

**Ben & Jerry's Foundation
Vermont Capacity Building Grant Recipients**

Rural Vermont / REAP Montpelier, VT 3 year \$25,000/yr

Consultation and Strategic Planning

Rural Vermont is a 20-year old statewide, farmer-led organization that is working to promote and achieve their vision for a sustainable, thriving Vermont agriculture, which supports small farms and in turn local communities. A three year Capacity-Building Grant was awarded to provide consultation and strategic planning work helping to shift funding base from foundation support to individual member support, and to build the membership base in order to increase numbers of small donors, rather than relying on a few large donors. Grant was made in 2007.

www.ruralvermont.org

Vermont Partnership for Fairness & Diversity Brattleboro, VT 3 year \$25,000/yr

Towards financial sustainability and statewide expansion

Vermont Partnership for Fairness & Diversity (Vermont Partnership) is a statewide non-profit, research, education and advocacy organization dedicated to building inclusive and equitable communities in Vermont. Vermont Partnership provides training, technical assistance, coaching and advocacy services to individuals and institutions in the areas of civil rights, diversity, anti-bias education and multiracial education. Funds were provided to support Vermont Partnership's statewide expansion and it's transition from a direct service provider to an organizer for systemic change within Vermont's institutions. Grant was made in 2008. www.alanavision.org

Highfields Institute, Ltd. Hardwick, VT 3 year \$25,000/yr

Close the Loop Vermont

Highfields Institute was selected for the Ben & Jerry's Foundation Capacity Building Grant for 2009. Highfields works to close the loop on community-based sustainable food and agricultural systems, thus addressing soil health, water quality, solid waste, farm viability, and climate change. Their program, Close the Loop Vermont, for which funding was granted, has a goal to capture 100% of food waste in Vermont by 2017 through effective educational, behavioral and infrastructural change strategies and engaging local community members as agents of change at the community and municipal level. Grant was made in 2009. www.highfieldscomposting.org