



REPORT



CEDS Annual Performance Report

2021 Annual Update

November 2020 - November 2021



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Southern Vermont in 2021

Southern Vermont Zone CEDS Partners and Partnership:

The **Brattleboro Development Credit Corporation** is a private, nonprofit economic development organization that serves as a catalyst for industrial and commercial growth throughout Southeastern Vermont, including Windham County and the towns of Readsboro, Searsburg, and Weston. BDCC serves as the State of Vermont's certified Regional Development Corporation (RDC) for the greater Windham County area. BDCC is one of 12 RDCs throughout Vermont. For more information visit: <https://brattleborodevelopment.com/>

Southeastern Vermont Economic Development Strategies (SeVEDS) is an affiliate of BDCC that grew from a 2008 grassroots effort, initiated by BDCC, to reverse the economic decline of the Windham Region and plan for the economic impacts from the closure of the Vermont Yankee nuclear power plant. In 2014, after multiple years of regional input, education and data gathering, SeVEDS submitted the Windham Region's federally recognized S.M.A.R.T. Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy for federal approval. For more information visit: www.seveds.com

The **Bennington County Regional Commission** (BCRC) was created by the seventeen towns and villages it serves and works on behalf of those municipalities to build strong, resilient, and sustainable communities, to foster economic prosperity, and to promote a high quality of life for residents of the region. For more information visit [www.brcvt.org](http://www.bcrcvt.org).

The **Regional Economic Development Working Group** (RED Group) is a volunteer body committed to increasing the shared prosperity and quality of life for the seventeen municipalities in southwestern Vermont. The group has a diverse membership that reflects the varied community, business, workforce, and demographic characteristics of the region. The RED Group focuses on the internal and external economic development issues that affect the Bennington County region as a whole; the regional implications of local economic development issues; the process of regional economic development from local, state, and federal perspectives; and options for future initiatives.

The **2019 Southern Vermont Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy** was completed by the partners and submitted for final approval in November of 2019 and accepted by the EDA in January of 2020.

The 2019 plan created by Windham and Bennington County stakeholders is a long term strategy to grow the **Southern Vermont Economy Zone** – a region facing significant economic challenges established by the Vermont State Legislature in 2015. The 2019 Zone CEDS is intended to replace the **2014 Windham Region S.M.A.R.T. CEDS**.

The 2018 Southern Vermont Economy Summit at Mount Snow in May served as a kick off for the overall Southern Vermont CEDS **project which was undertaken** from November of 2017 through May of 2019 and a draft document was published for 30 day comment on January 7, 2019 after a public presentation in Wilmington, VT.

All process and focus group materials related to the 2019 Zone CEDS are hosted digitally at www.SoVermontZone.com

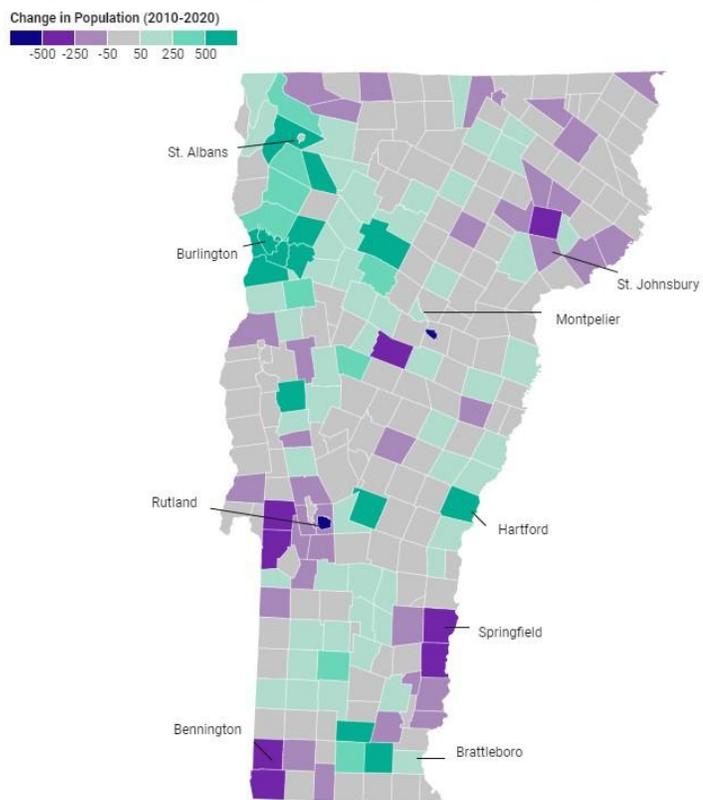
Zone economics in 2021:

Windham County: 2020 U.S. Census data¹ shows that Windham County's population grew by over 3% since 2010, although that growth is not shared equally among towns. This is the largest population growth percentage of Vermont southern 6 counties. At the same time, **southeastern Vermont's labor force keeps shrinking**, with fewer young adults and more retirees each year. COVID-19 caused massive unemployment at first. By the summer of 2021 labor demand had rebounded, but labor supply had not. By August the labor force in Windham County was down over 17% from 2010.

At the end of 2020 and the beginning of January of 2021 BDCC's real estate was near capacity. The **Cotton Mill**, which is home to 85 commercial tenants, and the BDCC's Business Park were humming with activity. Many of the 35 **Business Park** tenants are experiencing growth despite COVID.

Population change in VT municipalities

Population change across Vermont cities and towns ranged from an increase of 2,507 people in Essex, and a decrease of 688 in Rutland City. The graphics below show population change from 2010 to 2020.



Map: vcgi.vermont.gov • Source: US Census • [Get the data](#) • [Embed](#) • [Download image](#) • Created with [Datawrapper](#)

¹ "Vermont Center for Geographic Information." *2020 Census Data | Vermont Center for Geographic Information*, 12 Aug. 2021, <https://vcgi.vermont.gov/data-release/2020-census-data>.

The Windham Region's existing CEDS driven programming continues to mature and evolve and new program development to meet the economic and community development and planning needs of the region is ongoing. The high school career development program, **Pipelines and Pathways** has received a national award in the category of Talent Development and Retention from IEDC. The program has served over 800 students during the past two school years and will be brought forward as a state model this year.

The development and launch of an immigrant, refugee and asylum-seeking resettlement program, the **Southern Vermont Welcoming Communities** project is taking shape across both counties. In September, the Ethiopian Community Development Council hired a Director for its **Multicultural Community Refugee Center** in Brattleboro and Vermont governor announced that Brattleboro would be part of welcoming up to 100 Afghan refugees..

In 2021 BDCC Expanded its **business support team**. For five years, business support and investment was made possible by the **Windham County Economic Development Program** funded through the Vermont Yankee closure. WCEDP investment led to \$52.5 million in impact and 1,358 jobs created and retained in the Windham Region. Windham's regional businesses require sustained support. BDCC's new business services team will provide a suite of technical assistance, trainings, programs, and resources including **new lending products** geared to businesses at any stage - from startup and growth through reorganization and succession.

The **USDA funded Southern Vermont Economy Project** (SVEP) partnered with the Incremental Development Alliance, a nonprofit that identifies policies and practices creating barriers to small development. IDA works with local organizations to improve financial and regulatory ecosystems. SVEP put together a Vermont IDA Small Developer Seminar that had 71 attendees. The **2021 return of a Virtual Southern Vermont Economy Summit** helped create shared regional technical expertise and the ability to implement more local projects.

With a 38% *increase* in home sales to out-of-state buyers, Vermont saw a huge influx of newcomers during the pandemic. The success of new Vermonters is adding stress to our housing market.² BDCC launched the **SoVT Welcome Wagon Project** in the fall of 2020 to introduce newcomers to enthusiastic locals to host new Vermonters and help deepen connections to their new communities.

In the past year, BDCC has worked with 375 individuals and families. Last year, 62 new Vermonters signed up for the **SoVT Welcome Wagon Project** organized by BDCC, and 78 current Vermonters signed up to host these newcomers. Over 60 people received individualized help - everything from phone calls and emails to

² *National Low Income Housing Coalition*, 28 Oct. 2021, <https://nlihc.org/>.

nine small-group information sessions totaling 81 participants to the occasional trip to the airport.

Bennington County: Since the previous annual update, BCRC staff have divided their time in addressing transformational development opportunities and focusing on helping businesses, non-profits, and communities avail themselves of the unprecedented federal response to the pandemic.

MAJOR FACILITY REUSE INITIATIVES

In 2021, the BCRC was hired by Southwestern Vermont Health Care Realty (SVHCR), the development arm of Southern Vermont's largest employer, to assist it in developing portions of a reuse plan for **the former Southern Vermont College campus** (also known as the Everett Estate). In late 2020, SVHCR acquired the Everett Estate at auction in an effort to keep this vital community asset under local stewardship after the college's closure in May 2019. On behalf of SVCHR, BCRC engaged the community through a **survey mechanism** to gather input on desired uses for the property, **gathering approximately 1,000 responses**, and are coordinating with the local organization that maintains and manages the extensive public trail system on the property to explore future expansion and marketing opportunities. Finally, BCRC will assist SVHCR in the development and distribution of a Request for Proposals (RFP) for a developer or developers to implement desired changes at the property. In the meantime, SVHCR was able to leverage BCRC's community outreach and visioning work to secure over \$600,000 in locally-generated funding from a crowdfunding campaign across southern Bennington County.

In a related effort, BCRC staff have taken an active role in the **International Economic Development Council's Higher Education Advisory Committee**, with the goal of bringing the profession's attention to the **emerging issue of small college closures** playing out around the country and conspicuously so in Vermont. In June, IEDC's *ED Now* featured a piece written by BCRC staff on the issue, and subsequently asked that the brief be expanded into an article for inclusion in IEDC's peer-reviewed *Economic Development Journal*.

Also in 2021, the Town of Bennington directed funding from the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation and a Municipal Planning Grant (MPG) from the Vermont Agency of Commerce and Community Development to BCRC to produce a reuse plan for the recently-shuttered **Energizer facility** in Bennington. A steering committee made up of representatives from local government, area business and housing organizations, businesses and lenders, neighborhood representatives, the school system, VT DEC and the EPA has been developed to oversee the process. The plan, completed in September and with additional input from consultant Camoin Associates, contemplates potential redevelopment opportunities for the nearly 300,000 SF facility with additional undeveloped

acreage, positioned on more than nine acres in Bennington's downtown. Of greatest public interest was the housing study, which quantified the need: **in Bennington alone, there is demand for 604 new rental units and 452 more homeowner units.**

BCRC staff continue to actively support the **Putnam Block Redevelopment**, a \$26 million phase-one project with substantial funding through the New Markets Tax Credit, the Historic Preservation Tax Credit, and Opportunity Zone investment. Following substantial completion of Phase One of the redevelopment and the subsequent work on a number of punch list items, tenants began to move into the block in earnest in early 2021. All but seven of the thirty-one residential units were occupied by the end of March and are now near full occupancy. Work on commercial spaces for the Bennington College Development Office, VNA-Hospice of the Southwest Region and some offices for Southwestern Vermont Health Care is underway or near completion and plans for Bayada, Global Z International, and a 120-seat restaurant are in various stages of design with work to commence soon. **Great Fields Pet Supply and Grooming and the Bennington Bookshop have opened their doors**, and the downtown advocacy group, the Better Bennington Corporation, has utilized prominent space to welcome visitors during busy weekends in the summer and fall.

Planning for Phase 2 of the redevelopment also resumed in the fall of 2021. BCRC staff secured preliminary letters of intent from Southwestern Vermont Health Care and the Vermont State College System, totaling **approximately 20,000 SF of clinical and educational uses**. The remainder of Phase 2 is likely to be some small retail spaces on the first floor and two or three floors of housing for up to thirty units.

MAJOR PANDEMIC RESPONSE INITIATIVES

In 2019, prior to the pandemic, there were 17,384 jobs. By 2020 the number had dropped to 15,420, **a decline of nearly 13 percent of all employment**. As in all other economic development offices around the country, BCRC focused on outreach and dialogue with businesses and community partners to maximize regional uptake of federal and state resources. BCRC staff were in contact with **over 450 businesses** in 2021 to support them in business recovery efforts as a result of the impacts of the pandemic. Assistance fell into the general categories of understanding executive orders and state guidance, deciphering unemployment insurance changes and assistance in applying for various funding opportunities including EIDL, PPP, Vermont State Economic Recovery Grants and the Restart Vermont Technical Assistance Program. Staff was also active in a variety of community engagement and information sharing sessions through the Southwestern Vermont Chamber of Commerce, CAT-TV and GNAT community access television and various select board meetings. These sessions were all intended to bring the most current available recovery information to the business community and public at large.

According to the most recent numbers, Bennington County received **1,197 PPP loans totaling \$87,835,608 and supporting approximately 10,400 jobs** (touching nearly two thirds of the total jobs in the county in 2020). Nearly 20 percent of the total dollars were distributed to businesses outside the two largest towns of Bennington and Manchester.

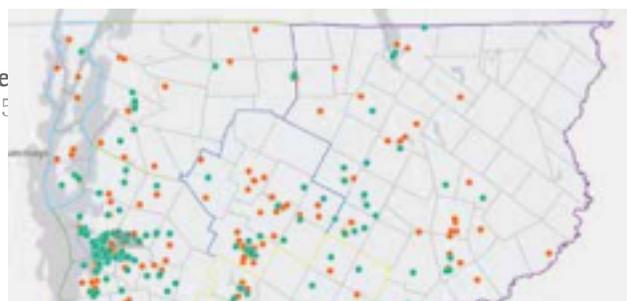
In April 2021, BCIC staff assisted the Vermont Community Foundation with event planning and preparation for **This Way Up**, an event focusing on the economic potential of women's entrepreneurship and featuring women-owned businesses from across Southern Vermont. The virtual program allowed VCF and co-host Vermont Women's Fund to shift the focus of the **more than 110 attendees** onto women advancing their careers as entrepreneurs outside of the Burlington region. Businesses within the BCRC region were well-represented on the panel and in the gift boxes that accompanied registration.

BCRC staff have become essential partners in the operations and strategy of the **Southern Vermont Communications Union District**, which serves much of Bennington County. Staff coordinate with the CUD's executive committee, the statewide association of CUDs known as VCUDA, and the newly-empaneled Vermont Community Broadband Board. In addition to the \$160,000 in grant funding procured in FY20, staff developed a successful application for another \$139,500 from the H.315 bill to fund the CUD's administrative, legal, and consulting needs through the end of calendar year 2021.

In August, BCRC was pleased to finalize the formation of a **public-private partnership** with Consolidated Communications, and the subsequent joint application to the **National Telecommunications Infrastructure Administration's Broadband Infrastructure Grant**. If the application is successful, the NTIA award will fund 90 percent of a \$9 million project that will **connect approximately 45 percent of the region's unserved and underserved locations** to fiber optic cable by the end of 2022, with the remaining 10 percent of the project cost contributed by Consolidated. Under the terms of the partnership, the CUD will retain ownership of 90 percent of the physical network built out by the funding.

COVID - 19 Response

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Restart Vermont Technical Assistance or ReVTA is a relief program, funded by the CARES Act, run by the Regional Development Corporations of Vermont (RDCs of VT).

The program's focus is to connect businesses with Technical Assistance (TA) Providers. Business Navigators from the RDCs in each Region provide one-on-one direct assistance to each business to find the a TA

During COVID, BDCC program staff pivoted to help Windham Region business: 54 **ReVTA** recipients employing 1,125 people access \$157,062 in grants, provided technical assistance and grants through **CDBG-CV** to 133 sole proprietors in the southern half of the state, totaling \$130,059,813 in PPP and EIDL funds helped 1,549 Windham businesses and nonprofits weather the pandemic. BDCC staff reviewed 264 Vermont nonprofit and small business applications to help them obtain state relief for \$15.3 million in losses.

CEDS Implementation Activities

The topline goals of the Southern Vermont CEDS are to strengthen business and support people. Five objectives were identified to meet those goals: increase our population, improve our physical infrastructure, enhance our social infrastructure, expand our business infrastructure, and develop our economic development infrastructure. Annually projects are submitted to help achieve this goal and they may be found in this report's appendix. Highlights from regional implementation activity from November 2020 - November 2021 are summarized below by objective including, when available, estimated costs associated with each of the CEDS activities, including identification of integrated funding sources (public, private, and non-profit) scope and timeframe when applicable.

A full list of 2021 projects ranked by the CEDS Project Ranking Committee appears in the Appendix. BDCC and BCRC staff worked together to bring together eleven individuals that represent the region and are firmly established in their field of expertise to review, rank, and discuss the 66 project submissions. This year's committee: This year's committee: Gordon Black, Town of Manchester; Linda Bow, Tri-State Area Federal Credit Union; Drew Bryenton, The Richards Group; Sharon Crossman, Town of Londonderry; Mike Cutler, CAT-TV; Lissa Harris, Fare Value Network; Elisabeth Marx, Vermont Community Foundation; Shannon McLenithan, The Bank of Bennington; Ed Metcalf, Vermont Distillers; James Salerno, Hale Mountain Research; Betsy Thurston, Bellows Falls Downtown Development Alliance.

Funded CEDS Activities in 2021 Windham, Bennington, Zone-wide

Increase our Population:

Attract more people to live in Southern Vermont, to participate in the community, the workforce, and support the business and civic environment.

Scope: Zone wide

Key stats: Southern Vermont's **population grew to 83,252** according to the 2020 Census, approximately 2 percent greater than 2010. Federal estimates through 2019 forecast a decline of more than 4 percent, highlighting the importance of the slight gains made.

- Careqd, Southwestern Vermont Health Care
 - \$100,000 annual costs to deploy an on-demand urgent care platform.
 - Mobile access to board-certified physicians for urgent, non-life-threatening issues, for \$70 flat rate.
 - Launched July 2020.

Improve our Physical Infrastructure:

Make the critical infrastructure improvements so that Southern Vermont is resident and business ready.

SCOPE: County Specific

The CEDS highlighted the need for investment in broadband infrastructure. Southern Vermont has capitalized on major legislation Vermont Legislature passed in May 2019 supporting the development of community fiber projects. **DVFiber**, a community fiber to the premises project in 24 member towns³ has made major progress in 2021 signing an MOU with a builder and operator for universal fiber to the premise service in its first phase towns.⁴ Similarly in Bennington County, the **Southern Vermont Communications Union District** represents the interests of 14 towns and has procured a public-private partnership with an incumbent ISP.

- WRC Windham County DVFiber
 - 24 towns

DVFiber



³ "Member Towns." *DVFiber*, 11 Sept. 2021, <https://dvfiber.net/member-towns/>. *empowering our connection to the future*

⁴ "DVFiber to Partner with Great Works Internet to Secure Broadband Access." *DVFiber*, 2 July 2021, <https://dvfiber.net/dvfiber-to-partner-with-great-western-internet-to-secure-broadband-access/>.

- 4.2 million in state and regional grants
 - Signed MOU for construction and operation
 - Awarded funding for pre-construction costs
- BCRC Bennington County Southern Vermont Communications Union District/Catamount Fiber⁵
\$344,500 in state grants and philanthropy, \$15,000 in federal grant and municipal support for BCRC staff assistance, service area covering 14 towns.



Southern Vermont

Communications Union District

 - \$60,000 grant for completion of feasibility study and business plan.
 - \$100,000 grant for pole survey in most-underserved towns.
 - \$30,000 for support of general operations.
 - \$25,000 for deployment of WiFi hotspots around the region for telehealth, remote learning, and remote work access, and lendable equipment for at-home connectivity.
 - \$139,500 for technical assistance in pre-construction phase.

Other infrastructure projects

- A New Approach to Drinking Water Safety, MSK Engineers
 - Private-sector development of a unique approach to inventory and mapping of existing known and potential [lead service lines for drinking water](#) in the Town of Bennington.
 - Public/private collaboration to establish highly effective public outreach for residential testing. **Response rate exceeds 90 percent.**
 - Procured nationally-significant and unprecedented **\$11,000,000 in federal funds** from the Vermont Drinking Water State Revolving Loan Fund. A **fully-reimbursable loan** that will cover the cost of construction at all of the 140 lead-contaminated service connections.
 - Featured in June 24 segment of [Vice News](#) on federal response to lead drinking water contamination.

Enhance our Social Infrastructure:

Improve quality of life and stability for residents.

- Community Facilities, **SCOPE:** Windham Region BDCC Technical Assistance Provider **KEY metric:** 21 projects in nine communities. \$26,988 in grants went to: the Bellows Falls Bike Project, Town of Londonderry, Bellows Falls Area

⁵ <https://sovtcud.net/>

Development Corporation, Deerfield Valley Fiber, the Town of Whitingham, and the Southern Vermont Therapeutic Riding Center.

- Old School Community Center⁶ - **SCOPE: Wilmington KEY Metric:** 9 small businesses, 2 non-profits and school district offices. 28 people are employed there and dozens come each day for services, classes and events. BDCC helped OSEC obtain USDA RBDG funding to upgrade the bathrooms in this important regional hub, and are
 - Funding to upgrade bathrooms
 - Working to help fund additional projects including much-needed childcare facilities for valley residents.
- Bennington Recreation Center Head Start/Early Head Start Addition, Town of Bennington
 - [13,500 square foot renovation and addition](#) to the Town of Bennington's Recreation Center.
 - \$4.8 million project underwritten by federal funding from Head Start.
 - Increases access to high-quality child care and early childhood education in Bennington's downtown.
- Dorset Theatre Festival Outdoor Season at Southern Vermont Arts Center, Dorset Theatre Festival
 - [Collaboration between two leading arts organizations](#) in northern Bennington County to establish a nationally-known theater company's season in an outdoor setting.
 - Enabled COVID-protocol compliant process for producing and performing an entire summer series outdoors as "Play Outside in Vermont."
- BDCC Southern Vermont Economy Project IDA Project Incremental development is small projects by local people over a long period of time. **SCOPE:** Bellows Falls **KEY Metric:** 130 people participated in 10 presentations, focus groups, and meetings.
- SoVT Welcome Wagon Project **SCOPE:** Windham Region **KEY Metric:** Of 375 individuals and families touched in 2021 62 new Vermonters signed up for the SoVT Welcome Wagon Project, and 78 current Vermonters signed up to host these newcomers.

Expand our Business Infrastructure:

Create an environment that will encourage more jobs and opportunities in Southern Vermont.

⁶ <https://www.osccvt.com/news>

- Both Bennington and Windham provided direct support to businesses through the RDCs of Vermont Restart Vermont program <https://benningtonrpc.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapJournal/index.html?appid=ee0f599553304238917213a1c2fac218>
- BDCC administered, but it also helped Bennington County, CDBG CV assistance <https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/05b95fa750dc4477b1361ad89042bd8e>
- Business support and investment **SCOPE Windham Region** Windham County Economic Development Program funded through the Vermont Yankee closure **KEY Metric:** led to \$52.5 million in impact and 1,358 jobs created and retained and has spurred expanded businesses services.⁷
- Bennington County Food System Asset Map, BCRC
 - [Online map](#) provides comprehensive information on the various components of the food system in the county, from farm production to waste management.
 - Part of a \$1,000,000 [three-year grant](#) from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation to Bennington College to address food insecurity in Bennington County.
- Sunrise Connections Project, Sunrise Family Resource Center
 - A \$200,000 investment in three pre-war buildings in downtown Bennington at the county's established Parent Child Center.
 - Improves functionality as a place of work, a place of learning, a place of family growth, and a digital access point for families in need of support.
 - Created a full working kitchen for the students in our Learning Together Program, a state-approved alternative high school completion program.

Develop our Economic Development Capacity: Enhance the ability for economic development professionals and partners to play a role in implementation.

- Town funding for SeVEDS has enabled the launch of such programs as BDCC Paid Internships, P3 high school career education, newcomer and talent attraction initiatives, and workforce trainings. Town funds matched with USDA funding also created programs that serve communities directly – the Southern Vermont

⁷ Audette, Bob. "Brattleboro Development Credit Corporation Expands Small Business Assistance Program." *Brattleboro Reformer*, 22 July 2021, https://www.reformer.com/local-news/brattleboro-development-credit-corporation-expands-small-business-assistance-program/article_26464722-e33b-11eb-bef6-8f07453dc629.html.

Economy Project (SVEP) and Community Facilities Technical Assistance Program (TAP). **SCOPE:** Windham In FY21 BDCC helped secure **KEY Metric** \$4.1 million for other organizations – nonprofits and businesses doing critical projects that contribute to the region’s economic vitality. This includes grants from the Northern Borders Regional Commission, USDA, EDA, CARES Act, CDBG, and multiple state programs. BDCC has already worked on applications for future funding totaling \$2.1 million for FY22.

- Southern Vermont Economy Project
 - Facilitated solicitation, ranking projects submitted to be included in the five-year plan for growing the southern Vermont economy (see appendix)
 - 22 Regional Town Meeting Updates
- 5th Annual Southern Vermont Economy Summit - virtual. **SCOPE** Southern Vermont **KEY Metrics** 3 days, 9 sessions, 15 hours on zoom, 80 panelists, speakers, sponsors, 168 attendees, 63 towns represented, 113 organizations
- Economic Development District proposal development underway.

Appendix

Link to FY'20 BDCC & SeVEDS ANNUAL REPORT

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1fsx1CzrzvVDnNOyBEMEF9lqjPOAwJVqAFiaV5e6YGO4/edit>

Link to Link to Bennington Opportunity Zone Prospectus:

<https://www.acceleratorforamerica.org/s/Bennington-VT.pdf>

Link to Southern Vermont CUD Annual Report:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/13tq9R1dGenUw9gGDDGtmJgFVsQaSjzyQ/view?usp=sharing>

Links to Southern Vermont College reuse public outreach:

<https://svhealthcare.org/news/svhc-seeks-public-feedback-on-everett-estate-reuse>

Link to Energizer reuse planning process:

https://www.benningtonbanner.com/local-news/energizer-reuse-plan-consultants-discuss-early-findings/article_161c213c-ebe7-11eb-b9dd-178acd62564d.html

Link to Bennington County 2021 Regional Perspective

<https://vermontbiz.com/news/2021/october/17/bennington-county-pandemic-uncertainty-lingers-workforce-housing-shortages>

Link to Windham County 2021 Regional Perspective

<https://vermontbiz.com/news/2021/may/23/economy-stronger-expected-uncertainty-sits-horizon>

2021 Southern Vermont CEDS Projects (alphabetical by project name)

- A New Approach to Drinking Water Safety - MSK Engineers
- Area Wide Plan - Town of Rockingham
- Bellows Falls Incremental Neighborhood Housing Development - Town of Rockingham
- Bellows Falls Opera House Lower Theater - Town of Rockingham
- Bellows Falls Historic Train Station Purchase and Renovation - Town of Rockingham
- Bellows Falls Vacuum Coating Training Center - Sustainable Valley Group, Inc
- Bennington County Food System Asset Map - Bennington County Regional Commission
- Bennington Recreation Center Head Start/Early Head Start Addition - Town of Bennington
- Branded Graphics for Small Woman-Owned Business - couch + cork, llc • Brattleboro Quality Youth Development Certification - Building a Positive Community

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- Community Access Technology Center (Deerfield Valley) - Wilmington Works
- Community Facilities Technical Assistance - Brattleboro Development Credit Corporation
- curATE café - Southern Vermont Arts Center
- Developing new markets and infrastructure to support Vermont farms and food producers - Food Connects
- Dorset Theatre Festival Outdoor Season at Southern Vermont Arts Center - Dorset Theatre Festival
- Downtown River Connector Rail With Trail - Friends of the West River
- DVFiber - Deerfield Valley Communications Union District (DVCUD)
- Early Childhood Education Center - Community Collaborative for Guilford
- Energizer Facility Reuse - Town of Bennington
- Entrepreneurship and Talent Development - Bennington Area Makers
- Expand existing architecture to include kitchenettes for traveling public - Casablanca Motel
- Extending Massachusetts Rail Expansion to Vermont - Windham Regional Commission
- Flood Hazard Mitigation in Jacksonville Village - Town of Whitingham
- Green Island Project - Great Falls Food Hub - Sustainable Valley Group, Inc
- Hiring Needs Assessment - Brattleboro Development Credit Corporation
- Hotel Windham CapEx - Windham Development Group LLC
- IEDC Staff Certification - Bennington County Regional Commission
- Intersecting Recreation, Environmental Education, and Food Security at Lake Paran - Paran Recreations
- Island St. Revitalization - Bellows Falls Area Development Corp
- Knowledge Bites Webinar Series - Brattleboro Development Credit Corporation
- Lake Paran Village - Shires Housing
- Licensed Nurse Assistant Education Program - Vermont Technical College
- Lynda/ LinkedIn Learning for McCullough Library Members - John G. McCullough Free Library
- Manchester Riverwalk - Manchester Riverwalk Association
- Municipal Currency Referendums - Public Liberation Unions
- Old School Community Center - Old School Enrichment Council, Inc.
- Pipelines & Pathways Program - Brattleboro Development Credit Corporation
- Pleasant Valley Water Treatment Project - Town of Brattleboro
- Pownal Town Green - Town of Pownal
- Retreat Farm - Retreat Farm
- Rich Earth Institute's Urine Nutrient Reclamation Project - Rich Earth Institute
- Robertson Paper Site Redevelopment - Bellows Falls Area Development Corp
- Route 9 Infrastructure Improvement - Town of Wilmington
- Southern Vermont Communication Union District - SoVT Executive Committee
- Southern Vermont Economy Summit - Brattleboro Development Credit Corporation
- Southern Vermont Mapping Capacity - Bennington County Regional Commission
- Southern Vermont Marketing Plan - Brattleboro Development Credit Corporation
- Southern Vermont Welcome Wagon Project - Brattleboro Development Credit Corporation
- Southern Vermont Workforce Center of Excellence - BDCC/SeVEDS
- SoVermont.com "Job Board" - Brattleboro Development Credit Corporation
- Strategic Plan - Southern Vermont Natural History Museum
- Sunrise Connections Project - Sunrise Family Resource Center

- Targeted Expertise Recruitment and Retention - Brattleboro Development Credit Corporation
- The Food Center - Retreat Farm
- The North Barn - Retreat Farm
- TLR Master Plan - Sustainable Valley Group, Inc
- Trails and Outdoor Recreation - Town of Rockingham
- Transportation Master Plan: Bellows Falls Greater Island District and FERC - Town of Rockingham
- Trolley Line Shared Use Path - Bennington County Regional Commission
- Vernon Center: A new 21st-century New England village - Friends of Vernon Center, Inc.
- Vernon Green Nursing Home Replacement - Vernon Advent Christian Homes, Inc. ("VACH") dba Vernon Homes.
- Vilas Bridge Rehabilitation - Town of Rockingham
- Village Water/Wastewater Feasibility - Windham Regional Commission
- Welcoming Communities Project (formerly Working Communities of Southern Vermont) - Brattleboro Development Credit Corporation
- Whitingham Sewer Infrastructure - Town of Whitingham
- Windham Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation - Brattleboro Development Credit Corporation