

2003
ANNUAL TOWN REPORT
VICTORY, VERMONT

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

MARCH 2, 2004

VICTORY TOWN HALL

7:00 p.m.

Please bring this report
to town meeting.



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ELECTED OFFICIALS--TOWN OF VICTORY

Position	Name	Expires
Moderator	Wendy Hovey	2004
Town Clerk	Carol Easter	2004
Town Treasurer	Carol Easter	2004
Select Board	Howard Lynaugh	2006
Select Board	Walter Mitchell	2005
Select Board	Gregory Hovey	2004
Auditor	Richard Prue	2006
Auditor	Bradley Holt	2005
Auditor	Kim Easter	2004
Lister	Marlene Somerville	2005
Lister	Curt Hinehline	2004
Lister	Dale Somerville	2004
Constable	Walter Neborsky	2004
Delinquent Tax Collector	Walter Neborsky	2004
Grand Juror	Carol Easter	2004
Town Agent	Vacant	
Trustee of Public Funds	Lionel Easter	2004
Trustee of Public Funds	Patricia Hill	2005
Trustee of Public Funds	George Stanley	2006
School Director	Mary Jane Knight	2004
School Director	Elies Hinehline	2005
School Director	Marlene Somerville	2006
Justice of the Peace	Patricia Mitchell	2005
Justice of the Peace	Walter Mitchell	2005
Justice of the Peace	Lionel Easter	2005
Justice of the Peace	Elise Hinehline	2005
Justice of the Peace	Wendy Hovey	2005

Appointed Officials-----Town of Victory

Position	Name
Dog Officer	Patricia Mitchell
Pound Keeper	Wendy Bora
Forest Fire Warden	Curt Himeline
Tree Warden	John MacDonald
Service Officer	
Fenceviewers	Select Board
Weigher of Coal	Select Board
Rep. To NEKWMD	Howard Lynaugh
Green Up Coordinator	Lionel Easter
Health Officer	Patricia Mitchell

Warning for Annual Town Meeting Tuesday, March 2, 2004

The citizens of the Town of Victory, Vermont who are legal voters of the Town of Victory are hereby notified and warned to meet in the Town Hall I Victory, Vermont on Tuesday, March 2, 2004 at 7:00 PM o'clock to take part in the Annual Town Meeting to act on the following articles:

- Article 1: To elect the following town officers:
Moderator for one (1) year
Town Clerk for one (1) year
Town Treasure for one (1) year
Select Board Member for three (3) years
Auditor for three (3) years
Lister for two (2) years
Lister for three (3) years
Constable for one (1) year
Tax Collector for One (1) year
Grand Juror for one (1) year
Town Agent for one (1) year
Trustee of Public Funds for three (3) years
- Article 2: Shall the town accept the reports of the town officers, as written in the town annual report?
- Article 3: Shall the town raise the sum of \$3,000.00 to meet the expenses of maintaining the roads? This sum meet the requirements of VSA 19, Section 18 Town Highway Appropriations.
- Article 4: Shall the town raise the sum necessary to meet the cost of Maintaining the town for the 2004 year and if so how much?
- Article 5: Shall the town authorize its Select Board and/or Treasurer to Borrow money, if necessary, to defray current expenses of Said town prior to its collection of 2004 taxes?
- Article 6: Shall the town collect its taxes by the Treasurer and set the Date that all taxes be due and payable on October 1, 2004 With all unpaid taxes then to be turned over to the Collector of Delinquent Taxes?
- Article 7: Shall the town authorize the Select Board to hire an accountant to reconcile the towns General Fund checking account every three months?
- Article 8: Shall the town appropriate the sum of \$2,295.00 to purchase the

CAMA system program to aid the Listers in the appraisal process?

- Article 9: Shall the town appropriate the sum of \$500 for the Essex County Sheriff's Department?
- Article 10: Shall the town appropriate the sum of \$150 for Caledonian Home Health?
- Article 11: Shall the town appropriate the sum of \$100 for NVDA?
- Article 12: Shall the town appropriate the sum of \$100 for the Northeast Kingdom Area Agency on Aging?
- Article 13: Shall the town appropriate the sum of \$200 for CALAX Ambulance?
- Article 14: Shall the town appropriate the sum of \$50 for Northeast Kingdom Mental Health?
- Article 15: Shall the town appropriate the sum of \$45 for he Vermont Center for Independent Living?
- Article 16: Shall the town appropriate the sum of \$200 for Lyndon Rescue?
- Article 17: Shall the town appropriate the sum of \$100 for the Northeast Kingdom Adult Basic Education program?
- Article 18: Shall the town transact any other non-binding business proper to be brought before said meeting?
- b. Other non-binding business.

Dated at Victory, Vermont, Jan. 31, 2004
Signed by the Select Board for the Town of Victory, Vermont.

_____ Walter M. Baker _____

Received for record: Jan. 31, 2004 Carol F. Easter Town Clerk

**TOWN OF VICTORY
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY MARCH 4, 2003**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Howard Lynaugh, due to moderator vacancy. Mr. Lyanugh then read the warning.

Article 1: To elect the following officers:

Moderator for one (1) year.

Wendy Hovey was nominated and seconded. As there were no other nominations the Clerk cast one vote.

Town Clerk for one (1) year.

Carol Easter was nominated and seconded. As there were no other nominations the Moderator cast one vote.

Town Treasurer for one (1) year.

Carol Easter was nominated and seconded. As there were no other nominations the Moderator cast one vote.

Select Board Member for three (3) years.

Dick Prue was nominated, he then declined. Howard Lynaugh was nominated and seconded. As there were no other nominations the Clerk cast one vote for Howard Lynaugh.

Auditor for three (3) years.

Douglas Smith was nominated, he then declined. Richard Prue was nominated and seconded. As there were no other nominations the Clerk cast one vote for Richard Prue.

Auditor for one (1) year.

Bradley Holt was nominated and seconded. As there were no other nominations the Clerk cast one vote.

Lister for three (3) years.

Phil Atkins was nominated and seconded. As there were no other nominations the Clerk cast one vote.

Constable for one (1) year.

Walter Neborsky was nominated and seconded. As there were no other nominations the Clerk cast one vote.

Tax Collector for one (1) year.

Walter Neborsky was nominated and seconded. As there were no other nominations the Clerk cast one vote.

Grand Juror for one (1) year.

Carol Easter was nominated and seconded. As there were no other nominations the Moderator cast one vote.

Town Agent for one (1) year.

Walter Mitchell was nominated and seconded. As there were no other nominations the Clerk cast one vote.

Trustee of Public Funds for three (3) years.

George Stanley was nominated and seconded. As there were no other nominations the Clerk cast one vote.

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Article 2: Shall the town accept the reports of the town officers as written in the annual report?

The article was opened for discussion, there was discussion and was put to a voice vote. The reports were accepted.

Article 3: Shall the town raise the sum of \$3,000.00 to meet expenses of maintaining the road? This sum meets the requirement of VSA 19, section 18 Town Highway Appropriations.

The article was put to a voice vote and was accepted.

Article 4: Shall the town raise the sum necessary to meet the cost of maintaining the town for the 2003 year and if so how much.

The motion was made and seconded raise the sum needed. Also the motion was made and seconded to raise the amount of \$15,502.27. Both motions were voted on by voice. Both motions passed.

Article 5: Shall the town vote to authorize its Select Board and/or Treasurer to borrow money, if necessary, to defray current expenses of said town prior to its collection of 2003 taxes.

The motion was made and seconded to give the Select Board and/or Treasurer to borrow money if needed. A voice vote was taken and the article passed.

Article 6: Shall the town collect its taxes by the Treasurer and set the date that all taxes be due and payable on October 1, 2003 with all unpaid taxes then turned over to the Collector of Delinquent Taxes?

Article 6 passed.

Article 7: Shall the town appropriate the sum of \$150 for Caledonian Home Health Care?

Article 7 passed.

Article 8: Shall the town appropriate the sum of \$100 for NVDA?

Article 8 passed.

Article 9: Shall the town appropriate the sum of \$100 for the Northeast Kingdom Area Agency on Aging?

Article 9 passed.

Article 10: Shall the town appropriate the sum of \$200 for CALEX Ambulance?

Article 10 passed.

Article 11: Shall the town appropriate the sum of \$50 for Northeast Kingdom Mental Health?

Article 11 passed.

Article 12: Shall the town appropriate the sum of \$45 for the Vermont Center for Independent Living?

Article 12 passed.

Article 13: Shall the town appropriate the sum of \$200 for Lyndon Rescue?

Article 13 passed.

Article 14: Shall the town appropriate the sum of \$100 for the Northeast Kingdom Adult Basic Education program?

Article 14 passed with one (1) opposing.

Article 15: Shall the town transact any other non-binding business proper to be brought before said meeting?

b. Other non-binding business.

The question was raised about the plowing and sanding of the roads. It was pointed out that the subject is a matter for a Select Board Meeting. It was announced that the money from FEMA for the Burke Road had been received.

Thursday March 6, 2003 there will be a Fact Finding Hearing at the Essex County Court on the Court Case Victory vs. The State of Vermont and the Land Use Program in which the State has land enrolled.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:38 PM.

Dated at Victory, Vermont, March 11, 2003
Signed by the Select Board for the Town of Victory, Vermont

Howard Lynaugh Walter Mitchell Gregory Hovey
Howard Lynaugh Walter Mitchell Gregory Hovey

Received for the record: March 11 2003 Carol J. Easter Town Clerk

Vital Statistics

Births None

Marriages Richard E. Prue and Pamela J. Austin

 Keith G. Kanoti and Allison M. Bush

 Walter N. Neborsky Jr. and Ruth A. Perkins

Deaths Ginette C. Preston
 December 1, 2003

Delinquent Taxes

2001

Richard Rupert \$52.75

2002

Emil Prucha \$371.01

Susan Hume \$417.30

Robert White \$42.23

2003

Benjamin Fournier \$74.90

Jamie Stratton Gates \$586.36

Susan Hume \$515.74

Otis & Sylvia McKinstry \$569.24

John Pierce \$518.95

Tina Rich \$387.34

Select Board Orders Paid--2003 General Fund

Carol Easter Town Clerk/Treasurer	\$3,350.00
S.S. Payments	\$256.29
Carol Easter -(1% of Taxes)	\$1,381.56
Carol Easter/Recording Fees	\$921.00
Walter Neborsky/8% Delinquent Taxes	\$321.52
Mis. Ballot Clerks/Auditing	\$277.50
Northern Petroleum (LP Gas/ Repairs)	\$2,889.97
Verizon (Office Phone)	\$500.42
Appropriations 2003	\$945.00
CVPS (Town Office)	\$438.39
CVPS (Street Lights)	\$1,115.03
BGS (Copies)	\$40.37
2003 Town Reports (Staples)	\$520.00
Nyburg & Purvis (Reassessment)	\$4,500.00
Postage/Stamps (Postmaster)	\$387.30
Supplies (Town Office)	\$52.99
Supplies (BCA Board)	\$4.18
Supplies (Listers)	\$40.75
Vermont League of Cities and Towns (Insurance)	\$3,867.00
Auditors Handbooks (VLCT)	\$40.00
VLCT (Dues)	\$315.00
VLCT (Property & Cas)	\$752.47
Essex County Tax	\$3,852.27
VT State Education Property Tax Lib.	\$35,812.54
	\$62,581.55

Town of Victory-2004 Proposed General Fund Budget

Expense

Town Clerk/ Treasurer	\$3,000.00
Clerk to the Board	\$300.00
Ballot Creks	\$400.00
Telephone	\$575.00
Heat/Repairs	\$3,000.00
Electric	\$525.00
Street Lights	\$1,500.00
VT Coalition of Municipalities	\$130.00
Printer/Copies	\$100.00
Office Supplies	\$200.00
Newspaper Ads	\$150.00
Essex County Taxes	\$4,200.00
IRS Taxes	\$1,500.00
Insurance	\$4,800.00
VLCT Dues/Aduit	\$325.00
Green Up	\$50.00
Dog Tags	\$60.00
Appropriations	\$1,500.00
Total	\$20,815.00

Income (estimated)

Intrest	\$1,000.00
Dividend income	\$800.00
Licenses and Land Rent	\$100.00
Total	\$1,900.00

Proposed General Fune Budget

\$18,915.00

Select Board Orders Paid Highway 2003

Walter Neborsky (Labor)	\$6,978.00
Walter Neborsky (Loader/Dozer Rent)	\$2,795.00
S.S. Payments	\$533.82
Fred's Propaine (Diesel)	\$2,552.73
(Fuel Oil)	\$961.54
Russell Riendeau Trucking/Gravel/Sand	\$2,742.00
Bond Auto	\$207.09
Winmill Equip.	\$151.25
Solutions (Chloride)	\$5,440.45
D. Skinner Trucking	\$1,395.00
Pike Ind. (3/4" Stone)	\$37,976.02
Gossco Grader Tires)	\$1,342.28
Pike Ind. (Plant Mix)	\$4,238.80
D. Skinner Trucking	\$1,215.00
Fenoff Trucking	\$852.50
Carroll Con. 3/8" stone	\$921.45
Nortrax Grader	\$29,000.00
CVPS Town Garage	\$261.21
Supplies (Mis. Building)	\$44.11
H&S Supplies (Culverts)	\$480.00
Northeast AG. (Black Plastic)	\$95.00
Cargill Salt)	\$1,059.43
Sanel	\$230.04
Arnold's Auotmotive	\$424.40
	\$101,897.12

2004 Proposed Highway Budget

Winter Maintance

Labor	\$4,000.00	
Sand and Salt	\$4,200.00	
Heat	\$1,100.00	
	\$9,300.00	\$9,300.00

Summer Maintance

Labor	\$3,000.00	
Chloride	\$5,000.00	
Mowing and Brush Cutting	\$2,000.00	
Crusher	\$22,000.00	
Grading	\$6,500.00	
	\$38,500.00	\$38,500.00

Equip Maint. And Repair	\$3,000.00	
Miscellaneous	\$1,500.00	
Culverts	\$2,500.00	
Electric	\$350.00	
Insurance	\$3,975.00	
Garage maint.	\$750.00	
Fuel	\$3,000.00	
Equip. Rental	\$4,000.00	
	\$19,075.00	\$19,075.00

Total **\$66,875.00**

Estimated Income

Road Permits	\$100.00	
State of Vermont Highway Funds	\$58,000.00	
Total	\$58,100.00	\$58,100.00

Total to be raised **\$8,775.00**

Town of Victory Bank Accounts

General Fund (Checking)

Beginning Balance 1/15/2003		\$161,423.37
Deposits		
Roads	\$155,543.18	
General (includes School)	\$217,423.42	
Interest 2003	\$766.48	
Total Income	\$373,733.08	
Expenses		\$535,156.45
Roads	\$101,897.12	
General	\$27,502.44	
Schools	\$97,850.06	
Total Expenses	\$227,249.62	
Balance		\$307,906.83

Passumpsic Savings Bank

Town Office Savings/Checking	\$3,629.14	
CD#4823 1/02/04	\$15,282.42	

Union Bank

Highway Fund	\$5,949.76	
Emergency Fund	\$1,419.68	
Money Market	\$38,512.75	
CD#4908 6/28/2003	\$3,439.37	
CD#5061 5/03/2003	\$36,516.56	
Olanning Commission	\$392.31	
CD#1144 Street Lights	\$10,650.11	

Perpetual Care Accounts

George A. Colby Trust	12/31/02	\$846.43
Balance	1/31/04	\$854.20
Shores Trust	12/31/02	\$755.00
Balance	2/3/04	\$762.04
Stanley Trust	12/31/02	\$858.06
Balance	2/3/04	\$866.06
Victory School/Checking	1/30/04	\$12,185.94
Victory School/Escrow	1/30/04	\$1,438.02

**THE VERMONT CENTER FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING
SUMMARY FOR THE TOWN OF ANNUAL REPORT**

The Vermont Center for Independent Living (VCIL) teaches people with significant disabilities how to gain more control over their lives and how to access tools and services to live more independently. We also conduct public education and systems change activities that promote the full inclusion of disabled people into community life.

An estimated one in five Vermonters has a disability. VCIL, a private not-for-profit corporation, is Vermont's first and only cross-disability center for independent living and the first organization in the state to be directed and staffed by a majority of people with diverse disabilities.

Statewide, from October 1, 2002 through September 11, 2003, VCIL responded to 1,974 requests from individuals, agencies and community groups for information and referrals on a broad range of subjects related to living with a disability. We provided on-on-one peer counseling to 342 individuals to help increase their independent living skills and life opportunities; provided 405 households with financial and technical assistance for making their bathrooms and entrances accessible to a disabled family member; provided over 340 with personal assistance and/or assistive technology; provided communications equipment to 67 Deaf, hard-of-hearing or speech-impaired individuals through our Telecommunications Equipment Distribution Program, and served home-delivered meals to almost 533 Vermonters through VCIL's Meals On Wheels program for Individuals Under 60 with Disabilities.

VCIL's central office is in downtown Montpelier with three smaller regional offices in Bennington, Brattleboro and Burlington. The Montpelier office houses our resource library and our toll-free information line, which provides answers to disability-related questions from every Vermont community. Our locally-based Peer Advocacy Counselors are available to people with disabilities in every municipality in Vermont.

During FY 2003, VCIL provided direct services Vermonters throughout the state, utilizing the following services/programs:

1. Information & Referral
2. Home and Community Access program
3. Meals on Wheels (people with disabilities under the age of 60)
4. Peer Advocacy Counseling
5. Vermont Telecommunications Equipment Distribution Program
6. Sue Williams Freedom Fund

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT VCIL, CALL US TOLL-FREE AT 1-800-639-1522

AMOS C. COLBY
Sheriff



91 Court House Drive
Guildhall, VT 05905
Tel.: (802) 676-3500
Fax: (802) 676-3400

STATE OF VERMONT
ESSEX COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

January 8, 2004

Dear Select board Town of Victory,

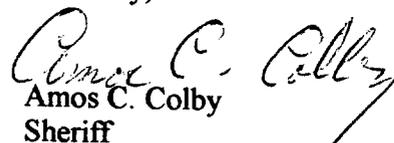
The Essex County Sheriff's Department was awarded a three year grant for a full time newly hired officer, from the U. S. Department of Justice. The grant pays for 50% of a salary only, and does not pay for vehicles or other expenses. It also asks that he or she be employed for at least one full year after the grant expires.

As of yesterday, I now have a person who has passed both the physical test and written examination and has been accepted in the Vermont Police Academy for the required sixteen weeks of training. The school begins in February.

Now that I have a person who has been accepted, I would like to ask the towns for support in helping provide the necessary funds for this full time deputy. I would like to think that \$25,000.00 per year would cover the additional expenses.

I would request a meeting with the selectboard of each town to discuss funding possibilities.

Sincerely,


Amos C. Colby
Sheriff



NVDA

*Northeastern Vermont
Development Association*

November 26, 2003

To: Northeast Kingdom Municipal Officials

Each year the Northeastern Vermont Development Association strives to provide quality services and programs to communities throughout the Northeast Kingdom. We can only achieve this goal with your participation and support.

The enclosed annual report highlights NVDA's 2003 activities. During the year, community officials are provided minutes of all of NVDA's Board Meetings. We want to make sure you are fully informed of our activities.

Each community has representatives on the Board of Directors. Their participation is important if NVDA is to be effective and we sincerely appreciate their participation.

In addition to the annual report, you will also find our request for a 2004 town appropriation. This year's request is based on the 2003 appropriations or \$.42 cents per capita, which ever is greater, with a minimum of \$100. This is the first time since 1987 that we have asked for such a change. For some communities this means dues will remain the same and some will experience a slight increase. While we are reluctant to make the request, we feel it is necessary to continue to provide communities with the level of service they expect and deserve. Even with this slight increase, NVDA continues to provide among the most affordable services when compared with other Regional Development Corporations and Planning Commissions.

We appreciate your cooperation and support during the past year and look forward to serving you in the year ahead.

Sincerely,

Steve Patterson
Executive Director

Report to the Voters of Victory

True to our mission, Northeastern Vermont Development Association (NVDA) worked hard during the past year to meet the economic development and planning needs of the region's municipalities and businesses. 2003 was our 53rd year of dedicated service to the people of the Northeast Kingdom.

Many of our projects were regional in nature and therefore benefited every single community in this region. A good example of this is the unmet transportation needs survey, which gauged the gap between the availability of and the need for transportation services in the Northeast Kingdom.

We also continued to provide essential technical services to town and city officials. This work included conducting transportation studies and traffic counts; preparing, reviewing and commenting on municipal planning documents; certifying Municipal Plans; interpreting and explaining planning law to planning and zoning officials; and preparing GIS maps. NVDA also continued to offer reliable and knowledgeable grant writing and grant administration services to a number of towns.

NVDA provided the Town of Victory with a business loan.

On the economic development front, the Charles E. Carter Business Resource Center in NVDA's St. Johnsbury-Lyndon Industrial Park was near completion at the end of the past year. The Business Resource Center provides warehousing and manufacturing space, as well as a technical & industrial training facility.

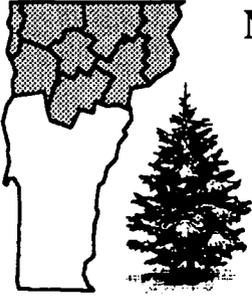
As in the past, in 2003 we continued to work closely with the Small Business Development Center to create and retain jobs throughout the Northeast Kingdom. To cite a few examples: We assisted Easton Hockey /EHM Production in Newport with a tax credit application, which will result in 60 jobs within a few years; we helped WT Solutions in St. Johnsbury to purchase industrial sewing equipment and to find a facility, thereby creating 50+ jobs; and we helped Chebe, a bread manufacturer in Orleans to locate a production facility. NVDA also continues to work with Ethan Allen on the company's long-term needs.

Companies that NVDA assisted in the recent past include MSA Gallet in Newport, which continues to grow and receive contracts for its high quality helmets from the US Army; and Bogner of America, also located in Newport, which has diversified from being solely a garment manufacturer to a warehouse and distribution center for some large clothing companies.

Four business loans were approved from our revolving loan funds in 2003. NVDA also added a technical assistance grant program in order to help small businesses with a variety of projects. We approved twelve grants for small businesses in eight communities. Projects included marketing plans, patent applications, Act 250 application assistance and an architectural design.

We look forward to continue serving you in 2004, and we appreciate your much needed support.

Sincerely,
Steve Patterson, Executive Director



Northern Vermont Resource Conservation & Development Council

Rural Development ~ People Making Things Happen

617 Comstock Rd., Suite 2
Berlin, Vermont 05602-8498
(802) 828-4595

November 20, 2003

Dear Board of Selectpersons, Town Clerks and Auditors:

On behalf of Northern Vermont Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) Council, we hope this letter finds your community closing out a good 2003 and anticipating a hopeful 2004. We respectfully request your continued support by including an appropriation of \$50.00 in your 2004 Selectperson's budget. Being an organization with region-wide responsibility we are not able to petition each of the 113 towns within our area, so we ask that the small amount be included in the Selectboard's Budget.

The Northern Vermont Resource Conservation and Development Council is a 29 year old network of volunteers dedicated to identifying problems and designing solutions which fit the needs of its own communities. RC&D is a unique program that helps people care for and protect natural resources in a way that will improve the area's economy, environment and living standards. We serve our clients by coordinating and facilitating technical and financial assistance to local communities who initiate, sponsor, plan and implement projects.

Technical assistance through the RC&D is available, at no cost to the community. We would be happy to work with you on problems and challenges your community is facing and work together to find solutions. **We are glad to be a part of the Rural Fire Protection Dry Hydrant Grant Program, Agritourism, Better Backroads Grant Program and Natural Resources Education initiatives which have had significant impact on communities in Northern Vermont this past year.** Eligible projects cover many different areas including: community development; improvements to infrastructure and water quality; parks and recreation; and development of a diversified forest and agriculture industry. **The RC&D can also assist with finding financial resources and grant requests to carry out planned projects.**

Enclosed for reference and information is the Northern Vermont RC&D 2003 Annual Report and Budget, which describes the organization and its accomplishments.

Please consider this letter your invoice and feel free to contact us with your ideas. By working together we can arrive at solutions which will continue to improve our communities! For more information please call Beth Ann Finlay our Coordinator (802) 828-4595 or email: beth_ann.finlay@vt.usda.gov.

Respectfully Submitted,

Christine Kaiser, Chairperson

ENC: Annual Report & Budget
Council Member List
Invoice

REPORT OF CALEDONIA HOME HEALTH CARE AND HOSPICE

Fiscal Year 2003 was our second full year under the Medicare's Prospective Payment System. We were able to successfully provide our clients with qualified home care services and adjust to a new payment system. We were able to end the year in a financially sound position secondary to the financial support we received from towns, donated memorial contributions and providing fundraising events.

Our mission continues to be to provide necessary services to individuals and their families regardless of an individual's ability to pay. We are very committed to this philosophy. We feel strongly that each resident of our service area is entitled to home care services if they meet the criteria for such services. To assure that this can continue to happen, your support to us is crucial. Town monies are used to counter losses we experience when we provide free care. It is also used to support program growth and the development of necessary services to assure an individual's ability to remain independent.

Last year we made over 60,000 visits to your neighbors and relatives. In addition to our home care and hospice programs, we offered a variety of screenings and community clinics for flu shots, blood pressure evaluations, foot care and health education. In collaboration with NVRH we conducted a Cancer Support Group. Our Private Duty program grew and our Healthy Baby program experienced growth.

Caledonia Home Health Care (CHHC), as all of the non-profit home health agencies in Vermont, is certified by Medicare and Medicaid to provide home care and hospice services to Caledonia County, seven towns in Essex County and one town in Orleans County. The State of Vermont is dedicated to the non-profit concept of providing home care services in Vermont. As part of this support, it is expected that we will provide services regardless of an individual's ability to pay.

This guideline creates universal access to home health care for all Vermonters. However, it places the responsibility on the home care agency to raise the necessary funds to supply the needed services. The agencies do not receive any direct subsidies or grants from either the state or federal government. Our certification as licensed home health agencies allows us to bill clients, Medicaid, Medicare and private insurance companies for services rendered. In some instances the reimbursement amount is less than the actual cost of providing the service. Therefore, the financial support of the communities served by CHHC is essential in maintaining these services.

Vermont's tradition of "caring for its own" is strikingly evident in the generous response we have received from our annual appropriation request, throughout our history. We have always strived to keep this request as reasonable and equitable as possible while seeking to cover a portion of the shortfall encountered in serving all in need. This year is no different. Individual town requests are based on a combination of factors including population, history of CHHC use, the number of visits in the past year, and the free care provided in each community. We have appreciated your support in the past and hope it will continue. Our annual report, including an audited financial statement, is available at our office for public inspection.

All of us at Caledonia Home Health Care and Hospice remain committed to helping you, your family and your neighbors to lead healthy and independent lives. All town appropriation money will go directly to preserve the health care you and your neighbors deserve. Thank you for your continued support.

TOWN OF Victory VISIT STATISTICS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2003

	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>		<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>
Nursing Visits	7	15	Social Services	0	0
Home Health Aide	0	0	Homemaking	0	0
Therapy Visits (Physical, Occupational, Speech)	0	3	Hospice	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
			Total	7	18

Other Services Provided: Bereavement Program, Maternal Child Health, Adult Health Screening & Education, Flu Clinic, Long Term Care, Support Groups, Private Duty

Northeast Kingdom Human Services, Inc. 2003 Annual Report Summary



Northeast Kingdom Human Services, Inc.

Mental Health Services

154 Duchess Avenue
P.O. Box 724
Newport, VT 05855-0724

Voice
802.334.6744

Fax
802.334.7455

www.nkhs.org

The Northeast Kingdom Human Services, Inc., is a private not-for-profit organization serving Essex, Caledonia and Orleans Counties. It is organized and directed by local citizens who believe that human services should be cost effective and responsive to the needs of our local communities.

The State of Vermont contracts with NKHS to provide a broad range of services to individuals with severe and persistent mental illness, children with severe emotional disturbance and their families, and individuals with developmental disabilities including mental retardation and autism. Services are also offered to individuals with alcohol and drug problems by the Tri-County Substance Abuse Program, a division of NKHS.

NKHS provides emergency and out-patient services to individuals with various, less severe social, emotional and psychological problems. To the extent that these services are subsidized by state and local dollars. NKHS provides the services on a sliding fee scale based on the person's ability to pay.

Our Annual Report details the services we provide, and is available free of charge by calling (802) 334-6744, or by writing to NKHS, PO Box 724, Newport, VT 05855.

Your appropriation is especially important to the delivery of our programs and services because it demonstrates community support and financial assistance. We greatly appreciate your interest and support.

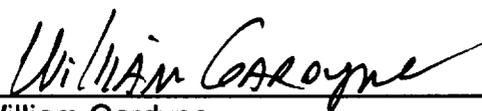
FY 2003 SUMMARY OF SERVICES FOR THE TOWN OF VICTORY

2000 Census* Count for your town: 97 Persons served: 3

Our request for support at \$1.05 per capita = \$102.00

Thank you for your support.


Kathleen C. Hemmens, MSW
Executive Director


William Gardyne
President, Board of Directors

* US Census Bureau



Affiliated with
the United Way



NORTHEAST KINGDOM LEARNING SERVICES, INC.

1 MAIN STREET, NEWPORT, VT 05855 • (802) 334-2839 / 334-3018 FAX
364 RAILROAD STREET, ST. JOHNSBURY, VT 05819-1688 • (802) 748-5624 / 751-8071 FAX
P.O. BOX 363, HARDWICK, VT 05843 • (802) 472-5974
BUSINESS OFFICE: 35 JR HIGH DRIVE, DERBY, VT 05829 • (802) 766-4757 / 766-2516 FAX

October 27, 2003

We are the Northeast Kingdom Adult Education and Literacy Program (formerly Adult Basic Education). We provide on-demand home and learning center educational services to Victory residents as well as to almost anyone in Caledonia, Essex or Orleans counties over the age of sixteen who wants to improve basic education skills. The program has full service learning centers in Newport and St. Johnsbury, part-time centers in North Troy, Island Pond, Hardwick and Lyndonville and home tutors who travel everywhere in the three counties. As always, demand for adult basic education services remains very high. In 2003, we provided over 19,000 hours of direct instruction to 948 students. We are currently serving 213 adults who are working on a GED or high school diploma. Some of our other students are studying for the Commercial Driver's License or working to improve job readiness or job skills. Our Drop-Out Recovery program which allows adults to earn a competency based high school diploma at no additional cost to the high school continues to grow in popularity. We now have 7 people in the program and last year 3 earned their diploma. We also have seen an increase in G.E.D. testing.

Your support of the Northeast Kingdom Adult Education and Literacy program will be helpful to us during the coming year. Our town monies are vital. Town funds are used for many program purposes. They have helped us pay the rent for our learning centers and offer our students higher quality and more comprehensive instructional resources. Over the years, town funds have helped us purchase workbooks, instructional supplies, reference materials and instructional software. We hope you will continue your support of the Northeast Kingdom Adult Education and Literacy program.

We respectfully request an appropriation of \$100.00 for the coming year.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

William V. Crenshaw
Executive Director

WARNING
ANNUAL SCHOOL DISTRICT MEETING
VICTORY, VERMONT

The citizens of the Victory School District, who are legal voters in the Town School District are hereby notified and warned to meet at the Town Offices in Gallup Mills, Vermont on Tuesday, March 2, 2004 at 7:00 p.m. and act on the following articles:

Article 1: To elect a Moderator for the ensuing year as required by law.

Article 2: To elect a School Director for a term of three years.

Article 3: Shall the voters of the Victory School District authorize the school district to place all unencumbered funds into an account under the control and direction of the school directors for the purpose of unanticipated secondary tuition costs?

Article 4: To see if the Town School District will vote to raise money necessary to defray the expenses of its public schools for the next year, and if so, how much?

Article 5: To see if the voters will authorize the School District to borrow money if necessary?

Article 6: To transact any other business proper to be brought before said meeting.

VICTORY SCHOOL DIRECTORS:

Marlene Somerville, Chairperson

Elise Hinline, Clerk

Mary Jane Knight, Vice Chairperson

Received for record:

Date:

Carol Easter, Town Clerk

Budget

Victory School District		2004-05	2003-04	2002-03
		PROPOSED BUDGET	PROPOSED BUDGET	EXPENDITURES
1100	REGULAR INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAMS:			
561.1	Elementary Tuition	\$54,000	\$35,822	\$32,130.00
561.2	Secondary Tuition	\$0	\$0	\$8,655.00
610	General Supplies	\$0	\$0	
640	Books and Periodicals	\$0	\$0	
900	Miscellaneous	\$0	\$0	\$0.00
	TOTAL:	\$54,000	\$35,822	\$40,785.00
1211	SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS:			
320	Professional Educational Services	\$0	\$0	\$0.00
561.2	Secondary Tuition	\$0	\$0	\$0.00
	TOTAL:	\$0	\$0	\$0.00
2142	PSYCHOLOGICAL TESTING SERVICE:			
330	Other Professional Services	\$0	\$0	\$0.00
610	General Supplies	\$0	\$0	\$0.00
	TOTAL:	\$0	\$0	\$0.00
2310	BOARD OF EDUCATION SERVICES:			
522	Liability Insurance	\$0	\$0	\$0.00
540	Advertising			\$0.00
610	General Supplies			\$0.00
640	Books & Periodicals			\$0.00
810	Dues & Fees	\$26	\$26	\$0.00
	TOTAL:	\$26	\$26	\$0.00
2313	TREASURER SERVICES:			
100	Treasurer/Clerk Salary	\$0	\$0	\$0.00
220	Social Security	\$0	\$0	\$0.00
220.1	Medicare	\$0	\$0	\$0.00
250	Worker's Compensation	\$0	\$0	\$0.00
260	Unemployment Compensation	\$0	\$0	\$0.00
610	General Supplies	\$0	\$0	\$0.00
	TOTAL:	\$0	\$0	\$0.00

Budget

2321	OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT:					
331	Assessment of S.U. Services	\$1,200	\$1,326	\$1,465.52		
	TOTAL:	\$1,200	\$1,326	\$1,465.52		
2520	FISCAL SERVICES:					
370	Audit Services FY 06	\$0	\$0	\$700.00		
	TOTAL:	\$0	\$0	\$700.00		
2600	OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE					
521	Property Insurance	\$0	\$450	\$0.00		
	TOTAL	\$0	\$450	\$0.00		
2700.1	STUDENT TRANSPORTATION SERVICES:					
519	Transportation from Other Services	\$1,400	\$1,800	\$1,400.00		
	TOTAL:	\$1,400	\$1,800	\$1,400.00		
5100	DEBT SERVICE					
910	Loan From Town	\$0	\$0	\$0.00		
	TOTAL:	\$0	\$0	\$0.00		
	TOTAL GENERAL FUND:	\$56,626	\$39,424	\$44,350.52		

THREE YEAR BUDGET COMPARISON - VICTORY

	FY 2002	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005
EXPENDITURES				
BUDGET (Local budget approved in prior years)	\$60,373	\$61,341	\$50,688	\$56,626
SU assessment (included in local budget)				\$1,200
Deficit (if included in local budget)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Block Grant paid by State to tech center in prior years	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
1. Separately warned article passed at town meeting	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
2. Separately warned article passed at town meeting	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
3. Separately warned article passed at town meeting	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Act 144 Expenditures (excluded from education spending)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Act 68 adopted budget	\$60,373	\$61,341	\$50,688	\$56,626
Union School or joint school district assessment	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Deficit if not included in budget or revenues	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Special programs expenditures (if not included in local budget)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Gross Act 68 Budget	\$60,373	\$61,341	\$50,688	\$56,626
Act 144 expenditures(if any-excluded from "education Spending")	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
REVENUES				
Local revenues(categorical grants, donations, tuition, surplus,Act 144 etc	\$7,222	\$4,227	\$258	\$1,121
Capital debt aid	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Special program revenues (if not included in local budget)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Deficit if not included in budget or expenditures	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Act 144 revenues	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total revenues	\$7,222	\$4,227	\$258	\$1,121
Fund raising (if any)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Adjusted local revenues	\$7,222	\$4,227	\$258	\$1,121
Education Spending (Act 68 definition)	\$53,151	\$57,114	\$50,430	\$55,505
Equalized Pupils	7.97	8.15	8.68	8.38
Education Spending per Equalized Pupil	\$6,669	\$7,008	\$5,810	\$6,624
Excess Spending per Equalized Pupil (if any)	NA	NA	NA	\$0
Per pupil figure used for calculating District Adjustment	NA	NA	NA	\$6,624
District spending adjustment (minimum of 100%) 6624/6800				100.000%
Anticipated homestead tax rate, equalized(100% x 1.10)				\$1.10
Household Income Percentage for income sensitivity				2.00%

Budget

2600	OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF THE OFFICE:				
100	Custodial Salaries	\$1,111	\$1,090	\$1,078.00	
220	Social Security	\$69	\$68	\$65.01	
220.1	Medicare	\$16	\$16	\$15.09	
250	Worker's Compensation	\$55	\$120	\$120.00	
260	Unemployment Compensation	\$1	\$5	\$0.75	
421	Rubbish Removal	\$1,800	\$0	\$0.00	
430	Equipment Repair	\$450	\$450	\$253.98	
441	Office Rental	\$9,300	\$9,600	\$8,400.00	
521	Office Contents Insurance	\$400	\$350	\$350.00	
521.1	Computer Insurance	\$250	\$250	\$250.00	
530	Telephone Service	\$3,520	\$3,450	\$3,519.14	
530.1	Postage	\$2,100	\$2,000	\$1,928.14	
530.2	Internet Access	\$287	\$287	\$262.40	
532	Fidelity Bond FY 05	\$700	\$0	\$0.00	
540	Advertising	\$125	\$150	\$68.70	
610	Custodial Supplies	\$150	\$100	\$143.76	
610.1	Office Supplies	\$2,600	\$3,000	\$1,952.10	
622	Electricity	\$1,200	\$0	\$0.00	
730	Office Equipment	\$800	\$500	\$703.00	
733	Furniture & Fixtures	\$350	\$350	\$58.65	
800.2	Equipment Fund	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$6,335.00	
	TOTAL	\$27,284	\$23,786	\$25,503.72	
	TOTAL GENERAL FUND:	\$390,657	\$354,688	\$339,786.72	

**Superintendent's Report
2003
Year In Review**

Throughout the Supervisory Union

During the past year, we have continued to improve instruction in a variety of ways. As a result, the student assessment scores continue to improve. We have strived to focus on sustained imbedded professional development. In this model, teacher-leaders in each school work intensely with colleagues as mentors, and instructional coaches who model best practice in pedagogy. This system emphasizes analysis of student assessment scores, and the recording of each student's acquisition of specific skills.

In just a few years, classroom instruction has changed significantly and rapidly. We are learning constantly from research about how children learn (brain research), learning styles, and multiple intelligences. This means that teachers must be learning about how to teach better. Accordingly, they must have continued professional development to keep them apprised of current best practices, methods and materials.

The children in today's classrooms are very different from those of a decade ago, as we live in a complex and ever changing technological world. Our children are technologically savvy, however, teaching now also requires bridging gaps between our children in rural Vermont and this multifaceted planet.

The schools of ECSU have seen phenomenal results in early literacy. We will continue to prioritize this fundamental building block of learning. Concomitantly, in the immediate future, with the assistance of our teacher leaders, we will concentrate on supporting literacy in grades 3-8. Additionally, we are working on similar initiatives designed to support math and, during the 2004-05 school year, science.

American education has experienced a whirlwind of change and the era of transition continues. All schools in the United States are concerned with the mandates of the No Child Left Behind Legislation. This will redefine teacher licensure and training; it poses sanctions on schools that do not meet annual progress goals, and it clearly defines student success via assessments. Meeting these goals will prove challenging, but I believe our schools will meet the challenge.

The new educational funding legislation Act 68, the replacement to Act 60, comes into effect this year. The budget and proposed tax information you review will be based upon this new system. We have been told that once this system is in effect, it will provide greater predictability in preparing budgets. This system also encourages school boards to curtail spending by assessing penalties for overspending. One of the ways in which districts are encouraged to limit raising costs in education is to consolidate schools, districts, and even supervisory unions. In this rural part of Vermont, consolidation is much more difficult than in more populated areas. This is a topic the boards of ECSU will continue to discuss.

On a personal note, I have served this supervisory union as a central office administrator for 12 years as Director of Special Services, Assistant Superintendent and now as Superintendent. However, being a superintendent of a rural, geographically large supervisory union (ECSU is comprised of 8 school districts) is difficult. I spend, on average, over 100 evenings a year devoted to board meetings.

Being a superintendent of a multi-district supervisory union is not just a job but it becomes a lifestyle. After many years keeping this schedule, I have decided to pursue other interests. I resigned as superintendent effective June 30th. After some discussion with the boards of the ECSU, I may share this position with another superintendent through next year, to allow time for the ECSU boards to search for a new superintendent.

Of my 26 years as an educator, I have enjoyed 19 years in this supervisory union. Many of the children in our schools are my second-generation students. It has been gratifying and heartwarming to serve the children of Essex-Caledonia Supervisory Union. My tenure as Superintendent has been rewarding and challenging. I am pleased by the success of our school reform initiatives, and hope that we have built a strong foundation on which to continue to build. I wish the greater school community the best as they continue the journey ahead.

In Victory

Because Victory does not operate a school, your students may attend schools throughout the region. As presented in this FY05 budget, your (4) elementary students attend the Waterford Elementary School. We encourage all Victory residents to visit local schools, and explore the changes in instruction and programs. We look forward to sharing these changes with you.

Mariann Wall-Bertolini, Ed. D.
Superintendent of Schools

VICTORY ENROLLMENT STATISTICS

October 1, 2003

Town:	Grade	Resident
Waterford	Pre-School	
	Kindergarten	1
	First	
	Second	
	Third	2
	Fourth	
	Fifth	2
	Sixth	1
	Seventh	
	Eighth	
	Ninth	
	Tenth	
	Eleventh	
Twelfth		
Totals:	6	

Tuition Cost: $\$6500 \times 6 =$ **\$39,000.00**