

**Agencies Requesting  
Town Funds  
From Greensboro, VT  
Greensboro Town Meeting  
March 3, 2015.**

**Supplement to the  
Fiscal Year 2014  
Greensboro Town Report**

## **Agencies Requesting Town Funds**

**Please Note: \*Agencies located within the Town of Greensboro are included in the FY2014 Greensboro Town Report**

**American Red Cross** provides support to victims of fires, floods, and other disasters as well as CPR classes. 1-802-660-9130 [www.nvtredcross.org](http://www.nvtredcross.org)

**Area Agency on Aging** provides services to senior citizens, such as caregiver support, health insurance help, and casework services. 1-802-748-5182 [www.nevaaa.org](http://www.nevaaa.org)

**AWARE, Aid to Women, Men and Children in Abuse and Rape Emergencies**, provides services to victims of sexual and domestic violence. 472-6463

**Caledonia Home Health Care** provides home care and hospice services regardless of ability to pay. 748-8116

**Clarina Howard Nichols Center** is a shelter for battered women and their children. 888-2584 [www.clarina.org](http://www.clarina.org)

**Craftsbury Community Care Center** is a non-profit full-care nursing facility. [www.craftsburycommunitycarecenter.org](http://www.craftsburycommunitycarecenter.org).

**Green Up Vermont** sponsors Green Up Day. 1-800-974-3259 [www.greenupvermont.org](http://www.greenupvermont.org).

**Hardwick Area Community Coalition** focuses on reducing alcohol, tobacco, and other drug use in the Hardwick area. 472-8010 [www.haccprevention.com](http://www.haccprevention.com)

**Hardwick Area Food Shelf** provides food for low-income individuals and families. 472-5940

**Hardwick Area Community Justice Center** works with offenders in the criminal justice system and their re-entry into the community. 644-1960.

**Lamoille Family Center** provides specialized services to families with children, including programs for pregnant and parenting teens. 888-5229 [www.lamoillefamilycenter.org](http://www.lamoillefamilycenter.org)

**North Country Animal League** promotes animal welfare. 888-5065 [www.ncal.com](http://www.ncal.com)

**Northeast Kingdom Learning Services** provides home and learning-center education to persons over 16. 334-6532

**Northeast Kingdom Human Services (NKHS)** provides services related to mental health, developmental disabilities, and alcohol and drug abuse. 1-802-334-6744 [www.nkhs.net](http://www.nkhs.net)

**Northeastern Vermont Development Association (NVDA)** is our regional planning and development commission. 748-5181

**Orleans County Citizen Advocacy** brings people with disabilities together with volunteer advocates. 1-802-873-3285 [orleanscountycitizenadvocacy.org](http://orleanscountycitizenadvocacy.org)

**Orleans County Court Diversion** helps first-time juvenile and adult offenders of nonviolent crimes and their victims. 1-802-334-8224

**Orleans County Historical Society** owns and operates the Old Stone House Museum in Brownington. 1-802-754-2022 [www.oldstonehousemuseum.org](http://www.oldstonehousemuseum.org)

**Rural Community Transportation (RCT)** provides transportation for many purposes. 748-8170 [www.rideRCT.org](http://www.rideRCT.org)

**Vermont Center for Independent Living (VCIL)** provides services to Vermonters with disabilities, including information, counseling, training, advocacy, and help with independent living. 1-800-639-1522 [www.vcil.org](http://www.vcil.org)

Article 8: Shall the voters of the Town Greensboro appropriate the following sums to the outside agencies listed below?

Outside Agency	Amount
Area Agency on Aging	\$ 1,000
AWARE	1,500
Beach	2,450
Caledonia Home Health	1,400
Clarina Howard Nichols Center	200
Craftsbury Community Care Center	10,000
Four Season's of Early Learning	9,500
Green Up	50
Greensboro Nursing Home	18,704
Hardwick Area Community Coalition	500
Hardwick Area Food Shelf	2,000
Hardwick Area Restorative Justice	1,500
Lamoille Family	500
Northeast Kingdom Learning Services	250
North Country Animal League	600
Northeast Kingdom Human Services	800
NVDA	572
Orleans County Historical Society	425
Orleans County Citizens Advocacy	800
Orleans County Court Diversion	100
Red Cross	250
Rescue squad	6,467
Rural Community Transportation	900
VT Center for Independent Living	210
Wonder & Wisdom Seniors Program	3,500
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 64,178</b>

## **Area Agency on Aging for Northeastern Vermont**

### **Lisa Viles, Executive Director**

The Area Agency on Aging is a private, non-profit, organization serving the residents of Caledonia, Essex and Orleans counties. We support people age 60 and older in their efforts to remain active, healthy, financially secure and in control of their lives. The Agency connects older adults and their families with the services they need to live with independence and dignity.

Our staff works closely with seniors and their families offering assistance with Medicare, Social Security, Medicaid, public assistance programs, in-home services, and many other types of help. There is no charge for services provided by the Agency, but many of those we assist donate to help support our work.

**During the past year your support allowed us to provide assistance to 32 residents of Greensboro as well as more than 1,500 seniors from across the Northeast Kingdom and supported a broad variety of important programs for older adults and their families.** These programs include Meals-on-Wheels, supportive services to help seniors continue to live at home, health insurance counseling, transportation for medical and other appointments, legal services and help for family caregivers.

Thank you for your support over the years and for your help in letting people know about the services we provide. Please give your careful consideration to our request this year, and let us know if we can be of assistance to you or someone you know.

## **AWARE**

### **Anna Pirie, Executive Director**

For over 29 years, AWARE, Inc. has been serving victims of domestic and sexual violence in your community.

Last year AWARE served 216 women, men and children, who were directly affected by violence, over 209 children who were exposed to violence, answered over 1061 hotline and in-person assistance requests, and educated over 3,575 community members which includes over 2200 students in our local schools.

Those served by AWARE received services such as crisis intervention, legal support and advocacy, information and referrals, safety planning, emergency provisions, housing assistance, transportation, support groups and education. Educational classes included topics such as public safety, healthy friendships, communication skills, consensual sex, sexual harassment, healthy sexual development in children, sexual abuse prevention and the effects of the media and its relationship to violence in our lives.

AWARE continues to rely on local funding and support from the towns that we serve. With this in mind, AWARE respectfully requests Greensboro's continued support with a \$1500 appropriation this year. Funding our request will help AWARE to continue its important work in your community.

As always, we at AWARE greatly appreciate the continuing community support for our programs.

## **Caledonia Home Health Care and Hospice**

Caledonia Home Health Care & Hospice (CHHC) is Northern Counties Health Care's certified Medicare and Medicaid comprehensive Home Care and Hospice division.

Caledonia Home Health Care & Hospice has proudly served the residents of Caledonia and Southern Essex counties since 1968. Our mission is to enhance the quality of life of individuals and families by providing compassionate, accessible and affordable patient-centered health services to our community.

In the last year, Caledonia Home Health and Hospice was honored to provide 606 visits to the town residents of Greensboro, VT. Our staff visited 44 homes of community members living in the Greensboro area.

While working with residents, we provided physical, occupational, and speech therapies. We provided skilled nursing, medical social work, personal care attendants, and even home makers. We work together with primary care physicians so that care is specific and structured to treatment goals.

### **2015 Town Appropriation Visit Statistics for Greensboro, VT**

- **Home Care (Therapy, Nursing, MSW) = 430 visits**
- **Maternal Child Health = 10 visits**
- **Hospice (Nursing, Therapy, Personal Care, Respite) = 13 visits**
- **Long Term Care (Case Management, Personal Care, Respite) = 153 visits**

### **Testimonials**

*"In the past 11 years of my care giving, home health has been my support at all times. They are the best! I could not have done it without them... I'm glad to have them on my side. They are a great team. We need more like them."*

*"My Physical Therapist and Nurse were methodical, practical, and explained things to me in terms I could understand. They were friendly, courteous, good listeners, and punctual as well as professional."*

*"The staff is very kind and caring. They make you feel good by the way they treat you as a friend and not a patient. They are on time and call 1st to let you us know they are coming. Very knowledgeable in all areas of healthcare. Thank you!"*

*"People from home health care agency were kind, communicative, thoughtful, and patient. Nothing but good thoughts for those people."*

## **Caspian Lake Beach Committee (Beach) Statement available in the FY2014 Greensboro Town Report**

### **Clarina Howard Nichols Center**

Offering far more than shelter and hotline, most of Clarina's advocacy, outreach, and prevention works takes place in the community. Clarina also offered a free 20 hour Community Advocacy Training at Johnson State

College and Community College of Vermont this year to more than 40 participants. This important educational offering provides participants with opportunities to help spread the word about our work to end domestic and sexual violence. Clarina engaged in new community outreach opportunities to strengthen local connections, including Stories Matter displays during DVAM and SVAM at area libraries, Morrisville Rocktoberfest, and more. Additionally, Clarina launched DIIVAS, an empowering youth group for girls.

Shelter programs and updates continued in 2013-2014. Clarina was operational for 351 days closed only for 14 days during an accessibility renovation. This year, Clarina became Vermont's first SAF-T (Sheltering Animals and Families Together) shelter, opening space to survivors and domestic animals. This year, Clarina's services reached 395 survivors of domestic, sexual, dating, or interpersonal violence in 2013-2014, a total consistent with prior years. This year, Clarina served more individuals without children and accommodated slightly longer shelter stays than prior years. The number of people seeking shelter that Clarina was unable to house was 53, which remains limited by housing capacity.

## **Craftsbury Community Care Center**

### **Kimberly Roberge, Executive Director**

Since 1995 Craftsbury Community Care Center (aka the 4C's), a non-profit Residential Care Facility, has been offering a safe and friendly place to live for seniors who desire to be in a home like independent setting. In 2014 the 4C's was able to offer high quality services and activities to 32 seniors. Over the years many of our residents and/or family members have been members of the Greensboro Community.

Along with offering residential services we continue to expand our involvement with our surrounding communities by hosting events, working with our many wonderful volunteers, involving residents in community events, providing meals to homebound seniors, and supporting local vendors whenever possible.

One of the hallmarks of the 4C's is affordability. A minimum of nine residents at any one time receive financial assistance from Medicaid. Every resident at the 4C's receives the same types of services regardless of the payment source however the Medicaid reimbursement is much less than the actual cost of services. The contribution of the Town of Greensboro, joined with significant fundraising by the Board of Directors, makes it possible for us to continue to provide excellent services in a well-cared for facility.

In 2014 with the very generous help of all our community supporters we were able to continue to revitalize and update our 20 year old facility by replacing the roof, resurfacing the driveway and several small projects.

The Craftsbury Community Care Center wishes to thank the Town of Greensboro for the generous support offered to assist us in keeping our facility an affordable home-like residence for individuals residing here. The ongoing community involvement and support is tremendous. The high quality of care, activities and support offered to the residents by our compassionate, caring staff is apparent whenever you visit the 4C's.

Please come and visit or visit us at [www.craftsburycommunitycarecenter.org](http://www.craftsburycommunitycarecenter.org).

**Four Seasons of Early Learning**  
**Statement available in the FY2014 Greensboro Town Report**

## **Green Up Vermont**

Green Up Day celebrated 44 years in 2014! Green Up Vermont is the not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organization responsible for continuing the success of Green Up Day. **Green Up Vermont is not a State Agency!** The success of Green Up for Vermont depends upon two essential ingredients: one is the combined efforts of individuals and civic groups volunteering to make it all possible; and two, the financial support given by the public and private sectors throughout Vermont.

With your town's help, we can continue Vermont's unique annual tradition of taking care of our beautiful landscape and promoting civic pride so our children grow up with Green Up. Our coordinators tell us that many of their volunteers are families with young children. Green Up Vermont focuses on education for grades K-12 with activities such as a curriculum for K-4, activity booklets, a story and drawing booklet, and the annual poster and writing contests for grades K-12. Please visit [www.greenupvermont.org](http://www.greenupvermont.org) to learn more.

Careful use of resources minimizes Green Up's costs. The State appropriates funds that cover about 14 percent of our budget. Last year, appropriations from cities and towns covered 18 percent of our budget. These funds pay for supplies including over 48,000 Green Up trash bags, promotion, education, and services of two part-time employees. We ask your community to contribute because when you support Green Up Vermont you are not just supporting a program but Vermont and the people who live – and visit – here.

**Mark your calendars for the next Green Up Day, May 2, 2015, celebrating 45 years! Get together with family and friends and clean up for Green Up Day, always the first Saturday in May.**

## **Greensboro Nursing Home Statement available in the FY2014 Greensboro Town Report**

### **Hardwick Area Community Coalition**

#### **Erica Baker, Coordinator**

After many years of noticing prescription drug abuse as well as other drug abuse happening in our community, a community member, called a public meeting to address these destructive issues. Over 100 people attended that first meeting, with a core group of community members volunteering to do more.

As a result, the Hardwick Area Community Coalition was created. We were fortunate to get scholarships to allow us to attend various trainings on building an effective drug prevention organization. We developed into a Coalition: a group of individuals and organizations working together in order to achieve a common goal – the Hardwick Area Community Coalition focuses our mission on reducing alcohol, tobacco, and other drug use among youth by changing the norms within our communities.

We received a grant from the State of Vermont Department of Health during the summer of 2004. We continued to receive support from the State as well as the federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration to further our work until our State Grant ended on June 30, 2011. Since 2011 we have relied on fundraising and donations and have had to decrease our staff hours to stay within our current funding. We are in the process of applying for a grant but the competition for these grants are competitive. We are always looking for more volunteers. If you are interested, please contact Erica Baker at 472-8010.

## 2014 Year in Review

Some of our activities this past year included:

- Produced monthly newsletters, if you would like to receive our monthly newsletters email [Erica@haccprevention.com](mailto:Erica@haccprevention.com) or text HACC to 22828
- Maintained a website and facebook page with information. Visit [www.haccprevention.com](http://www.haccprevention.com) or [www.facebook.com/haccprevention](http://www.facebook.com/haccprevention).
- Promoted Locking your Medications
- Shared information with the community about Alcohol Awareness Month. Check out website for great information.
- We hosted a Department of Liquor Control Training for local store clerks
- Around Graduation and Prom time we sent out a mailing to all parents of Juniors and Seniors to remind them about social host party laws and the consequence of providing alcohol to minors.
- We worked with Hazen and Craftsbury schools to provide an educational evening about safe driving practices.
- Hosted Red Ribbon Week at Schools in our area to focus on the theme of "Love Yourself, Be Drug Free."
- Promoted benefits of eating as a family. For more information, visit our website under events.

Over the last 11 years we have seen improvement but there is still a lot to do and we need community financial support to keep doing our prevention work in our communities. We look forward to serving you in the future.

## **Hardwick Area Food Pantry**

The Food Pantry serves people in need primarily from Hardwick, Greensboro, Craftsbury, Walden, Stannard, Albany, and Wolcott. We occasionally have clients from Cabot, Calais, Danville, Johnson, Morrisville, and Woodbury. Since 2010 the number of households that come to the pantry for food has more than doubled. That along with the increase of the cost of food has caused a significant rise in our carrying costs.

The majority of our clients are from Hardwick, but of all the other towns we serve, Greensboro has the most number of households served. I am hoping that you would consider an appropriation of \$2000 to help with these rising costs.

## **Hardwick Area Community Justice Center**

### **Carol Plante, Director**

In the 2012/13 fiscal year HACJC programs provided restorative practices to community members in the greater Hardwick Area in the Pre-Charge, Reparative Probation, and Direct Court Referral programs. Overall, hundreds of residents are served both directly and peripherally in the pursuit of repairing the harm incurred by offenses against individuals and the community. Additionally, restorative practices were employed in the resolution of neighbor disputes and in the workplace.



The restorative programs work with those who are responsible for and offense and those who have been impacted by the offense to find ways to make amends for the harm. The primary work of HACJC programs is to make amends for the harm caused by crime by holding offenders accountable for their actions and finding appropriate ways for the offender to make amends for the harm. Offenders meet with a panel of community volunteers and those impacted harmed and all participate in creating a contract of conditions to be met by the offender that meets the needs of the victim and restores the community.

HACJC receives referrals from local law enforcement before the case is referred to the State's Attorney's office (Pre-Charge), by the Department of Corrections as a condition of probation (Reparative Probation) or directly from community members interested in resolving other conflict or disputes. Town officials, civic group leaders, organization boards, and school administrators also may make other referrals to the program. HACJC provides dispute resolution coaching and conducts educational community events each year. HACJC influences the atmosphere of the community by offering more satisfying resolution to those harmed by crime by allowing victims of crime to have a say in the outcome of the case. Other positive impacts are improved relationships of community members, an enriched learning opportunity focused on making better life choices and a safer place to live.

Typical referrals from the Hardwick Police are for crimes such as Disorderly Conduct, Simple Assault, Unlawful Mischief, Retail Theft, Petit Larceny, Possession of Stolen Property, DUI, Negligent Operation of a Motor Vehicle, etc. Eighteen community volunteers who reside in the towns of Hardwick, Greensboro, Greensboro Bend, Craftsbury, East Hardwick, Walden, Woodbury and Cabot contributed nearly 500 hours to the programs. HACJC also provided consultation, mediation and facilitation services to local schools that are using restorative practices as part of or an enhancement to their discipline plans. HACJC continues to provide assistance to the Hazen Union "Justice League" in implementing restorative practices in the high school and middle school.

Hardwick Area Community Justice Center has expanded its services by implementing Offender Reentry Services and "Circles of Support and Accountability" (CoSA). Reentry services provide supports for people in the criminal justice system who are returning to the Hardwick Area to help them meet conditions of release and become engaged and responsible members of the community. These services contribute to public safety by taking into consideration the needs of those who may have been victims of the offender's crime. Please contact the Director for more information about CoSA or to become a volunteer.

## **Lamoille Family Center**

### **Scott Johnson, Executive Director**

The Lamoille Family Center is in its 39<sup>th</sup> year of service to children, youth and families! During this time, thousands of individuals throughout the Lamoille Valley have received our services, including home visiting, parent education, playgroups, child-care resource and referral, youth services, and emergency assistance. The families we serve face the overwhelming challenges of isolation, poverty, substance abuse, violence, and much more. Our staff works with families to set realistic goals and celebrate together as each step is achieved.

In fiscal year 2014, more than 1,600 children, youth, parents and caregivers throughout the Lamoille Valley received home visits, participated in playgroups, attended parent education classes, received Reach Up services and engaged in monitored parent-child contact. Hundreds more families and child care providers received child care support services including assistance with applying for Child Care Financial Assistance,

referral to regulated programs, professional development for child care staff, and participation in the Child and Adult Care Food Program.

Countless children are stronger, safer and more confident as a result of their involvement with the Family Center. Together, step by step, we will reach the day when all children are safe, healthy, and loved.

Support through volunteer time, donation of goods and services, and financial contributions remain vital to the sustainability of the Lamoille Family Center. We cannot do this work without you. We invite you to stop by for a visit, meet some of our staff, and see a glimpse of what happens each day at the Family Center.

## **Northeast Kingdom Learning Services**

### **Michelle Tarryk, Executive Director**

For almost 50 years, Northeast Kingdom Learning Services (NEKLS) has been serving residents of Orleans, Essex, and Caledonia counties. Adult education, job skills, transitional support, supplemental education services, early education and family services are some of the many programs that are available to the residents of the area. NEKLS is requesting a town appropriation of \$250 to help support the programs that we deliver in your area

NEKLS has full service Community Education Centers located in Hardwick, Newport, and St. Johnsbury, with part time centers located in Canaan, Island Pond and Gilman. Services are provided to anyone wanting to earn a high school diploma or GED, learn basic computer skills, improve college or career readiness, and for support in job search activities. Our Adult Education & Literacy program meets the needs through a wide variety of free services. In 2014, 128 adults over the age of 16 earned a high school diploma or GED through NEKLS. On average, our AEL staff provides more than one thousand hours of education per month.

In 2013, NEKLS introduced the NEKLS Mobile Lab to the Northeast Kingdom. In 2014, the lab consisting of 6 laptops and a printer provided connectivity and instruction to hundreds of community members at their work, career and job fairs, training programs and for GED testing. This is just one more way that NEKLS brings services to the most rural areas of the Northeast Kingdom.

Partnering with local schools, the NEKLS Tutorial program provides academic support to students of all grade levels K-12 who may be struggling in school. In 2014 the tutorial program served 126 students in the tri-county region. Another supplemental education program provided by NEKLS is the Migrant Education Program. Our migrant workers live and work on our Northeast Kingdom farms and provide valuable support to our local agricultural economy.

Parents with children ages 0 to 6 are able to access help through our Children's Integrated Services programs. Early Intervention provides many support services to families with children ages 0 to 3 who are at risk of developmental delays. Family Support Workers support families during pregnancy/postpartum and their child's early years by providing and connecting them to needed resources so they can support their child's growth and development.

State and federal budget challenges continue to impact the funding of community non-profit organizations such as NEKLS. As a result, town appropriations are vital to our efforts to introduce new instructional options and maintain the same level of high program quality. We hope you will continue to support NEKLS as we look forward to another year of being an integral partner in your community. Thank you for your consideration.

## **North Country Animal League**

### **Sallie Scott, Executive Director**

There are many occasions on which to show gratitude, but none as special as when we receive a gift that will help the homeless-for-awhile animals in our care. On behalf of the Board, the staff, the volunteers, and, of course, the dogs, puppies, cats, and kittens, thank you for your past financial support.

At this time North Country Animal League (NCAL) respectfully submits a request for \$600 in town allocation appropriation funds for the year 2015. These funds help us fulfill our mission of promoting compassionate and responsible relationships between animals and humans through education and adoptions, spay/neuter programs, support of cruelty prevention and the sheltering of homeless animals. This past year NCAL accepted 2 stray or surrendered animals into our adoption/shelter program from Greensboro.

These 2 strays or surrenders amount to an approximate expense to NCAL of \$1,450 when using a minimum expense of \$725 per animal for care, feeding, and medical needs before adoption. Our adoption fees of \$200 per dog and \$100 per cat pay only a small amount of the expenses incurred: spay/neuter, de-worming, vaccines, food and care. To ensure the adoption of homeless animals, we must keep our adoption fees affordable. Since our adoption fees cover only the minimum of expense, we need community support for our humanitarian work.

Daily boarding fees at private kennels range from \$25 to \$30 per day. To board animals with an average stay of 21 days before adoption, your town would have spent as much as \$1,260 and as little as \$1,050 just to house these strays, not including medical, advertising for adoption, and overhead. NCAL is still the best financial solution for Greensboro's stray and homeless animal problem.

In addition to taking Greensboro's strays and surrenders, we are involved in the community with our education programs. Qualified staff members and volunteers go into the schools, nursing homes and get in front of community groups like the Scouts to teach humane and kind treatment of animals. Many of the county's social service groups use us as a place to teach responsibility and caring, and our volunteer program offers opportunities for people who want to serve their community for the greater good of society. We also offer low cost spay/neuter clinics for our community's cats in an effort to help control overpopulation.

Thank you for your consideration of our request for annual support from Greensboro, without which many animals would suffer from cruelty or be euthanized needlessly.

## **Northeast Kingdom Human Services**

### **D.W. Bouchard, Executive Director**

Northeast Kingdom Human Services, Inc. is a private not-for-profit organization serving Caledonia, Essex, and Orleans Counties. It is organized and directed by local citizens who believe that human services should be cost effective and responsive to the needs of our local communities. The mission of NKHS is to enrich communities and enhance the ability of individuals and families to improve their lives.

NKHS serves residents through our programs for Children, Youth, and Family Services, Outpatient Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services, Community Rehabilitation Treatment, Developmental/Intellectual Ability Services, and 24/7 Crisis Intervention. Fees are charged based on the person's ability to pay. No one is refused services for lack of ability to pay.

Our Agency asks towns to appropriate \$1.05 per person according to the last census to be directed toward supporting Psychiatry positions at Northeast Kingdom Human Services (NKHS) to meet community demands for services that are not funded elsewhere, For the Town of Greensboro, that would be \$800 for 2015.

We greatly appreciate your interest, your help in letting people know about the services we provide, and your financial support.

## **Northeastern Vermont Development Association (NVDA)**

### **David Snedeker, Executive Director**

Since 1950 the Northeastern Vermont Development Association (NVDA) has been the region's advocate for stronger communities and vibrant local economies. As the only combined regional planning commission and economic development corporation, we serve the largest geographic region in the state.

Each year, we request an appropriation from every member community. These appropriations are vital to us, because they help cover the costs of directly assisting the 50 municipalities in our region:

- Land use planning at the local and regional levels and on-call technical assistance for local officials;
- Transportation studies and project planning;
- Digital mapping and GIS data services;
- Grant writing and administrative support for community and regional projects;
- Direct business support to the employers in our region.

NVDA is increasing its municipal appropriation for the first time since 2005. We've seen our service offering expand greatly since then, partly due to increased statutory demands on municipalities, but also in response to new opportunities for economic expansion. New services include:

- Emergency planning – including Local Emergency Operations Plans and All-Hazard Mitigation Plans; and assistance with flood hazard planning and regulation;
- Local economic development planning – now required within town plans;
- Reporting activities for the region's USDA Rural Economic Area Partnership (REAP) Zone – enabling millions of dollars to come into the region;
- The regional Foreign Trade Zone designation to improve the competitiveness of companies in our region;
- Municipal education and training services for local officials.

How have we served Greensboro? In 2014, our staff provided assistance to businesses in Greensboro. On the planning side, we conducted trainings on Village Center Designation and the Vermont Online Bridge and Culvert Inventory. We also applied for and received grant funds to update Greensboro's Local Hazard Mitigation Plan and assisted with a FEMA grant to purchase a generator.

Municipal appropriations are based on a per capita amount, with a cap set at \$3,500. Since 2005, that amount was \$0.42, with a minimum of \$100. Our new rate of \$0.75, with a minimum of \$500 is still the lowest of all the other 10 regional planning commissions in the state, which range from \$0.96 to \$1.78 per person. We're the only regional entity that does "double-duty" as an economic development corporation, so this low rate is certainly a testament to our cost efficiency and cost-effectiveness.

In our annual meeting the Town of Greensboro was “confirmed” as a planning community by the NVDA board, which allows your community to benefit from a number of planning initiatives. We look forward to pursuing these opportunities with you in the coming year.

## **The Orleans County Historical Society**

The Orleans County Historical Society owns and operates the Old Stone House Museum in Brownington and organizes programs and events that celebrate the history and cultural heritage of the area. At annual town meetings we ask residents of the towns in Orleans County for appropriations to help maintain the museum and fund our operations, as well as demonstrate local support for our work, which helps us get grants.

The four story granite block Old Stone House, built by Alexander Twilight in 1836 to serve as the dormitory of the first secondary school in the county, opened as the historical museum of Orleans County in 1925, with exhibits of furniture, textiles, ceramics, paintings, folk art, tools, toys, and town histories. Two barns house equipment used in farming, logging, and transportation. These buildings are open to the public from May 15 to October 15. The library in the Cyrus Eaton House is open by appointment, and the visitors’ center and office, located in the Alexander Twilight House, is open year-round. Events and classes, as well as private functions are scheduled in the restored Samuel Read Hall House.

The museum sponsors educational programs for children and adults throughout the year, including the Collectors Fair, the NEK History Fair every other year, the Antique Engine Show, spring and fall field days for elementary students, Time Travelers Day Camp for children 8-12, classes in traditional crafts and small-scale agriculture for adults, and special programs focusing on history and historical preservation. Our special events include Old Stone House Day, the Cheese and Apple Tasting, and the Fall Foliage Run. We thank you for your support in the past, and we promise to continue to work to preserve the history of Orleans County and to enrich the culture of our communities.

This summer we will invite the community to participate in an archaeological dig at the base of Prospect Hill to find the original location of the Orleans County Grammar School, which was moved down the road in 1869 to become the Brownington Grange Hall. We also plan to make packed dirt, wheelchair and walker friendly paths around the museum grounds.

## **Orleans County Citizen Advocacy**

### **Ann Stannard, Board Chair**

Orleans County Citizen Advocacy’s mission is “to build and support one-to-one long term, independent relationships between unpaid community members (called advocates) and individuals with developmental disabilities so that all are heard, respected, included and empowered.”

OCCA’s goal is for people with developmental disabilities to be valued and accepted in their communities. The mutually beneficial relationships, created by Citizen Advocacy, grow to be enriching and important friendships not only for the person with disabilities but also for the advocate. In turn, these deep personal commitments between neighbors result in strong vibrant communities from which we all benefit.

Our non-profit organization operates with money raised at annual fundraisers as well as from individual & business donations. **OCCA does not receive any federal or state funding or United Way monies. Town**

**Meeting Day appropriations from towns across Orleans County are one of our largest sources of revenue, and are very much needed for the viability & sustainability of our program.**

Since our program began in 1989 over 90 matches have been made, thanks to the support from large-hearted people in our communities. Orleans County Citizen Advocacy (OCCA) facilitates community connection, friendship, support and advocacy between those with developmental disabilities who may be isolated from the greater community, and unpaid community members. We are currently supporting 20 such relationships which re-create a sense of healthy interdependence among community members. We would appreciate your support to continue connecting people from Greensboro with others, preferably in the same area, that would benefit from an OCCA friendship.

We, at OCCA, are proud to have celebrated our 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2013, and to have been, for several years now, the ONLY association of our type left in Vermont among the many that used to match disabled people with local volunteers in a one-to-one friendly relation. Orleans County Towns have played a major role, through their unfailing support, in assuring such long life, regardless of better or worse times. The people of each and every of those Towns have great reason to be proud of such a unique heart warming record. Thank you for being that kind of better place, with such kind hearted people.

Orleans County Citizen Advocacy Board of Directors looks forward to your assistance again this year. Anyone interested in learning more about Citizen Advocacy, please call Ann Stannard, Board Chair, at 802-723-4425.

### **Orleans County Court Diversion Program**

Court Diversion is a community response to juvenile and adult offenders. A Review Board comprised of community residents reviews cases after the offender has met certain program criteria. The Review Board designs a contract which specifies the conditions of the offender's participation. If the offender satisfactorily completes the contract, the State's Attorney dismisses the charges. The contract typically includes an apology and restitution to the victim, community service and other remedial, educational, or corrective services. Approximately 87% of those referred to Court Diversion successfully complete their contracts. In addition, Diversion is cost effective; it takes far less money to process a case through Diversion than through Court, and the Diversion process is controlled by community people with vested interest in making sure there are not repeat offenses.

Your support at Town Meeting is vital to the continuation of the program.

### **Red Cross**

#### **Larry Crist, Executive Director of Vermont & the New Hampshire Upper Valley Region**

The American Red Cross of Vermont & the New Hampshire Upper Valley is on call to help our community 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and 365 days a year. A local Red Cross volunteer is often the first "neighbor on the scene" after a disaster strikes offering a hot cup of coffee, a warm blanket and a glimmer of hope to those in need. Supported primarily by volunteers, the Red Cross provides emergency support for victims of fire, flood and other disasters as well as instruction in health, safety and aquatics courses. Whether we are helping one

family recover from a devastating home fire, providing emergency shelter and supplies to hundreds of families after a major disaster, or food and water for first responders, we have historically been a vital part of the local community.

Fiscal year 2014 was especially busy across our region and the Red Cross was there providing vital services to our community.

- Responded to 206 disasters/emergencies in our region.
- Collected 45,000 pints of local blood and blood products.
- Assisted 163 members of the military and their families from our area.
- Empowered more than 1,200 trained volunteers to assist their neighbors during times of need.
- Provided free babysitter training to over 250 youths in our region.

Since the Red Cross is not a government agency, we rely on individuals, businesses and local communities to support our efforts in helping to prevent, prepare for, respond to, and recover from emergencies. Toward that end, we are asking each community for a donation to support our work. We would greatly appreciate your support in the amount of \$250 for Fiscal Year 2016. Your partnership will help ensure that the American Red Cross has the resources to support communities throughout Vermont and the Upper Valley when they need it most.

## **Rescue Squad**

### **Statement available in the FY 2014 Greensboro Town Report**

### **Rural Community Transportation**

Rural Community Transportation, Inc. (RCT) has been providing service in your community for over twenty years and must reach out again for community support in order to maintain the quality of service that is needed for the members of our community.

RCT is a nonprofit corporation to the elderly and disabled, Medicaid and general public through a van/bus and volunteer service.

RCT transports people to, adult-day service facilities, senior meal sites and necessary medical treatments such as dialysis, radiation therapy, chemotherapy, physical therapy, special medical needs and other appointments.

We hope you will be able to assist us with a request for \$900 and we look forward to continuing our service that is needed by the members in your community. Thank you for your time and consideration.

### **The Vermont Center for Independent Living**

#### **Sarah Lunderville, Executive Director**

Since 1979, The Vermont Center for Independent Living (VCIL) has been teaching people with significant disabilities and the Deaf how to gain more control over their lives and how to access tools and services to live

more independently. VCIL employees conduct public education, outreach, individual advocacy and systems change advocacy to help promote the full inclusion of people with disabilities into community life.

Final numbers for our FY'14 (10/2013 – 9/2014) show VCIL responded to over 2,383 requests from individuals, agencies and community groups for information, referral and assistance and program services for individuals living with a disability. VCIL Peer Advocate Counselors (PACs) provided one-on-one peer counseling to 304 individuals to help increase their independent living skills (including 12 peers who were served by the AgrAbility program and 6 peers who received specialized Benefits to Work Counseling). VCIL's Home Access Program (HAP) assisted 215 households with information on technical assistance and/or alternative funding for modifications; 51 of these received financial assistance to make their bathrooms and/or entrances accessible. Our Sue Williams Freedom Fund (SWFF) provided 125 individuals with information on assistive technology; 36 of these individuals received funding to obtain adaptive equipment. 447 individuals had meals delivered through our Meals on Wheels (MOW) program for individuals with disabilities under the age of 60.

VCIL's central office is located in downtown Montpelier and we have five branch offices in Bennington, Chittenden, Lamoille, Rutland and Windham Counties. Our Peer Advocate Counselors and services are available to people with disabilities throughout Vermont.

**During FY' 14, 4 residents of Greensboro received services from the following programs:**

- **Home Access Program (HAP) – (Over \$2000.00 spent on home modifications)**
- **Meals on Wheels (MOW) – (\$180.00 spent on meals)**
- **Sue Williams Freedom Fund (SWFF) – (\$1500.00 spent on assistive technology)**

To learn more about VCIL, please call VCIL's toll-free I-Line at: 1-800-639-1522, or, visit our web site at [www.vcil.org](http://www.vcil.org).

**Wonder and Wisdom/Seniors Program  
Statement available in the FY2014 Greensboro Town Report.**