



Community Economic Development *Opportunities in Okemo Valley*

VT Agency of Human Services (AHS): Sue Graf recently did a Zoom Chat for chamber members informing them about the mission of this agency to improve the health & well-being of Vermonters. Their goal is also to maximize federal & state funding opportunities, with focus on pandemic-related funding in the short-term. The two primary sources of potential funding:

• **US 2020 Census**: If we don't have a complete census, we start in a deficit position, leaving federal \$ on the table (*then state general funds needs to be utilized instead*). Second homeowners need to complete for BOTH addresses! Please complete the Census here:

<https://2020census.gov/en.html>

• **Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF)/CARES Act**:

1. **Utilities** (*electric, gas, water, landline phone*) assistance, relief & recovery will be available around 8/14 from the VT Dept. of Public Service.
2. **Rent Stabilization** funding for Landlords & Tenants: <https://www.vsha.org/rental-housing-stabilization-program/>
3. **Mortgage Assistance** for homeowners: <https://www.vhfa.org/map>
4. **Apartment Rehab Assistance**: <https://accd.vermont.gov/covid-19/housing-assistance-programs> (*more info/application details for landlords coming soon*).
5. **Everyone Eats**: The State of Vermont has allocated \$5M from the Federal Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF) for a new program called Everyone Eats, which supports restaurants and farms feeding Vermonters who have been negatively impacted by COVID-19. Learn more here: <https://www.sevca.org/vt-everyone-eats>. Everyone Eats is administered in VT by *Southeastern Vermont Community Action (SEVCA)*. Funds will be used for programs to help feed the food insecure by purchasing from local food providers such as farms and restaurants. They are seeking requests for proposals from communities. The Request for Proposal (RFP) can be found here: https://www.sevca.org/images/pdf/Everyone_Eats_-_Cover_Letter_and_RFP_-_VT_Restaurants_Supporting_Emergency_Feeding_1.pdf. An information session will be hosted to provide an overview of the program and application process on **Monday Aug 3, 2020, at 4:30 PM**. Prospective applicants can register to attend this webinar here: <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZApC-Chpz4iGdMRdkAVKeTTGZt921aNCTtx>

Contact Sue with any questions: Sue.Graff@vermont.gov or 802-585-5334 (*call or text*)