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## **2018 – 2019 Annual Report to the Town of East Montpelier Central Vermont Economic Development Corporation**

Central Vermont Economic Development Corporation continues to play an important role in addressing the needs of businesses in our community. By fostering entrepreneurs, supporting manufacturing, and assisting communities to plan and implement strategies, CVEDC is able to play a positive role in expanding the economic quality of life that supports this region.

While we continue to assist businesses with real estate, finance, and regulatory supports, CVEDC has significantly expanded our focus on workforce development. We are working to create collaborations that will lead to a qualified pool of skilled labor matched with high-wage jobs. Currently the growth of many businesses has been slowed or stalled due to a lack of candidates with the required skills. At the same time, we are searching to find ways to keep our youth in Vermont. By engaging with students earlier and introducing them to the opportunities that exist within our community today through career exploration opportunities, we hope to help address the needs of businesses and the workforce that makes them successful. At the same time, we continue to work directly with businesses to upgrade and enhance their current workforce to meet the needs of tomorrow.

Each year we ask for the support of the communities we serve through a request for funding. These monies are leveraged with State and Federal dollars, as well as revenue generated through private sector support, to provide significant business resources at no cost to current and future businesses. This year CVEDC asks for your continued support with level funding of \$900.00. We appreciate your support in the past and look forward to continuing to work with you in the future to build a strong and vibrant regional economy.