

## *Vermont Community Development Program* Annual Summary of Activities for Program Year 2012 (7/1/2011-6/30/2012)

The Vermont Community Development Program (VCDP) is funded through the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) under the Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) program with an annual allocation of approximately \$7 million. The activities of economic development and housing continue to be the VCDP's top priorities for funding in the Consolidated Plan. The VCDP assists communities on a competitive basis by providing financial and technical assistance to identify and address local needs in the areas of housing, economic development, public facilities, public services and handicapped accessibility modifications predominantly for persons of low and moderate income. In addition, financial assistance is provided to communities for threats of health and safety issues as urgent need, and slums and blight projects.

*Redevelopment of former Arthurs Department Store, Morristown VT*



The CDBG allocation for the last program year was \$6,743,207, which represents a 16% decrease from the previous year and leveraged over \$55 million dollars. The CDBG program received 33 applications requesting over \$9.5 million.

### 2012 CDBG Program Accomplishments

During this past year, the majority of CDBG funds were awarded to housing, economic development and public facility projects. See breakdown below of project types funded this past year. In looking at the projects funded, it is important to note that these projects leveraged over \$55 million in other resources. It should also be noted that the allocation was enhanced with over \$242,000 of program income for awards and enhancements.

#### Housing Grants

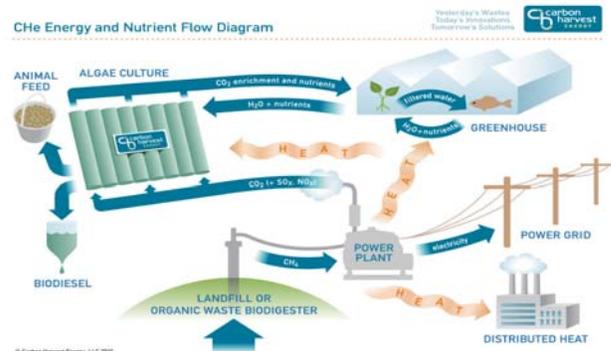
The VCDP awarded grants to 11 municipalities for housing projects that totaled over \$5.1 million and leveraged over \$53.5 million in local, private and other federal and state resources. This collaborative effort will create or preserve 282 units.

Municipality	Project Title	Units
City of Barre	Green Mountain Loan Fund	20
City of Winooski	Champlain Housing Loan Fund	22
Town of Barre	Creating Accessible Public Housing	7
Town of Ludlow	Tuckerville Mobile Home Park	23
Town of Lyndon	Gilman Housing Trust Housing Sustainability Program	31
Town of Morristown	Arthur's Main Street Housing	22
Town of Rockingham	Southeast Vermont Rehab Loan Fund	33
Town of Shelburne	Harrington Village	78
Town of St. Johnsbury	Hilltop Family Housing	24
Town of Townshend	WRV Assisted Living Expansion	12
Town of Westminster	Gageville Affordable Housing	10

#### Economic Development Grants

The VCDP was able to provide a low interest loan to support a business project that will create 9 jobs in southern Vermont.

Municipality	Project Title	Jobs
Town of Brattleboro	Brattleboro Carbon Harvest Project	9



## **Public Facility & Accessibility Modification Grants**

The VCDP awarded grants to four communities for public facility projects that totaled \$850,000 and leveraged nearly \$1.3 million in other resources. These four community facility projects will help provide handicapped accessible, energy efficiency and improved access to wide range of services.

Municipality	Project Title	People Served
Town of Brighton	Brighton Town Hall "Opera House"	1260
Town of Peru	Peru Town Offices Accessibility	33
Town of St. Johnsbury	Pomerleau Transportation Center Roof	4975
Village of Saxtons River	MSA Accessibility Project	120

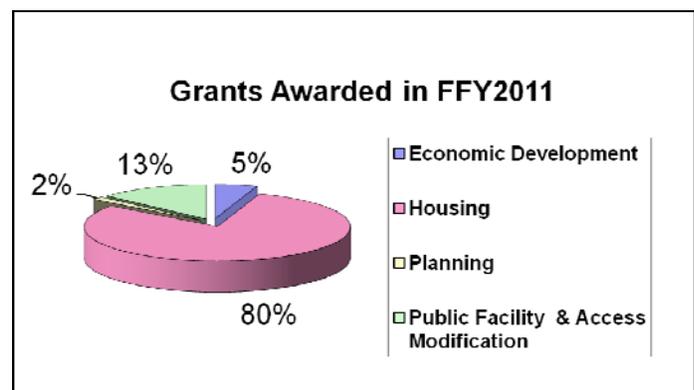
*Brighton Town Hall*



## **Planning Grants**

Vermont communities are afforded opportunities to undertake community development planning through technical expertise and professional resources for one or more of the VCDP areas of eligibility – housing, economic development, public facilities and public services. Three awards for planning grants totaling \$88,000 were provided to communities throughout Vermont.

Municipality	Project Title
City of Barre	Merchants Row Redevelopment Project
City of Newport	Northeast Kingdom Tasting Center
Town of Jericho	Jericho Center Library Accessibility



## **2012 CDBG Disaster Recovery**

During this program year Vermont endured three floods, one of them being devastating and of historical significance “Tropical Storm Irene.” Governor Shumlin, Vermont’s Congressional Delegation, and Vermont Agencies diligently worked with FEMA, HUD and other federal agencies to try and secure disaster recovery funding. Vermont’s Agency of Commerce and Community Development (ACCD) within just a few days developed an intake call center for all individuals, businesses and communities affected by Tropical Storm Irene to contact and report damages. This information was used to assist the people affected and provide information to HUD in hopes of receiving CDBG – Disaster Recovery funding.

On November 18, 2011 Congress appropriated up to \$400 Million in CDBG funding for Disaster Recovery. HUD then announced its methodology for allocating funding to states affected by disasters in 2011 and announced that Vermont would be eligible to receive \$21,660,211 in CDBG-Disaster Recovery funding. In February of 2012 staff attended HUD Disaster Recovery Training in Texas and on April 16, 2012 HUD released the Federal Register Notice which contained the rules, requirements and process for ACCD to apply for this funding. Staff worked diligently to create a Draft Action Plan for Disaster Recovery, held public hearings around the state to receive input on that plan from those affected by the floods. Vermont’s Action Plan needed to be submitted to HUD by July 23, 2012 in order to receive these funds. During the summer months, program staff also worked with IT staff and Agate Software, the current vendor, for the IntelliGrants Online Management System to develop CDBG-Disaster Recovery applications for business, communities and non-profits to apply for funding.

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