



8th September 2020

TO: Members of the Senate Economic Development Committee
FROM: Morgan Webster, Director, Common Good Vermont
RE: VAC Request for CRF Funding

Dear Members of the Senate Economic Development Committee,

I write on behalf of *Common Good Vermont* in support of *Vermont Arts Council's* Economic Relief Proposal.

As Vermont's advocate and go-to resource for our nonprofit sector, we understand the vital role nonprofits play in our state's economy. Vermont's arts sector makes up over 16% of nonprofits in Vermont and plays an important role in our communities. This proposal is an essential step in providing a lifeline to these nonprofits and the communities that depend on them.

Our goal is to work with VAC, and other nonprofit partners, in providing technical support for organizations across Vermont who are struggling to maintain operations during and after the pandemic. The Covid Adaptation Grants and Technical Assistance that VAC proposes will address critical needs in Vermont's nonprofit sector. In collaboration with VAC, Common Good plans to provide webinars and consultation with industry experts to groups of nonprofits across our state. Partners for this work include but are not limited to the Vermont Community Foundation and University of Vermont's Office of Engagement.

By leveraging additional private philanthropic funding and existing statewide partnerships, we aim to provide nonprofits impacted by COVID-19 online training, one-on-one advising, and shared professional services to help guide their decision-making.

As we continue to respond to the ongoing uncertainties of COVID-19, we look forward to your continued support as we respond to the changing sector's needs.

Sincerely,

Morgan Webster

Common Good Vermont Director