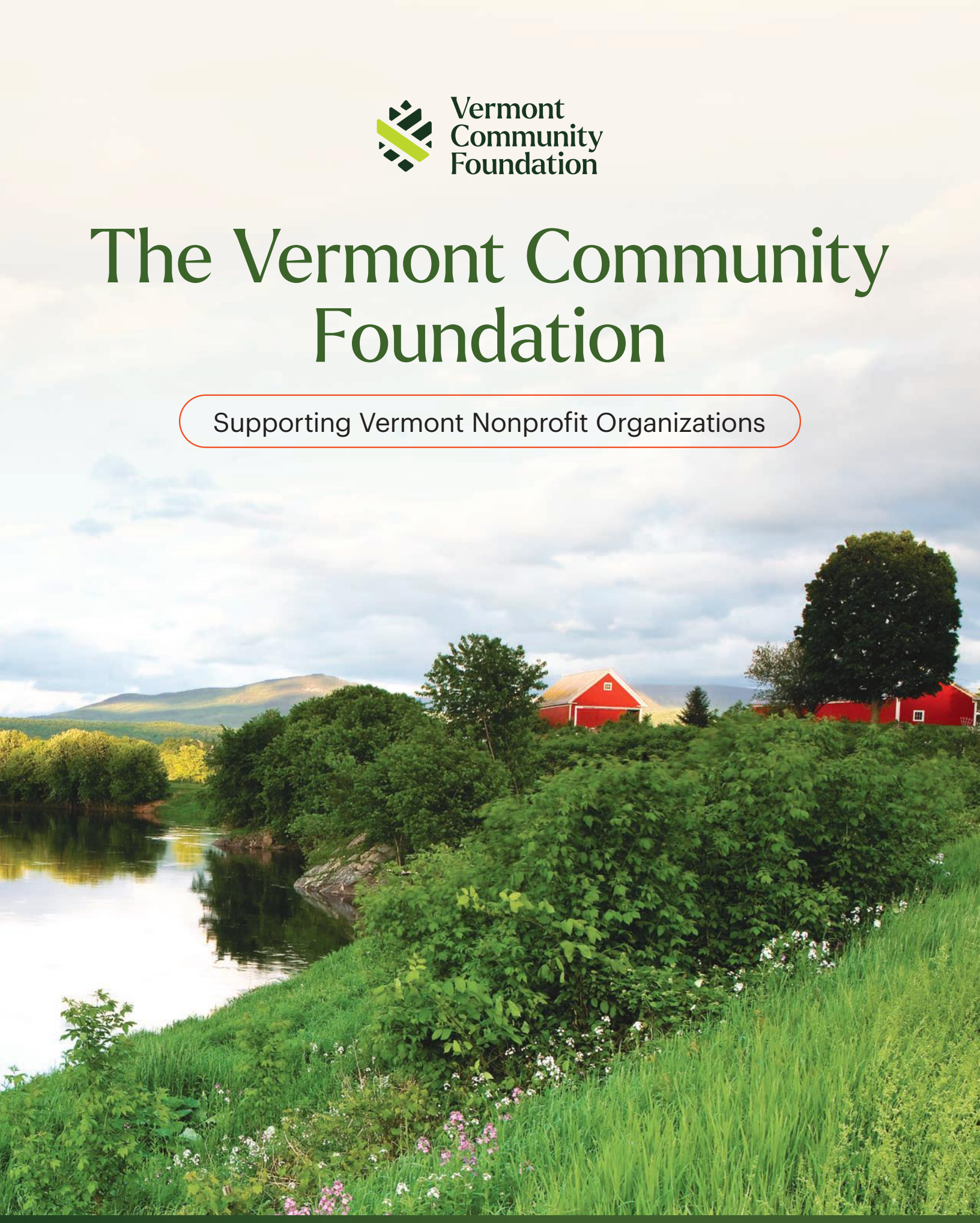
Vermont Community Foundation

The Vermont Community Foundation

Supporting Vermont Nonprofit Organizations



Our Nonprofit Funds

By choosing to establish a nonprofit fund at the Community Foundation, you are helping to build healthy and vital Vermont communities while gaining access to world-class investment services and receiving support from an organization whose only business is philanthropy. We currently manage nearly 200 nonprofit endowment funds for various nonprofits in the state, including the Vermont Land Trust, St. Johnsbury Athenaeum, Flynn Center for the Performing Arts, Chelsea Public Library, Northeast Organic Farming Association of Vermont (NOFA-VT), and Groundworks Collaborative.

Here's what to know about establishing a nonprofit endowment fund at VCF:	
Description	A fund that helps protect medium to long-term assets (typically endowment or quasi-endowment) while receiving relatively even annual distributions.
Minimum Contribution	$100,000to establish the fund; no gift minimum thereafter.
Access to Fund Balance	The Community Foundation is required to evaluate and approve any requests for fund distributions in excess of the annual distribution.
Annual Distribution	Currently 5% of the fund's 36-month rolling average balance is used to calculate the fund's annual distribution amount. The spending policy— for each investment pool—is reviewed and set annually by the Foundation's Board of Directors.
Supporting Fee	1.0% of the fund's market value annually. The minimum fee is $1,000. The minimum fee will be assessed to funds with balances below $100,000
Assets in the Fund	Unlike a traditional investment institution, a community foundation cannot legally manage assets it does not own. Therefore, fund assets become the property of the Vermont Community Foundation. This layer of separation often helps bolster the confidence of your donors regarding the long-term health of your organization and helps protect your assets from liability and litigation.





"The Community Foundation was our board's unanimous choice to manage our invested funds. They knew that we would get good returns and that we share the same values and the same hopes and dreams for Vermont's cities, towns, and villages. We know that the Vermont Community Foundation can manage our funds with our mission in mind."

Christopher Kaufman Ilstrup
Executive Director
Vermont Humanities

The Vermont Humanities' mission is to "connect with people across Vermont to create just, vibrant, and resilient communities and to inspire a lifelong love of learning." In addition to having nonprofit funds with us, they participate in our Planned Giving Program.

What We Offer

Competitive Grant Rounds

The Community Foundation is committed to building philanthropic resources that sustain healthy and vital Vermont communities, and one part of that work is making grants to nonprofit organizations across the state. We manage more than 20 grant rounds that support a breadth of issues such as hunger, housing, arts, social justice, civic vitality, equity, LGBTQ+ programming and support, youth leadership, environmental sustainability, and many others.

Learn More: vermontcf.org/AvailableGrants

Planned Giving Partnership Program

Any nonprofit organization with a fund at the Community Foundation can take advantage of our planned giving program, which includes these gift vehicles: charitable gift annuity (CGA), charitable remainder trust (CRT), and charitable lead trust (CLT). The program requires no upfront investment, additional staff training, or organizational liability—we handle all of the administrative and tax reporting details for you. Our staff works directly with you and your donors to review options and set up the best gift scenario possible.

World-class Investment Management

The Community Foundation works with Crewcial Partners—an independent investment consultant that manages $33 billion in assets and works with more than 120 clients—to offer low-fee, world-class investment management services for our fundholders.

Vermont Investments - Supporting the Local Economy

A portion of every fund at the Community Foundation is invested in the Vermont Mission Investment Pool. When you have a fund with us, five percent of the money is making a difference in the community right away through downtown redevelopment, affordable housing, entrepreneurship, job creation, clean energy, and more. This puts charitable investments alongside grantmaking for greater impact—with a return that is far more than just financial.

Online Education and Networking

We fund capacity-building resources such as Common Good Vermont and Vermont Professionals of Color Network.

Staff Expertise

Our staff is always here to help you with your needs, and we maintain strong connections with nonprofits throughout the state and stay abreast of local and national trends in grantmaking and giving.



Photo: Liz LaVorgna/core-photo.com

Creative Giving Solutions

A value I hold dearly is to leave my money to charities—let's call it investing in the common wealth of our community, our state, our country, and our world. And for my situation, charitable gift annuities work beautifully. I actually have a large portfolio of them, including 16 with the Vermont Community Foundation. It's stress free for me and provides the security of a fixed income along with the joy of giving.

Cheryl Wilfong Vermont Community Foundation fundholder

Pictured above are participants in "Coffee & Conversation - Stories of Homelessness." This photography and mixed-media collaboration brought together those who are experiencing/have experienced homelessness and those who have stable housing. It was promoted by Groundworks Collaborative, a nonprofit organization that provides ongoing support to families and individuals in the greater Brattleboro area who are facing a full continuum of housing and food insecurities.

Groundworks Collaborative has a nonprofit endowment fund at the Community Foundation and is also part of our Planned Giving Partnership Program. Fundholder Cheryl Wilfong has designated Groundworks Collaborative as a beneficiary of a charitable gift annuity.

Give where your heart lives.

Vermont Community Foundation

Contact Us:

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