

DETAILED INVESTMENT PORTFOLIO

2017



**United Way of
Northwest Vermont**

PROUDLY SERVING CHITTENDEN, FRANKLIN AND GRAND ISLE COUNTIES

COMMUNITY INVESTMENT

We invest strategically, measure carefully, and hold ourselves accountable for results.

The investments detailed in this document reflect our work across Chittenden, Franklin and Grand Isle Counties.

STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT

Every investment we make in program funding, strategic initiatives, volunteer mobilization, and community engagement and collaboration aligns with specific strategies to achieve the outcomes we expect for our community:

- ➔ **All children, youth and young adults achieve their potential**
- ➔ **All people are financially stable**
- ➔ **All people have optimal health and well-being**

RESULTS-BASED ACCOUNTABILITY

Across each of these areas, we evaluate our investments using the following questions:

- 1 How much did we do?**
- 2 How well did we do it?**
- 3 Is anyone better off as a result?**

In 2017, we will invest **\$3,549,300** to help achieve the quality of life we expect for our community.

HOW WE INVEST

United Way invests both dollars and staff resources in a diverse portfolio of strategies that support collective community actions to achieve the outcomes we want for Chittenden, Franklin and Grand Isle Counties. This includes supporting a foundation of strong programs; driving community collaboration; mobilizing volunteers and the power of nonprofits to use volunteers effectively; and investing in strategic initiatives to create systems-level change.



Expected FY17 Investments

HOW WE DECIDE

Volunteers serving on our Community Investment Committee oversee and direct all community investments. Program funding recommendations are provided by our Community Impact Team – a citizen committee of volunteers who review and evaluate applications. All investments, terms and conditions are approved by our Board of Directors.

PROGRAM FUNDING

United Way invests in high-performing programs at local nonprofits that deliver results for those they serve. To provide funding stability and maximize program impact, we maintain a three-year cycle of program investments. Community volunteers determine funding priorities for each three-year cycle and monitor program performance through reports and site visits.

ENGAGEMENT & COLLABORATION

We invest in experienced staff who engage community partners and support collaborations that address community needs. These collaborations function as incubator spaces in which we explore partnerships, develop shared goals, discuss innovative solutions and test new ways to address emerging needs. United Way staff lead or participate in these conversations, advocate for community solutions and nurture partnerships among the nonprofit, government and business communities.

VOLUNTEER MOBILIZATION

United Way invests funds and staff time to support individuals who wish to volunteer and to support nonprofits' ability to recruit, retain and recognize volunteers. We host an easy-to-use online volunteer matching service and support corporate engagement through employee volunteerism. We also recruit volunteers for United Way programs such as RSVP, Foster Grandparents, Neighbor Rides, and Mobile Tax Preparation Assistance. These programs also leverage other funds from federal, state and local sources.

STRATEGIC INITIATIVES

United Way invests funds and experienced staff time to support strategic, systems-change efforts and leverage funding from other partners. These investments promote innovative approaches to some of our community's toughest problems that result in long-term sustainable improvement in the well-being of our community.

PROGRAM FUNDING

\$1,856,200 Invested in Local Programs

United Way invests in high-performing programs at local nonprofits that deliver results for those they serve. To provide funding stability and maximize program impact, we maintain a three-year cycle of program investments. Community volunteers determine funding priorities for each three-year cycle and monitor program performance through reports and site visits.

INVESTMENTS IN EDUCATION: All children, youth and young adults achieve their potential

AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM: \$20,400

King Street Center

King Street Center's After School Excellence and Castle Camp provide year-round, quality out-of-school time for many of Burlington's

most vulnerable youth. These very intentional core and enrichment programs focus on the social, emotional and physical health of participants as well as their academic progress.

AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM: \$33,200

Sara Holbrook Community Center

Sara Holbrook's After School Program and Summer World Academy Summer Camp provide child care, educational and recreational services to high-risk children of very low- to moderately low-income families. During the hours after school, this state licensed, 5 STAR program provides a reliable, supervised place for kids to be kids. From homework and reading assistance to basketball, kids are offered a variety of choices and learning opportunities. Extended hours and community outings are offered during the February school vacation and a six-week camp is offered in the summer.

CAMP RAINBOW: \$6,200

Northwestern Counseling & Support Services (NCSS)

Camp Rainbow is a unique program developed by NCSS to provide a supportive and welcoming environment for children who have been diagnosed with autism or other developmental disabilities. Campers are encouraged to thrive in an environment that is tailored to each child's specific needs and through a program that promotes socialization, communication, fine and gross motor activities, along with a sensory focused curriculum. Structured activities are designed to challenge, stimulate and encourage success for each child and a Token

Economy is used to elicit engagement and participation in trying something new and campers love to earn their rainbow chips which they turn in at the end of the day for prizes.

CHAMP PROGRAM: \$4,000

Champlain Adaptive Mounted Program

The CHAMP program provides therapeutic education and recreational programs to children and adults with disabilities year-round including individual and group riding lessons, work experience opportunities, internships, and community service opportunities for students and a 4-week-long summer day camp.

CHILD CARE FOOD PROGRAM: \$20,000

Child Care Resource

Children who spend a full day in child care (9-10 hours) consume 3/4 of their daily food intake while in the child care setting. Child Care Resource sponsors family child care homes, child care centers, teen centers, and homeless shelters participating in the Federal Child and Adult Care Food Program so that children in these settings receive the nourishment they need to feel good, learn, and grow. These meals provide children with predictability and proper nutrition.

CHILDREN AT RISK: \$40,400

Burlington Children's Space, Inc.

The Burlington Children's Space (BCS) is a full-time, year-round child care program serving children aged six weeks to five years. BCS is licensed by the State of Vermont, receives 5 Stars in VT's quality

recognition program, is nationally accredited by NAEYC and is now designated as a Therapeutic Child Care program in partnership with the Howard Center's Early Childhood Program. Programming is available to families of low-, moderate-, or high-income, with tuition based on a family's income and is based on influences from Reggio Emilia (Italy), the interests and curiosities of the children, and the unique culture and resources of our local community.

(CORNERSTONE) RICHFORD PROGRAMS: \$6,200

Formerly provided by Cornerstone Bridges Community Center

With the closing of Cornerstone Bridges Community Center, funding to support the services provided by Cornerstone in Richford has been distributed among several other organizations. Franklin County Caring Communities will support the Mentoring Program and NOTCH and Richford Renaissance will work with volunteers to support senior meals and activities.

EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAM: \$34,600

Lund
Lund's Early Childhood Program provides comprehensive, high quality, affordable early education and care to infants, toddlers and preschoolers. The program is full-day and year-round. In addition to early education and care for children, the program provides families with needs assessment, referral and linkage to eligible resources and services within Lund or in the community.

EARLY EDUCATION PROGRAM: \$55,400

Greater Burlington YMCA
The Y Early Childhood Education Program offers developmentally-

based care and education while meeting the needs of working parents. The Y is committed to ensuring that all children, particularly those who are at-risk, have access to quality early education and services in order to have their best start in life. The Y collaborates with many other community agencies to provide the full spectrum of support that families need to be successful.

EARLY EDUCATION PROGRAM: \$30,600

King Street Center
King Street Center's Head Start Program is a full-time, year-round early education program providing a high quality preschool experience for 3, 4 and 5 year olds from low-income families. Subscribing to the Head Start model, King Street Center engages with the whole family, promoting social, emotional and physical health for parents/guardians as well as their children. Consistent attendance over the course of the program positions a child for success in kindergarten and beyond.

EARLY PROMISE: \$39,600

Boys & Girls Club of Burlington
The goal of the Boys and Girls Club's Early Promise academic improvement program is to reduce and eventually eliminate the poverty-based academic achievement gap between students from low-income families and higher-income families. While Club members still engage in fun and exciting activities, a significant portion of every day at the Club is spent improving basic math and reading skills. Early Promise is producing concrete, verifiable improvements in members' academic performance.

FAMILY ROOM: \$43,400

The Janet S. Munt Family Room

The Family Room offers parent education and family support through infant, toddler and preschool programs, literacy and English language classes, resource and referral and community building activities for families with children 0-6 years old. The program's mission is to foster characteristics that are associated with strong families and child abuse prevention. The Family Room's goal is to promote healthy social and emotional development in young children and enhance school readiness.

FAMILY & CHILDREN'S SERVICES (FCS) HOME VISITING PROGRAM: \$37,900

Visiting Nurse Association of Chittenden and Grand Isle Counties (VNA)

The VNA FCS Home Visiting Program strengthens families and improves parents' capacity to nurture their children by providing nursing care and social support to at-risk pregnant women and families with multiple challenges. By focusing on prevention and early intervention, a multi-disciplinary team provides services that make a lasting difference for hundreds of families each year. Primarily, families need assistance maintaining health through pregnancy and getting their newborn off to a good start with healthy attachment between parents and infant. Nurses transition families who need longer-term support to Family Support staff for ongoing parenting support and wrap-around services for the whole family.

FAMILY EDUCATION PROGRAM: \$10,200

Lund
Lund's Family Education Program provides parents with the capacity and resources they need to nurture

PROGRAM FUNDING

their young children through parenting education (in-home), case management, counseling and referral to parenting services and resources in the community. The program works to help families in Chittenden County deal with challenges such as poverty, lone parenting, social isolation, addiction and mental illness, ultimately working toward reducing the rates of child abuse and neglect in Chittenden County.

FRANKLIN/GRAND ISLE 4-H PROGRAM: \$4,000

Franklin County 4-H Foundation

The Franklin and Grand Isle 4-H programs are the local component of the University of Vermont Extension 4-H Youth Development program. The goal is to create supportive environments for youth age 5-18 and adults to reach their fullest potential through experiential learning and life skills development so that they can be contributing members of our communities. Delivery modes include the traditional after school programs and school enrichment programs which focus three national 4-H mission mandates: STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) Education; Healthy Living; and Citizenship. Volunteers are trained in multiple delivery modes and collaborate and partner with other agencies.

GET READY IN NURSERY SCHOOL: \$8,000

Franklin Grand Isle Bookmobile

Get Ready in Nursery School (GRINS) intensifies Bookmobile outreach services for child care providers. GRINS increases child care quality and professionalism in the field of early childhood by providing customized literacy training and more frequent access to resources within the Bookmobile. During visits to the site, child care providers receive research-based literacy training strategies and materials. Child care providers learn to enhance the literacy skills of

young children during hours spent in GRINS. The hours “count” toward the quality rating Step Ahead Recognition System in child care, benefiting both the providers and the children in care. Additionally GRINS provides professional development workshops for groups, augmenting a community of support in early literacy strategies.

GRAND ISLE MENTORING PROGRAM: \$1,600

Grand Isle County Mentoring

Grand Isle County Mentoring is a school-based, weekly mentoring program which matches local children with adults who have similar interests. Mentors and mentees meet weekly for one hour at school at a mutually convenient time and develop a relationship. Mentor pairs participate in activities on the school grounds including games, arts and crafts, cooking and conversation. In its 8th year, the program now supports many older pairs who want to transition to community-based mentoring and continue their relationships through high school. The program has grown significantly over the years and currently has over 45 mentor pairs participating in the program.

KIDS-A-PART: \$23,300 Lund

The Kids-A-Part Parenting Program is a partnership between Lund and the Department of Corrections. The program works to reduce the trauma children experience as a result of their mother’s incarceration by using a unique family-centered model within a regional correctional facility. The program involves intensive facility-based programming, facility- and community-based case management, as well as wide ranging collaboration with community providers to involve the children and families of incarcerated mothers in every step of the process.

LIFE SKILLS & PRACTICAL ARTS: \$8,000 Fairfield Community Center Association

Life Skills and Practical Arts is a program for Franklin County children in grades 1-8. This collaborative effort of community organizations, individuals, and school staff addresses topics and opportunities not covered during school. Opportunities for lifelong learning come through consistent, reliable exposure to positive role models, a chance to learn a broad range of new skills, and by meeting new people in their community. The goals of the program are to help reduce prejudice, increase understanding of other cultures, beliefs, and values, reinforce healthy lifestyles, build strong self-image, instill compassion, and find solutions to life’s persistent problems. The program allows children to practice skills conducive to self-reliance such as changing a tire or a diaper, growing and preserving one’s own food, baking bread, sewing, basic woodworking skills, backyard farming, as well as STEM based exploration.

MENTORING: \$7,300 King Street Center

The Junior Senior Buddy program creates mentor pairs – each a King Street child and caring adult from the community who spend time together in the community every week for a minimum of one year. These matches allow for exploration of personal interests (e.g. hiking, fishing, cooking or fashion design), community connection, social/emotional guidance and academic support. King Street’s Each One Reach One program is another component of the mentoring program and offers weekly on-site academic mentoring to youth enrolled in our Afterschool Excellence and Teen Futures programs.

MENTORING IN CHITTENDEN COUNTY: \$15,700

The DREAM Program, Inc.

The DREAM Program’s Village

Mentoring model has been designed to address the distinct challenges faced by youth living in distressed neighborhoods. DREAM matches college student mentors with youth from affordable housing neighborhoods in long-term, supported, one-on-one mentoring relationships. Our unique Village Mentoring model blends the best practices of one-on-one mentoring and group mentoring with concepts from community development to provide youth with a more holistic approach to mentoring. Participation in DREAM allows youth and mentors to build the skills, social networks and confidence they will need to be successful in school and life; and it does so in a supportive and fun environment.

NEW ARRIVALS PROGRAM: \$13,000

Sara Holbrook Community Center

The New Arrivals program is designed to prevent the “summer slip” of English Language Learners by providing an academic venue in which students are totally immersed in English-speaking, reading, writing and practicing vocabulary, science and mathematics – as well as participating in experiential learning and community service.

NURTURING PARENT PROGRAM:

\$16,600

Prevent Child Abuse Vermont

Nurturing Parent Programs are curriculum-based parenting education programs that, in most instances, work with the whole family. The main goal of Nurturing Parenting Programs is to have children living in stable, supported families in which parents have the capacity and resources they need to nurture their young children. These are evidence-based, comprehensive programs that focus on building parenting skills. They emphasize developing appropriate expectations of children, empathy for children, key communication skills and use of alternatives to corporal punishment.

PARENT EDUCATION PROGRAM: \$14,500

Milton Family Community Center

The Parent Education Program assists parents in increasing their knowledge of child behavior and development and the use of positive parenting practices that make for a nurturing and caring family. The programs offer multiple learning opportunities including: parent education workshops, guest speakers, life skills education, home visits, group support, case management and teen parenting education. Parent educators work one-on-one and in group environments with parents to help every parent see themselves as their child’s first teacher, empower parents to develop nurturing home environments and promote positive family relationships.

PRESCHOOL PROGRAM: \$22,900

Sara Holbrook Community Center

The Sara Holbrook Community Center Preschool provides wraparound, developmentally appropriate early childhood classroom services, including physical, dental and mental health services, nutrition and social services and parent involvement opportunities, with the goal of preparing children for school and for life.

EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAM: \$19,200

Milton Family Community Center

The Early Childhood Program’s mission is to expand upon each child’s learning experience by creating an environment that is safe, nurturing and fun. The program offers a play-based curriculum where activities are developed from each child’s abilities and interests. The program environment promotes self-esteem and encourages self-respect and respect for others. Experienced, nurturing teachers keep play guided, structured and developmentally appropriate.

TEEN FUTURES: \$12,800

King Street Center

Teen Futures serves low-income youth in grades 6-12 in Burlington. The program includes a diverse array of programs focused around topics of job readiness, academic support and healthy choices. Popular opportunities include working on the Kids’ Lemonade Stand on the Church Street Marketplace, accessing technology and tutoring assistance for school work and being able to participate in activities like Kids on the Ball, Kids’ Café, Chill Snowboarding and the Run Vermont marathon team.

TEEN PROGRAM: \$20,400

Sara Holbrook Community Center

The Sara Holbrook Teen Program, (New North End Youth Center), engages youth in grades 6-12 with committed, caring adults in fun and enrichment programming, everything from hanging out to hiking. During the school year, drop-in programming provides middle and high school students a safe place to hang out with their friends, engage in recreational activities, get help with homework, participate in organized enrichment activities, venture out on community outings and connect with caring adults.

WINOOSKI FAMILY CENTER: \$16,500

Howard Center

The Winooski Family Center offers a safe, nurturing environment where families and preschool children receive tools and support they need to prepare young children for school. Adults have access to critical social and mental health services, learn to foster healthy child and adult development and make important social connections with their immigrant and cultural minority neighbors while engaging in activities that create community. Children receive preschool education grounded in best-practice childhood development strategies and intensive support for emotional and behavioral issues that impact their families and impede school success.

PROGRAM FUNDING

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT BOYS & GIRLS CLUB: \$23,400

Boys & Girls Club of Burlington

In addition to academic programs, the Boys & Girls Club offers programs that allow youth to take part in activities designed to foster healthy minds and bodies. Through the Outdoor Adventure Program, youth keep active by engaging in a variety of outdoor excursions like kayaking, hiking, swimming and rock climbing. Through the Healthy Habits program, youth and their families are invited to learn how to shop wisely, make healthy choices and prepare recipes from scratch. Hunger in our community is addressed by hosting "Kid's Cafe," a program that provides daily nutritious hot meals and snacks. Digital Connectors and Tech Trek are youth development programs that focus on digital literacy, engaging teens and young adults in leadership development, life skills management and community service.

INVESTMENTS IN INCOME: All people are financially stable

ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAM: \$3,600 Northwest Technical Center

The Northwest Technical Center offers about 50 site-based courses and hundreds of on-line learning courses that are high quality but low cost and designed to help develop skills for employment, advancement, or personal enrichment. United Way helps expand access to Adult Education programs through tuition supports.

BURLINGTON DISMAS HOUSE: \$30,700 Dismas of Vermont

Burlington Dismas House provides supportive, structured housing for former prisoners who have no savings or income and would otherwise remain

in jail (at a cost of at least \$58,000 per person per year) past their minimum sentence. Without the opportunity to live at Dismas House, an inmate with no other housing options would complete their sentence in jail and end up living in a shelter or on the street with little chance of employment or addressing addiction issues. Dismas House also provides meals, basic amenities and a program with day-to-day activities and interaction with community volunteers.

CHITTENDEN EMERGENCY FOOD SHELF: \$89,100

Champlain Valley Office of Economic Opportunity (CVOEO)

The Chittenden Emergency Food Shelf works to alleviate hunger by feeding people and cultivating opportunities. As the largest direct service emergency food provider in Vermont, the Food Shelf serves roughly 12,000 people each year. For 40 years, the Food Shelf has been recognized as a leader in hunger relief services, directly addressing the target outcome of ensuring that all people maintain nutrition during times of need. Moving forward, the Food Shelf aims to continue to find innovative solutions to meet the rising demand of hunger in Chittenden County.

CRISIS SERVICES: \$49,000 Spectrum Youth & Family Services

Spectrum's Crisis Services provides struggling teens and young adults with basic needs such as food and shelter, and gives them the support they need to turn their lives around through counseling and life skills development. The emergency shelter provides homeless youth with a safe place to stay while they work with case managers to develop life skills, address issues, access services, further their educations, find meaningful employment and move toward self-sufficiency.

DAYSTATION: \$14,400 Committee on Temporary Shelter (COTS)

The COTS Daystation is a safe and warm place where homeless adults can find refuge from the streets every day between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. The Daystation serves nearly 1,000 individuals a year and provides a nutritious noontime meal and the opportunity for guests to meet with case managers who help them identify their needs, set goals and access a range of services (such as veterans services and employment support). Daystation guests also can receive mail, use the phone and access email and the Internet at the site.

ECONOMIC JUSTICE PROGRAM: \$8,900 Steps to End Domestic Violence

The Economic Justice Program serves survivors of domestic abuse and actively helps them to identify steps toward improving their economic circumstances as part of a plan for a sustainable economic future. The program includes a transitional housing apartment complex for domestic violence victims, as well as providing advocates for survivors of domestic violence to address economic barriers to self-sufficiency.

EMERGENCY SHELTER: \$44,600 Steps to End Domestic Violence

The Emergency Shelter program is the only emergency housing program in Chittenden County with services specifically designed to meet the safety needs and concerns of victims of domestic violence. The ADA-compliant shelter is continuously full and provides a safe respite for adults and children fleeing domestic abuse. Through a partnership with the State, victims of domestic violence stay in hotel rooms (Safehome) when the shelter is full. Comprehensive supportive services available to residents in the shelter and Safehome include one-on-one emotional support, next-step housing support and advocacy, comprehensive casework and individual supportive

services plans, support groups, access to children's and legal programs, and community referrals.

EMPLOYMENT SUPPORT SERVICES:

\$11,600

Champlain Valley Office of Economic Opportunity (CVOEO)

The Chittenden Community Action Employment Support Program helps individuals seeking employment or wanting to maintain employment by providing the cost of non-driver identification or a Vermont birth certificate, access to Green Mountain Transit public transportation (through 10-ride bus passes), vouchers for clothing at Goodwill and referrals to CVOEO's Financial Futures money management classes, as well as referrals to other agencies services, as appropriate. The program also assists individuals to complete applications for benefits such as 3SquaresVT and health insurance.

FAMILY SHELTER PROGRAM: \$35,600

Committee on Temporary Shelter (COTS)

The Family Shelter Program serves our community's most vulnerable residents: homeless families with children under age 18. Through this program, COTS provides emergency shelter, intensive case management services and customized support for children. The program is designed to help homeless families achieve self-sufficiency and stable, permanent housing. It also helps them to avoid repeated episodes of homelessness.

GROWING MONEY PROGRAM: \$5,200

Champlain Valley Office of Economic Opportunity (CVOEO)

Growing Money supports low- and moderate-income Vermonters on their path to economic independence. We offer ongoing, free educational classes and financial coaching to help people establish and achieve their budgeting, credit, and savings goals. Our service area includes Chittenden,

Franklin and Grand Isle Counties. As a service of CVOEO's Financial Futures Program, Growing Money clients also have access to our matched savings accounts and micro-business development counseling.

HOMESHARING PROGRAM: \$26,700

HomeShare Vermont

Homesharing is a cost-effective way to meet an individual's need for affordable housing while at the same time helping seniors and others to stay in their home. HomeShare Vermont connects those offering a room in their home to those offering to share expenses and/or provide help around the home in exchange for an affordable place to live. On average homeshare guests provide 7 hours a week of service in exchange for an affordable place to live and the average rent for homesharing matches made over the last three years was \$224/month. Those sharing their home report they feel safer, healthier, are less lonely, happier and sleeping better by having someone living with them. HomeShare staff provide a recruitment, matching and screening service. Each "match" is unique and is based on the needs of the participants.

HOUSING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM:

\$16,100

Champlain Valley Office of Economic Opportunity (CVOEO)

The Housing Assistance Program works with individuals and families who are homeless or in danger of becoming homeless, to help them secure or maintain safe, sustainable housing. Staff provide housing case management services, direct financial assistance and access to landlord/tenant and money management training through a variety of CVOEO Programs.

NORTHWEST FAMILY FOODS: \$12,900

Champlain Valley Office of Economic Opportunity (CVOEO)

The goal of NorthWest Family Foods, a program of Franklin Grand Isle

Community Action, is to meet the food needs of clients in Franklin and Grand Isle Counties. Food is provided to any family or individual who states a need for it and virtually 100% of those seeking assistance are served. In addition, staff works to develop an understanding of the food system and explore opportunities to expand capacity to provide for clients by working with local growers, community gardeners, the Vermont Food Bank, local supermarkets, other food shelves and community organizations, such as United Way, to establish relationships that secure and expand resources.

PARALLEL JUSTICE PROGRAM: \$4,800

Franklin Grand Isle Restorative Justice Center

The Parallel Justice Program serves Franklin and Grand Isle County victims of crime with immediate outreach; information and referral; advocacy; and emotional and material support. The program receives weekly referrals from the St. Albans and Vermont State Police Departments and receives support and guidance from the Parallel Justice Steering Committee, which meets quarterly. Working with victims of crime is an integral part of the mission to support victims of crime.

PROJECT INTEGRATION: \$17,900

AALV, Inc.

Project Integration employs bilingual/bi-cultural outreach workers to help refugees access and navigate the services, resources and regulatory frameworks related to their social and economic integration in Vermont. Outreach workers help refugees to secure affordable housing, apply for and remain compliant with their public benefits, secure gainful employment, register for health insurance, seek relief from family conflict and abuse, understand the healthcare system, communicate with local schools and connect with elder and youth service providers.

PROGRAM FUNDING

SAFETY CONNECTION: \$8,900

Howard Center

Howard Center's Safety Connection helps adults with developmental disabilities live independently in the community setting of their choice. The program focuses on providing skills instruction and routine nightly check-in to individuals with disabilities who wish to live on their own. Safety Connection staff help locate appropriate housing; provide help and instruction in daily living skills; offer financial assistance with rent deposits, interim rental subsidies, utility payments and furnishings; provide on-site supportive counseling; and support integration.

STEP IN TO WORK: \$40,100

Vermont Works For Women

Step In to Work (formerly Transitional Jobs) is a holistic work-readiness system designed for women with employment barriers, who seek to enter or reenter the workforce after incarceration or to transition off of state assistance. The program offers customized, essential skills training and employment support, which builds on participants' individual strengths, prior experiences and specific goals. Based on a national "transitional jobs" model, participants benefit from modules in curriculum-based essential employment skills; stipend, hands-on, supervised work crew opportunities; and one-on-one coaching and placement support in part- or full-time employment with local employers.

TRANSITIONAL HOUSING PROGRAM:

\$7,600

Samaritan House, Inc.

The Transitional Housing Program began in April 2006 with one apartment and by 2012 had a total of five apartments. The program serves individuals and families in Franklin and Grand Isle Counties who are homeless or vulnerable to homelessness with special emphasis on serving the most vulnerable

(recently incarcerated individuals, families, those fleeing domestic violence, those with substance and mental health barriers). Clients receive one-on-one case management services, referrals to substance abuse and mental health treatment if needed, employment assistance, training, advocacy, resources on obtaining child care, assistance with speaking with landlords, and specific job and life skills coaching. Case managers continue to work with families after they are housed for a minimum of one year and follow up with landlords monthly to make sure clients are paying rent and being good neighbors and tenants.

VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION: \$17,900

Howard Center

Howard Center has two highly regarded vocational rehabilitation programs, each focused on a distinct population. Project Hire provides supported employment services for individuals with intellectual disabilities and/or autism. Career Connections provides similar services for individuals recovering from major mental illness. Both programs adhere to the belief that work is an important part of life and that everyone should have the opportunity to contribute to the community and their own well-being.

WAY2WORK: \$40,100

Champlain Community Services, Inc.

Champlain Community Services' nationally recognized Way2Work supported employment program offers state-of-the-art employment and self-employment supports to individuals with disabilities. Way2Work offers highly individualized services which build upon each consumer's vocational skills and interests and help identify and secure the additional training or resources required to meet employment goals. Way2Work supports individuals to find employment in the competitive economy that is meaningful to them,

value to their employers and inclusive in the community.

WAYSTATION: \$43,400

Committee on Temporary Shelter (COTS)

The COTS Waystation is an emergency shelter that meets the basic needs of homeless adult men and women in our community. The shelter has the capacity to serve 36 adults, with 28 beds in the men's facility and 8 beds in the women's facility. The Waystation is open 365 days a year, from 6:15 p.m. to 8:00 a.m. This vital community resource ensures that all people have shelter during times of need.

HEALTH:

All people have optimal health and well-being

ACT 1/BRIDGE: \$57,600

Howard Center

Howard Center's ACT 1 and Bridge programs are co-located, community-based, alcohol and drug crisis stabilization and social detoxification programs that serve Chittenden County adults and teens who have problems with substance abuse and/or dependence. ACT 1 provides a safe, supervised environment in which individuals who are incapacitated by alcohol and/or other drugs can regain their sobriety. Bridge provides short-term stabilization within a social detoxification unit, with intensive clinical assessment and referral to treatment for clients who are experiencing significant issues related to substance abuse and/or dependence. The programs operate 24/7/365 in downtown Burlington and provide continuous supervision and support, including awake overnight staffing.

ADULT DAY PROGRAM: \$4,400

CarePartners Adult Day Center

CarePartners supports elders and younger people with disabilities, along with their caregivers, in their efforts to remain at home and to provide for their care needs. The program is targeted towards adults with dementia and/or physical impairment who live in Franklin and northern Grand Isle Counties. The program's goal is to stimulate their minds and bodies by providing meaningful, therapeutic activities while monitoring their health and personal care needs. The adult day program provides a warm, stimulating, home-like place for frail adults to spend the day keeping them healthy and living in their homes. Families and caregivers gain peace of mind knowing their loved one is safe, happy and being cared for, while they go to work, run errands or take a well-deserved break.

ADULT DAY PROGRAM: \$19,500

Visiting Nurse Association of Chittenden and Grand Isle Counties (VNA)

The VNA Adult Day Program provides care for elders, people with dementia and adults with mental and physical disabilities. For family caregivers, it offers respite and peace of mind that their loved one is cared for in a loving, safe and home-like social environment. The Adult Day Program staff is a team of skilled, caring professionals; at each site staff includes a Registered Nurse, a Licensed Nursing Assistant and activity specialists. Clients participate in a variety of activities to enhance mental cognition and physical independence. They enjoy nutritious meals that are prepared at each site and receive regular nursing assessments from the on-site Registered Nurse.

ADULT HOME HEALTH CARE: \$39,300

Visiting Nurse Association of Chittenden and Grand Isle Counties (VNA)

The Adult Home Care interdisciplinary team of nurses, rehabilitation

therapists, social workers and licensed nursing assistants provide high-quality, home-based care designed to meet the medical needs of adults. VNA care is coordinated by a case manager, who plans individualized home care, according to each client's health care needs and physician orders. Without VNA homecare visits many of these patients would not have successful discharges from the hospital, would not be able to stay at home and would not be served for lack of insurance.

BETTER BREATHING PROGRAM: \$6,900

Franklin County Home Health Agency

The goal of the Better Breathing Program in Franklin County is to improve the health and quality of life for people with Chronic Obstruction Pulmonary Disease (COPD).

CASE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM: \$33,100

Age Well

The Age Well Case Management Program helps seniors in Chittenden, Franklin and Grand Isle Counties access services and benefits to maintain their independence. Case Managers help seniors apply for assistance programs, assess them for at-home assistance, coordinate long term care and investigate referrals of self-neglect.

CHAMPLAIN SENIOR CENTER NUTRITION PROGRAM: \$17,100

Burlington Parks, Recreation & Waterfront Foundation

This program affords older adults the opportunity to live healthier lives by preventing adverse nutritional, physical and emotional effects that often result from poor nutrition and social isolation. The program provides nutritious meals along with social, educational, arts, and health and wellness programs and education.

CHILD PROTECTION TEAMS: \$13,100

Kidsafe Collaborative of Chittenden County

KidSafe Collaborative is dedicated to preventing child maltreatment, thereby improving the safety, health and well-being of children in our community. Based on a belief that everyone has a responsibility to keep children safe, KidSafe directs its multi-agency work on a case-by-case basis towards the most complex family situations which threaten child health and welfare.

CHILDREN & YOUTH SERVICES: \$14,400

Steps to End Domestic Violence

This program is available and accessible to all survivors of domestic violence in Chittenden County and is designed to mitigate the effects of domestic violence for children and support for parents. Services include: crisis intervention; parenting support, referrals and skill-building; strategies for handling parent's and children's emotional responses to the effects of domestic violence; weekly age-appropriate playgroups for children; teen programming tailored to the unique needs of teens; peer advocacy training for teens and trainings with community partners and professionals.

CHILDREN'S GRIEF AND BEREAVEMENT: \$4,000

Franklin County Home Health Agency

The Child Bereavement Program provides support to children in the community who have experienced the death of a parent, grandparent, sibling, or other primary caregiver.

CHILDREN'S OUTPATIENT COUNSELING: \$26,600

Howard Center

Howard Center's Children's Outpatient Counseling provides high-quality comprehensive family-centered mental health services to children, adolescents and their caregivers who experience acute stress, have symptoms that impact their daily functioning, have limited supports for behavioral changes or self-care, need medication monitoring, or have specific

PROGRAM FUNDING

therapeutic goals. Counseling is for a range of issues, including physical and sexual abuse, domestic violence, sexually harmful behaviors and sexual reactivity, behavioral issues due to learning differences, school behaviors that impede learning and parent-child-sibling conflicts. Including caregivers in treatment improves mental health outcomes for the children and their families, and positively impacts the environments in which the children learn and live.

C.I.D.E.R.: \$9,000

Champlain Islanders Developing Essential Resources (C.I.D.E.R.)

C.I.D.E.R. provides direct services as well as access to the resources that enable Grand Isle County elders and persons with disabilities to live in their community with independence and dignity. Door-to-door transportation is available through the use of wheelchair accessible vans, as well as volunteer drivers using their own automobiles, to bring individuals to medical appointments, adult day programs, and grocery shopping. The Neighbors senior meal site provides "home cooked" congregate and home-delivered meals and an opportunity for positive social interaction with peers. C.I.D.E.R. also sponsors tai chi classes and "Living Strong" strength and balance training classes for older adults. C.I.D.E.R. volunteers design and build wheelchair ramps and other exterior home accessibility projects.

CONGREGATE MEALS: \$16,200

Heineberg Senior Center

The program provides a well-balanced, hot meal in a congregate meal site atmosphere 5 days per week for anyone aged 50 and over. For many participants, this is the only balanced nutritional meal they receive. Some participants save portions of their meal to take home, enabling them to have dinner. There is no need to eat alone 7 days a week, all older adults are welcome.

COUNSELING: \$40,000

Spectrum Youth & Family Services

Spectrum's Mental Health and Substance Abuse Counseling Program provides individual, family and group counseling for adolescents and young adults and their families regardless of income or where they live. Our counselors use evidence-based best practices to help clients address addiction and mental health issues. We also help youth and families cope with grief and loss, divorce, chronic illness, school issues, family conflict and other issues.

FIRST CALL: \$31,000

Howard Center

Howard Center's First Call for Children and Families is the only 24/7/365 mental health crisis and referral service for children (through age 17) in Chittenden County. The program is the first line of contact for families, schools and community service providers seeking services for children, primarily because they are at risk of serious self-harm or suicide, or are a danger to others. First Call clinicians provide community crisis response, emergency assessment and treatment for individuals, referrals to ongoing mental health services and suicide prevention education. Consistent with the goal of strengthening families, First Call plays an integral role in preventing children from entering state custody. Most calls are related to children's safety.

FRANKLIN COUNTY COURT DIVERSION:

\$9,600

Franklin Grand Isle Restorative Justice Center

Court Diversion uses restorative practices to support three unique community programs: Court Diversion, Youth Substance Abuse Safety Program (YSASP), and Driving with License Suspended (DLS). Court Diversion works collaboratively with the State's Attorney's offices and human service agencies to provide first-time offenders the opportunity to participate

in our restorative justice panel program. The panel process utilizes community volunteers and trained staff to focus on accountability and fixing harm done to victims of crime and the greater community. YSASP is a youth prevention program that supports education and prevention around substance abuse related concerns, screening and partnerships with law enforcement and local human service agencies. DLS helps people to regain a legal license and pay off accumulated fees and fines in conjunction with the Vermont DMV and Judicial Bureau offices.

HEALTH ACCESS: \$53,500

Community Health Centers of Burlington

Health Access Program elements are designed to breakdown financial, psycho-social, linguistic and other barriers to a healthy life faced by community residents. All residents, regardless of life circumstances, are welcomed into the compassionate, lifetime Healthcare Home that teaches self-responsibility, manages ongoing chronic diseases and provide cost-effective preventive care.

HOSPICE: \$24,500

Visiting Nurse Association of Chittenden and Grand Isle Counties (VNA)

VNA Hospice, which involves intermittent care in individual homes, nursing homes, community care homes and at Vermont Respite House, provides comprehensive, interdisciplinary care to individuals diagnosed with a terminal illness and their families. The Hospice team develops a care plan that is individualized to the unique needs of each patient and family and this plan is revised as the illness progresses.

HOTLINE: \$24,400

Steps to End Domestic Violence

The hotline is available 24/7 to provide emotional support, tangible

resources, advocacy and referrals to survivors of domestic violence as well as to their friends, family members, co-workers and service providers. Staff and volunteers focus on safety planning, emotional support, assessing immediate basic needs including emergency housing, hunger, crisis intervention and referrals to support programs and services.

INTENSIVE FAMILY-BASED SERVICES:

\$43,400

Howard Center

Howard Center's Intensive Family-Based Services provides time-limited (13-week), intensive (at least 5 hours/week) intervention to families in which a child is at imminent risk of being removed from the home for reasons of abuse, neglect, severe emotional disturbance, or when a child is returning to the family from out-of-home care. The program preserves the family unit by preventing unnecessary out-of-home placements of children and by facilitating successful reunification when placement is necessary. The program offers comprehensive clinical counseling and support to Chittenden County families that face daily challenges keeping their children safe due to significant mental health needs of the parents and/or children and the effects of substance abuse, domestic violence, poverty, or other significant family issues. Clinicians coordinate with an array of community medical, educational and social services partners to strengthen family systems and the children within them.

MEALS ON WHEELS: \$31,400

Age Well

This program delivers meals to homebound seniors and seniors with food insecurity five days a week in communities in Chittenden, Franklin and Grand Isle Counties. This program brings a hot nutritious meal, a friendly visit and a safety check to a vulnerable population. This is often the only

service a senior needs to be able to safely remain at home.

MENTAL HEALTH & SUBSTANCE ABUSE

TREATMENT: \$64,800

Howard Center

Howard Center's Mental Health and Substance Abuse Treatment Services programs serve adults with co-occurring mental illness and substance use issues and provide support for their families. Services are provided to clients who are experiencing psychiatric illnesses, substance abuse disorders and/or mental or emotional distress. Most clients seek services voluntarily, while others come as the result of pressure or mandates from family, employers, the legal system, or the Department of Corrections. Clients receive culturally competent, trauma-informed care using evidence-based individual and group therapies, case management and psychiatric services from clinicians trained in both mental health and substance abuse disorders. Through our strengths-based focus, we encourage self-care, social connections and autonomy.

NUTRITION PROGRAM: \$5,600

Franklin County Senior Center

This program provides nutritious meals and social support to seniors in Franklin County. Seniors eligible for Meals on Wheels receive daily meals delivered by our volunteer drivers who also provide social support and welfare checks. Congregate meals are served at the center and social opportunity is provided through the various programs offered during the week.

RESIDENTIAL & COMMUNITY

TREATMENT: \$17,800

Lund

Lund offers a continuum of substance abuse treatment services to parents struggling with addiction. While substance abuse treatment within the residential setting is offered solely

to pregnant or parenting women, community-based services are offered to fathers as well. The continuum of substance abuse treatment services includes outreach and screening, assessment, case management, outpatient counseling both within the Residential treatment and community-based programs and group treatment.

STREET OUTREACH: \$17,500

Howard Center

Street Outreach is a daily street-based mobile mental health service that offers support, intervention and referral to adults and adolescents in the downtown Burlington business area and city neighborhoods. Street Outreach team members engage with individuals seeking treatment and those brought to their attention by police, merchants, or community members due to behaviors that indicate emotional health needs. Team members provide nonjudgmental mental health counseling and case management services; they collaborate with provider partners to help clients get the medical, nutritional, housing and other basic services they need.

STRENGTHENING FAMILIES IN FRANKLIN & GRAND ISLE COUNTIES: \$8,800

Prevent Child Abuse Vermont (PCAVT)

PCAV's Franklin and Grand Isle County programs provide two types of parent education and support for parents and families at risk of child abuse or neglect: Nurturing Parenting Programs and Circle of Parents Support Groups. Nurturing Parents are curriculum-based parent education programs that work with the entire family and include weekly 2½ hour group sessions that meet from 9 to 18 weeks. Circle of Parents Support Groups are professionally facilitated, peer-led, self-help support groups for parents which meet weekly for 2 hours. Circles offer parents the opportunity to come together and share their experiences, challenges and successes with parenting in a safe

PROGRAM FUNDING

and confidential setting. Parents learn critical skills and behaviors that foster empathy, build communications, create developmentally appropriate rules/expectations, learn positive discipline and problem-solving strategies, and gain a sense of community with their peers. The focus is on promoting healthy relationships between parents and children in order to prevent abuse and neglect.

TURNING POINT PROGRAM: \$6,100

Turning Point Center of Franklin County

The Turning Point Center is a community recovery center providing a welcoming, safe place for people seeking recovery from drugs and alcohol and other addictive behaviors, as well as support for families and friends who are trying to help loved ones. The Center is a safe haven where people who are committed to recovery volunteer to support others. Trained recovery workers provide facilitated groups and our recovery support services help people rebuild their lives. These peer support, evidence-based services and educational programs take place in a supportive environment seven days a week.

VERMONT 2-1-1: \$61,000

United Ways of Vermont

United Way of Northwest Vermont, with other statewide United Ways, helps to fund Vermont 2-1-1, Vermont's statewide information and referral service. This free, confidential service helps thousands of Vermonters' to connect with statewide services and resources. Callers to Vermont 2-1-1 will be connected with trained, empathetic Information & Referral Specialists who assess their needs and provide referrals to appropriate resources.

VOICES AGAINST VIOLENCE: \$8,700

Champlain Valley Office of Economic Opportunity (CVOEO)

Voices works towards the elimination of domestic and sexual violence and stalking through direct service,

education and systems change. Services include 24/7 crisis intervention and support; legal, housing, social service and economic advocacy; emergency and transitional housing; children's services; supervised visitation; prevention/education; and community awareness. Voices partners with others in the community to strengthen the responsiveness of systems to the needs of victims. Voices focuses on meeting victims where they are; helping them enhance their safety strategies while increasing their access to needed resources and supports.

VOLUNTEER PROGRAM: \$8,500

Age Well

Age Well's Volunteer Program is designed to help older adults who need care and assistance to support daily living receive the supports and services they need to maintain their independence. Whether the volunteer delivers a much needed meal to a senior who can't safely prepare food, does grocery shopping with/for a senior or drives the senior to a medical appointment, the volunteer is helping seniors in the community meet their daily needs.

PROGRAM FUNDING INVESTMENTS

AGENCY	PROGRAM	FUNDING
AALV, Inc.	Project Integration	\$ 17,900
Age Well	Case Management Program	\$ 33,100
Age Well	Meals on Wheels	\$ 31,400
Age Well	Volunteer Coordination Program	\$ 8,500
Boys & Girls Club of Burlington	Early Promise	\$ 39,600
Boys & Girls Club of Burlington	Youth Development	\$ 23,400
Burlington Children's Space, Inc.	Children at Risk	\$ 40,400
Burlington Parks, Recreation and Waterfront Foundation	Champlain Senior Center Nutrition Program	\$ 17,100
CarePartners Adult Day Center	Adult Day Program	\$ 4,400
Champlain Adaptive Mounted Program	CHAMP Program	\$ 4,000
Champlain Community Services, Inc.	Way2Work	\$ 40,100
Champlain Islanders Developing Essential Resources	C.I.D.E.R.	\$ 9,000
Champlain Valley Office of Economic Opportunity	Chittenden Emergency Food Shelf	\$ 89,100
Champlain Valley Office of Economic Opportunity	Employment Support Services	\$ 11,600
Champlain Valley Office of Economic Opportunity	Growing Money Program-Franklin County	\$ 5,200
Champlain Valley Office of Economic Opportunity	Housing Assistance Program	\$ 16,100
Champlain Valley Office of Economic Opportunity	Northwest Family Foods	\$ 12,900
Champlain Valley Office of Economic Opportunity	Voices Against Violence	\$ 8,700
Child Care Resource	Child Care Food Program	\$ 20,000
Committee On Temporary Shelter	Daystation	\$ 14,400
Committee On Temporary Shelter	Family Shelter Program	\$ 35,600
Committee On Temporary Shelter	Waystation	\$ 43,400
Community Health Centers of Burlington	Health Access	\$ 53,500
(Cornerstone) - Richford Programs	Richford Programs	\$ 6,200
Dismas of Vermont, Inc.	Burlington Dismas House	\$ 30,700
DREAM Program, Inc.	Mentoring in Chittenden County	\$ 15,700
Fairfield Community Center Association	Life Skills & Practical Arts	\$ 8,000
Franklin & Grand Isle 4-H Foundation	Franklin Grand Isle 4-H Program	\$ 4,000
Franklin County Home Health Agency	Better Breathing Program	\$ 6,900
Franklin County Home Health Agency	Children's Grief and Bereavement	\$ 4,000
Franklin County Senior Center	Nutrition Program	\$ 5,600
Franklin Grand Isle Bookmobile	Get Ready in Nursery School	\$ 8,000
Franklin Grand Isle Restorative Justice Center	Franklin County Court Diversion	\$ 9,600
Franklin Grand Isle Restorative Justice Center	Parallel Justice Program	\$ 4,800
Grand Isle County Mentoring	Grand Isle Mentoring Program	\$ 1,600
Greater Burlington YMCA	Early Education Program	\$ 55,400

PROGRAM FUNDING INVESTMENTS

AGENCY	PROGRAM	FUNDING
Heineberg Senior Center	Congregate Meals	\$ 16,200
HomeShare Vermont	Homesharing Program	\$ 26,700
Howard Center	Act 1/Bridge	\$ 57,600
Howard Center	Children's Outpatient Counseling	\$ 26,600
Howard Center	First Call	\$ 31,000
Howard Center	Intensive Family Based Services	\$ 43,400
Howard Center	Mental Health and Substance Abuse Treatment	\$ 64,800
Howard Center	Street Outreach	\$ 17,500
Howard Center	Safety Connection	\$ 8,900
Howard Center	Vocational Rehabilitation	\$ 17,900
Howard Center	Winooski Family Center	\$ 16,500
KidSafe Collaborative of Chittenden County	Child Protection Teams	\$ 13,100
King Street Center	After School Program	\$ 20,400
King Street Center	Early Education Program	\$ 30,600
King Street Center	Mentoring	\$ 7,300
King Street Center	Teen Futures	\$ 12,800
Janet S. Munt Family Room	Family Room	\$ 43,400
Lund	Early Childhood Program	\$ 34,600
Lund	Family Education Program	\$ 10,200
Lund	Kids-A-Part	\$ 23,300
Lund	Residential and Community Treatment	\$ 17,800
Milton Family Community Center	Parent Education Program	\$ 14,500
Milton Family Community Center	Early Childhood Program	\$ 19,200
Northwest Technical Center	Adult Education Program	\$ 3,600
Northwestern Counseling & Support Services, Inc.	Camp Rainbow	\$ 6,200
Prevent Child Abuse Vermont	Nurturing Parent Program	\$ 16,600
Prevent Child Abuse Vermont	Strengthening Families in Franklin and Grand Isle Counties	\$ 8,800
Samaritan House, Inc.	Transitional Housing Program	\$ 7,600
Sara Holbrook Community Center	After School Program	\$ 33,200
Sara Holbrook Community Center	New Arrivals Program	\$ 13,000
Sara Holbrook Community Center	Preschool Program	\$ 22,900
Sara Holbrook Community Center	Teen Program	\$ 20,400
Spectrum Youth & Family Services	Counseling	\$ 40,000
Spectrum Youth & Family Services	Crisis Services	\$ 49,000
Steps To End Domestic Violence	Children and Youth Services	\$ 14,400
Steps To End Domestic Violence	Economic Justice Program	\$ 8,900

AGENCY	PROGRAM	FUNDING
Steps To End Domestic Violence	Emergency Shelter	\$ 44,600
Steps To End Domestic Violence	Hotline	\$ 24,400
Turning Point Center of Franklin County	Turning Point Program	\$ 6,100
Vermont Works For Women	Step in to Work	\$ 40,100
Visiting Nurse Association of Chittenden and Grand Isle Counties	Adult Home Health Care	\$ 39,300
Visiting Nurse Association of Chittenden and Grand Isle Counties	FCS Home Visiting Program	\$ 37,900
Visiting Nurse Association of Chittenden and Grand Isle Counties	Adult Day Program	\$ 19,500
Visiting Nurse Association of Chittenden and Grand Isle Counties	Hospice	\$ 24,500

*United Way of Northwest Vermont also invested \$61,000 in Vermont 2-1-1, a program of the United Ways of Vermont.

ENGAGEMENT & COLLABORATION

\$320,600 Invested in Engagement & Collaboration

We invest in experienced staff who engage community partners and support collaborations that address community needs. These collaborations function as incubator spaces in which we explore partnerships, develop shared goals, discuss innovative solutions and test new ways to address emerging needs. United Way staff lead or participate in these conversations, advocate for community solutions, and nurture partnerships among the nonprofit, government, and business communities.

BUILDING BRIGHT FUTURES

United Way participates in local early childhood councils that include a cohesive group of early childhood providers, including public and private Pre-K programs, Parent Child Centers, Early Head Start and Head Start. The groups focus on common learning standards, professional development and workforce issues, and other common needs. United Way

participates in the Chittenden Council and the Franklin and Grand Isle Council.

BURLINGTON STREET OUTREACH ADVISORY COUNCIL

United Way serves on this advisory team of leaders and stakeholders representing local merchants, law enforcement, city government, business, and social service organizations. The Burlington Street Outreach Team works to maintain a vibrant marketplace and downtown that is inviting and inclusive by providing mobile mental health services including support, intervention, and referral to adults and adolescents in the downtown Burlington business area and city neighborhoods.

CHITTENDEN COUNTY ACCESS

United Way participates in this multi-stakeholder group that works to identify needs and collaborate on the system of care for children, youth and families in Chittenden County in order to strengthen and preserve families and support independent youth. This group's work led to a Children's Mental Health Summit in 2013, co-hosted by United Way. Ideas from the Summit led to the creation and design of the Caring Collaborative — an innovative pilot project to develop a family-driven, comprehensive care model — United Way remains a lead partner in this ongoing work.

FOOD SECURITY

United Way collaborates with community partners to increase awareness and understanding of causes and consequences of food

insecurity, to engage a broader range of stakeholders, and to catalyze collective action, with a goal of ending food insecurity through systematic and sustainable solutions. United Way is a member of the Chittenden County Hunger Council and the Franklin Grand Isle Counties Hunger Council.

FRANKLIN/GRAND ISLE COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP

United Way participates in this dynamic coalition of community partners, including representatives from the health, education, human services, and business communities, who meet monthly to learn and collaborate to help improve outcomes of social well-being for children, families, and individuals.

KIDSAFE COLLABORATIVE COUNCIL

United Way participates in the KidSafe Collaborative Council, whose focus is to look at the systems and support services for children and families in order to improve our community's prevention of, and response to, child maltreatment.

HOUSING & HOMELESSNESS

United Way sits on the Steering, Strategic Planning, and Ranking Committees for the Chittenden County Homeless Alliance. The Alliance envisions a future in which every person and family in the county has a permanent, safe, decent, affordable home and the necessary means and community supports to sustain it. The Alliance is looking at the continuum from homelessness to permanent housing and developing strategies across the continuum

to meet the demands for shelter, transitional housing, permanent supportive housing, and housing retention. As a multi-stakeholder group, the Alliance reviews and ranks applications for Federal Housing and Urban Development funding, provides input as requested and appropriate for State and local funding opportunities, and continues to explore ways to improve broader participation by the whole community, including individuals who are experiencing, or have experienced, homelessness, in developing appropriate and sustainable strategies. United Way is also involved with the Continuum of Care in Franklin and Grand Isle Counties that serves a similar purpose.

NONPROFIT EXCELLENCE

United Way works to strengthen the nonprofit sector by promoting collaborating, accountability, and effectiveness through: promoting shared learning opportunities around performance measurement and accountability, supporting discussions and efforts around nonprofit collaboration and mergers, and providing a strong voice for the nonprofit sector on issues such as charitable giving, tax policy, and state funding contracts.

OPERATION HAPPINESS

United Way acts as the fiscal agent and provides staff support to Operation Happiness, a volunteer-led, community effort in Franklin and Grand Isle Counties that provides food, gifts, and toys to hundreds of families in need during the holiday season.

PROMISE COMMUNITIES INITIATIVE

The Promise Communities initiative is a project of Vermont's Early Learning Challenge – Race to the Top Grant; a

federally-funded, four-year grant to help build a high-quality and accessible early childhood system in the State so that all young children will be ready to succeed in kindergarten and beyond. United Way participates on Steering Committees for four local Promise Community Initiatives: Winooski; St. Albans City, Sheldon and Swanton; Richford; and Alburgh. These community-led grant projects support collaboration across the education, healthcare, human service, public, and private sectors to create a comprehensive approach to transforming communities to better support children in their communities.

RESTORATIVE JUSTICE IN SCHOOLS

United Way convenes Chittenden County school and Community Justice Center representatives in a learning community to explore and develop the use of restorative justice practices in schools. Restorative practices in schools around the country have created positive youth development by transforming school culture and climate from one that is punitive to one that is restorative. These practices increase accountability for negative actions, build relationships, and have been shown to reduce educational disparities such as the achievement gap for youth of color and those with disabilities.

WINTER WARMING SHELTER

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

United Way serves on the Advisory Committee for the collaboration of partners facilitating a temporary winter warming shelter in Burlington which serves homeless individuals during the coldest months of the year.

VOLUNTEER MOBILIZATION

\$522,800 Invested in Volunteer Mobilization

United Way invests funds and staff time to connect volunteers to community organizations and to support the ability of local nonprofits to recruit, retain and recognize volunteers.

EXPANDING VOLUNTEERISM

Recruitment & Referral

United Way's easy-to-use Online Volunteer Connection resource (unitedwaynwvt.galaxydigital.com) allows local nonprofits to post their volunteer needs and community members to find meaningful volunteer opportunities from hundreds of nonprofits.

Promoting Corporate Engagement

We work with companies to support their community engagement mission and encourage employees to connect with their community.

Recognition Programs

Through partnerships with the Burlington Free Press, the St. Albans Messenger and the Islander, United Way's Volunteer of the Week program recognizes outstanding community volunteers nominated by community members and encourages others to get involved. United Way also hosts an annual celebration of community volunteers.

Nonprofit Capacity Building

Through workshops, network meetings and one-on-one consultation, United Way provides

opportunities for local nonprofits to share and improve volunteer management best practices.

MOBILE TAX PREPARATION

United Way recruits volunteers to provide tax return preparation assistance at workplaces that employ low- to moderate-wage earners through Working Bridges. The program not only assists employees to prepare their tax returns, and but also ensures access to the Earned Income Tax Credit.

NEIGHBOR RIDES

United Way recruits volunteers to provide transportation services for older adults and adults with disabilities. Neighbor Rides volunteer drivers use their personal vehicle to support community members in accessing essential services such as medical appointments and errands like trips to the pharmacy and grocery store. Together with our program partner, Special Service Transportation Agency (SSTA), we are helping keep community members connected to the supports and services they need to maintain optimal health and well-being.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR OLDER ADULTS

We recruit and manage volunteers for several United Way-sponsored programs designed for volunteers aged 55+. These programs also leverage other funds from federal, state and local sources.

Foster Grandparents

The Foster Grandparent Program engages volunteers ages 55+ in the important work of helping children across Chittenden, Franklin and Grand Isle Counties to reach their

full potential in school and in life. Volunteers dedicate a minimum of 15 hours per week developing mentor relationships which promote school readiness, improve overall engagement in learning, provide academic support around early literacy and math, and enhance social-emotional development.

RSVP of Northwest Vermont

RSVP connects volunteers ages 55+ with the people and organizations in our community who need them the most. We help individuals identify opportunities that will best utilize their talents, interests and availability to effect positive change on some of the most pressing issues in our region. RSVP volunteers receive orientation, on-going learning opportunities, and formal recognition ensuring that each volunteer's experience is successful, satisfying and impactful.

- **Education**

Volunteers in child care, preschool, school and community-based settings serve as tutors, mentors, role models and friends to children, building early literacy and math skills, as well as a love of learning.

- **Healthy Futures**

Volunteers provide companionship for seniors; improve access to healthy meals through work at food shelves, congregate meal sites and delivery of Meals on Wheels; provide transportation for seniors and people with disabilities to life sustaining and enriching activities; and lead free Bone Builders exercise classes to

help older adults build balance and strength while reducing the impact of osteoporosis.

- **Other Community Priorities**

RSVP volunteers contribute to dozens of other programs and nonprofit organizations meeting critical needs in our communities. Volunteers assist individuals with income tax preparation or serve as financial coaches and literacy educators; coordinate volunteer programs or recruit other volunteers; facilitate support groups; serve on nonprofit Boards and committees; tutor adults in basic skills; or lend their skills as writers and much more.

STRATEGIC INITIATIVES

\$849,700 Invested in Strategic Initiatives

United Way invests funds and experienced staff time to support strategic systems-change efforts and leverages funding from other partners. These investments promote innovative approaches to some of our community's most complex problems that result in long-term sustainable improvement in the well-being of our community.

CARING COLLABORATIVE

United Way is a lead partner in the Caring Collaborative – an innovative pilot project to develop a family-driven, comprehensive care model that works with and learns from parents, children and staff within a child care setting. The goal of the Caring Collaborative is to support healthy development and improve outcomes for children and families. The pilot continues to show positive and promising results. As planned, a second site was added to begin to test the replicability of the model and a plan to transition the level of effort needed by the first site to an appropriate and sustainable level. Considerable data have been collected and are being analyzed and shared.

FRANKLIN COUNTY TEEN INSTITUTE

United Way provides strategic initiative funding and staff leadership in the planning and development of this effort to create a youth-adult partnership to increase healthy behaviors among Franklin County teens and decrease use and abuse of drugs and alcohol. The Teen Institute, a program of the Franklin County Caring Communities, engages high school students from across Franklin County and provides training for students and adults to deliver and support prevention efforts in their own schools.

FRANKLIN/GRAND ISLE FLEX FUND

United Way provides funding for this effort through the Champlain Valley Office of Economic Opportunity. The Flex Fund is used to provide short-term assistance to individuals and families in response to needs that fall within gaps in the current system, with no other existing funding source. Uses include responding to housing crises, promoting housing retention, and providing transportation assistance.

FUNDERS COLLABORATIVE

United Way convenes a diverse group of Vermont funders and community leaders working together to develop opportunities and a framework to create greater impact through collaborative investment toward common priorities.

NEIGHBOR RIDES

Neighbor Rides is a multi-partner, collaborative initiative lead by United Way that ensures older adults and adults with disabilities have access to affordable, accessible and appropriate transportation options. We collaborate across sectors to increase awareness of mobility needs; increase community

capacity through volunteer driver recruitment; and support the inclusion of older adults and adults with disabilities in transportation decision-making and planning process. Our work is rooted in the belief that all people should have equitable access to transportation as an essential element of community connection.

OPIOID ALLIANCE

The Chittenden County Opioid Alliance (CCOA) is a partnership of local nonprofit agencies, state and local government, University of Vermont Medical Center, business leaders and community members committed to reducing the burden of opioids in our community by creating a coordinated system to prevent addiction, treat individuals and their families suffering from substance use disorder, and support recovery. The CCOA seeks to improve collaboration, information sharing and integration of the many efforts and agencies involved in this work. United Way of Northwest Vermont secured seed funding for this initiative and serves on the Steering and Executive Committees, as well as several Action Teams.

TRANSPORTATION ACCESS & INCLUSION

United Way collaborates with community partners to advocate for older adults and persons with disabilities to have affordable, accessible, and appropriate transportation options. Together we are designing strategies to support the inclusion of older adults and persons with disabilities within the decision-making and planning process for transportation solutions. United Way's work to strengthen inclusive transportation partnerships in our community is funded through a

grant from the US Administration for Community Living through the Transit Planning for All project which is administered by the Community Transportation Association of America, and is operated through a consortium of four organizations – the Community Transportation Association of America, Easter Seals, the National Association of Area Agencies on Aging, and Westat.

WORKING BRIDGES™

Since 2007, United Way has partnered with employers to develop innovative practices to directly improve the retention, productivity, advancement, and financial stability of low- to moderate-wage employees. Working Bridges is unique in that the services and practices provided are supported by the employers and offered at the workplace rather than in the community. Employees can access assistance while at work and then get back on the job. The employers are active in and committed to the development of services and systems change and recognize Working Bridges as an investment in their entire workforce. To date, Working Bridges has developed and implemented several programs designed to improve the overarching

goal of economic independence for employees and their families. These include:

- **Shared Resource Coordinators**
Coordinators work on-site at workplaces and are available to employees to provide resources and coaching so that employees can solve problems that are getting in the way of work such as transportation, child care and financial issues.
- **Income Advance Loan Program**
Employers partner with local credit unions to provide emergency money, credit building and savings opportunities for employees.
- **On-site Mobile Tax Program**
Trained volunteers visit workplaces and assist employees to prepare their tax returns and access the Earned Income Tax Credit.
- **Earn it, Keep it, Grow it!**
This financial education series of five one-hour workshops and follow-up financial coaching provides employees with tools to learn about setting financial goals, developing spending plans,

understanding credit, savings, and asset building.

- **English at Work**
This pilot delivered English language classes at worksites to address concerns such as employer and employee misunderstandings, safety and workers' apprehension about communicating with co-workers. Although community-based instruction is available in a variety of locations, English at Work is designed to address language needed be successful on the job. Holding classes at the workplace and on company time alleviates barriers such as child care and transportation and/ or class time conflicts with work schedules of employees.



**United Way of
Northwest Vermont**

PROUDLY SERVING CHITTENDEN, FRANKLIN AND GRAND ISLE COUNTIES

(802) 864-7541 • UNITEDWAYNWVT.ORG