

Town of East Montpelier FY2025 Funding Requests

Each year the Town of East Montpelier receives requests for funds from many different organizations. The Selectboard appoints a committee to review the requests and to recommend which should appear on the Town Meeting Warning for action. The committee requires certain information to make sound decisions for each request. For your organization to be considered for funding, it is mandatory that you complete this information form. Submit the form and supplementary information to:

Funding Request Study Committee
Town of East Montpelier
P.O. Box 157, East Montpelier, VT 05651-0157 (submit by mail)
manager@eastmontpeliervt.org (submit by email)

on or before **Friday, October 20, 2023**. Incomplete forms and/or requests received after this date may be disqualified for funding. The Committee reserves the right to require any requesting organization to defend its request at the Committee's annual meeting normally held in early November. An organization applying for the first time or requesting a substantial increase in funding should expect an invitation to attend the annual meeting.

If your organization operates two or more programs with separate budgets or funding sources, please fill out one form for each program. All information should be given for your latest complete fiscal year (12 months). Approved requests will be acknowledged in the fiscal year 2025 (July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025) budget for the Town of East Montpelier. Please feel free to submit any other information you feel would be helpful to the committee in making their decision.

If you have any questions please contact Gina Jenkins, Town Administrator, at (802) 223-3313 x 204 or manager@eastmontpeliervt.org.

STANDARD INFORMATION

Organization Name: Washington County Diversion Program

Address: 322 North Main Street, Suite 5, Barre, VT 05641

Fiscal Year Reported: FY2023

Program Description: Diversion is a voluntary, confidential restorative justice process that provides an opportunity for participants to make amends & avoid a criminal record.

Name of Person filling out this form: Meg Rizzo

Name of Person to contact with questions: Meg Rizzo

Phone Number: (802) 479-1900 ext. 3 E-mail: meg@wcdp-vt.org

AMOUNT OF FUNDING REQUEST: ~~\$350~~ \$600

SERVICE INFORMATION

What is your organization's service area? State? Washington County? or Other?

All of the communities within Washington County, Vermont.

What is the total number of individuals served by your organization in your prior Fiscal Year? 485 individuals

How many people in East Montpelier were served by your organization in the same period? 3 East Montpelier residents

What type of service(s) does your organization provide to East Montpelier residents? See attached list of Programs and Services

Approximately how many staff hours are dedicated to providing the services your organization offered East Montpelier residents during this time period? 32 hours

What services does your organization provide that are not available elsewhere?

We are the only organization in Washington County that offers Court Diversion, the Youth Substance Awareness & Safety Program, the Balanced and Restorative Justice Program, the Tamarack Program, Pretrial Monitoring and the Civil Suspended License Program.

What (if any) organizations provide similar services?

No other organizations in Washington County provide all of these services.

If applicable, how does your organization collaborate with organizations providing similar services?

We collaborate with state, county and municipal law enforcement as well as with the Attorney General, the Department for Children and Families and the Washington County State's Attorney. We are also a member of the Vermont Association of Court Diversion Programs.

In what way are the services your organization provides preventative in nature?

While our programs are reactive in nature – people only come here if they have committed a crime - our work is designed to prevent further crimes by educating participants about the harm their behavior has caused: to them, to their community and to any victim that may have been involved.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

How did your organization determine the amount of the funding request? Please explain in detail your reasoning for any increase or decrease (use attached sheet if necessary).

We receive state funds and collect participant fees to cover the cost of our services. Increasingly, participants cannot afford to pay part or any of our program fee. This results in a gap of approximately \$35 per participant that is not covered. We must raise these additional funds in order to continue offering the services that we do. East Montpelier had 3 residents use our services last year. That number fluctuates from year to year. The recent four-year average was 10 residents, so it feels fair to ask for a level amount of \$350.

If approved by the town, how will your organization use the funds?

We would use the funds to provide direct services to our participants.

Do any of your grant sources require local financial commitment? Explain.

The state does not require local financial commitment, but they do not fund our work at a level that meets all of our expenses. This necessitates the need to charge fees and seek town funds.

Is your organization approved by the IRS as tax-exempt? Yes

If yes, indicate your approval type: 501c3: X other: _____

INCOME SOURCES		PERCENT OF INCOME	TOTAL INCOME
Federal		-	-
State (Diversion, BARJ & PTS)		93.77%	\$ 315,061
Local Towns		2.97%	\$ 10,000
United Way		-	-
Fundraising		-	-
Other – client fees		3.12%	\$ 10,500
Other		.13%	\$ 450
Deferred Revenue-client fees			
Total		100.00%	\$ 336,011
EXPENDITURES		BUDGET	ACTUAL EXPENSES
		%	\$
Personnel		86.72%	\$ 283,299
Break down by position			
Director		19.74%	\$ 64,480
PTS Case Manager		17.30%	\$ 56,513
BARJ Case Manager		14.84%	\$ 48,505

PT Diversion Case Manager		13.53%	\$ 44,210
Fringe/Benefits		21.30%	\$ 69,590
Insurance/rent/utilities		7.98%	\$ 26,078
Fundraising costs		-	-
Other, (supplies & equipment)		2.20%	\$ 7,200
Other, Misc. (training, meeting expenses, dues, bookkeeping, travel)		3.10%	\$ 10,120
Total		100.0%	\$ 326,697

Number of full-time paid staff positions (full-time equivalents or hours): 4 FTE

Number of full-time volunteer staff positions (full-time equivalents or hours): 13+
volunteers who volunteer 3 hours or more per month.

Washington County Diversion Program

Washington County Diversion Program Annual Report – Fiscal Year 2023 (ended 6/30/2023)

Serving the Communities of Washington County since 1982.

Who We Are and What We Do:

The Washington County Diversion Program (WCDP) is a local non-profit organization that provides a range of restorative justice programs for the communities within Washington County. WCDP addresses unlawful behavior, supports victims of crime, and promotes a healthy community. We follow a balanced and restorative justice model that strives to put right the wrongs that have been done and address the needs of all stakeholders, including the victim, the community and those who violated the law, holding the latter accountable in a manner that promotes responsible behavior.

WCDP runs six separate programs: Court Diversion (adult and youth), the Youth Substance Abuse Safety Program, the Balanced and Restorative Justice Program, the Tamarack Program, Pretrial Monitoring and the Driving with License Suspended Program. During Fiscal Year 2023, WCDP worked with 485 participants across those programs.

Court Diversion

This restorative justice program is for youth with a delinquency petition and adults charged with a crime. Recognizing that people and relationships have been harmed when someone commits an offense, Diversion empowers all stakeholders to collectively address the needs of the victim, the community and the person who violated the law. Participants must take responsibility for their actions and engage in a restorative process aimed at repairing the harm. Completion of the Diversion Program results in a dismissal of the delinquency/criminal charge. During Fiscal Year 2023, WCDP's Diversion Program worked with 241 diversion participants.

Youth Substance Awareness & Safety Program (YSASP)

YSASP provides an alternative to the civil court process for youth who violate Vermont's underage alcohol or marijuana laws. YSASP helps young people understand the impact on themselves and others of using substances and to lower their risk of future use, while connecting those identified as using at high-risk levels to professional substance use clinicians. YSASP follows an approach known as Screening, Brief Intervention & Referral to Treatment (SBIRT). During Fiscal Year 2023, WCDP's YSASP Program worked with 91 youth.

Balanced and Restorative Justice Program (BARJ)

These services are provided to youth who are charged with a delinquency, have been adjudicated delinquent or are at-risk for involvement in the juvenile justice system. BARJ services vary depending on each individual, but consist of restorative interventions that reduce and eliminate further involvement in the juvenile justice system such as: restorative panels, restitution services, risk screening, and restorative classes/skills development. During Fiscal Year 2023, WCDP's BARJ Program worked with 35 youth.

Tamarack

This restorative justice program is for adults charged with a crime who have a substance use or mental health treatment need regardless of their criminal history. Pretrial Service Coordinators quickly connect those referred to substance use, mental health and other supportive community-based services. Participants must take responsibility for their actions and engage in a restorative process aimed at repairing the harm. Completion of the Tamarack Program results in a dismissal of the criminal charge. During Fiscal Year 2023, WCDP's Tamarack Program worked with 24 participants.

Pretrial Monitoring

Pretrial Monitoring is for adults with substance use or mental health treatment needs who are going through the court process and awaiting case resolution. Monitoring may be ordered by the court. Individuals may also choose to engage with pretrial services. Pretrial Service Coordinators quickly connect people to substance use, mental health and other supportive community-based services. They also support individuals to meet conditions of release and attend scheduled court appearances. During Fiscal Year 2023, WCDP's Pretrial Services program worked with 94 individuals.

Driving with License Suspended

The Civil DLS Diversion Program works to restore people's privilege to drive by helping people to determine requirements for driver re-licensing and by providing alternative affordable means to satisfy those requirements whenever possible. Among other forms of assistance, staff file motions, including proposed reductions and payment plans, on behalf of participants with the Vermont Judicial Bureau (VJB) and collect payments for the VJB. During Fiscal Year 2023, WCDP's DLS program worked with 21 individuals.

We continue to need - and deeply appreciate - your support!

The people we serve have complex lives. They arrive at WCDP with multiple barriers to success: mental health issues, substance misuse problems, low educational attainment, challenging work histories, poverty and/or homelessness. As a result, our engagement and case management with them is more intense as we work to connect them with the resources they need.

The town funds we receive from Barre City allow us to keep offering the level of services we do. Thank you!

Meg Rizzo

322 North Main Street, Suite 5, Barre, VT 05641

802-479-1900 or meg@wcdp-vt.org