

VERMONT CENTER FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING FY'19 Annual Report



Deborah Lisi-Baker, Barry Bernstein, Judith Heumann, Sarah Lauderville and Henrietta Jordan at our 40th Fundraising Gala on May 24, 2019.

**This annual report is dedicated
to the independent living leaders
who we sadly lost this past year.**

Marca Bristo
Jonathan Jerome
Thad Lauderville
David Sagi



Artwork by Susan Sanderson

Dear Friends,

It is with pride that I present VCIL's FY2019 Annual Report. I would say that this past year was about relationships and our continued building of community.

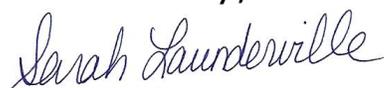
We stepped back and reflected and celebrated our 40th Anniversary. Old friends came to visit and shared our rich history and beginnings. Our movement was built on an idea that people with disabilities should and can live independently and make decisions about our own lives. The founders of VCIL set forward a path that we follow with our work every day. You will see on the following pages the stories, pictures and numbers that represent that work. Behind every ramp built is a family able to access the community again. Behind every meal served is someone who has strength nourished by that food. For every visit with a peer advocate counselor is a story of accomplishment in meeting an independent living goal.

We lost some amazing advocates this past year. I'd like to highlight David Sagi, one of VCIL founders. His life was dedicated to disability rights and because of his work our state is much more accessible, and many more people with disabilities are employed. His legacy is rich and he is missed. In addition, national advocate Marca Bristo died. She left her stamp on VCIL and the national independent living movement and she is missed dearly.

In March, my husband Thad suddenly died. He was a former employee of VCIL and lived the independent living movement every day. What is most humbling and inspires me is how our movement comes together to support one another in our difficult moments. This year has been filled with those moments, and at every turn people have been there. I'm not sure I'll ever be able to say thank you enough for those gifts.

We look forward to a promising FY2020.

In Solidarity,



Sarah Launderville
Executive Director

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VCIL

Vermont Center for
Independent Living

Our Mission

The mission of the Vermont Center for Independent Living is to empower Vermonters with disabilities, Deaf Vermonters, and others to tear down the physical, communication, and attitudinal barriers that keep us from realizing our full human potential.

Together, we will build communities to:

- Achieve our human and civil rights and equal access to services and opportunities
- Have available ongoing resources and options for independent living.
- Realize our power to control and direct our own lives.

We join together to celebrate our diversity and the common goal for the full inclusion of all persons in the life of our communities.

WHO WE ARE

The Vermont Center for Independent Living (VCIL), a statewide nonprofit organization directed and staffed by people with disabilities, promotes the dignity, independence and civil rights of Vermonters with disabilities. Founded in 1979, VCIL was the first organization in the state to have a majority of board and staff with disabilities. In FY'19, 80 percent of our staff and 92 percent of our board were people with significant disabilities. We understand what it takes to help others. VCIL's central office is in Montpelier with five branch offices in Bennington, Brattleboro, Burlington, Morrisville and Rutland.

INFORMATION, REFERRAL AND ASSISTANCE (IR&A)

VCIL's Information, Referral and Assistance (IR&A) Coordinator provides quality referrals and information to people seeking assistance on a variety of issues. Our IR&A Coordinator is also responsible for the intake process of applications for the Peer Advocacy Counseling Program (PAC). In FY'19 VCIL provided over 2,500 individuals with IR&A services.



PEER ADVOCACY COUNSELING PROGRAM (PAC)

Our Peer Advocate Counselors (PACs) offer individual and group support, skills training, guidance for self-advocacy and resource development. PACs help peers define their individual interests and needs, develop and work toward personal goals, learn specific skills that enhance their ability to live independently and access available resources in their communities. In FY'19, VCIL served 250 individuals through the peer advocacy counseling program.



Deaf Independence Program

The Deaf Independence Program (DIP) provides individual and group skills training to people who are culturally Deaf throughout Vermont.

VT Interpreter Referral Service

The Vermont Interpreter Referral Service (VIRS) provides American Sign Language (ASL)/spoken English interpreter referral services statewide for medical, legal, employment, educational, civil and recreational situations. VIRS also provides education and advocacy about Deaf people explaining to requesters their obligation to provide equal access to communication under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). In FY'19, VIRS referred interpreters who provided 4,316 hours of interpretation throughout the state of Vermont.



Youth Transition Program

- Workshop series on how to prepare for life after high school. With topics on confidence, communication, social media, self-advocacy and interviewing.
- Opportunity to interact with someone who has lived experience with a disability.
- Q&A time with presenters to discuss particular situations and experiences.

Your future is just ahead!

VT Telecommunications Equipment Distribution Program (VTEDP)

VCIL is home to the VT Equipment Distribution Program (VTEDP), previously housed at the VT Center for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing. The VTEDP helps income-eligible Vermonters who have trouble using a traditional telephone and need adaptive equipment. This includes those with physical and/or speech disabilities. The VTEDP will provide up to \$750 of equipment for qualified individuals. In FY'19 VCIL provided 31 individuals with adaptive equipment.

Sue Williams Freedom Fund (SWFF)

The Sue Williams Freedom Fund provides funding for services and equipment to help people with disabilities achieve or maintain independence in their own homes. Thanks to a grant from the VT Statewide Independent Living Council, in FY'19 SWFF spent \$45,000 to help 46 people obtain services or equipment and leveraged an additional \$25,451.43!



got access?

COMMUNITY ACCESS PROGRAM

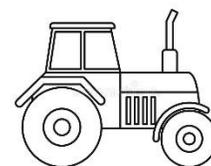
VCIL's Community Access Program works to improve access to buildings, services and programs. Program specialists provide technical assistance and training on the ADA regulations and standards to Vermont cities, towns, employers and businesses.

In FY'19 the program held two trainings with 75 attendees. The program responded to 129 calls for technical assistance from peers, businesses and municipalities. Over 1,700 informational materials and documents were disseminated statewide, including federal ADA fact sheets and guidance, ADA Checklists for Existing Facilities and ADA Newsletters. In addition, ADA committees in Burlington, Barre and Rutland received ongoing support, as did the Vermont State Library Council.

AgrAbility

The Vermont AgrAbility program provides education and assistance as well as peer support at no cost to farmers, their families and farm workers with disabilities who are engaged in production agriculture and want to continue farming.

Farmers and their families eligible for Vermont AgrAbility services may have any type of acquired or traumatic disability physical, cognitive or sensory.



Meals on Wheels (MOW)

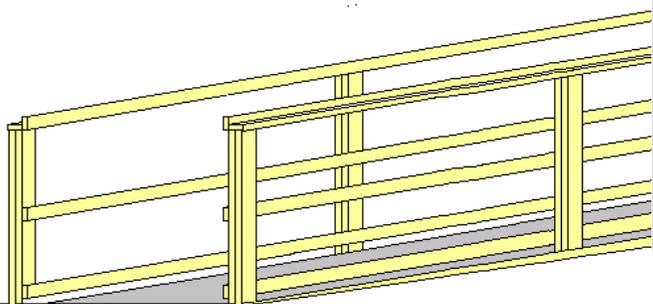
VCIL's Meals on Wheels Program (MOW) serves people with disabilities who are younger than 60 years of age. The program is statewide and serves people from all counties. It is coordinated from our main office in Montpelier. In FY'19 VCIL contracted with 33 meal sites across the state to prepare and deliver one meal a day to program participants. A total of 55,572 meals were funded through this program during FY'19 to a total of 504 peers.



"We need to make every single thing accessible to every single person with a disability." — Stevie Wonder

HOME ACCESS PROGRAM (HAP)

VCIL's Home Access Program (HAP) provides home entry and bathroom accessibility modifications for low income Vermonters with physical disabilities. The Home Access Program receives funding each year to help people with disabilities make accessibility modifications so they can continue to live independently and remain in their communities. In FY'19 the HAP program provided five platform lifts, one elevator, 46 ramps, nine entrance modifications and 61 bathrooms!



GET INVOLVED

Support our Efforts!

We've made donating even easier! **You can now donate right from our Facebook page**, or check out our **Network for Good** site and become a **monthly** supporter. It's easy to do and easier on the finances! **Won't you consider a monthly contribution?** Of course you can still give a one-time donation by sending the enclosed envelope directly to VCIL or continue giving through your local United Way. And as always, your donations are tax-deductible.



AmazonSmile:

When shopping on Amazon, go to AmazonSmile and Amazon will donate 0.5% of the purchase price to VCIL. Bookmark the link: <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/02-0271000> and support us every time you shop!

Become a Member!

VCIL is a member-supported organization. We welcome all people who support our mission and have an interest in our programs and services. Membership is **FREE** and becoming a member affords you a copy of The Independent (VCIL's news journal), quarterly newsletter and free loan of books and movies from VCIL's extensive library.

To join, see application on page 38-39, go to our website – www.vcil.org – or call 1-800-639-1522 (V&TTY) and we can fill out the form over the phone!

VCIL Website:

Check out the VCIL website at www.vcil.org. From that site you can gain access to our Facebook, Network for Good, Twitter and YouTube pages.

Facebook:

We invite you to join our ongoing discussions and post upcoming events. Check out our page at: www.facebook.com/VTCIL.

Twitter:

VCIL invites you to follow us on Twitter, which is updated at least weekly by Sarah Launderville.

follow us on
twitter



PEER SUCCESS STORIES

Dean Marchand, PAC Program



A Bennington Peer Advocate Counselor started working with Dean when he had just gotten out of the hospital, was homeless, facing divorce, destitute and depressed. In addition to that, he was dragging around an oxygen concentrator as big as a carry-on suitcase, which made everything he needed to do that much harder. Over the months that they worked together Dean always managed to keep his positive attitude and was determined to take the high road through a contentious divorce. Dean now has Section 8 and is living in a small but nice, centrally located apartment. He started working a part time job in the culinary field, which is his passion. He also got himself a small portable oxygen concentrator that he can wear as a backpack, which he doesn't need to use as much anymore now that his lung condition has improved. He has reconnected with his church and his daughter and remains focused on the positive. He is now looking for ways to use his extensive cooking and kitchen management skills to help address food insecurity as a way to give back to the community.

Souley Marzouk, HAP

I applied for VCIL's HAP program because I could not use my bathroom safely due to space, location and, most importantly, my disability and physical weakness. Both of my shoulders were injured because of usage. I am in a low-income household and am not getting any younger and I needed help. Before I received the bathroom I had to crawl on my knees and once I was in the bathroom it was very difficult to turn around. I had trouble getting in and out of the bathtub. So I didn't wash everyday as I should. I also had to make sure that I was undressed before reaching the door. Now that I have a modified bathroom I can ride my wheelchair into the bathroom and into the shower. I can dress and undress in the bathroom. I can go from the wheelchair to the toilet and to the shower. I love my new bathroom and I enjoy being in it now. The program is great, neighbors helping neighbors. Thank you for making my life more independent.



Florence (Ren) Van Wagner, PAC Program



When Ren first contacted our Rutland office she had been through a tumultuous six months that had entirely changed her life. It started with a hospitalization for a serious infection that resulted in the loss of both of her legs just above the knees right during the holiday season in December 2017. What followed were many months in a rehabilitation center and then, following her discharge and because she had nowhere else to go, a move to Level 3 residential care home. As if adjusting to being a double amputee wasn't challenging enough, Ren also lost her home, a long-term relationship and

her business within just a few months. Despite all of this, when VCIL staff met with her in June of 2018, she displayed an overwhelmingly positive attitude and motivation that enabled her to meet all of these challenges head-on. She clearly did not belong in the facility where she was living and was determined to find her own apartment and live independently again. Ironically, her spirit had enabled her to do so well with her rehabilitation that she was deemed ineligible for programs such as Choices for Care/Long-Term Medicaid. In addition, her subsidized housing options were limited because of her past employment successes. VCIL staff helped Ren obtain low-income housing applications for the Rutland area and assisted her with completing and submitting them when needed (which wasn't often). We were also able to advocate strongly for her when an opening came up with one of the housing providers in the City of Rutland. The end result was that by late March of 2019, Ren had obtained an apartment in downtown Rutland. During the interim, she also kept busy advocating for better conditions at the residential care home where she lived, while also actively getting involved with the local advocacy group in Rutland—Disabled Access & Advocacy of the Rutland Area (DAARA). Additionally, she volunteered for numerous VCIL events and became a regular attendee of the monthly meetings of the City of Rutland's ADA Committee.

Finally, this fall Ren achieved her goal of getting back into the workforce when she obtained a job with the Vermont Country Store in Clarendon. Now she is aiming towards getting her driver's license and eventually obtaining a wheelchair accessible van that will increase her independence and options on the employment front.

Staff in the Rutland VCIL office have taken joy in Ren's successes and are so very happy to have her continued services and spirit as a proactive advocate for people with disabilities in our area!

Patricia Austin-Kirk, HAP

I applied to VCIL's HAP program because someone recommended the program to me. I had called several places like the Department of Mental Health and the Council on Aging, telling them I have Parkinson's disease and that it is really affecting my mobility and asking if there was a program in Vermont that could help me make some changes in my home to make it easier and safer for me, help me live at home longer. I was directed to VCIL. Before I received the bathroom modification I had to try and balance myself while trying to climb into the tub/shower and stand while taking my shower the whole time, when I have such leg weakness and balance problems. Also before the ramp installation I had to climb four stairs (or go down) every time I entered or exited the house. Having no stairs and two rails to hold makes me feel much more stable and as things progress I will be able to stay here more comfortably and safely. Now that I have a new walk-in shower, wheelchair accessible, I can hold on at all times. I just walk right into the shower, no climbing in and the foldout seat I pull down and sit on it the entire time I shower. So when I am dizzy and unstable I can remain seated and hold on to the hand rails. When I have to use a wheelchair in the future, I will be able to wheel it right inside the shower, and I also use the handheld shower head and set it beside me which is very convenient.



VCIL works hard to help low-income people with disabilities. There is no way we could afford what VCIL did for us. You can give back by telling someone about the Home Access Program. Everyone deserves some help along the way. I also want to say thank you VCIL and the Home Access Program. I'm so grateful most recently for the new ramp just installed last week and I can't wait to watch our youngest grandchild, 3 years old, follow the ramp to the door, some new and exciting adventure for him!

Monica Hahn, MOW

I have kidney failure and must follow a very low salt diet, and therefore the best and biggest help in the world is the meal I get delivered Monday through Friday from Meals on Wheels! The food is delicious and well prepared, and each meal has less than 800 mgs of sodium! A huge help! Thank you! The people delivering the meals are very friendly and respectful.

Jane Bachert, HAP

I applied for VCIL's HAP program because I needed the help to allow me to continue living in my home independently. Before I received the bathroom modification I had no funds to do the repairs/remodels to my bathroom and it was hard for me to take showers independently. Now that I have a modified bathroom, I can take a shower by myself, I feel more safe. I also want to say thank you for everything.

Leslie Lucas, MOW

"I appreciate all your help. MOW is the only time I have a nutritionally appropriate and hot meal."

Chris Ward, HAP

"I applied to VCIL's Home Access Program because I did not have a safe, convenient way to get inside my home. I now have a lift that allows me to get inside safely but also independently. I can now bring things inside on my lap that I could not do before. If someone doesn't know about VCIL's Home Access Program, I would tell them to call and ask about the many things that you offer to help make life easier. I also want to say VCIL is a great organization to help get you to be more independent and live safer. They cover many things at no cost sometimes for home accessibility and much more.



EMPLOYEE STORY

Michelle Grubb, Finance and Operations Officer

It is almost hard for me to remember all of the things that I took for granted before I was accepted into the VCIL family as Finance and Operations Officer.

In my first week of work, I was affectionately called a TAB (temporarily able-bodied) and I began to realize that this chapter of my journey was going to open my eyes to the privileges that my life has afforded me. The way that I think of privilege is the immunity given to me to not have to think about barriers. I don't have to think about mobility challenges such as: "Will I be able to access that building or store aisle?" or "How will I cross this street if there is no curb cut?" I don't have to worry about language barriers such as "Will my doctor's office have an ASL interpreter?" or "How can I share in the side conversations of my coworkers talking about their lives outside of work?" I get into my car and am immune from having to think about how I will get to work, the grocery store, or to my friend's home.



I am grateful for being able to work closely with my coworkers who run VCIL's various programs. They have shared stories of Vermonters who are struggling because of a lack of housing, transportation, employment, and having services that help them remain in their own homes. I am awed by the work that is being done but saddened by the seemingly endless amount of unmet need.

Prior to VCIL, I worked in public accounting and spent a large amount of time traveling between clients around the state. I am so fortunate to have been able to spend my last decade, with minimal travel, being able to work in an organization that has such a meaningful mission.

I have heard our executive director give a powerful speech on the lawn of the U.S. Capitol. I have walked down main streets with crowds of disability rights advocates. I have seen our conference room filled with partner organizations working together on disability issues. I have smelled the beautiful flowers growing in our accessible garden boxes. I have tasted the delicious food at our annual potluck. I have felt, at times, well outside of my comfort zone but upon reflection I think that is a sign that I am growing.



I

Working with my VCIL friends has helped me understand the privilege that I have been granted and the responsibility that I have in putting that knowledge in action. With gratitude, I look forward to doing my part to further VCIL's mission, as a volunteer.

When asked about Michelle's retirement Sarah said, "Michelle Grubb gave so much to VCIL over the years and she will be missed. We wish her all the very best in retirement. Her stamp on VCIL will be left for years to come. Her behind the scenes work as our Finance and Operations Officer helped us update our policies and she led our team to transition our work to be evaluated by Results Based Accountability. This work allows our programs to evaluate and adjust using a strong team approach. Michelle was always ready to help out whatever the task, be it assembling the office cubicles in what we affectionately call "cubbyville" or taxiing people back and forth from the statehouse on Disability Awareness Day. This work allows our programs to evaluate and adjust using a strong team approach. Thank you Michelle!"

Glenn Reed Story, PAC, Rutland

It was almost six years ago that I started working as a Peer Advocate Counselor in VCIL's Rutland branch office. This was not my first exposure to employment with an independent living center as I had previously worked with Tri-County Independent Living (TCIL) in Eureka, Calif. for almost five years. I have been employed in the nonprofit world for my entire working life, including experience in the mental health field, doing fundraising and a newsletter for a service organization for people with multiple sclerosis, and directing fundraising and community relations activities at a small hospital.



During my years at TCIL I became very familiar with the independent living philosophy for people with disabilities (PWDs) as well as a passionate advocate for disability rights, and better accessibility in the community. I moved back to Vermont in 2013 to help care for aging parents and when I saw the opening for a PAC in the VCIL/Rutland branch office, I was excited at the opportunity to work for another independent living center and continue to be an advocate for PWDs as well as for systemic change in support of PWDs.

I feel that I and my coworker in the Rutland office, Jessie, have been very successful in providing services to PWDs in this area, collaborating with other service providers, building positive networks in support of needed change for more accessible communities, and in educating the general public about PWDs and accessibility issues. I feel personal satisfaction in having helped dozens of peers obtain wheelchair ramps or bathroom modifications in their homes, secure leveraged funding for those projects, obtain subsidized housing or reasonable accommodations in housing, access needed benefits and services, transition out of nursing homes, acquire needed assistive technology items ranging from vehicle modifications to dentures, and even with such tasks as finding volunteers to help them move. Key to this success has been the open and supportive relationships between all VCIL staff, as well as the wealth of knowledge and passion of that staff who are dedicated to working toward the goals of the independent living cause.

I am particularly satisfied with the Rutland office's community outreach and educational activities. One accomplishment that really stands out is our creation of a very proactive advocacy group here in Rutland that began in 2014 with a core of dedicated and passionate individuals and has since grown in numbers of participants and accomplishments. The group is called Disabled Access & Advocacy of the Rutland Area (DAARA). DAARA has successfully advocated for dozens of accessibility improvements throughout the city of Rutland and even a few outside the city limits. The group has made connections with elected and appointed government officials, regularly participated in events such as Disability Awareness Day, and gotten involved in tracking and advocating for specific legislation at the State House in Montpelier.

The Rutland VCIL office and DAARA have also developed numerous educational community events. These include the Let's Be Fair disability awareness event at the Proctor Elementary School, held for four years now. This year we were approached by two other schools to hold the same event and held one at the West Rutland School in March. We have also held various events in July each year in recognition of the anniversary of the signing of the Americans with Disabilities Act. These include an accessibility tour of downtown Rutland which has been held three times now. Past participants have included the Rutland mayor, members of the board of aldermen, two state legislators, other service providers, peers and many others. This event has helped cultivate an awareness of accessibility issues and what actions can be taken by the city of



Rutland to better address them. In fact, the city sought DAARA's input this past year on priority accessibility improvement needs to consider when implementing a \$5 million bond for street and sidewalk improvements in Rutland (which was approved in March).

It was a difficult decision for me to leave VCIL, but I will always remain an advocate for PWDs in my next position and throughout my life. I am grateful for, and respectful of, the dedication and hard work of my coworkers, peers, other service providers, volunteers, supportive government officials, the members of

DAARA and many, many others. I know that this important work will continue both here in the Rutland area and throughout the state in support of PWDs living as independently as possible in their own communities, advocating for disability rights and maximizing accessibility everywhere for the benefit of all people. Thank you for your efforts!

Sarah stated, "Glenn Reed has been a force in Rutland for years now and is already missed. We wish him all the very best in his new job and work moving forward. His leadership in building relationships within school systems and town governments has allowed for stronger programs and policies for people with disabilities. He worked to continue the organizing of groups in Rutland working to help individuals with disabilities find their voice together to improve accessibility and these groups are going strong. Good luck Glenn!"

FY'19 TIMELINE

Cram a Conference Room

In September we kicked off our first but not last food drive for the Montpelier Food Pantry. Folks were encouraged to come in, drop off food, learn about VCIL and receive a reusable grocery bag. The event was a great success for the food shelf and we were able to donate 342 pounds of groceries! Jaime Bedard, director said, "Thanks so much— great variety of items; people were excited to see them."



Photo:Jeb Wallace-Brodeur

Health & Wellness Disability Seminar

On September 13th VCIL co-hosted a Health and Wellness Disability Seminar at the Capitol Plaza. Allison Perline, from the Vermont Department of Health, presented on the report, "The Health of Vermonters Living with Disabilities", which was followed by presentations on advocacy from Vermont Developmental Disabilities Council Executive Director Kirsten Murphy.

There was also a presentation on the proposed federal rules to SNAP from Sean Brown, Deputy Commissioner of VT Dept. of Children and Families and Hunger Free Vermont's Drake Turner presented on advocacy efforts around the proposed changes. There were with additional remarks from Sarah and Tom Hamilton, Executive Director of the Vermont Statewide Independent Living Council.

Accessible Voting System

In October, Vermont Secretary of State Jim Condos, Disability Rights Vermont (DRVT) Supervising Attorney AJ Ruben, Vermont Center for Independent Living Executive Director Sarah Launderville and Barre City Clerk Carol Dawes held a press conference to demonstrate Vermont's Accessible Voting System at the Secretary of State's office in Montpelier.

The new accessible voting system allows any Vermont voter, including voters with a disability, to vote privately and independently either at the polls on Election Day or from their home during the early voting period. The system generates a printed, marked ballot which is collected and counted with other voter-marked paper ballots cast on or before Election Day. Vermont's new accessible voting system has been in operation statewide since August.

Following the speaking portion of the event a live demonstration of the system took place along with a question and answer session.

40th Anniversary

On February 13, VCIL celebrated our **40th anniversary** by kicking off a year of fundraising with a goal of raising \$40,000! We also asked folks to send us their thoughts or experiences with VCIL and posted them throughout the entire day on Facebook (where they can still be seen). Events and opportunities to give were held throughout the year culminating in May with our 40th Anniversary Fundraising Gala at National Life.



Disability Awareness Day

On February 27th we celebrated Disability Awareness Day which featured a key- note presentation by Patrick Standen. Patrick delivered a speech entitled, "A Short History of a Very Long Problem: Disability and Discrimination." Patrick is an author, teacher and activist who teaches philosophy at Saint Michael's College and medical ethics at the University Vermont.

He also serves as president of the Northeast Disabled Athletic Association, a nonprofit organization that provides athletes with physical disabilities competitive and recreational sporting opportunities. Patrick is a pioneer in adaptive sports and is a competitive athlete in a number of sports including biathlon, Nordic sit skiing, sled hockey and sailing.

40th Anniversary Fundraising Gala

On May 24 we celebrated 40 years of supporting people with disabilities and the Deaf. We were honored to have some of our founders, former and current board and staff, peers and guests on hand to reminisce and mingle.

To top off the night, we were thrilled to have Judy Heumann, internationally recognized leader in the disability rights community and a lifelong civil rights advocate, as our keynote speaker. Please see pages 18 and 19 for more photos.

**The planning started early
A committee soon was formed
The date would be in May
to avoid a winter storm**

**Oh what a night it was
The 24th of May
To celebrate our 40 years
In an amazing way**

**Maple was the theme
Decorations everywhere
Trees and leaves and acorns
And Syrup for all to share**

**The venue was at National Life
Who generously donated the space
Chef Emma made delicious food
The servers all had grace**

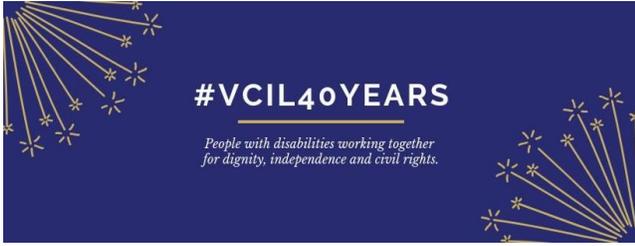
**Guests came from near and far
To celebrate that night
40 years working together
Dignity, independence & our civil rights**

**Some came to see old friends
Or hear Judy Heumann speak
Others told our history
But Judy's was the peak**

**She talked about the movement
And just how far we've come
But also about the many things
That still need to get done**

**We wish that we could mention
All who came or helped or both
But that would make for a very long poem
More like the Hippocratic Oath**

**What we are most grateful for
Is our past and present Peers
We look forward to our future
And another 40 years!**







Thank you to our sponsors for making our 40th fundraising Gala a huge success! We couldn't have done it without you!

Sugar Maple Sponsors

Access Mobility
Statewide Independent Living Council
Vocational Rehabilitation

Silver Maple Sponsors

Department of Aging and Independent Living
Division for the Blind and Visually Impaired
Vermont Developmental Disabilities Council

Red Maple Sponsors

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Women's March
VT Workers' Center

Sapling Sponsors

Casella
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Ormsby's Computer Systems

In Kind donations

Cabot Creamery - Cheese!
Morse Farm - Sap Buckets!
National Life - Venue
Price Chopper, Berlin - Crackers!
Red Hen Bakery - Rolls!

5th Annual Comedy Night

In June we held our 5th annual comedy night at Fresh Tracks Farm. The event was a little different this year – by donation only and outside due to some changes at the venue. The weather was beautiful and everyone who came enjoyed the event, which included made-to-order tacos by Morse Block Deli. We were so fortunate to welcome back MC extraordinaire Chris Parker, Kamikaze Comedy (featuring Heather Caldera, Mourning Fox, Chris Jarvis, Rick Peck and Matt Saltus), Nilima Abrams, Regi Brittain, Gladys Downing, Kathleen Kanz and Paco Berry. Once again all the comedians donated their time and provided us with an evening of laughs and a successful fundraiser!



NCIL

In July, our own Sarah Launderville was elected president of the National Council on Independent Living (NCIL) for a two-year term at NCIL's annual meeting in Washington.

NCIL is the longest-running national cross-disability, grassroots organization **run by and for** people with disabilities. Founded in 1982, NCIL represents thousands of individuals with disabilities and organizations, including centers for independent living, statewide independent living councils and other organizations that advocate for the human and civil rights of people with disabilities throughout the United States.

Sarah said, "Our focus at VCIL over the past 40 years has been to work in the community so people with disabilities can live as they choose. So many systems and policies have a bias toward people with disabilities. We, as people with disabilities, need to help shape these systems at the local, state and national level."



FY'19 Highlights

Kimberly Colville, a Peer Advocate Counselor in our Burlington office received the Community Based Advocate award from the Crime Victims Center for going above and beyond in her work in abuse prevention.

"I hear you means so much to a victim," said Colville. "The amount of work that we do brings a lot of trauma also to our own beings and to kind of bond together to have that kind of backup support for one another, to say 'I need your support because I'm struggling with this'," said Colville.

Deputy Director

In April, VCIL named longtime employee **Peter Johnke** deputy director. Peter has been involved with assistive technology since joining VCIL in 1990.

"I want to create a world that works for everyone. We may have different disabilities that affect us in different ways, but everyone is striving to live the best life we can," said Johnke.

Sarah Launderville said, "Peter is part of the fabric of VCIL and I'm thrilled that he has accepted this new role."



#ACCESSWINFRIDAY

In November, VCIL board member **Sefakor Komabu-Pomeyie** received the International Service Award. Sefakor, a UVM Ph.D. candidate, received her International Service Award from the

Association of University Centers on Disability (AUCD) in Washington, DC. "I am grateful, honored and empowered!" said Sefakor.

Rosemary J. Miller Dining for All Awards

It was our great pleasure to present the **Jericho Cafe & Tavern** with



the Rosemary J. Miller Dining for All Award! Co-owners Chris and Bridget Dorman were on hand to accept the award for their commitment to accessibility. Chris said, "We're a family-friendly restaurant and we focus on the community because we feel like being active members of the community is important to all." A special shout-out to Rosie, who wasn't able to join us on this special outing! She was definitely with us in spirit.

Deborah Lisi-Baker Youth Leader Awards

We were excited and honored to hand out the 2019 Deborah Lisi-Baker Youth Leader Awards at VCIL. Many thanks to Deborah and congratulations to all of the winners! As Deborah so eloquently put it, "The people we're celebrating today are people who are bringing not just disability rights and contributing to inclusion and equity but really a commitment to transforming our culture and our community... we are very fortunate to recognize you today and we're even more fortunate to know that you're out in the Vermont community changing the world."

Joseph McCoy, a senior at Burr & Burton Academy, was one of the recipients (many thanks to Meg



Benasich for nominating him). Deborah praised Joseph for "doing some remarkable leadership on bringing an inclusive

approach to sports and athletics to his school." He is a talented three-sport athlete at Burr and Burton Academy and athletics are very important to him and his family. He attended a student leadership

conference last June and came back inspired to begin to make change in his own school and community. And make change he did. This year marks the second season of unified basketball at Burr & Burton. McCoy said, "What is so special about unified basketball is just seeing athletes with disabilities and other high school athletes come together and play as one. The unity and inclusion are remarkable."

Celilo Bauman-Swain was also a recipient of the Award, (thank you to Amanda Garces for nominating her). Celilo is on the Vermont Coalition for Ethnic and Social



Equity in Schools working group. Amanda, who is the founder of the coalition, said, "What you're bringing to the table is really amazing and powerful as a voice for youth." Deborah also serves on the coalition and was blown away by Celilo's application to join the working group. Deborah said, "I still remember reading that Celilo said, "I love my state. I love living here, but I have spent most of my time in school feeling oppressed. And I want to be in a place where being Deaf is not a cause of

oppression—that I don't have to feel like I lose myself when I go to school."

Jamie Heath of Barre also received the 2019 Deborah Lisi-Baker Youth Leader Award! (Many thanks to Greg Morgan, one of our founders, for nominating her.)

This Norwich sophomore is an amazing and charismatic person with an amazing story. When she was 7 years old, she had a stroke caused by tangled blood vessels in her brain. Surgery was not an option and it was a long road to recovery. When she was 12 years old, she had a second stroke. Jamie fell into a deep depression. Looking to lift her spirits, Jamie's family applied to the Make-A-Wish foundation. Her dream was to swim with sea turtles in Hawaii. In April 2015, that wish came true! In 2017 Jamie wrote a book about her story called "Wishes Are Medicine," illustrated by Leonard Kenyon. "I just love the way it came out and I'm so thankful for everything," she said. Since then, Jamie has attended a lot of events for Make-A-Wish, including speaking at over 30 events. It was wonderful to have Greg Morgan and Jamie Hathaway, the CEO of Make-A-Wish Vermont, at the presentation!



The Youth Advocacy Council members all received the award! (Thank you to Tara Howe of VocRehab Vermont for making the nomination! Tara received an Ally of Accessibility Award. She has been a strong leader when it comes to youth transition work.) Youth council members Rachel Stevens and Julia Bruner attended the award ceremony on January 22. The council is composed of youths and young adults between the ages of 15 and 26 who expressed interest in participating in leadership training and in opportunities to impact how Vermont prepares students with disabilities for life after high school. The council has enjoyed many successes over the past year, including meeting with Gov. Scott and organizing a youth summit. Those who received the award but were



not in attendance were: Gabriel Amber, Jonathan Fabian, Hannah Gagner, Nicholas Hall, DeAngelo Harding, Jenna Perras, Myles Rolfe, Lexia Stanley, Alexis Taylor-Young, Molly Thompson, Shelby Varley and Maisy Wilcox.

Ally of Accessibility Award

In December 2018 we traveled to Brattleboro to present an Ally award to the **Latchis Theatre**. We had a lovely tour of the historic building and John Potter, executive director was so enthusiastic about showing us the assistive technology they had added.



He said, "All of us at the Latchis are deeply gratified to be honored as Allies of Accessibility. As stewards of this 80 year old gem of a building, we take very seriously our obligation to make everyone feel at home and able to get the most out of what we offer here. We owe a deep debt of gratitude to the VT Arts Council, whose Cultural Facilities Grant made a big difference in our being able to add this equipment. We regard this as an important next step in our ongoing efforts toward accessibility, and we appreciate the acknowledgment from VCIL."

On December 19, it was **the Vermont Arts Council's** turn to receive the Award. The Arts Council has been on the forefront of accessibility for years and has shown a strong commitment to disability. Their dedication has allowed for hundreds of other arts organizations throughout the state to be more inclusive and accessible to people with all different sorts of disabilities.



As Karen Mittelman, the executive director, so eloquently put it, "The arts have a unique ability to nurture empathy and an understanding of outside our own. There is nothing more fundamental to the work of inclusion than our ability to step out of our own shoes and understand and respect someone

whose life experience is profoundly different from ours. At the same time, it's critical to remove the barriers—both physical and social—that prevent everyone from enjoying equal access to Vermont's wonderful arts landscape."

In July we presented Deb Mullen from **Friends of Tunbridge World's Fair** with an Ally of Accessibility Award. Our own Susan Sanderson made the nomination because she was impressed with their shuttle service from the parking lot to the fairgrounds. The "Friends" are a volunteer organization who provide resting seating and fairground shuttle services. They use golf carts and volunteer drivers to assist people with disabilities who can enjoy the fair free of charge. [#GotAccess](#)



BOARD of DIRECTORS

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John Pierce, Secretary
Henry Demar, At-Large Member
Ronni Allard
Zachary Hughes
Sefakor Komabu-Pomeyie
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Charlie Murphy, PAC Coord., Benn.
Kemal Onor, Youth Transition
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Kevin Plant, Database Ass't., Burl.
Glenn Reed, PAC Coordinator,
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Coordinator
Patricia Tedesco, Home Access
Program Coordinator

**VT Telecommunications
Equipment Distribution Program
(VTEDP)**

Jake Lavigne, VTEDP Specialist

VT Interpreter Referral Service

Bill Bliss, Program Coordinator

ABOUT OUR PEERS



GENDER

Female.....	1281
Male	912
Unknown	1

AGES OF OUR PEERS

Under 6 years	2
Ages 6-17	8
Ages 18-34.....	82
Ages 35-64.....	1009
65 and over	374
*Unknown	719

OUR DISABILITIES

Developmental & Intellectual	57
Deaf, Hard of Hearing, Late Deafened	84
Psychiatric	106
Multiple	392
Physical	738
Blind/Visual	10
*Unknown.....	807

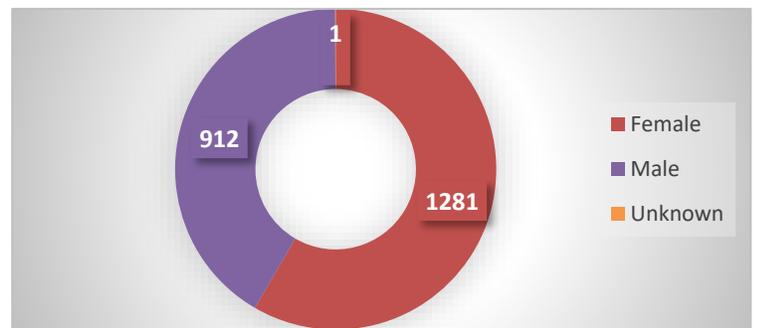
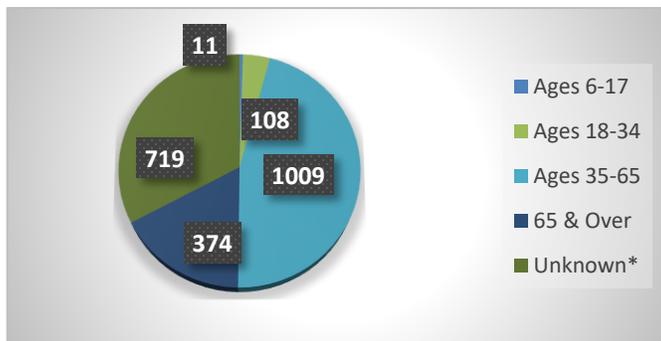
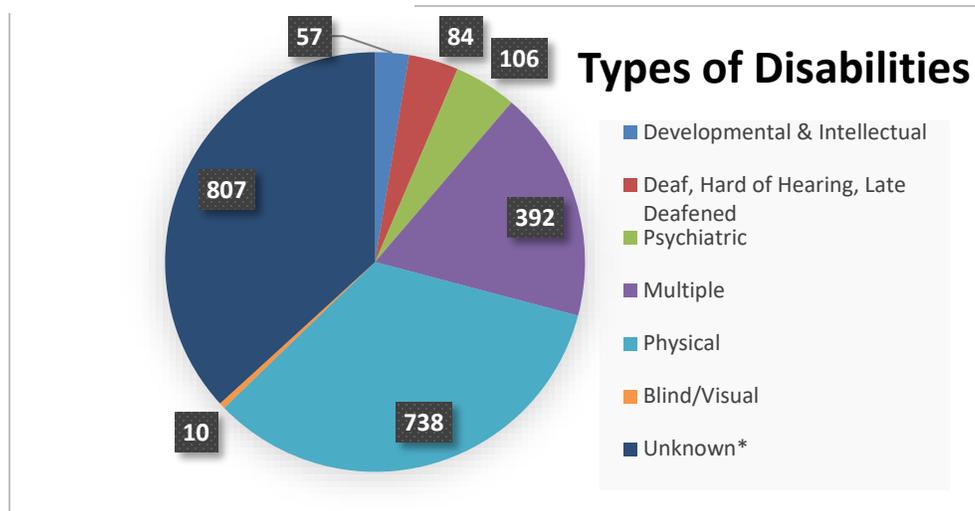
INDIVIDUALS SERVED BY COUNTY

Addison	41
Bennington	311
Caledonia.....	103
Chittenden	287
Essex	20
Franklin	115
Grand Isle.....	13
Lamoille.....	103
Orange	45
Orleans	99
Rutland	231
Washington.....	174
Windham	150
Windsor.....	123
*Out of State or unknown.....	379

*Much of the data represented is from IR&A calls where people do not always disclose their age or type of disability.



SERVICES AT A GLANCE



Information, Referral & Assistance (I,R&A)

2,194 peers and organizations contacted VCIL for I,R&A!

Home Access Program (HAP)

5 hooyer lifts, 1 elevator, 46 ramps, 9 entrance modifications and 61 bathrooms made accessible!

Peer Advocacy Counseling (PAC)

250 peers served!

Meals on Wheels (MOW) A total of 55,572 meals were funded through this program during FY'19 to a total of 504 peers.

Sue Williams Freedom Fund (SWFF)

46 peers received assistive technology!

VT Telecommunications Equipment Distribution Program (VT EDP)

31 Deaf, Deaf-Blind, or Hard of Hearing peers received adaptive telephone equipment!

VT Interpreter Referral Service

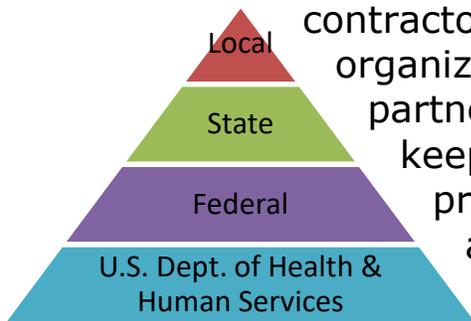
Interpreters provided 4,316 hours of interpretation!

ABOUT OUR FUNDING

Most of VCIL's funding comes from a variety of federal, state and local sources. VCIL's primary funding comes from the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services.

The Department of Education funding helps us provide Peer Advocacy Counseling, skills training services, community advocacy activities, and information, referral and assistance services.

In FY'19 VCIL received funding from several federal and state agencies and 130 (see page 30) cities and towns, all of whom are valuable partners. We thank all of the individuals, businesses,

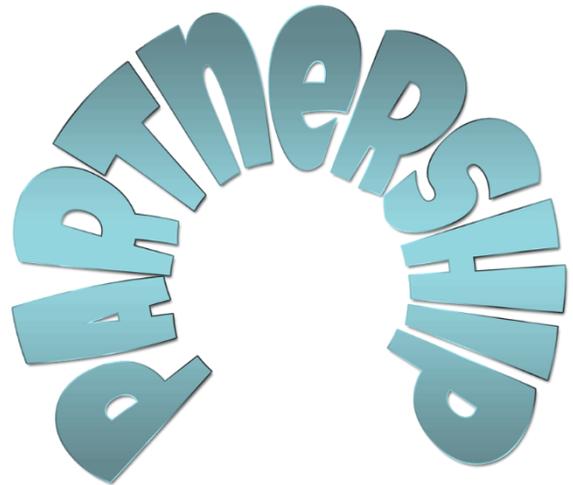


contractors, community organizations and partners that help keep our programs active and successful. Most importantly

we thank the volunteers and individual donors who help bring VCIL's mission of dignity, independence and civil rights to every community in Vermont. Your active participation in this movement and your continued support is what makes our work possible.

THANK YOU TO OUR GRANTORS

- National Institute on Disability, Independent Living & Rehabilitation Research
- Statewide Independent Living Council
- U.S. Department of Health & Human Services
- U.S. Department of Agriculture
- VT Department of Disabilities, Aging and Independent Living
- VT Department of Mental Health
- VT Department of Public Service
- VT Housing & Conservation Board



VCIL wishes to extend our sincere appreciation to all of our project partners that we have worked with throughout the years. Without these valued relationships our mission would not be possible.

******These lists reflect Individual, Business, Organization and Grantor contributions and/or partnerships for FY'19. Our deepest apology to any agency, organization or individual we may have inadvertently omitted. ******

**VERMONT CENTER FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING
STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION
FOR THE YEARS ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2019 AND 2018**

CURRENT ASSETS	2019	2018
Cash - unrestricted	\$ 186,584	\$ 286,015
Accounts and grants receivable	397,333	349,461
Prepaid expenses	<u>52,453</u>	<u>50,155</u>
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	<u>636,370</u>	<u>685,631</u>
PROPERTY AND EQUIPEMENT, net	<u>296,689</u>	<u>309,790</u>
OTHER ASSETS		
Restricted cash – building reserve	28,109	24,831
Investments	325,653,793	220,793
TOTAL OTHER ASSETS	<u>353,762</u>	<u>245,624</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>\$ 1,273,727</u>	<u>\$ 1,227,944</u>
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Current portion of mortgage note payable	\$ 27,000	\$ 26,000
Accounts payable	95,583	99,957
Accrued payroll and related liabilities	109,800	71,136
Accrued vacation	<u>33,990</u>	<u>30,781</u>
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	<u>266,373</u>	<u>227,874</u>
LONG-TERM LIABILITIES		
Mortgage note payable, net of current portion	<u>111,235</u>	<u>137,701</u>
TOTAL LONG-TERM LIABILITIES	<u>111,235</u>	<u>137,701</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES	<u>377,608</u>	<u>365,575</u>
NET ASSETS		
Unrestricted – undesignated	860,930	829,971
Board designated – building reserve fund	<u>28,109</u>	<u>24,831</u>
Subtotal – unrestricted	889,039	854,802
Net Assets with donor restrictions	<u>7,080</u>	<u>7,567</u>
TOTAL NET ASSETS	<u>896,119</u>	<u>862,369</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	<u>\$ 1,273,727</u>	<u>\$ 1,227,944</u>

**VERMONT CENTER FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING
STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEARS ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2019 AND 2018**

CHANGE IN UNRESTRICTED NET REVENUES, GAINS AND OTHER SUPPORT	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>
Federal and State Grants	\$2,843,757	\$2,471,879
Contributions	29,200	34,399
Municipalities	51,601	50,371
Fees and other income	72,139	87,673
Investment Income (loss)	20,019	15,324
Fundraising Events	<u>27,866</u>	<u>1,867</u>
	2,666,208	2,525,379
Net assets released from restrictions	<u>4,704</u>	<u>3,225</u>
TOTAL REVENUES, GAINS AND OTHER SUPPORT	<u>\$ 3,034,148</u>	<u>\$ 2,664,738</u>
EXPENSES		
Program Services:		
Independent Living Resources	1,659,737	1,298,164
Peer Advocacy Counseling	683,428	602,847
Advocacy	68,144	124,263
Other Programs	<u>227,195</u>	<u>278,077</u>
Total Program Services	<u>2,638,504</u>	<u>2,303,351</u>
Support Services:		
General and Administrative	269,643	270,503
Marketing and Development	<u>91,764</u>	<u>58,117</u>
Total Support Services	<u>361,407</u>	<u>328,620</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES	<u>\$ 2,999,911</u>	<u>\$ 2,631,971</u>
CHANGE IN UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS	34,237	32,767
BEGINNING UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS	<u>854,802</u>	<u>822,035</u>
ENDING UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS	<u><u>\$ 889,039</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 854,802</u></u>
CHANGE IN TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED NET ASSETS SUPPORT AND REVENUE		
Gifts and Grants	\$ 4,217	\$ 1,828
Net assets released from restrictions	<u>(4,704)</u>	<u>(3,225)</u>
CHANGE IN TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED NET ASSETS	(487)	(1,397)
BEGINNING TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED NET ASSETS	<u>8,964</u>	<u>8,160</u>
ENDING TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED NET ASSETS	<u><u>\$ 7,567</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 8,964</u></u>
TOTAL CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	<u><u>\$ 31,370</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 36,517</u></u>

CITIES AND TOWNS

Albany	Glover	Pittsfield	Walden
Alburgh	Goshen	Pittsford	Wallingford
Arlington	Grafton	Plainfield	Waltham
Bakersfield	Granby	Plymouth	Warren
Barnet	Granville	Poultney	Washington
Barre City	Greensboro	Pownal	Waterbury
Barre Town	Hartford	Proctor	Weathersfield
Belvidere	Hartland	Randolph	Wells
Bennington	Highgate	Readsboro	West Fairlee
Berkshire	Hubbardton	Richmond	West Windsor
Berlin	Huntington	Royalton	Westfield
Bethel	Jamaica	Rupert	Westminster
Bloomfield	Jay	Rutland	Westmore
Brattleboro	Jericho	Ryegate	Weston
Bridport	Leicester	Sandgate	Wheelock
Brighton	Lemington	Searsburg	Williamstown
Brookfield	Lowell	Shaftsbury	Williston
Brookline	Ludlow	Sheffield	Woodbury
Cabot	Lunenburg	Sheldon	Woodford
Calais	Maidstone	Shrewsbury	Worcester
Cambridge	Manchester	St. Albans	
Charlotte	Marshfield	St. George	
Clarendon	Middlesex	Stannard	
Coventry	Middletown	Stockbridge	
Craftsbury	Springs	Stowe	
Danby	Milton	Stratford	
Duxbury	Monkton	Stratton	
E. Montpelier	Montpelier	Sudbury	
Eden	Mount Holly	Sutton	
Elmore	Mount Tabor	Swanton	
Enosburg	New Haven	Thetford	
Essex	Newark	Tinmouth	
Fairfax	Newbury	Townshend	
Fairlee	Newfane	Tunbridge	
Fayston	North Hero	Underhill	
Ferrisburgh	Northfield	Victory	
Fletcher	Peru	Waitsfield	



THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS

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 Amazon Smile
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 Anonymous, *in honor of Sue Booth*
 Anonymous, *in memory of Ned Gaunce*
 Carmone Austin
 Barre Lions Club
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 Carol Beck, *in memory of Peg Franzen*
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 Jeffrey Bernstein
 Nate & Gretchen Besio
 Trevor Betz, *in honor of Will Pendlebury's birthday*
 Mary Alice Bisbee, *in memory of Thad Launderville*
 John Bonneville
 Sue Booth, *in memory of Thad Launderville*
 Missy Boothroyd
 Bill & Ruth Botzow
 Lucy Bourgeault, *in honor of Bill Bliss' birthday*
 Steve Bradley, *in honor of Martha Roberts' birthday*
 Brattleboro Food Co-op, *for the Yolande Henry Community Fund*
 Brattleboro Rotary Club, *for the Yolande Henry Community Fund*
 Brattleboro Rotary Club, *for the Yolande Henry Community Fund*
 Susan Britto, *in memory of Thad Launderville*
 Amy Butler Law Office
 Laura Lee Butler
 Jessie Butterfield
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Lynne Cardozo, *in honor of Martha Roberts' birthday*
 Lynn Cardozo, *in honor of Jessie Butterfield's birthday*
 Sarah Carpenter, *in memory of Thad Launderville*
 Mary Clair Carroll
 Zoe Carter, *in memory of Sue Williams*
 Stephen Carty, *in honor of Laura Johnston*
 Center for Disability Rights, *in memory of Thad Launderville*
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 Pamela Dean-McCarthy, *in memory of Thad Launderville*

Janet Dermody, *in honor of
Martha Roberts' birthday*
 Janet Dermody, *in honor of
Jessie Butterfield's birthday*
 Disability Rights Vermont, *in
memory of Thad Launderville*
 Carol Douglas
 Roberta Downey, *in honor of
Martha Roberts' birthday*
 William Doelger & Linda Normandeau
 Eagle Eye Farm, Inc,
 Carol Entin, *in memory
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 Deborah Ewertz
 Thomas Faris
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 Cheryl Grandfield
 Elissa Gratton
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 Green Mountain United Way
 Jessica Greenia
 Jerry Greenfield & Elizabeth Skarie
 Lisa Gurney, *in memory of
Thad Launderville*
 Jack & Gail Hall



Harmon Foundation, *for the Yolande
Henry Community Fund*
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Thad Launderville*
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of Thad Launderville*
 Terry Hunt, *in honor of
Bill Bliss' birthday*
 Rick Hurst, *in honor of
Bill Bliss' birthday*
 Independence Unlimited, *in memory
of Thad Launderville*
 Cathy Jenness
 Kristopher & Giuliana Jensen
 Peter Johnke
 Laura Johnston
 Rita Joyce
 Anne Kasday, *in honor of
Martha Roberts' birthday*
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 Kathleen Keenan, *in memory
of Michael Cahill*
 Julia Kim
 Ariane Kissam & Rick DeAngelis
 Kristofor Medina
 Sefakor Komabu-Pomeyie
 Laura Lake
 Gregory LaFlower
 Michael Laliberte, *in honor of
Susan Sanderson's birthday*
 Marie Lallier
 Janice Lamarche
 Louse Lane
 Mary Laulis
 Sarah Launderville, *in memory
of Thad Launderville*

Fran Levine, *in honor of
 Martha Roberts' birthday*
 Paul and Elizabeth Levy
 Deborah Lisi-Baker, *in honor of
 Martha Roberts' birthday*
 Deborah Lisi-Baker, *in memory of
 Thad Launderville*
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 of Peg Franzen*
 Jean Lowell, *in memory
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 of Thad Launderville*
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 Erica McGee
 Shirren & Brian McNabb, *in memory
 of Thad Launderville*
 Marisa McPeck-Stringham, *in honor
 of Jessie Butterfield's birthday*
 Linda Meleady, *in honor of
 Bill Bliss' birthday*
 Linda Meleady, *in memory of
 Thad Launderville*
 Greg & Toni Morgan
 Masami Morigami
 Michael Muehe
 Caroline Murphy
 Charlie Murphy
 National Council on
 Independent Living, *in memory
 of Thad Launderville*
 Catherine Nelson
 Karin Nissen, *in memory
 of Hilda From*
 Mark Ollman
 Jill Olson-Mazza, *in memory
 of Thad Launderville*

Thank
You

Ormsby's Computer Systems
 Avram Patt & Amy Darley
 René & Joan Pellerin, *in honor of
 Will Pendlebury's birthday*
 Will Pendlebury
 Michael Perry
 David Phillips, *in honor of
 Will Pendlebury's birthday*
 John Pierce
 Kevin Plant
 Thomas and Carol Pombar
 Sandra Pomponio, *in honor of
 Martha Roberts' birthday*
 Fernando Portugal-Lazzarini
 Marjorie Power
 Anne Proctor
 Roxanna Quero
 Jen Raney
 Jen Raney, *in memory of
 Thad Launderville*
 Laura Rauscher
 Red Hen Baking Company
 Glenn Reed, *in memory of
 Thad Launderville*
 Lynnette Reep, *in memory of
 Thad Launderville*
 Lila Richardson and Allen Gilbert
 Deborah Roberts, *in honor of
 Martha Roberts' birthday*
 Susan Roberts, *in honor of
 Martha Roberts' birthday*
 Andy Robinson
 Phyllis Rubenstein
 Rural Vermont
 Michael Russell
 Annette Sabatino
 Michael Sabourin, *in memory of
 Thad Launderville*
 Susan Saltus
 Randall Sargent, *in memory of
 Thad Launderville*
 Edward Schwaner, *in memory of
 Thad Launderville*

Edward Schwaner, *in honor of Linda Meleady*
 Ellen Schwartz, *in memory of Thad Launderville*
 Philip Scott
 Rachel Siegel & Jules Fishelman
 Hope Smith
 Kathleen Smith
 Yvonne Smith, *in honor of Martha Roberts' birthday*
 Kathy Sowerby, *in memory of Thad Launderville*
 Ralph Spencer
 Madalyn & Harry Sprague
 Glenellen Stefaniak
 Beth Stern, *in memory of Thad Launderville*
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 VT Eastern Star Home
 VT Federal Credit Union
 VT Rehabilitation Action Network
 Washington Electric Cooperative
 Trisha Watson
 Elsa & Barry Waxman

Joyce Werntgen, *in memory of Peg Franzen*
 Joyce Werntgen, *in memory of Thad Launderville*
 Donald Whelon
 Monica White
 John Wilkins
 Antoine & Michelle Williams
 Suzy Williams, *in memory of Sue Williams*
 Kathleen Winter
 Emily Wood, *in honor of Jessie Butterfield's birthday*
 Darlene & J. Andrews Young, *in memory of Thad Launderville*

Scholarships for 40th Gala

Anonymous
 Arlene Averill
 Patricia Fontaine
 Patrick Galasso
 Jack and Gail Hall
 Dorothy Mankowsky
 Ed Paquin
 John Pierce
 Renee Wells
 Tim & Karen Reynolds
 Alban Richey
 Charlie Teske and Rhoda Lush
 Suzy Williams
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 Timothy Brennan
 Bringing You Vermont, Bennington
 Burger King, Bennington
 Cabot Creamery
 Maryann Carlson
 Chili's, Bennington
 Dale Coppin and the
 Twilight Program
 Coughlin, Inc.
 Disability Rights Vermont
 Dominos, Bennington
 Tracy Dorman
 Liz Filskov
 Paul Fusco
 Mary Gerisch
 Linda Goodspeed
 Katrina Hagen
 Tom Haley
 Hannaford's, Bennington
 Hannaford's, Rutland
 Tiffany Heath
 Ron Hemenway
 Henry's Market, Bennington
 Melissa Heppler
 Melissa Hoellerich
 Heather Kent
 Michael Ketcham
 Jessica LeBlanc
 Jasmine LaPlant
 Andrea Malinowski
 McDonalds, Rutland
 Phyllis Michaelso
 Morse Farm



Pizza Hut, Bennington
 Proctor Junior/Senior High School
 National Honor Society Students
 Merry Postemski
 Price Chopper, Berlin
 Price Chopper, Rutland
 Project Vision, Rutland
 Publyk House, Bennington
 Ramunto's Pizza, Bennington
 Red Hen Bakery
 Rose Reed-Denardo
 Roots the Restaurant
 Lisa Rudiakov
 Rutland Area Food Cooperative
 Jane Schaeffer
 Jennifer Schoerke
 Speakeasy Café, Rutland
 Everly St. Peters
 Stewarts
 Josh Tabor
 Theo Talcott
 James Tennyson
 Karen Topper
 Jack Trainor
 Ren Van Wagner
 Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
 of Bennington
 Walmart, Bennington
 Walmart, Berlin
 Joyce Werntgen
 Heather Winkler
 Carol Wood
 Emily Wood
 Yankee Medical

**Our deepest apology to any individuals
 or organizations we may have omitted.**

MEMBERSHIP

As a member supported organization we welcome all people who support our mission and have an interest in our programs and services to join us. Many of our members are people with disabilities or have family members or friends with a disability along with business members, community leaders, educators, healthcare professionals and other concerned citizens who support the work we do.

For those who are interested, **VCIL's membership is FREE!** Of course, we gladly accept donations of any size that you can give. Becoming a member affords you a copy of The Independent (VCIL's news journal), quarterly newsletter, free loan of books from VCIL's library, free attendance at scheduled community group meetings, and invitations to various VCIL sponsored conferences and trainings throughout the year. And, remember, when you become a VCIL member you automatically become a member of a national movement that fights the barriers to independent living and supports a high quality of life for Vermonters. You do not have to be a member to receive VCIL services.

To join, please go to our website - www.vcil.org - or, complete the membership form on next page, and send it to:

VCIL

11 East State Street
Montpelier, VT 05602

For more information call: 1-800-639-1522

VCIL has been in the process of putting our library inventory on-line. Members will soon be able to check out books and have them sent to you!

Return this form to:
VCIL
11 East State Street
Montpelier, VT 05602

For more information call: 1-800-639-1522

I believe in equal rights for people with disabilities! I want to be a member of VCIL.

My name is: _____

My address: _____

E-mail (**newsletter**): _____ **OR** mail to address above

Phone (optional): _____

I am including a donation of: \$ _____ (optional)

VCIL will not share or sell personal or identifying information with any other organization.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Membership Card # (*office use*): _____



**Vermont Center for
Independent Living**

VCIL – Montpelier (Main Office)

11 East State Street
Montpelier, Vermont 05602
802-229-0501 (voice and TTY)
800-639-1522 (voice and TTY)
Email: info@vcil.org

VCIL – Bennington

601 Main Street
P.O. Box 82
Bennington, Vermont 05201
802-447-0574 (voice and TTY)
802-681-9096 (video phone)

VCIL – Brattleboro

28 Vernon Street, Suite 436
Brattleboro, Vermont 05301
802-254-6851 (voice)
802-275-0099 (video phone)
802-246-0328 (TTY)

VCIL – Burlington

7 Kilburn Street, Suite 312
Burlington, Vermont 05401
802-861-2896 (voice and TTY)
802-881-0138 (video phone)

VCIL – Morrisville

85 Portland Street, Suite 3
P.O. Box 1622
Morrisville, Vermont 05661
802-888-2180

VCIL – Rutland

60 Center Street, Suite 1
Rutland, Vermont 05701
802-779-9021
802-779-0265 (video phone)