

STATE OF VERMONT  
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT  
EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 09-13

[Governor's Council on Pathways From Poverty]

WHEREAS, poverty has been a persistent and growing problem in Vermont; and

WHEREAS, poverty affects all communities, including women, children, seniors, Vermonters with disabilities, working families, immigrants, and the homeless; and

WHEREAS, reducing poverty will greatly benefit the social and economic infrastructure of Vermont; and

WHEREAS, the State of Vermont has a commitment to the quality of life for all of its citizens.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT I, Peter Shumlin, by virtue of the power vested in me as Governor, do hereby establish the Governor's Council on Pathways From Poverty.

**I. Composition and Appointments**

Members of the Council shall be appointed by the Governor for three-year terms until their successors are appointed. The Governor shall appoint a Chair.

The Council shall include no less than ten and no more than thirty members, including:

- (A) Representatives involved with private agencies and programs that provide services to low-income Vermonters and/or who work to prevent and address poverty in Vermont; and
- (B) A variety of public members with a commitment to fighting poverty, including whenever possible an individual who has qualified for and received state benefits, such as 3SquaresVT, Reach Up, LIHEAP, housing subsidies, or similar support.

**II. Council Charge**

The Council shall be advisory to the Governor and its responsibilities shall include, but not be limited to:

- A. Determining the nature and primary causes of poverty in Vermont;
- B. Reviewing the extent to which public and private agencies are addressing poverty in Vermont; and

C. Making recommendations on action that should be taken to respond to poverty in Vermont, including actions taken by:

1. Federal Government,
2. State Government,
3. Local Government,
4. Private non-profit agencies and programs,
5. Charities, and
6. Business and industry.

### **III. Council Process**

The Council shall meet with the Governor three times per year and members may meet more frequently at the call of the Chair. The Council may establish sub-committees and shall meet with and coordinate efforts with other groups, such as the Vermont Council on Homelessness, as necessary.

The Council shall be attached to the Agency of Human Services for administrative support. To the extent funds permit, members shall receive reimbursement of expenses and a per diem pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 1010(e).

### **IV. Effective Date**

This Order shall take effect upon signing and expire on January 15th, 2017.

Dated December 30th, 2013.

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Peter Shumlin  
Governor