requested tax reassessment in the lakeside town of Georgia..."

WCAX, "Lake Champlain algae causing loss in property values," July 2015.

4. "36%: the amount by which Vermont needs to cut phosphorous run-off into Lake Champlain..."

Herrick, John, "State looks beyond shoreline effort to clean up Lake Champlain," Vermont Digger, February 2014.

5. "82%: the percentage of Vermont lakeshore lands in 'poor' or 'fair' condition because of excessive clearing."

Vermont Agency of Natural Resources, Department of Environmental Conservation, Lake and Ponds Section, "Lake Shoreland Protection and Restoration Management Options," 2013.

6. "In the first nine months of 2015, more than 2.4 million gallons of untreated sewage and effluent have flowed into Vermont waterways."

State of Vermont, Agency of Natural Resources, "Sewage Overflow 2015 Database," 2015.

### Benefit More Consumers and Producers (pages 20-21)

1. "Farm Incomes today are lower than they were in 1970."

Vermont Sustainable Jobs Fund, Vermont Farm to Plate, "Vermont Farm to Plate Strategic Plan," July 2013.

2. "In fact, only about half of famers list farming as their primary income."

U.S. Department of Agriculture, "Census of Agriculture, Vermont Report," 2012.

3. "While the number of farms in Vermont increased between 2007 and 2012, 58% of farms reported net losses in 2012."

Ibid. "Census of Agriculture, Vermont Report."

4. "34,320: the number of Vermont households that lack reliable access to sufficient, affordable, nutritious food."

U.S. Department of Agriculture, Economic Research Service. "Household Food Security in the United States in 2012." September 2013.

5. "4,189: the number of new food related jobs added in Vermont between 2009 and 2013."

U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, "Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages Tool."

U.S. Census Bureau, "2013 Nonemployer Statistics," 2014.

Ibid. "Census of Agriculture, Vermont Report."

6. "Only two of the top 20 occupations in food production in Vermont had higher than average wages."

Vermont Department of Labor, Economic and Labor Market Information, "Occupational Information Center," <http://www.vtlmi.info/occupation.cfm>. Search keyword: "Food Production."

Agency of Commerce and Community Development, The Vermont CEDS Committee, and the Garnet Consulting Group, "Vermont 2020: Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy," June 2014.

1. "By 2030 the state estimates that..."

Jones, Ken and Lilly Schwarz, State of Vermont, "Vermont Population Projections, 2010-2030," August 2013.

2. "Vermont's population of residents aged 65 and older is..."

U.S. Census Bureau, "Interim State Population Projections," 2005.

3. "8000: the projected shortage of affordable housing units for seniors by 2020."

Ibid. "Vermont Housing Needs Assessment."

4. "50%: the percentage of hospitalized Vermont seniors who suffer from malnutrition severe enough to either cause illness or impede recovery."

Champlain Valley Agency on Aging Website: <http://www.cvaa.org/meals-on-wheels.html> "Meals on Wheels," March 2010.

5. "Vermont ranks #1 in the nation for the number of residents 65 years and older who receive personal and home care and ranks sixth for those receiving home-delivered meals."

Houser, Ari, Wendy Fox-Grage, and Kathleen Ujvari, AARP, "Across the States: Profiles of Long Term Services and Support, Vermont," 2012.

#### Expand Affordable Housing (pages 24-25)

1. "The state's Housing Gap is projected to increase over the next five years for both rental housing and homeownership." "The state's pool of affordable housing is one of the worst in the country, and low vacancy rates across the state only tighten the squeeze."

Ibid. "Vermont Housing Needs Assessment." Executive Summary p. 3.

2. "Homelessness in Vermont shot up nearly 30% over the last five years."

National Alliance to End Homelessness. "The State of Homelessness in America 2015." April 2015.

3. "An estimated three-quarters of adults with severe mental illness are homeless."

Ibid. "Vermont Housing Needs Assessment." Ibid. Statewide Data p. 50.

4. "Some prisoners in the state corrections system remain behind bars solely because..."

Ibid. "Vermont Housing Needs Assessment." Statewide Data p. 49.

5. "Victims of domestic violence find themselves..."

Ibid. "Vermont Housing Needs Assessment." Statewide Data p. 48.

6. "Homelessness in Vermont increased 28% between 2009 and 2014."

Ibid. "The State of Homelessness in America 2015."

7. "1%: the vacancy rate for Vermont's affordable housing units. Four to six percent is considered a healthy market."

Ibid. "Vermont Housing Needs Assessment." Vermont Statewide Overview p. 1.

8. "In 2013, nearly three out of five Vermonters spent more than 30% of their income on housing."

Ibid. "Vermont Housing Needs Assessment." Executive Summary p. 8.

9. "Vermont's housing stock is the second-oldest in the country, resulting in..."

Nichols, Polly. Personal Interview. January 2015.

#### Tackle Substance Abuse (pages 28-29)

1. "Vermont's rate of illicit drug use ranks high nationally, especially for teens"

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration "Results from the 2013 National Survey on Drug Use and Health: Summary of National Findings," 2014.

2. "Drug related crimes are on the rise, up 46% since 2009."

Garbitelli, Beth, Washington Times. "Vt. fights drug crimes with treatment, not jail," March 2014.

3. "...up to 80% of incarcerated individuals can trace their arrest back to drugs"

Pallito, Andy as quoted by Mark Davis. Seven Days. "Vermont's Prison Chief Says It's Time to Decriminalize Drug Possession." June 2015.

4. "Vermont ranks 3<sup>rd</sup> in the nation for the percentage of 12-17 year olds who report using an illicit drug in the past 30 days."

Ibid. "Results from the 2013 National Survey on Drug Use and Health: Summary of National Findings."

5. "80%: the percentage of children under the age of 3 taken into state custody for neglect and abuse who come from families with opiate addiction issues."

Burbank, April. "VT takes custody of unprecedented number of young children," Burlington Free Press, September 2015.

6. "Some Vermont youth services agencies report that as many as 40% of the at-risk youth they serve are addicted to opiates."

Nilsen, Colleen. Personal interview. 2015.

#### Match Workforce Skills to Employer Needs (pages 30-31)

1. "Three hundred plumbers. More than two thousand nurses. Six hundred construction managers. Nearly eight hundred elementary school teachers. These are the kind and numbers of jobs expected to open in Vermont in the next twenty years."

The J. Warren and Lois McClure Foundation, "Pathways to Promising Careers: Vermont's High-Pay High-Demand Jobs," June 2015.

2. "In five very short years, between 60% and 65% of job openings will require some sort of post-secondary training..."



Center on Education and the Workforce, Georgetown University. "Job Growth and Education Requirements through 2020." June 2013.

3. "Nationally, between 60% and 65% of all job openings will require a 2- or 4-year degree ..."

Ibid. Center on Education and the Workforce.

4. "It's estimated that fewer than 27% of Vermont 9<sup>th</sup> graders will complete college."

Vermont Student Assistance Corporation. "Senior Survey Vermont High School Class of 2012."

5. "In a recent study, Vermont was ranked 46<sup>th</sup> out of 50 states"

Beacon Hill Institute. "Ranking of State Competitiveness." 2013.

#### Limit Forest Fragmentation (pages 32-33)

1. "Vermonters consume land at a rate that outpaces..."

Bolduc, Vince and Herb Kessel. Center for Social Science Research, Saint Michael's College. "Vermont in Transition: A Summary of Social Economic and Environmental Trends." December 2008.

2. "The costs of owning an acre of forestland shot up 73% between 2003 and 2009..."

Herrick, John. Vermont Digger. "State Report Highlights Shrinking Forests." April 2015.

3. "80%: the percentage of Vermont forests that are privately owned."

Snyder, Michael. Personal Interview. 2015.

Vermont Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation. "2015 Forest Fragmentation Report." April 2015.

4. "...more than half of that land is owned by senior Vermonters"

Ibid. Vermont Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation.

5. "\$1.5 Billion: the amount of revenue that Vermont's forest products industry generates annually."

North East State Foresters Association, "The Economic Importance of Vermont's Forest-Based Economy 2013," 2013.

Keep the Arts Vibrant (pages 34-35)

1. "Some studies show that arts education creates critical thinkers, builds resilience, and teaches students tolerance and empathy. Other research suggests that young people who are engaged in the arts are more likely to be recognized for academic achievement, participate in math and science fairs, and win awards for school attendance."

Evans, Karin, Greater Good Science Center, University of California, Berkeley, "Arts and Smarts," December 2008.

National Arts Education Public Awareness Campaign Website:  
[http://artsaskformore.artsusa.org/artsed\\_facts/001.html](http://artsaskformore.artsusa.org/artsed_facts/001.html). "Quick Facts."

2. "Windham County arts nonprofits participated...."

Americans for the Arts, "Arts and Economic Prosperity IV," 2012

3. "National studies reveal that federal, state and local tax revenues generated by the arts community through direct and indirect sales return an average of \$7 for every \$1 invested by government in the arts."

Americans for the Arts, "Arts and Economic Prosperity III: The Economic Impact of Nonprofit Arts and Culture Organizations and their Audiences," 2007.

4. "Multiple independent national studies have shown increased years of enrollment in arts courses are positively correlated with higher SAT verbal and math scores."

National Assembly of State Arts Agencies, "How the Arts Benefit Student Achievement," 2006.