

# RSVP

*Volunteers Serving in Central Vermont and the Northeast Kingdom*

September 9, 2013

Jennifer Peteson  
9 Bridge Street  
Waitsfield, VT 05673

RECEIVED  
SEP 18 2013

Dear Jennifer,

RSVP for Central Vermont and Northeast Kingdom would like to request an appropriation of \$300 from Waitsfield at the 2014 March Town Meeting. This request is in the same amount we have asked for in the past, and is in keeping with a pledge we made more than 10 years ago to not ask for any increases from our town partners.

We are continuing that pledge, even though we have lost more than 20% of our operating funds. Many of the towns in our service area are still in recovery mode, some because of natural disasters, and others because of economic times. We want to be good partners, thus the decision to not increase.

All of our communities rely on volunteers. They know how important it is to have an engaged citizenry. We at RSVP see the value of individuals giving their time every day. Without the help of volunteers, many of the organizations would find it difficult to maintain services needed by our friends and neighbors. Think how different emergency food shelves, fire services, medical transporters, blood drives, schools, and many other services would be if someone was not willing to give of his/her time.

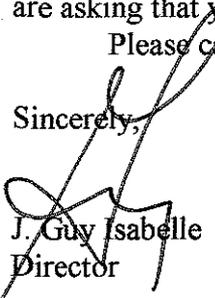
In the past, twelve months RSVP involved 832 volunteers at 87 nonprofit partners in our service area. Those volunteers contributed over 84,580 hours of service. We calculated, using Vermont data, that those members provided over 1.7 million dollars worth of service.

The money collected from towns is used to help offset the cost of supporting a volunteer. These costs are: travel expenses, insurance, training, recognition, and coordination time.

Thank you for your consideration of our request, and your support in the past. Yes, times are not easy. Remember, we are not asking you to make up our shortfalls. We are asking that you continue to be our partner.

Please call me at 828-4770 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

  
J. Guy Isabelle  
Director

JGI/gp

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P.O. Box 433  
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