

2013 EAST MONTPELIER TOWN MEETING FUNDING REQUEST STUDY COMMITTEE REPORT

Our committee reviews requests for financial support from local non-profit organizations and recommends appropriations to the Selectboard. These organizations provide citizens with vital assistance and operate programs to help educate and support families to prevent the need for additional social support. The committee considers the nature of the services provided, the number of residents served, the availability of other funding sources, and each organization's unique ability to serve residents of East Montpelier. Public support of these organizations acknowledges and encourages valuable non-governmental programs for people in need and strengthens our neighborly connections.

Last year voters agreed to appropriate \$16,716 to support 25 organizations, including \$1,000 for the Central Vermont Memorial Civic Center. This year the committee considered requests totaling \$21,611 from 27 organizations and recommended appropriations to support 24 organizations, totaling \$18,061, a 8.0% increase. The Central Vermont Chapter of the American Red Cross is the only new organization.

The funding recommendations appear **in bold** in the list below along with the amounts approved in the previous two years. If available, we have included the number of residents directly served who live in East Montpelier. Please feel free to contact these organizations when in need, to volunteer your own time and skills, or to make additional financial contributions.

American Red Cross, Central Vermont, New Hampshire Valley Chapter, (802-773-5159) provides immediate relief and shelter for victims of disasters, works to educate citizens on health and safety issues, and provides local personnel with trainings on disaster preparedness and shelter operations. In the past year, the organization assisted two families in East Montpelier with emergency assistance after home fires. (\$250)

Central Vermont Community Action Council, Inc. (479-1053 or 800-639-1053) works with families to build better lives and to create thriving local communities through Head Start and Early Head Start, Community Economic Development programs, Family & Community Support services, including Emergency Food and Crisis Fuel, Home Weatherization assistance and more. It served 193 people in 108 households in the town during the past year. (\$400; \$400; **\$500**)

Central Vermont Community Land Trust (476-4493) develops and manages affordable housing projects; it provides education, counseling, loans, and financial services for homeowners through its Homeowner Center and facilitates community development projects. Nineteen residents took advantage of CVCLT services during the past year. (\$150; \$150; **\$150**)

Central Vermont Council on Aging (479-0531) provides meal and transportation services, legal advice, case management, and advocacy for Central Vermont elders. It served 92 residents in the past year. (\$1,500; \$1,500; **\$1,600**)

Central Vermont Home Health & Hospice (223-1878) provides nursing and hospice services in residents' homes and offers public health and educational clinics. Town funds assist uninsured or underinsured residents with vital in-home care. In addition to those attending clinics, CVHH&H served 77 residents with home care last year. (\$3,200; \$3,200; **\$4,200**)

Central Vermont Memorial Civic Center (229-5900) operates the ice skating rink used by area schools and offers open skating times for residents in East Montpelier. (\$300; \$1,000; **\$1,000**)

Circle (formerly **Battered Women's Services and Shelter**); (Hotline: 877-543-9498) serves families in Washington County in cases involving domestic abuse. The Shelter provides safe homes, emotional support, legal assistance, food and clothes, and a 24-hour hotline; staff offer prevention programs in local schools. The organization served 16 residents in the past year. (\$675; \$675; **\$675**)

Community Connections (223-3456) provides afterschool, vacation, and summer programming for pre-school and school-age children, including mentoring and youth outreach, and creates opportunities for children to learn from community members. It served 206 students in the past year. (\$2,500; \$2,500; **\$2,500**)

Family Center of Washington County (828-8765) provides services for children and families, including preschool, playgroups, parent education, home visits, and child care support services. It served 61 residents in the past year. (\$500; \$500; **\$500**)

Friends of the Winooski River (655-4878) is dedicated to the protection and restoration of the Winooski River, including its tributaries and watershed, from Cabot to Colchester. Members monitor water quality, conduct river cleanup projects, and educate landowners and students in river stewardship. (\$150; \$150; **\$200**)

Green Mountain Transit (223-7287) is a community transportation service that matches requests for rides from local residents with available transport, including vans, volunteer drivers, and van/pools and also operates the commuter bus service along U.S. Route 2. It served 13 townspeople with 426 residential trips in the past year. (\$1,300; \$1,366; **\$1,366**)

Green Up Vermont (229-4586) uses town funds to provide biodegradable bags, posters, publicity, and information for town chairpersons to promote roadside cleanup and litter control on Green Up Day. (\$150; \$150; **\$150**)

Montpelier Senior Activity Center (223-2518) provides seniors with opportunities for learning, recreation, travel, and health improvement through programs and classes. At the request of the Senior Center, the Selectboard has set a separate article on the 2013 Town Meeting Warning. (\$200; \$400, **\$0**)

Onion River Food Shelf, Inc. (223-6548) provides emergency food for three days for those in need in East Montpelier, Plainfield, Calais, Marshfield, and Cabot. It served 62 residents in the past year. (\$600; \$800; **\$1,000**)

People's Health & Wellness Clinic, Inc. (479-1229) provides basic primary and preventive care to the uninsured and underinsured through a team of volunteer doctors and caregivers. It served 13 residents in the past year. (\$950; \$950; **\$950**)

Prevent Child Abuse of Vermont (229-5724) works to prevent child abuse and neglect through parent education, support, and public awareness programs. The Care for Kids program trains childcare professionals, parents, and others who interact with children to prevent child sexual abuse. Last year 119 residents participated in various training programs (\$250; \$250; **\$300**)

Project Independence (476-3630) provides adult day health services for the elderly and disabled to enable them to remain in their homes while also providing respite for regular caregivers. Services include mental and physical health therapies, nutritious meals, and recreation at the center. Last year 13 residents benefited from the services. (\$250; **\$250**)

Retired and Senior Volunteer Program for Central Vermont and Northeast Kingdom (828-4770) links retired and senior volunteers with organizations (hospitals, schools, and nonprofits) that can use their volunteer skills. Funds help offset travel expenses, insurance, and volunteer training. Seventeen volunteers from East Montpelier participated in the program. (\$275; \$275; **\$275**)

Sexual Assault Crisis Team of Washington Co. (476-1388; hotline: 479-5577) operates a hotline and provides emergency medical assistance, shelter, counseling, advocacy and legal advice for victims of sexual violence. Five residents received direct assistance last year. (\$200; \$200; **\$200**)

Twin Valley Senior Center (426-3447) serves meals at the Schoolhouse Common in Marshfield and delivers meals-on-wheels to seniors in the local area. It provided services for 11 residents in the past year. (\$500; \$500; **\$750**)

Vermont Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired (828-5997) provides training and support services to children and adults with vision problems, either blindness or impairment, to maintain independence. It served one resident in the past year. (\$150; \$100; **\$100**)

Vermont CARES (371-6222) supports and advocates for people infected with HIV/AIDS. The organization works to prevent infection through testing and awareness programs. (\$150; **\$150**)

Vermont Center for Independent Living (229-0501) provides services and advocacy for people with disabilities. The organization assists disabled people to lead active and productive lives with as great a degree of independence as possible. It served three residents in the past year. (\$200; \$200; **\$245**)

Washington County Diversion Program (229-0536) offers first-time offenders a one-time opportunity to take responsibility for their offenses by compensating crime victims and providing community service hours to local organizations. The program saves tax dollars that would have been spent on court proceedings. It served 20 residents in the past year. (\$350; \$350; **\$350**)

Washington County Youth Services Bureau — Boys and Girls Club (229-9151) helps youths and their families create healthy conditions in their lives. Emphasis is on problem resolution; crisis intervention; individual and family counseling; and substance abuse prevention, including early intervention, and treatment. It served 20 youths in the past year. (\$400; \$400; **\$400**)

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