

March 29, 2011

Martha Trombley Oakes
National Life Group Charitable Foundation
One National Life Drive
Montpelier, VT 05604

Dear Martha:

I have known and supported the good work of Central Vermont Community Action Council for many years and wholeheartedly endorse their plans to create a new facility in downtown Barre. Their anti-poverty work is vital to the well-being of our communities, and this new facility will help them to better serve the complex and growing needs of low-income Vermonters in a more effective and efficient way.

I am a firm believer that we all have a responsibility to help the most vulnerable in our communities – and to do so in a way that promotes self-sufficiency and personal responsibility. And I believe in the potential for communities to come together to solve problems. That belief is also at the core of Central Vermont Community Action Council's mission and approach to its work.

Wanting to be a part of the solution inspired me to create Wheels for Warmth six years ago which has raised nearly \$100,000 for Community Action's emergency and supplemental fuel assistance program – a program that I'm grateful that National Life has also supported.

Community Action touches the lives of so many Vermonters – children, elderly, parents, business owners, people with disabilities, the unemployed. By helping these individuals move forward in their lives, build skills, get jobs, expand businesses, be better parents, access quality child care, and address the multi-faceted issues facing them, Community Action has a broad impact on our communities and state. Its history of collaboration, networking and partnering extends its reach and impact even further.

Because Central Vermont Community Action's work is so effective, far-reaching, and such a key part of the Vermont human services network, I wholeheartedly support their grant application to the National Life Group Charitable Foundation and hope your board will make this project a priority in your funding decisions. Your leadership in this campaign will surely help to ensure this project's success.

Sincerely,

Phil Scott