

Breakout Sessions

Each breakout session will focus on a specific initiative or focus area where Collective Impact concepts and strategies are being used in Vermont to inspire, drive and support multi-stakeholders efforts.

Collective Impact in the Northeast Kingdom

Joe Patrissi, Executive Director, Northeast Kingdom Community Action

The Northeast Kingdom Enterprise Collaborative started with a focus on economic development and community development issues in Orleans, Essex and Caledonia Counties of Vermont, an area known as the Northeast Kingdom. Members include regional development organizations, educators, social service and employment agencies, local government officials, business people, nonprofit organizations, health care providers and conservation organizations.

The Collaborative is working to introduce the Collective Impact model of social change to organizations (public, non-profit and for-profit) and to improve communication and collaboration among the residents, employers, and other parties interested in the health and vigor of Vermont's Northeast Kingdom.

ECOS Project: Collective Impact & Municipal Planning

Regina Mahony, Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission

The ECOS Project (Environment. Community. Sustainability. Opportunity) is a deliberate effort to bring a collective impact approach to regional planning – with many and varied stakeholders working toward a shared vision and using shared measurement. Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission (CCPRC) has acted as a backbone in creating and monitoring the county-wide regional plan that includes a range of strategies to support natural systems, economic

infrastructure, social community, built environment, and more. The ECOS Plan itself was created over the course of three years, culminating with updates to the County's most important planning documents and implementation of other local projects. This initiative has been guided by highly involved project partners, a large and diverse steering committee, state and local agencies, business leaders, non-profit agencies, and, importantly, the citizens of the region.

SASH: Supports and Services at Home

Kim Fitzgerald, Executive Director, Cathedral Square Corporation

Judy Peterson, Executive Director, Visiting Nurse Association of Chittenden and Grand Isle Counties

John Michael Hall, Executive Director, CVAA

SASH helps Vermont's seniors and individuals with special needs access the care and support they need to stay healthy while living comfortably and safely at home. Using a partnership model that relies on formalized regional connections between many organizations across the state, SASH creates alignment and coordination among housing, health, and other service providers. SASH is available in many communities throughout Vermont and serves primarily persons 65 and older and persons with disabilities. SASH communities include a care coordinator and wellness nurse who work in partnership with a team of community providers to assist SASH participants.

Vermont Blueprint for Health

Craig Jones, Executive Director, Vermont Blueprint for Health

The Vermont Blueprint for Health is a state-led, nationally-recognized initiative transforming the way primary care and comprehensive health services are delivered and paid for. The Blueprint works with practices, hospitals, health centers, provider networks, insurers, and other stakeholders to implement a statewide health service model in Vermont. The model includes advanced primary care in the form of patient centered medical homes (PCMHs), multi-disciplinary support services in the form of community health teams (CHTs), a network of self-management support programs, comparative reporting from statewide data systems, and activities focused on continuous improvement (Learning Health System). The program aims for all citizens to have access to high quality primary care and preventive health services, and to establish a foundation for a high value health system in Vermont.

Vermont Farm to Plate Initiative

Ellen Kahler, Executive Director, Vermont Sustainable Jobs Fund (VSJF)

Vermont Farm to Plate is an established statewide initiative that has focused explicitly on Collective Impact in implementing Vermont's food system plan. Farm to Plate started in 2009 after the legislature asked the VSJF to create of a ten year Farm to Plate Strategic Plan to increase economic development and jobs in the farm and food sector and improve access to healthy local food for all Vermonters . They are now four years into implementing the plan with VSJF serving as the backbone organization for the Farm to Plate Network; 350+ farmers, food entrepreneurs, technical assistance providers, public sector personnel, and a wide range of farm and food sector industry leaders who are collaborating and making good progress towards the Plan's 25 goals and three main results. Farm to Plate uses Results Based Accountability as its shared metrics framework and has a robust continuous communications platform to help Network members to stay informed and connected.

Promise Communities

Julienne Nickerson, Promise Communities Director, Vermont Department for Children and Families

The Promise Communities initiative is a project of Vermont's Early Learning Challenge – Race to the Top Grant, a federally funded, four-year grant to help build a high-quality and accessible early childhood system in the state so that all young children will be ready to succeed in kindergarten and beyond. The Promise Community Initiative will provide supports to help a select number of Vermont communities to work across sectors – supporting collaboration across the education, health care, human service, public, and private sectors to create an all-of-the-above, comprehensive approach to transforming communities to better support children with high needs.

Results Based Accountability & Collective Impact

Kate Jellema, Director, Center for New Leadership, Marlboro College Graduate & Professional Studies

Hillary Boone, Organizational Development Specialist, Marlboro College Center for New Leadership

Over the past several years, the Vermont legislature, state agencies, nonprofit organizations, and funders have increasingly used Results Based Accountability (RBA) as a framework for helping improve the performance of programs and services and helping communities improve the lives of children, youth, families, adults and the community as a whole. In 2014 the Outcomes Bill (Act 186) was signed into law in Vermont, enabling the use of results-based policy making in the legislature, throughout state government, and in Vermont's social sector. By focusing on population-level results that can only be achieved through the efforts of multiple partners engaged in multiple, reinforcing activities, and the use of data to inform decisions and track performance, the RBA framework support and inspire Collective Impact approaches to achieve desired community results.

For more information, please contact
Amy Carmola: amy@unitedwaycc.org.