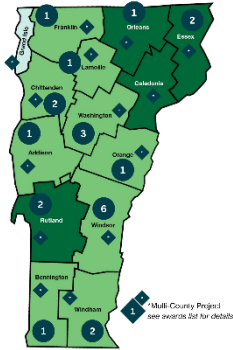




State of Vermont 2025 Catalyst Program Awards



2025 Applicant Summary

	Spring Round	Fall Round
Total Number of Applicants	16	16
Total Funds Requested	\$ 17,890,392.00	\$9,620,035.86
Total Number of Awards	11	13
Total Funds Awarded	\$13,699,366.02	\$8,939,242.08

[click to enlarge](#)

2025 Spring Awards

Bennington County

Spring Award to: Bennington County Industrial Corporation

Project: NBRC funds will be used to develop essential transportation and water/wastewater infrastructure, supporting long-term economic revitalization in the Putnam Block of downtown Bennington. This initiative includes the construction of a two-level parking garage, surface parking, a new street, sidewalks, curbing, plantings, a bus shelter, and critical stormwater mitigation systems. By strengthening foundational infrastructure, the project aims to unlock further investment, enhance downtown accessibility, and drive sustainable regional growth.

Location of Project: Bennington County (CD-01)

Grant Amount: \$3,000,000.00

Total Project Amount: \$7,714,822.00

Chittenden County

Spring Award to: Bolton Valley Water and Community Development Co.

Project: NBRC funds will be used to upgrade the community wastewater plant and construct a new road to support housing and economic growth. The wastewater plant improvements will replace aging infrastructure, enhance resilience against severe storms, and expand capacity for future development, while the new road will facilitate a 32-unit subdivision and strengthen the village's long-term sustainability. By modernizing essential infrastructure, this initiative will catalyze \$20 million in real estate investment, create jobs, and bolster the region's outdoor recreation and tourism economy.

Location of Project: Chittenden County (CD-01)

Grant Amount: \$3,000,000.00

Total Project Amount: \$9,179,190.00

Essex County

Spring Award to: Canaan Naturally Connected, Inc.

Project: NBRC funds will be used to renovate a historic Episcopal Church into the Canaan Community Center, a vital hub for economic and social engagement in rural Essex County, Vermont. This project will enhance workforce development, increase access to cultural and community programming, and preserve the historic integrity of the building while making it ADA accessible. By creating a sustainable gathering space, CNC aims to foster local connections, support underserved residents, and stimulate regional revitalization.

Location of Project: Essex County (CD-01)

Grant Amount: \$449,044.00

Total Project Amount: \$738,055.00

Franklin County

Spring Award to: Town of Highgate

Project: NBRC funds will be used to construct a community wastewater system, enhancing infrastructure for residents, businesses, and public spaces in Highgate Center. Designed to treat 20,000 gallons per day, this project will support economic growth by enabling senior housing, a new public library, and increased business capacity. With engineering phases nearing completion, funding will support construction of the wastewater disposal field, pump stations, and sewer connections, ensuring long-term sustainability and community development.

Location of Project: Franklin County (CD-01)

Grant Amount: \$1,000,000.00

Total Project Amount: \$6,839,130.00

Orange County

Spring Award to: Sage Mountain Botanical Sanctuary

Project: NBRC funds will be used to conduct a feasibility study for expanding childcare facilities and outdoor recreation infrastructure, addressing critical service gaps in rural Vermont. This initiative will enhance workforce participation by increasing licensed after-school care and boost local tourism through improved nature trails and eco-tourism programs. By integrating childcare with conservation education and outdoor recreation, SMBS aims to strengthen economic resilience, promote environmental sustainability, and support community well-being.

Location of Project: Orange County (CD-01)

Grant Amount: \$100,000.00

Total Project Amount: \$294,000.00

Rutland County

Spring Award to: Benson Village Trust, Inc.

Project: NBRC funds will be used to rebuild the Benson Village Store, restoring a vital economic and social hub for the rural community of Benson, Vermont. This project will construct a new 2.5-story general store with a deli, gas station, post office, and gathering spaces, providing essential services while fostering local engagement and economic growth. By revitalizing the village center, BVT aims to strengthen business activity, support tourism, and enhance quality of life in this historically significant town.

Location of Project: Rutland County (CD-01)

Grant Amount: \$500,000.00

Total Project Amount: \$1,309,000.00

Spring Award to: Rutland City

Project: NBRC funds will be used to modernize Downtown Rutland's infrastructure, enhancing economic growth and resilience. The initiative will replace aging water mains, improve stormwater management, upgrade wastewater systems, and redesign streetscapes to support accessibility and pedestrian safety. By revitalizing critical infrastructure and supporting downtown redevelopment, this project strengthens Rutland's long-term economic sustainability and public health.

Location of Project: Rutland County (CD-01)

Grant Amount: \$3,000,000.00

Total Project Amount: \$6,741,410.00

Windham County

Spring Award to: Food Connects

Project: NBRC funds will be used to expand its storage and distribution infrastructure, increasing market access for Vermont food producers and supporting rural economic development. This initiative will enhance cold and frozen storage, improve transportation logistics, and add critical staff capacity to facilitate regional food distribution. By strengthening local food systems, creating jobs, and improving food security, the project aims to foster economic resilience and sustainability across New England.

Location of Project: Windham County (CD-01)

Grant Amount: \$499,385.50

Total Project Amount: \$998,771.00

Windsor County

Spring Award to: Town of Rochester

Project: NBRC funds will be used to re-purpose the former Rochester High School into a multi-use community hub. This project will provide early childhood education, senior services,

workforce development, arts programming, and business incubation, addressing critical infrastructure needs in a geographically isolated rural area. This initiative aims to strengthen economic resilience, expand public services, and foster social connectivity for residents.

Location of Project: Windsor County (CD-01)

Grant Amount: \$1,000,000.00

Total Project Amount: \$4,552,120.00

Spring Award to: Southeast Vermont Transit, Inc.

Project: NBRC funds will be used to convert Springfield, Vermont's fixed-route bus system, into a free, on-demand micro transit service. This initiative will improve access to employment, healthcare, childcare, and local businesses, stimulating economic growth and mobility for residents. By funding scheduling software and three years of operations, SEVT aims to replicate its successful Windsor micro transit model, reducing unemployment, increasing business activity, and enhancing overall community connectivity.

Location of Project: Windsor County (CD-01)

Grant Amount: \$282,078.00

Total Project Amount: \$812,822.00

Spring Award to: Town of Woodstock

Project: NBRC funds will be used to upgrade its municipal drinking water system, increasing pressure and capacity to support new housing and business development. This project will replace a municipal water supply well, install a new water main under Elm Street bridge, and improve infrastructure resilience against fire flow risks and future flood events. By modernizing the system, Woodstock aims to enhance public health and safety, facilitate economic growth, and strengthen the town's role as a regional tourism hub.

Location of Project: Windsor County (CD-01)

Grant Amount: \$868,858.52

Total Project Amount: \$1,755,094.22

2025 Fall Awards

Addison County

Organization: City Of Vergennes

Project Summary: The City of Vergennes has been awarded \$1,000,000.00 to construct a new 1,280-foot city street with sidewalks and utilities to support the Vergennes North workforce housing development. The project will enable construction of 130 housing units and expand the city's tax base while improving transportation and water infrastructure. This initiative supports housing, economic development, and regional workforce needs.

Location of Project: VT – Addison

Grant Amount: \$1,000,000.00

Total Project Amount: \$2,000,000.00

Chittenden County

Organization: Town of Shelburne

Project Summary: The Town of Shelburne has been awarded \$1,000,000.00 to install an ultraviolet disinfection system as part of a larger wastewater treatment plant consolidation and upgrade. This project will improve water quality in Lake Champlain, reduce long-term operating costs, and support economic growth by ensuring reliable wastewater services for residents and businesses. It also enhances environmental resilience and public health infrastructure.

Location of Project: VT – Chittenden

Grant Amount: \$1,000,000.00

Total Project Amount: \$2,440,000.00

Essex County

Organization: Taproot Farm & Environmental Education Center

Project Summary: Taproot Farm & Environmental Education Center has been awarded \$294,400.00 to establish a permanent farm, recreation, and education campus on 60 acres in Lunenburg, Vermont. The project includes land acquisition, trail access, and planning for a future education center to support agriculture, youth programs, and tourism. This initiative supports workforce development, conservation, and rural economic growth.

Location of Project: VT – Essex

Grant Amount: \$294,400.00

Total Project Amount: \$368,000.00

Lamoille County

Organization: Cambridge 360 Inc

Project Summary: Cambridge 360 has been awarded \$489,020.08 to acquire and renovate the Cambridge Community Center in Jeffersonville, Vermont, preserving it as a vital hub for recreation, youth programs, and economic development. The project includes urgent repairs, site improvements, and expanded programming to support regional workforce and community resilience. This initiative ensures continued access to shared public space and strengthens the local economy.

Location of Project: VT – Lamoille

Grant Amount: \$489,020.08

Total Project Amount: \$978,040.16

Orleans County

Organization: Northeast Kingdom Community Action, Inc

Project Summary: Northeast Kingdom Community Action, Inc. has been awarded \$1,000,000.00 to expand the Lakemont Family Resource Center in Newport, Vermont, by adding 16 childcare slots, constructing three classrooms, and purchasing the building. The project will also support mobile service delivery to rural areas and create six new jobs. This initiative addresses critical childcare needs and enhances family support infrastructure in the Northeast Kingdom.

Location of Project: VT – Orleans

Grant Amount: \$1,000,000.00

Total Project Amount: \$1,763,906.00

Washington County

Organization: Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission

Project Summary: The Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission has been awarded \$100,000.00 to conduct a feasibility study for redeveloping the 87 State Street Federal Building in downtown Montpelier. The study will explore flood-resilient, mixed-use redevelopment options that include housing, parking, and commercial space. This project supports economic recovery, community resilience, and revitalization of Vermont's capital city.

Location of Project: VT – Washington

Grant Amount: \$100,000.00

Total Project Amount: \$288,000.00

Organization: City of Montpelier

Project Summary: The City of Montpelier has been awarded \$2,994,597.00 to replace aging water and sewer infrastructure and support redevelopment of the 133-acre Country Club Road site into a mixed-use neighborhood. The project includes a new pump station, utility upgrades, and road construction to enable 300 new housing units. This initiative supports housing, infrastructure, and community resilience.

Location of Project: VT – Washington

Grant Amount: \$2,994,597.00

Total Project Amount: \$11,091,098.00

Organization: Town of Waitsfield, Vermont

Project Summary: The Town of Waitsfield has been awarded \$1,000,000.00 to connect Waitsfield School to a new municipal wastewater system as part of a broader infrastructure project. The connection will replace aging septic infrastructure, support school expansion, and enable future residential and commercial tie-ins. This project enhances public health, education, and long-term community development in the Mad River Valley.

Location of Project: VT – Washington

Grant Amount: \$1,000,000.00

Total Project Amount: \$2,921,409.00

Windham County

Organization: The Hatch Inc.

Project Summary: HatchSpace has been awarded \$36,225.00 to conduct a feasibility study for acquiring and improving its current facility in downtown Brattleboro, Vermont. The study will assess building conditions, financial models, and acquisition strategies to support HatchSpace's mission of advancing craft and technical education. The project aims to strengthen Vermont's creative, construction, and education sectors through infrastructure planning and community engagement.

Location of Project: VT – Windham

Grant Amount: \$36,225.00

Total Project Amount: \$72,450.00

Windsor County

Organization: Norwich Community Collaborative Inc.

Project Summary: Norwich Community Collaborative has been awarded \$390,000.00 to complete the third phase of restoring the historic Norwich Grange Hall into a multi-purpose community center. The project will add ADA-compliant facilities and infrastructure to support senior services, childcare, and community programming. This effort will enhance social connection and economic vitality in the village.

Location of Project: VT – Windsor

Grant Amount: \$390,000.00

Total Project Amount: \$848,554.00

Organization: The Southern Vermont Health and Recreation Center Foundation

Project Summary: The Southern Vermont Health and Recreation Center Foundation has been awarded \$100,000.00 to conduct pre-development planning for a new Connector building that will link its aquatic and fitness center with a historic facility. The project will include design work for a childcare center, wellness programming space, and public meeting areas. This initiative supports childcare access, workforce development, and community health in Springfield, Vermont.

Location of Project: VT – Windsor

Grant Amount: \$100,000.00

Total Project Amount: \$200,000.00

Organization: Two Rivers-Ottawquechee Regional Commission

Project Summary: Two Rivers-Ottawquechee Regional Commission has been awarded \$35,000.00 to conduct a feasibility study for downtown White River Junction infrastructure improvements, including a public plaza, parking facility, and geothermal energy options. The study will support redevelopment of key sites into housing and commercial space while enhancing connectivity and sustainability. This project supports infrastructure planning, economic development, and community resilience.

Location of Project: VT – Windsor

Grant Amount: \$35,000.00

Total Project Amount: \$70,000.00

Multiple Counties

Organization: Vermont League of Cities and Towns

Project Summary: The Vermont League of Cities and Towns has been awarded \$500,000.00 to launch a technical assistance program building capacity for municipalities to access the state's new Community Housing & Infrastructure Program (CHIP). The initiative will provide training, resources, and consulting to support infrastructure investments that enable housing development. The project will ensure equitable access to CHIP funding across Vermont.

Location of Project: VT - Addison; VT - Bennington; VT - Caledonia; VT - Chittenden; VT - Essex; VT - Franklin; VT - Grand Isle; VT - Lamoille; VT - Orange; VT - Orleans; VT - Rutland; VT - Washington; VT - Windham; VT – Windsor

Grant Amount: \$500,000.00

Total Project Amount: \$710,000