THE VERMONT COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Supporting Vermont Nonprofit Organizations
Our Nonprofit Funds

By choosing to establish a nonprofit fund at the Community Foundation, you are helping to build healthy and vital Vermont communities, while gaining access to world-class investment services and receiving support from an organization whose only business is philanthropy. We currently manage over 140 nonprofit endowment funds for various nonprofits in the state, including the Vermont Land Trust, St. Johnsbury Athenaeum, Flynn Center for the Performing Arts, Chelsea Public Library, Rutland Health Foundation, and Groundworks Collaborative.

We offer two types of funds for nonprofits: a nonprofit endowment fund and a nonprofit reserve fund. The main differences between the funds are explained below in the Access to Fund Balance and Supporting Fee sections of the comparison chart.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nonprofit Endowment Fund</th>
<th>Nonprofit Reserve Fund</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Description</strong></td>
<td>A fund that helps protect medium to long-term assets (typically endowment or quasi-endowment) while receiving relatively even annual distributions.</td>
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<td><strong>Minimum Contribution</strong></td>
<td>$25,000 to establish the fund; no gift minimum thereafter.</td>
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<td><strong>Access to Fund Balance</strong></td>
<td>The Community Foundation is required to evaluate and approve any requests for fund distributions in excess of the annual distribution.</td>
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<td><strong>Annual Distribution</strong></td>
<td>Currently 5% of the fund’s 36-month rolling average balance is used to calculate the fund’s annual distribution amount. The spending policy—for each investment pool—is reviewed and set annually by the Foundation’s Board of Directors.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Supporting Fee</strong></td>
<td>0.80% of the fund’s market value annually. The minimum fee is $200. The minimum fee will be assessed to funds with balances below $25,000.</td>
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<td><strong>Assets in the Fund</strong></td>
<td>Unlike a traditional investment institution, a community foundation cannot legally manage assets it does not own. Therefore, fund assets become the property of the Vermont Community Foundation. This layer of separation often helps bolster the confidence of your donors regarding the long-term health of your organization and helps protect your assets from liability and litigation.</td>
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What We Offer

Competitive Grant Rounds
The Community Foundation is committed to building philanthropic resources that sustain healthy and vital Vermont communities, and one part of that work is making grants to nonprofit organizations across the state. We manage more than 20 grant rounds that support a breadth of issues such as hunger, housing, arts, cultural heritage, social justice, environmental sustainability, and many others.

Learn More: www.vermontcf.org/AvailableGrants

Planned Giving Partnership Program
Any nonprofit organization with a reserve or endowment fund at the Community Foundation can take advantage of our turn-key planned giving program, which includes these gift vehicles: charitable gift annuity (CGA), charitable remainder trust (CRT), and charitable lead trust (CLT). The program requires no upfront investment, additional staff training, or organizational liability—we handle all of the administrative and tax reporting details for you. Our staff works directly with you and your donors to review options and set up the best gift scenario possible.

World-class Investment Management
The Community Foundation works with Colonial Consulting—an independent investment consultant that manages $35 billion in assets and works with more than 135 clients—to offer low-fee, world-class investment management services for our fundholders.

Vermont Investments - Supporting the Local Economy
This program allocates 5% of our investments in Vermont. When you have a fund with us, you help support the local economy.

The Vermont Directory of Foundations
We provide a no-cost, searchable online database of organizations that make grants to Vermont nonprofits.

Online Education and Networking
We fund capacity-building resources such as Common Good Vermont and NonprofitNext Vermont.

Staff Expertise
Our staff is always here to help you with your needs, and we maintain strong connections with nonprofits throughout the state and stay abreast of local and national trends in grantmaking and giving.
A value I hold dearly is to leave my money to charities—let’s call it investing in the common wealth of our community, our state, our country, and our world. And for my situation, charitable gift annuities work beautifully. I actually have a large portfolio of them, including 16 with the Vermont Community Foundation. It’s stress free for me and provides the security of a fixed income along with the joy of giving.

Cheryl Wilfong  
Vermont Community Foundation  
foundholder

Pictured above are participants in “Coffee & Conversation - Stories of Homelessness”. This photography and mixed-media collaboration brought together those who are experiencing/have experienced homelessness and those who have stable housing. It was promoted by Groundworks Collaborative, a nonprofit organization that provides ongoing support to families and individuals in the greater Brattleboro area who are facing a full continuum of housing and food insecurities.

Groundworks Collaborative has a nonprofit endowment fund at the Community Foundation and is also part of our Planned Giving Partnership Program. And fundholder Cheryl Wilfong has designated Groundworks Collaborative as a beneficiary of a charitable gift annuity.