

THE VERMONT CENTER FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING #03-0271000

TOWN OF CHARLOTTE

SUMMARY REPORT

Request Amount: \$200.00

For over 45 years, The Vermont Center for Independent Living (VCIL) has been teaching people with disabilities and the Deaf how to gain more control over their lives and how to access tools and services to live more independently. VCIL employees (85% of whom have a disability) conduct public education, outreach, individual advocacy and systems change advocacy to help promote the full inclusion of people with disabilities into community life.

In FY'24 (10/2023-9/2024) VCIL responded to thousands of requests from individuals, agencies and community groups for information, referral and assistance and program services for individuals living with a disability. VCIL Peer Advocate Counselors (PACs) provided one-on-one peer counseling to **297** individuals to help increase their independent living skills. VCIL's Home Access Program (HAP) assisted **232** households with information on technical assistance and/or alternative funding for modifications; **115** of these received financial assistance to make their bathrooms and/or entrances accessible. Our Sue Williams Freedom Fund (SWFF) provided **151** individuals with information on assistive technology; **43** of these individuals received funding to obtain adaptive equipment. **507** individuals had meals delivered through our Meals on Wheels (MOW) program for individuals with disabilities under the age of 60. Our Vermont Telecommunications Equipment Distribution Program (VTEDP) served **40** people and provided **31** peers with adaptive telecommunications enabling low-income Deaf, Deaf-blind, Hard of Hearing and individuals with disabilities to communicate by telephone.

VCIL's central office is located in downtown Montpelier (although we are working from home as our office (along with so many others) was devastated in the July flood and we have four branch offices in Bennington, Chittenden, Rutland and Windham Counties. Our PACs and services are available to people with disabilities throughout Vermont.

During our FY'24, **2** residents of **Charlotte** received services from the following programs

- Meals on Wheels (MOW)
(over **\$400.00** spent on meals for residents)
- Peer Advocacy Counseling Program (PAC)
- Information, Referral and Assistance (I,R&A)