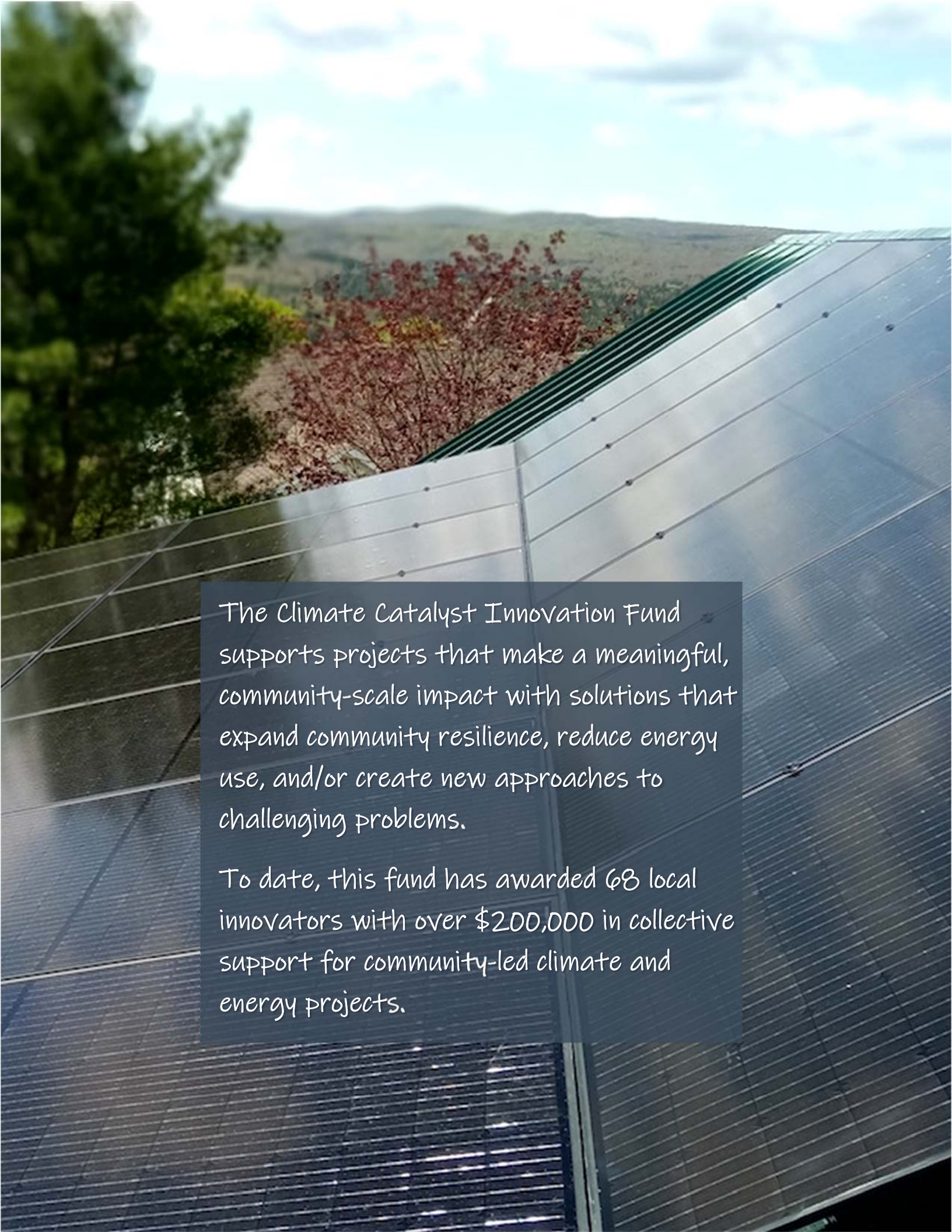
Climate Catalyst Innovation Fund

2022-23 Report

Produced by:

Vermont Council on Rural Development

Unleashing the power of Vermonters to create a better future



The Climate Catalyst Innovation Fund supports projects that make a meaningful, community-scale impact with solutions that expand community resilience, reduce energy use, and/or create new approaches to challenging problems.

To date, this fund has awarded 68 local innovators with over $200,000 in collective support for community-led climate and energy projects.

Climate Catalysts Innovation Fund

2022-2023 Report of Awardees

In late fall 2022, VCRD implemented the second round of the Climate Catalysts Innovation Fund – a small, catalytic grant program for local innovative climate projects. In this round, $82,912 in small grants of $500 to $4,000 were awarded to 25 local projects developing solutions that move Vermont closer to its climate and energy goals. Funded projects were chosen by a team of VCRD staff and the Climate Economy Initiative Advisory Committee including member representatives from VSECU, Vermont Energy and Climate Action Network (VECAN), the Regional Planning Commissions and Efficiency Vermont. In making award decisions, we look for projects that are innovative, replicable, collaborative, equitable, and have positive climate/energy impacts.

Thanks to the generous support of Vermont Low Income Trust for Electricity (VLITE), Vermont State Employees Credit Union (VSECU), and Vermont Community Foundation Funds including the Sunflower Fund who together provided funding for this second round.

A third grant round was awarded at the end of 2023 and a fourth round will be announced in late summer 2024. Join the VCRD email list at vtrural.org to stay informed.

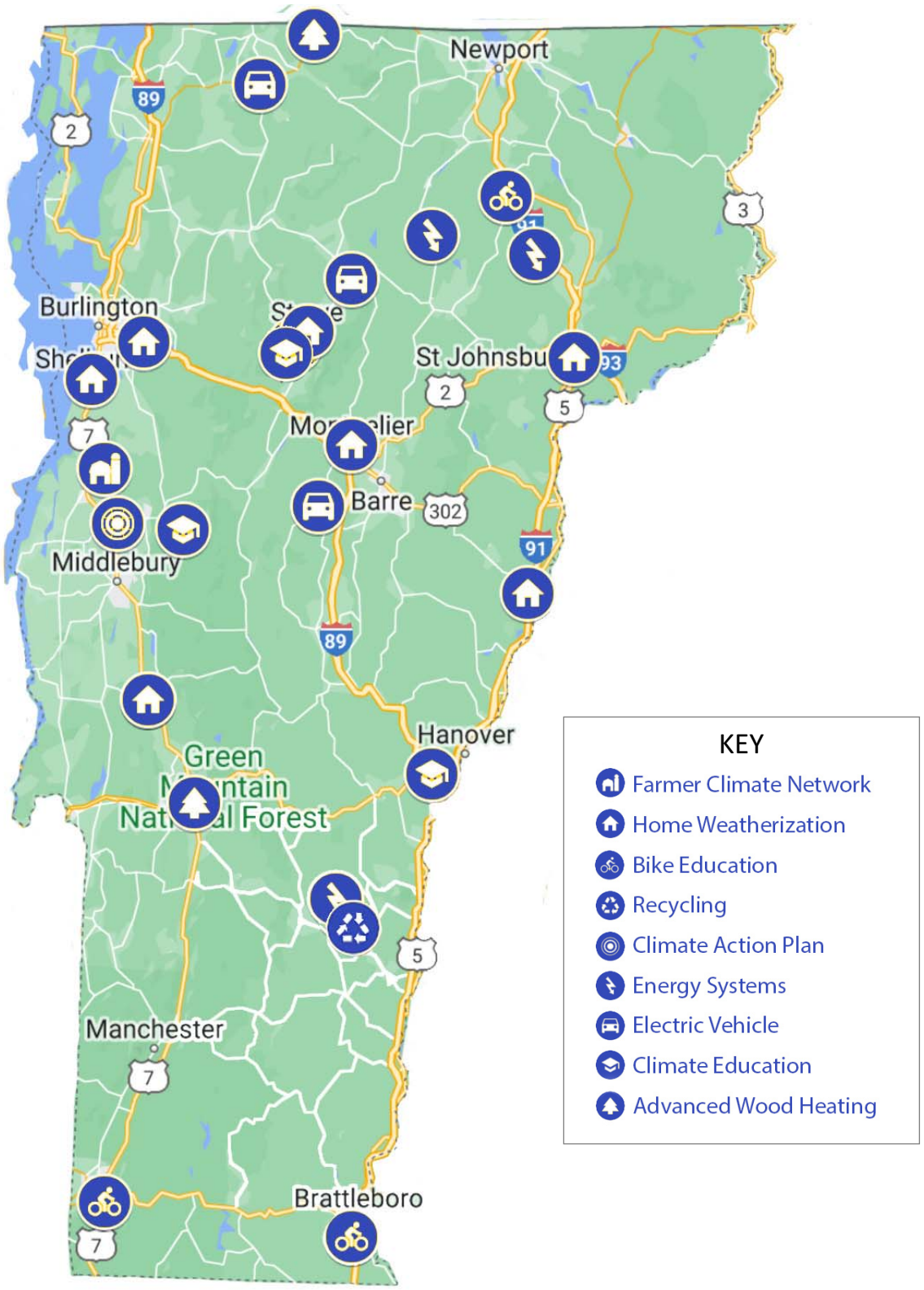
This report describes outcomes of second round projects in the words of the awardees. We appreciate the dedication and efforts of each team and the collective impact of the work for Vermont's future.

All the best,

Laura Cavin Bailey
Climate Economy Program Manager

Location of Funded Projects

For an Interactive map of project locations, types, and descriptions:
https://www.google.com/maps/d/u/0/viewer?mid=1hYZMYKaTsamvUUwgpPXVJFiPSsR1eHM&ll=43.916991502026995%2C-72.5948967&z=8



Climate Catalysts Innovation Fund

2022-2023 Awardees

Here's a snapshot of outcomes of each project in the words of the awardees.

Addison County Relocalization Network (ACORN) | acornvt.org

Project: $3,975 to help the Climate Economy Action Center of Addison County create a farmer-led network committed to mitigating the effects of climate change on the local foodshed. The network will host regular climate-focused farmer events and provide opportunities for peer to peer sharing among the farmers.

Outcome: We started with farmer outreach by asking local producers how a Farmer Climate Network (FCN) could best serve them. The response was overwhelmingly NOT to host expert panels, but instead to create spaces for farmers to talk to each other, socialize, and create working bees – days when groups of farmers and volunteers lend a helping hand on a half-day or full-day project that otherwise would be hard to accomplish. To launch the FCN, we hosted a Halloween-themed farmer gratitude party at the ACORN Food Hub, complete with a taco bar, wellness bar with DIY bath salt mixes, a masseuse offering neck/shoulder massage for farmers, and a DJ. We asked farmers to bring their ideas for working bees we will be hosting this winter and spring. We are also co-hosting an event at Middlebury College on Healthy Watersheds to further spread the word of the network as well as engaging with local media and writing articles.

The Bike Hub | ourbikehub.com

Project: $3,976 to enhance the local bicycling culture by providing community members with safe refurbished bicycles and safety supplies, training for safe operation, and educational programs that help people feel more comfortable using bicycles as a regular mode of transportation.

In partnership with the Bennington County Sheriff's Department we held a bike rodeo focused on youth riders – a simple obstacle course to help explore riding skills and safety in a fun and accessible way.

Outcome: As a result of the Climate Catalyst funding and other support, we built an educational and outreach program that reached 605 people through 16 community events including focused bike rodeos, maintenance workshops, and tabling. One of the highlights has been the inclusion of the Smoothie Bike into our outreach programs. It is a great way to have someone make the connection between their pedaling (even when stationary), energy, and the impact of energy. One of the main goals of this project was to ensure access to bicycles for those in need. In combination with other funded work, we have given away 66 refurbished bikes with associated safety gear and safety instruction since August 2022 mainly for people who require bicycles for primary transportation. These refurbished bikes include embedded carbon and energy which now has a second life. Again, in combination with other funded work, the Climate Catalyst funding has helped to support the distribution of safety equipment (helmet, lights, lock, vest) for cyclists along with a safe riding brief. To date, we have distributed 200 safety & security items including 62 helmets, 73 locks, 44 lights, and 21 other items.

BurnRight Vermont / International Cryosphere Climate Initiative | burnrightvermont.org

Project: $600 to help educate and inform Vermonters on how to burn wood cleanly and more efficiently.

Outcome: BurnRight Vermont (BRVT) has been active since 2016 both statewide and in concentrating on targeted regions of the state. BRVT has worked with Rutland over the years, in particular with Rutland Project Vision, which is an umbrella organization of groups and organizations that are working hard to revitalize the city and the region. In this grant cycle, we met again with Project Vision and continued to distribute brochures among stove sellers, chimney sweeps and other similar organizations. These groups are now well aware of the issue of inefficient wood burning and are very supportive of our mission. On a statewide level, BRVT participated in and distributed 1,000 brochures and information at the VECAN conference and the VCRD Vermont Community Leadership Summit; and presented to the Jericho Energy Committee. BRVT has long experience that people are grateful for and receptive to information about cleaner and more economical wood burning, and are interested in spreading the word.

Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission | centralvtplanning.org

Project: $4,000 to help the Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission pursue a regional approach to municipal weatherization efforts with the goal of expanding impacts and participation of lowest income residents, streamlining funding to subsidize inserts, connecting teams with existing regional and state efforts, integrating existing weatherization program materials and expertise into home visits and Window Dressers community builds, and streamlining volunteer and participant outreach.

Outcome: We held several virtual round table conversations with local town energy champions and regional and state partners, identifying key barriers and opportunities to collaborate on integrating existing weatherization programs and expertise into WindowDressers home visits and community builds to expand the impact and efficiency/outreach for residents across the board. Due to the July 2023 flooding, capacity was extremely limited from regional and state partners and it was unclear if the community builds would happen during a key outreach and measuring stage of the program, thus little outreach was conducted.

Despite this, when hosts were confirmed, waitlists were utilized, resulting in over 380 inserts being built at the two ambitious builds - a clear indication of the sustained community interest in and impact of the program. We will continue these efforts in 2024 to build off the connections made and implement a regional approach maximizing impact to and participation of lowest income residents (subsidizing inserts, integrating onsite weatherization to insert measuring home visits, etc), streamlining volunteer and participant outreach, and expanding to additional community builds via cohort on-boarding.

Climate Economy Action Center of Addison County | ceacac.org

Project: $4,000 to help the Climate Economy Action Center of Addison County (CEAC) organize and support Climate Action Teams to make measurable progress in reducing greenhouse gasses through building electrification initiatives; and develop and support a Climate Action Coalition of community partners engaged in climate justice initiatives, climate-friendly activities, sustainable business practices, and others who play important roles as Addison County tackles the climate crisis.

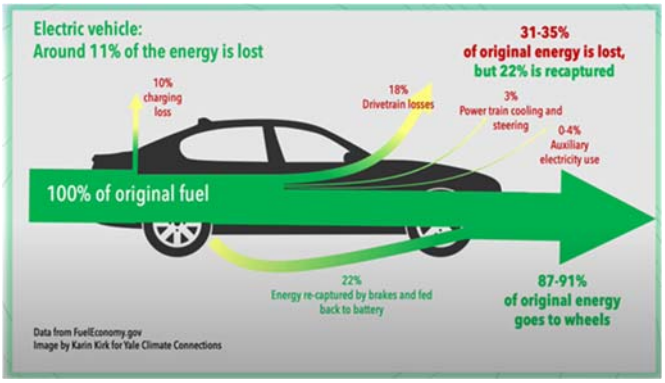
Outcome: The funds provided helped to support our decision to focus our residential decarbonization team's work on a new Energy Navigator initiative. CEAC's mission is to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in Addison County. We know that residential heating fuels contribute significantly to Addison County's greenhouse gas emissions. We know from surveys, data, and many, many conversations that people care deeply about these issues and want to do something. And we also know that despite the existence of programs, rebates and incentives, there are still many homes that need to be weatherized and upgraded to electrical cold-climate heat pumps. We asked, "How can we support members of our community in reducing their home's greenhouse gas emissions?" CEAC's Energy Navigator Project is one answer. It is designed as one-on-one guidance to provide residents with the resources they need to decarbonize their homes. In particular, the funds helped CEAC pay for 6 months of contracted staff to research the current landscape of related energy programs and incentives, and develop a draft Navigator guide book and related coaching protocols and processes. We will be testing these materials and rolling out a pilot program during the first half of 2024. We are currently fundraising to support the program during and beyond the pilot phase. Lastly, we are continuing to explore how to ensure that our programs and initiatives are serving low-income, BIPOC and other marginalized groups. In particular, we contracted with Spreading Justice LLC and its principal Elijah Justice to help us with strategic planning, we worked with a Middlebury College class focused on these issues, and built the needs of these groups into the design of the Navigator Project.

Craftsbury Public Library | craftsburypubliclibrary.org

Project: $4,000 to help the Craftsbury Public Library Resilience Center Project with the installation of roof mounted solar panels and battery backup to provide essential information and internet services to Craftsbury and surrounding communities during power outages, provide power to the Craftsbury Food Share, and serve as an aspirational and replicable demonstration model for comparable small institutions and towns seeking to increase resilience by providing essential services during power outages.

Outcome: CCIF funds helped the Craftsbury Public Library Resilience Center Project with the installation of roof mounted solar panels and battery backup which will make it possible during power outages to provide essential information, internet connection for Craftsbury and surrounding communities, power to the Craftsbury Food Share, and serve as an aspirational and replicable demonstration model for comparable small institutions and towns seeking to increase resilience by providing essential services during power outages. An added benefit is that the excess solar production being generated will allow us to capture some of its value through the installation of a couple Level II EV chargers which will fund the installation of a cold climate heat pump.

Green Driving America | greendrivingamerica.org



Project: $3,910 to work with Vermont STEM educators and driver educators to show student drivers about cost savings, CO2 emission and fossil fuel use reductions, improved air quality and health benefits of low- to zero-emission vehicles, smart driving practices, and alternatives to driving.

Outcome: Green Driving America's Clean Transportation Path© project featured 23 clean transportation and transportation efficiency webinar presentations to 374 students in Vermont high school classes. The presentations were given mostly by trained college level interns, recruited from Vermont and New Hampshire colleges (UVM, Middlebury, Dartmouth) or by GDA executive director Wayne Michaud in a few cases when the interns were not available. Some of the presentations included a Q & A / discussion period. Two variations of the workshop were presented:

• Green Driving from the Start© was given chiefly in driver education classes. Student drivers were shown the benefits of smart driving tips (such as accelerate and brake smoothly, watch speed, avoid unnecessary idling), which would yield reductions in CO2 emissions, energy waste, air pollution, fuel use and maintenance costs, plus how these practices make one a safer driver (an emphasis placed in driver education instruction), plus segments on low- to zero-emission vehicles, and alternatives to driving.

• The Clean Transportation Path was given in science related STEM classes. Students were shown the benefits of low- to zero-emission vehicles, featuring all-electrics including how EVs operate and differ from traditional gas vehicles, maintenance costs typically one-half of gas vehicles, the impact of EVs being 4/5ths energy efficient vs gas powered vehicles being 1/5th efficient, details on plug-in vehicle charging and Vermont's growing charging station infrastructure, Vermont incentives for new and used EVs and federal tax credits for new EVs, and how EVs perform in cold weather, plus a segment on alternatives to driving.

Kimball Wellness Association | jess-kimball.com

Project: $4,000 to help Kimball Wellness Association build a solar powered mobile clinic to provide basic reproductive health care measures to Vermont residents including doula support, PAP smears, STD testing, lactation counseling, fitness and wellness classes, and new parent education workshops.

Outcome: CCIF funds helped us take the tiny house mobile reproductive health clinic completely off grid. The solar powered mobile clinic allows us to provide basic reproductive health care measures to Vermont residents including doula support, PAP smears, STD testing, lactation counseling, fitness and wellness classes, and new parent education workshops.

Lincoln Library | lincolnlibraryvt.com

Project: $4,000 to provide supplemental funding for the construction of a sun pavilion with a surrounding pollinator garden that will enable the library to offset the energy required for a new, high-efficiency air-to-water heat pump system; provide an outdoor gathering and teaching space for library patrons; and teach patrons about the importance of pollinator habitats.

Outcome: CCIF funding supplemented funds from EBSCO (an international company that provides a range of products and

services to libraries and schools across the globe) and private donations to fully construct a sun pavilion and start to establish a pollinator garden. The pavilion is a solar panel array constructed in such a way that it also serves as an outdoor gathering and teaching space for library patrons. Since January 2023, the array has generated 13,382 Kilowatt-Hours, enabling the library to offset the energy required for a new, high-efficiency air-to-water heat pump system. To provide habitat for pollinators and other beneficial insects (as well as teach patrons about the importance of these habitats), the grant allowed us to begin the process of installing a pollinator plant garden beside the sun pavilion. While we have yet to install the plants, we were able to prepare a bed and have temporarily placed new pollinator plants in an established garden; we will move these over to the pollinator garden when the bed is ready in Spring 2024.

SolarFest, Inc. | solarfest.org

Project: $2,250 to offer a "Do It Ourselves" program to train volunteers and clients (especially low-income homeowners and apartment dwellers, as well as their landlords) in successfully weatherizing homes with simple steps and basic tools and materials that they purchase on a 'pay what you can afford' basis.

Outcome: CCIF funds made it possible to purchase weatherization tools and materials and train both volunteers and clients to weatherize homes at the "Weatherization Training & Materials Distribution Day" on a 'pay what you can afford' basis. We publicized the event and our team of professionally trained weatherization volunteers taught participants how to install weather-stripping, caulk, spray foam, window covers, outlet/switch insulation, door sweeps, and energy efficient light bulbs. Our primary target audience included low income homeowners and apartment dwellers in Brandon VT, as well as their landlords.

Town of Bradford Energy Committee | bradford-vt.us/departments/energy-committee

Project: $1,000 to support a Window Dressers Community Build project for residents where custom fit interior storm panels, offered at reduced or no cost, are made by volunteers.

Outcome: The Bradford Energy committee took part in the "WindowDressers" program – a week-long, volunteer-powered workshop for building interior storm windows. Similar to a "barn-raising," customers and volunteers join together to manufacture the made-to-measure window inserts. One average-sized window insert is estimated to save about 10 gallons of heating fuel, savings that both benefits the user and lowers greenhouse gas emissions. This year was the first time Bradford held its own community build (using the Fire Department classroom) and we met our goal of 208 inserts for a total of 25 local households. An important

underlying principle of WindowDressers is that the inserts be made available to everyone, regardless of their financial situation. Grant funds covered the material costs of inserts for two households that would otherwise have gone without. These customers, like every other, donated their labor at the workshop. Our build totaled about 60 customers and volunteers who put in 500 volunteer hours of shared work. Although the increased warmth and savings that the WindowDresser inserts provide for individual households is of course significant, the benefit of shared work is also very valuable. It was evident that the experience was pleasurable and served to provide an opportunity to make connections in the community as well as help increase awareness of the benefits of weatherization. Without the ability to subsidize customers who need it, this would be a fundamentally different kind of program.

Town of Brandon Energy Committee | townofbrandon.com/town-committees/energy-committee

Project: $3,600 to purchase two electric-assist bicycles with safety and storage accessories for the Brandon Town Library in partnership with the local bike shop, Frog Hollow Bikes, that library patrons can use and checkout.

Outcome: Grant funds allowed us to purchase two electric-assist bicycles with locks and digital trackers in partnership with the local bike shop, Frog Hollow Bikes. The bikes were purchased for Brandon Town Library patrons to use and checkout.

Town of Cavendish Energy Committee cavendishvt.com/news/tag/Energy+Committee

Project: $780 to help the Cavendish Energy Committee rebrand and redesign their local Transfer Station to raise the public's awareness of recycling and how a reduction in the waste stream affects greenhouse gas emissions.

Outcome: We rebranded our Cavendish Transfer Station, commonly referred to as "the dump," with a new professionally designed logo and the design of signage for the entrance and throughout the facility. We recycle through several streams, including composting household and yard waste. Once installed, this signage will help raise awareness of recycling and how it affects greenhouse gas emissions. This rebranding effort also creates an opportunity to advertise and publicize to our residents the benefits of increasing the volume of recycling and composting and decreasing the waste stream.

Town of Glover Energy Committee | townofglover.com/glover-energy-committee

Project: $4,000 to purchase 2 electric-assist bicycles for the "library loan" program as a way to familiarize community members with the benefits of electric bikes as a transportation alternative.

Outcome: We purchased 2 electric bicycles - a Trek Verve+3 and a Gazelle - to make available to our community through a "library loan" from the Glover Library. Lending bikes insures equal access to all just as borrowing a library book, and having 2 available promotes the sharing of the electric bicycle experience. This effort will help familiarize more of our community with electric bikes as they may ultimately consider purchasing one for themselves, and cuts down on fossil fuel use via this electric transportation alternative.

Town of Guilford Energy Committee | guilfordvt.gov

Project: $2,971 to purchase two electric-assist bicycles to be stored and deployed via the Guilford Public Library, generate a map of local resources to direct the electric bicycle patrons to these local points of interest, and create an integrated framework for deployment of electric bicycles for rural locations throughout Vermont.

Outcome: Two electric-assist bikes, and associated safety gear, were purchased to establish a rural-based eBike borrowing program at the library. So far, this lending program has resulted in users signing up for a library card that hadn't previously, users exploring new areas within our local community, and some indicated that they are considering purchasing an electric-assist bike after such a good experience with the Guilford eBike program.

Town of Hartford Energy Commission | hartford-vt.org/2509/Energy-Commission

Project: $4,000 to offer training in construction related skills, energy efficient building techniques, solar, and HVAC systems, and basic certifications to approximately 20 women in the Hartford/Hartland area through the "Vermont Works for Women" Trailblazer's Green training program.

Outcome: These funds helped to bring Vermont Works for Women's Trailblazers program to Hartford. 15 women attended classes in the evenings and weekends to learn basic construction skills with a focus on energy efficiency. They also spent time working with Cover, a local non-profit that works with low-income homeowners to make energy saving home improvements. Six of those students also took Vermont Adult Learning's heat pump class the following week and earned their EPA certificates to handle heat pump refrigerant.

Town of Northfield Energy Committee | northfield-vt.gov/energy-committee

Project: $4,000 to install a Level 2 EV charger in downtown Northfield.

Outcome: In fall 2023, the town of Northfield installed a Blink series 6 Level 2 electric vehicle charging station in Depot Square. This installation was made possible through the many efforts of past and present members of the Northfield Energy Committee. Special thanks to Sarah Wolfe, Pat Meehan, and Joe Wantuch who developed a report for the Northfield Selectboard to review, and based on the report the selectboard voted to approve the EV installation with additional funding. We are excited to share that this EV station will be available for the Northfield community in the near future.

Town of Sheffield | sheffieldvt.org

Project: $4,000 to install a solar array to become more carbon-neutral and save money on its purchase of power.

Outcome: $4,000 went toward the purchase of a solar array for the town offices. Additional funds for the project came from state and federal FEMA grants. The solar array will help Sheffield become more carbon neutral as well as save money on its purchase of power.

Town of Shelburne Climate Action Working Group | shelburnevt.org

Project: $1,200 to support the Window Dressers weatherization program and community build for up to 8 low-income households in Shelburne and Charlotte.

Outcome: We held the WindowDressers community build in fall 2023, however the participants from Shelburne were not in need of subsidies. We are fully committed to using the grant funds to assist low-income households with WindowDressers inserts in next fall's community build. We are actively collaborating with the Shelburne Food Shelf, who are helping us connect with clients in need of assistance with weatherization and are also reaching out to Climate Catalyst grantees in Bennington, Wardsboro, and Northeastern Orange County who received funding for WindowDressers for tips for recruiting low-income participants. We know there are many people in need in our town and we will strenuously reach out to them. This year we successfully proposed that our Selectboard establish an official Climate & Energy Committee. Our committee now has eight members greatly extending our capacity to organize and execute programs. The committee's priority is weatherization and we are assisting the Town with a MERP grant for town building energy audits. We plan to hold a cold climate heat pump info session this winter.

Town of Stowe Electric Department | stoweelectric.com

Project: $3,900 to provide University of Vermont students the ability to study with renewable energy specialists on-site, during remote online meetings, and receive feedback on their capstone projects during a midterm review and final project assessment.

Outcome: Stowe Electric Department (SED) organized and hosted a Sustainable Design Charrette on October 24th at the Green Mountain Technical & Career Center in Hyde Park. In attendance were 23 students from UVM, Norwich University, VSC-Johnson and Stowe High School, as well as professors, teachers, community members, and 10 professionals in the architecture or engineering fields. For many of the college students, the charrette was a part of their Capstone projects, and the event provided the opportunity for students to connect with renewable energy and sustainable design specialists; students working in groups of 5-6, alongside at least one professional architect or engineer. The day culminated with student presentations on their proposed design ideas for a building on Stowe Electric's property, fielding questions from the audience and fellow student participants, and discussing ways in which the building can meet both community needs and incorporate sustainable design and renewable energy.

Town of Stowe Electric Department | stoweelectric.com

Project: $3,750 to cover the construction costs of 90 pine high-efficiency window inserts for use in residential homes and constructed by volunteers, Town staff, and those receiving the inserts through a partnership with Efficiency Vermont and Window Dressers (a Maine non-profit) to bring these inserts to low-income Vermonters.

Outcome: Funds helped us put on the first annual Lamoille County WindowDressers Build. The WindowDressers program brings community volunteers of all economic and social situations together to improve the warmth and comfort of interior spaces, lower heating costs, and reduce carbon dioxide pollution by producing low-cost insulating window inserts that function as custom, interior-mounted storm windows. In its first year, this event built 323 windows for 40 households – the largest build in Vermont's history! The free inserts are paid for with grant funds and donations.

Town of Williston Energy Committee | town.williston.vt.us

Project: $3,000 to conduct targeted outreach about incentives for household electrification and weatherization made possible with the passage of the Inflation Reduction Act to low and moderate-income households with outdated heating systems and/or homes in need of weatherization.

Outcome: Funding helped us develop a home energy survey that was mailed out to 525 Williston households with high energy burdens, including over 200 mobile homes. We purchased a FLIR TG 165-X thermal camera to donate to the local library to be loaned out to local residents to identify air leaks in their homes, and a pop-up canopy tent and easels to support the Energy Committee's outreach efforts. We engaged the services of a local graphic designer to create a logo to "brand" the Williston Energy Committee's weatherization outreach campaign and purchased weatherization materials to be given to households in need of materials for DIY weatherization projects.

Universalist Unitarian Congregation of St Johnsbury | stjuuc.org

Project: $4,000 to improve the thermal efficiency of our historic Meeting House, as a prelude to transitioning to heat pumps as the primary heat source, by constructing and installing custom window insets in the Sanctuary and, as funds allow, making other efficiency improvements, such as reducing air leakage, and improving the insulation of the walls and roof.

Outcome: With CCIF funding, we completed the first phase of improving thermal efficiency of the Meeting House by replacing 2 windows with insulated windows, conducted an energy audit, and replaced ice roof brackets to stop water from rotting the window frames. We are undertaking additional energy conservation work on our Meetinghouse including insulation of the basement walls and further window repairs and upgrades to assure that the building is insulated sufficiently before considering installation of heat pumps.

Vermont Natural Forest Products | vermontnaturalforestproducts.com

Project: $4,000 to help update and automate a wood heating pellet mill in Richford with the goals of providing a reliable and affordable heating source locally, increasing regional job opportunities, and providing an avenue for sales of local wood.

Outcome: We updated and automated a wood heating pellet mill in Richford in order to provide a reliable and affordable heating source locally, increasing regional job opportunities, and providing an avenue for sales of local wood. With this we were able to leverage and support other grant funding and perform updates to the infeed, increasing efficiency and improving output.

Village of Enosburg Falls | villageofenosburgfalls.org

Project: $4,000 to install an EV charging station for public use.

Outcome: Grant funds supported the installation of an EV charger in the village of Enosburg for public use. Enosburg is one of the gate way towns for Canadian travelers, and prior to this installation, the closest EV charging station was 17 miles away with none between St. Albans, VT and the Canadian border. The new EV charger will help reduce "range anxiety" for community members and visitors that travel the northern part of Vermont. In the first year the charger saw over 200 visits from both visitors and local residents.

Climate Catalysts Innovation Fund Press

Some media and news articles of funded projects:

VCRD's Climate Catalyst Innovation Fund Supports 25 Local Projects, 11/17/23 https://vermontbiz.com/news/2022/november/17/vcrd%E2%80%99s-climate-catalyst-innovation-fund-supports-25-local-projects?ct=t(EENEWS_11_17_2022).

Vermont Natural Forest Products and Village of Enosburg Win Awards from Climate Catalyst Fund https://www.samessenger.com/news/vermont-natural-forest-products-and-village-of-enosburg-win-awards-from-climate-catalyst-fund/article_6b622c78-652a-11ed-a42a-07e03a863229.html.

West Glover Solar Array Completed https://bartonchronicle.com/west-glover-solar-array-completed/.

Town Energy Committee Unite to Weatherize Brandon, SolarFest, https://www.rutlandherald.com/news/local/solarfest-town-energy-committee-unite-to-weatherize-brandon/article_7f71439c-13ac-539a-ba3e-e4b555913808.html.

Bradford Window Dressers, Journal Opinion 11/30/22 https://online.jonews.com/Journal-Opinion-11302022-e-Edition/1/

Check Out E-Bikes, Barton Chronicle – 5/17/23 "https://bartonchronicle.com/check-out-e-bikes/

Raising the Sun Pavilion at the Lincoln Library, EBSCO post 3/30/23 https://www.ebsco.com/blogs/ebscopost/2371769/raising-sun-pavilion-lincoln-vermont-library.

Lincoln Library Goes Solar, Carbon Free –Addison Independent 12/15/23 https://www.addisonindependent.com/2022/12/15/lincoln-library-goes-solar-carbon-free/.

New Network Helps Farmers Connect, Talk Climate Change, Addison Independent 11/19/23 https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5627c620e4b0913312605f1f/t/6532ef86aea53543b15b4582/1697836935582/VFN+in+Addy+Indy+10.19.23.png.

Climate Group will help homeowners decarbonize, Addison Independent 9/14/23 https://www.addisonindependent.com/2023/09/14/climate-group-will-help-homeowners-decarbonize/.

Clean energy future hinges on workforce, Valley News 8/27/23 https://articles.vnews.com/Clean-Energy-Workforce-Must-Expand-52027540?mc_cid=2c5e849b87&mc_eid=f231e1cc9c.

Neighbors are working to 'Button Up Brandon', Brandon Reporter, 11/16/22 https://www.brandonreporter.com/2022/11/16/neighbors-are-working-to-button-up-brandon/.

Heating pellet venture launched in Richford, Vermont Electric Coop member news, 4/25/23 https://vermontelectric.coop/latest-news/member-spotlight-heating-pellet-venture-launched-in-richford-04-25-23.

Craftsbury Library Goes Solar, WCAX 7/5/23 https://www.wcax.com/2023/07/05/craftsbury-library-goes-solar/?utm_medium=email.

Historic mill into hydro plant, WCAX 7/6/23 https://www.wcax.com/2023/07/06/stowe-electric-restore-historic-mill-into-hydro-plant/?utm_medium=email.

Volunteers needed to help build affordable window inserts, News and Citizen 8/24/23 - https://www.vtcng.com/news_and_citizen/news/local_news/volunteers-needed-to-help-build-affordable-window-inserts/article_497f8906-427a-11ee-a5ce-ebde224f3986.html.

Williston Energy Committee Weatherize and Electrify Campaign—https://www.willistonvtenergycommittee.org/projects-and-events.

Thanks to the Generous Funders

Vermont Low Income Trust for Electricity (VLITE), VSECU, Sunflower Fund of the Vermont Community Foundation, and others provided $82,912 in funding to the second round Climate Catalysts Innovation Grants.

VLITE
Vermont Low Income Trust for Electricity

THE Vermont Community Foundation

VSECU EMPOWERING POSSIBILITIES

The Climate Catalysts Innovation Fund
is produced by:

Vermont Council on Rural Development
PO Box 1384, Montpelier VT 05601-1384
802-223-6091 | info@vtrural.org

vtrural.org