

Project Overview – Rehabilitation of VYCC Farmhouse
2083 East Main Street
Richmond, VT 05477

Each year, the Vermont Youth Conservation Corps (VYCC) offers hundreds of paying service positions to youth and young adults between the ages of 15 & 26. VYCC Corps Members complete a wide array of conservation and agriculture projects, all of which steward wild spaces, working lands, and human communities. This project is focused on the Farm at VYCC – more specifically, we are seeking funds to rehabilitate our farmhouse, which provides housing for VYCC fulltime staff and AmeriCorps Members. All residents on the farmhouse meet the low/moderate income (LMI) thresholds.

The farmhouse currently has five different sections – three apartments (two 3-bedroom and one 2-bedroom), a shared kitchen, and a basement; there are currently 7 people living in the farmhouse. Each resident of the farmhouse has to live on campus to fulfill their VYCC responsibilities. Further, AmeriCorps members consistently share that they would not be able to participate if housing were not provided. With rehabilitation, it's possible to add capacity for more residents, potentially as many as 13. VYCC is working with town administrators to ensure compliance with zoning regulations and to secure necessary permits.

In addition to the jobs created/retained for these LMI residents, the Farm at VYCC hosts the *Health Care Share*, one of Vermont's largest CSA's. The Health Care Share is unique in that all 415 share families are food insecure. VYCC established the Health Care Share in partnership with hospitals and medical centers. These health care institutions identify patients who are food insecure and then help distribute the food we grow. Furthermore, the Farm at VYCC offers seasonal paid service positions to approximately 40 additional youth and young adults each year. Rehabilitation of this housing structure, then, supports not just housing and economic development, but also provides a direct public service benefit.

VYCC does not yet have an estimate for total rehabilitation costs, though we are working with a local building firm to secure this. We have secured \$35,000 for a new roof, which will be completed next month. In addition to these funds, VYCC is prepared to provide a minimum of 10% match as required.

This is a tremendous opportunity to support young adults who are serving our community, and VYCC is appreciative of the town of Richmond's consideration of the accompanying resolution. We are confident in our ability to submit a strong and compelling proposal. And, of equal importance, we are committed and have the capacity to support any and all related reporting requirements for this grant program.

Thank you.

Breck Knauft
Executive Director, VYCC

RESOLUTION FOR VCDP GRANT APPLICATION AUTHORITY

Single Applicant

WHEREAS, the town of Richmond, VT (hereinafter "Applicant") is applying for a Grant under the Vermont Community Development Program; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary that an application be made and agreements be entered into with the State of Vermont.

Now, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

1. that Applicant possesses the legal authority as defined in the State Act [10 VSA §683(8)] to apply for the grant and to administer the program; and
2. that Applicant apply for a grant under the terms and conditions of said program and agree hereby to enter into Certifications and Assurances there of; and
3. the Applicant has a duly adopted and current Municipal Plan approved on 11/6/2018 and that the project is consistent with said plan; and
4. the Applicant has communicated with the Regional Planning Commission about this project, and is working to secure a formal letter of that affirms this project is in alignment with "Regional Plan"
5. that Finance Director Connie Bona is hereby authorized to be Contact Person and as such to provide, on behalf of Applicant, all documents and information necessary for the completion of said application and to provide such coordination as may be necessary for said application; and
6. that Josh Arneson, Town Manager, is hereby designated to serve as the Authorizing Official (AO) for the Grants Management On-line System, Intelligrants; and
7. that it is understood that, if the application is funded, the receipt of VCDP funds, as federal funds passed through the State of Vermont, may require that an audit of the Applicant be conducted under the provisions of the Single Audit Act, as amended, and that VCDP funds may be used to fund only a limited portion of the audit cost.

Passed this 2nd day of August, 2021.

_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Christine Werneke	David Sander	Bard Hill	June Heston	Cody Quattrocci

The above resolution is a true and correct copy of the resolution as adopted at a meeting of the Legislative Body held on the 2nd day of August 2021, and duly filed in my office.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I hereunto set my hand this ____ day of _____, ____.

Clerk Signature

For publication on or before 8/18/2021
Tear Sheet Requested.

Notice of Public Hearing

The Town of Richmond Town of Richmond, VT is/are considering making application to the State of Vermont for a VCDP Implementation Grant 2021 under the Vermont Community Development Program. A public hearing will be held at 7:00 PM on 9/7/2021 at 203 Bridge St. Richmond, VT to obtain the views of citizens on community development, to furnish information concerning the amount of funds available and the range of community development activities that may be undertaken under this program, the impact to any historic and archaeological resources that may be affected by the proposed project, and to give affected citizens the opportunity to examine the proposed statement of projected use of these funds.

The proposal is to apply for \$500,000 in VCDP funds which will be used to accomplish the following activities: For rehabilitation of White Farmhouse, 2083 East Main Street, property of the Vermont Youth Conservation Corps. This Farmhouse provides housing for VYCC participants and staff and thus serves as an essential resource for VYCC's paid service programs and food security efforts. Funds would both expand capacity to house people and provide greatly needed weatherization to this structure.

Copies of the proposed application are available at 203 Bridge St. Richmond VT and may be viewed during the hours of 8am - 4pm Monday - Thursday. . Should you require any special accommodations, please contact Josh Arneson at 802-434-5170 to ensure appropriate accommodations are made. For the hearing impaired please call (TTY) #1-800-253-0191.

Legislative Body for the Town of Richmond
Copy submitted by: Josh Arneson
Phone: 802-434-5170

Send tear sheet to: Josh Arneson
PO Box 285
Richmond, VT 05477