

Vermont Community Foundation

Investments at the Vermont Community Foundation

The Vermont Community Foundation invests for lasting impact—balancing today's needs with long-term sustainability. Our approach combines a diversified Core Investment Pool with Vermont-focused mission investments, creating opportunities for greater philanthropic impact. Together, these strategies complement grantmaking and help ensure we can respond to emerging needs.

Investment Objective and Strategy

Our objective is to keep grantmaking power growing by targeting returns that outpace inflation, fees, and a sustainable rate of grantmaking from the fund, all while carefully managing risk through a diversified portfolio. Our strategy stays steady through the ups and downs of the market, focusing on long-term goals, rather than short-term swings—so your fund can keep making an impact over time.

Investment Management

Our investment program is guided by a dedicated investment committee, a sub-committee of the board made up of board members and other experienced local professionals who bring deep expertise and a strong commitment to Vermont. The committee works closely with Foundation staff, the board, and our investment consultant, Crewcial Partners, to review asset allocation, monitor performance, and select managers. Crewcial specializes in advising foundations and nonprofits, providing comprehensive world-class investment and portfolio management. Together, this team ensures your fund is managed with care, transparency, and a focus on maximizing your philanthropy for the long term.



Vermont Community Foundation Core Investment Pool

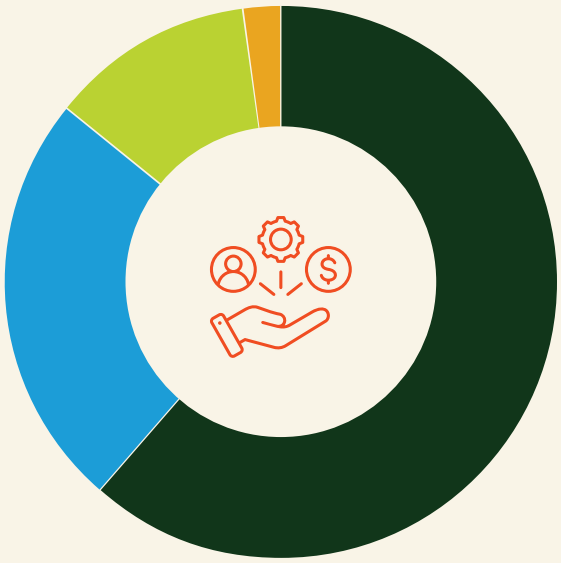
Springfield, VT manufacturing facility, courtesy of Mamava

The VCF Core Investment Pool is designed to deliver strong, long-term financial returns while investing in companies that demonstrate responsible practices toward the environment, communities, and leadership. We combine low-cost, passively screened investments with carefully chosen active managers who focus on both financial performance and positive social impact.

This approach reflects the VCF's commitment to strengthening civil society, protecting natural resources, supporting community vitality, and promoting economic resilience. Our investment managers are selected based on their ability to deliver solid returns while aligning with these core values.

The pool is regularly evaluated through both quantitative data and thoughtful qualitative analysis to ensure it continues to meet our standards for financial results and social responsibility. Crewcial uses their proprietary scoring framework to assess investment managers and portfolio holdings, with a focus on climate impact, energy transition, and diverse leadership. This added layer of insight strengthens alignment with the Foundation's values and helps guide conversations with managers about how their investments can contribute to a more just and sustainable future.

Asset Class Allocation



- Equity 61.5%
- Aggregate Fixed Income 24.5%
- Private Assets 12%
- Cash 2%

Estimated Investment Fees, *including third-party management fees:* ***.50%-.60%***

Over time, we will be reducing the allocation of private equity, which will reduce fees.

"We focus on the goals and values that lead people to partner with the Foundation—investing for long-term growth in service of the impact they want to see in Vermont and beyond."

— TIM BRIGLIN, CO-FOUNDER OF TUCKERMAN CAPITAL AND CHAIR OF THE VCF INVESTMENT COMMITTEE



Courtesy of High Mowing Organic Seeds

Mission Investing

Since 2001, the Vermont Community Foundation has been a leader in committing a portion of managed funds to mission investing—using assets to create positive social and environmental impact.

When you have a fund with us, five percent of your assets are invested in the Vermont Investment Pool. This means your investment is actively helping revitalize downtowns, create affordable housing, support local businesses, promote clean energy, sustain the working landscape, and create jobs across Vermont.

Mission investing at VCF delivers a return that is far more than just financial. These investments work alongside grantmaking to close the opportunity gap and build stronger, more equitable communities, creating real change across Vermont.



The Yellow Barn Project

The Vermont Community Foundation supported the Yellow Barn Project in Hardwick with over $1 million in mission investments, plus additional support through grants from donor advised fundholders. This dynamic local food hub fuels the regional economy, moving products from 100+ farms to 500 markets weekly. Home to the Center for an Agricultural Economy (CAE), Jasper Hill Creamery, retail space for Cabot Creamery, and local entrepreneurs, it has created or preserved 150 jobs and fosters innovation, collaboration, and rural vitality in Vermont.

"The Vermont Community Foundation was a pivotal partner in the Yellow Barn project to bring this seven-year project over the finish line. CAE could not have completed the construction of the Food Hub without their financial support. Now, with the Food Hub operational CAE is positioned to better support farms and the movement of local food across Vermont." — JON RAMSAY, CAE

Putting new kitchen equipment to use in the Yellow Barn Community Room, photo credit: Reeve Basom

Want to
partner with us?

Ready to
open a Fund?

Want to
speak with a philanthropic advisor?

Contact us:

philanthropy@vermontcf.org

802-388-3355 opt. 5

Learn more:

vermontcf.org/investments

The Yellow Barn Project mission investment in Hardwick, VT



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