

National Life Drive
P.O. Box 1439
Montpelier, VT 05601-1439



Toll Free: (888) 769-2957
Phone: (802) 223-4654
Fax: (802) 223-4655

Email: cvedc@sover.net
Web Site: www.central-vt.com/cvedc



November 29, 2012

Town of Waitsfield
Jennifer Peterson
9 Bridge St.
Waitsfield, VT 05673

Dear Jennifer,

Enclosed please find the Central Vermont Economic Development Corporation's (CVEDC) 2012 report for the Town of Waitsfield. In addition, a prepared warning is attached (if needed), indicating that we are requesting funds from the Town of Waitsfield.

If you need an electronic copy of the form, please send an e-mail request to us at cvedc@sover.net and we would be happy to provide it.

At your convenience, I would be pleased to meet with your Select board/City Council to detail our local and regional efforts. In the meantime, if you have any questions or require further information, please contact CVEDC at 802-223-4654 or cvedc@sover.net.

We thank you in advance for your time and consideration of our request, and we look forward to your continued support.

Sincerely,

Sam Andersen
Executive Director
CVEDC

National Life Drive
P.O. Box 1439
Montpelier, VT 05601-1439



Toll Free: (888) 769-2957
Phone: (802) 223-4654
Fax: (802) 223-4655

Email: cvedc@sover.net
Web Site: www.central-vt.com/cvedc

November 29, 2012

To: Jennifer Peterson
Town of Waitsfield

From: Sam Andersen
Executive Director
CVEDC

2012 Town of Waitsfield Annual Report- Updated Report

2012 has been a year for rebuilding in the Central Vermont region. Few communities were spared from the spring floods and/or Tropical Storm Irene. Recovery has been slow but productive. In an effort to bring continued assistance to the affected businesses, CVEDC partnered with the Central Vermont Community Action Council (CVCAC) and Green Mountain Economic Development Corporation (GMEDC) to apply for grant funding for the 'unmet needs' of our business communities that suffered from the weather events this past year. We are pleased to announce that we have been awarded \$1Million in CDBG-DR funding to provide business assistance and grant funding to meet businesses' unmet needs related to the three 2011 disaster events. The primary focus (80%) of the project will be businesses located in Washington and Windsor counties with the remainder located in other hard-hit areas of other Vermont counties. The project will balance low and moderate income benefit with urgent needs. CVCAC will administer the program, with CVEDC and GMEDC providing technical assistance to help businesses apply for the financial assistance. Representatives of the three partners will review grant applications and make decisions based upon the priorities; CVCAC will disburse the funds. All parties will also be responsible for monitoring the use of the funds and evaluating the effectiveness of the program.

We expect the first round of grant awards will be made in January 2013. Businesses should contact any of the following people to find out more information:

- Sam Andersen, Central Vermont Economic Development Corp., 802.223-4654, or cvedcevp@sover.net for businesses located in Washington County and the towns of Orange, Washington, and Williamstown
- Joan Goldstein, Green Mountain Economic Development Corp., 802.295-3710, jgoldstein@gmedc.com for businesses located in the rest of Orange County, and all of Windsor County
- Mary Niebling, Central Vermont Community Action Council, 802.476-8493, mniebling@cvcac.org for administrative matters or referrals

CVEDC continues to focus on 'Retention and Expansion' of our existing businesses. To accomplish this goal, staff conducts an active Business Contact & Visitation Program. Establishing a working relationship with the Central Vermont business community is paramount. Staff not only gathers information regarding specific challenges and issues for the business but also relays the suite of tools available from the State of Vermont and other program partners such as USDA Rural Development, the Small Business Administration, as well as our regional partners. CVEDC maintains a strong relationship with the Department of Economic, Housing, and Community Development staff on a regular basis. CVEDC implements a coordinated response to business

needs, leveraging all the available economic development tools. CVEDC is actively engaged with over 20 municipal and regional organizations and committees.

The Central Vermont Economic Development Corporation (CVEDC) provides a suite of programs and services that include; promoting our region to those businesses considering relocation to Vermont, and working on improving the infrastructure necessary for economic growth in Vermont. CVEDC has and will continue to work in partnership with all the Central Vermont municipalities, and community stakeholders to advance those initiatives identified by **Town of Waitsfield** as important to their residents and the economic well-being of the community. In addition, the issues of workforce development, telecommunications and housing remain top priorities for CVEDC.

Workforce development is a top priority for CVEDC. CVEDC initiated the first Workforce Investment Board and helped to restructure the organization into the Central Vermont Workforce Development Board. We continue to participate both on the Advisory Board and the Executive Committee. CVEDC is very committed to two of the initiatives as we participate in a leadership role with the Annual Job Fair and the Annual Business Survey. The past year's Fair was held on April 5, 2012. Approximately, 731 students and chaperones attended the morning session and over 500 job seekers attended the afternoon session. A total of 49 businesses and State of Vermont Agencies participated in the event.

CVEDC continues our Revolving Loan Fund for Telecommunications Infrastructure projects. The original initiative, funded by USDA Rural Development, was extended and additional funds were granted so that the service can continue to be brought to un-served municipalities in our region. To date, the initiative has brought high-speed wireless internet to several hundred residents/businesses in our outlying rural communities. This initiative was the first of its kind conducted by a regional development corporation in partnership with a wireless service provider.

CVEDC also continues to administer USDA RBEG/RBOG grants in our region. We have secured funds for a number of small businesses to assist with either marketing initiatives and /or product development. The businesses are from a variety of industry sectors including value-added agri-business, alternative energy, and digital/web services.

On May 24, 2012, CVEDC held its annual business seminar. Approved for continuing education credits by HRIC for Human Resource staff, the event hosted over a hundred business people at Norwich University. This year Dr. Steven Shepard spoke on the topic of 'Managing The Millennials'. He discussed the generational differences from Baby Boomers to Millennials and how they affect business across all sectors whether they are your employees or your clients.

The Small Business Development Center is co-located in CVEDC' offices and continues to provide the **Town of Waitsfield** residents with information and assistance regarding starting a new business or providing assistance to an existing business with marketing, financing and other issues. In addition, the 'How to Start Your Own Business' seminars are offered both on line and in person to all Central Vermont residents.

We greatly appreciate the support given to the Central Vermont Economic Development Corporation by the **Town of Waitsfield** and we look forward to continuing and strengthening our relationship in the future. Your financial support is critical so that we may continue or work on the issues of economic vitality for the Central Vermont region. We are always available to meet with Town Select Boards, Councils, and special committees on economic development and vitality issues.

National Life Drive
P.O. Box 1439
Montpelier, VT 05601-1439



Toll Free: (888) 769-2957
Phone: (802) 223-4654
Fax: (802) 223-4655

Email: cvedc@sover.net
Web Site: www.central-vt.com/cvedc

CENTRAL VERMONT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

WARNING ITEM

To see if the **Town of Waitsfield** will appropriate \$800 (Eight Hundred Dollars) to the Central Vermont Economic Development Corporation, a non-profit organization, working toward economic growth, more job opportunities and increasing the tax base for Washington and northern Orange County cities and towns.

Requested for:

Central Vermont Economic
Development Corporation
P.O. Box 1439
Montpelier, VT 05601
(802) 223-4654 (TEL)
(802) 223-4655 (FAX)
cvedc@sover.net
www.central-vt.com/cvedc