

## **Vermont Young Professional Economy Pitch**

### **April 21, 2015**

**Name of Organization:** NeighborWorks of Western Vermont / Rutland YPs

**Name of Individual/s Presenting Pitch:** Sara Gilbert

#### **Challenges Facing Vermont Businesses/Specific Sector:**

Housing – rental market is tight

- \$28K in debt (average student debt in VT when they graduate)

#### **Ideas/Suggestions to Rejuvenate Vermont's Economy:**

To buy a home (how to help YPs take that step):

1) down payment assistance, can be a loan as opposed to a giveaway so more salary ranges can access it

2) invest in energy efficiency (provide tech assistance and lending for efficiency upgrades)

- can save more than \$800/year

3) home ownership education and one-on-one coaching

- Vermonters don't know these resources are available

- need to do a better job connecting young professionals with these resources

#### **Other Challenges we must address:**

#### **Other Comments:**