

Our key programs

Family Services: Crisis resolution, service coordination and case management for fuel, housing, clothing & other needs; housing stabilization, Food Stamp outreach, and budget counseling.

Weatherization: Home energy audits, heating system repair / replacement, and energy conservation improvements.

Emergency Home Repair: Home repairs that address energy-related, building integrity, and health & safety issues.

Head Start : Comprehensive early child development and support services for pre-school children and their families.

Micro Business / Asset Development: Support, training and technical assistance for startup and expansion of small businesses; Individual Development (matched savings) Accounts to promote financial literacy and support homeownership, education, and business start-up/expansion; and Tax Preparation Assistance to help obtain tax credits.

“Good Buy” Thrift Stores provide clothing, furniture, and household goods at affordable prices, or at no cost through the use of vouchers for those in need. Textile recycling helps to fund our programs and keep waste out of landfills.

Workforce Development & Support: Onsite support & resources for employees & employer to enable job retention, advancement, and increased productivity; Dislocated Worker business start-up, computer, & job skills training.

91 Buck Drive
Westminster, VT 05158
(802) 722-4575
(800) 464-9951



Turning Hardship into Hope for Windham & Windsor County Residents

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*We're Small Enough to Care
but
Big Enough to Help*

Contact SEVCA

Main Office: 802-722-4575
800-464-9951

Family Services Outreach Offices:
Brattleboro: 802-254-2795
Springfield: 802-885-6153
Westminster: 802-722-4575
White River Junction: 802-295-5215

Head Start Centers:
Main Office: 802-885-6669
Springfield: 802-885-6664
Chester: 802-875-3904
Windsor: 802-674-4690
White River Jct: 802-295-1122

Thrift Store Locations:
Bellows Falls: 802-463-9084
Springfield: 802-885-7074
WRJ (Hartford Ave): 802-359-4183
Hartford Recycling Ctr: 802-295-6373

Our mission is to enable people to cope with and reduce the hardships of poverty; create sustainable self-sufficiency; and reduce the causes and move toward the elimination of poverty throughout Windham and Windsor counties.

SEVCA and our Community

SEVCA was founded on the belief that all people can be empowered to rise out of poverty, and that the strength of our communities is measured by the quality of life for everyone within them. Since 1965, SEVCA has been on the front lines of the “War on Poverty” helping tens of thousands of low-income individuals and families in southeastern Vermont move toward economic security and self-sufficiency.

Family Services / Crisis Resolution

The Family Services staff responds to urgent crises and coordinates services through a network of community partnerships to provide the resources people need to overcome immediate emergencies and long-term challenges.

Many of our clients have complex problems that require multi-faceted solutions. Family Services and Housing Stabilization staff work hard to resolve housing & fuel emergencies, negotiate with landlords and utility companies, and help clients navigate complex systems and apply for services such as 3SquaresVT (Food Stamps) and heating fuel assistance.



Head Start

Our Head Start program serves approximately 100 families in Springfield, Windsor, Chester and White River Junction. Our teaching & family support staff work with children and their parents & other adults in their lives to help ensure that each child learns, grows and is prepared to

succeed in elementary school and beyond. Head Start focuses on the entire family, not just the child. Parents learn new ways to engage their children in educational activities at home and the teachers provide an important source of support and information about early childhood development, health and nutrition.



Training and Education

SEVCA addresses the root causes of poverty through training and education programs — from our comprehensive early childhood development program to classes in business software and business startup. Some of the computer classes that we offer include QuickBooks, Microsoft PowerPoint, Excel and Publisher.



Working Bridges works with participating businesses to help increase employee retention, productivity and job satisfaction and reduce turnover and lost time due to personal crises. Information and training on generational poverty dynamics is provided to Human Resources staff, and a Resource Coordinator offers onsite assistance at work to employees in crisis or facing barriers.

Volunteer Income Tax Assistance

SEVCA works with the United Way to recruit and train volunteers who provide free assistance in preparing tax returns and obtaining tax credits to people earning low to moderate incomes.

Micro Business / Asset Development

Our business development specialists provide training, technical assistance and one-on-one counseling for individuals who are starting or expanding a small business. Our staff offers a step-by-step approach to the business planning process, which has helped many local residents realize their dream of starting their own business in Vermont.



Individual Development Accounts (IDA)

The IDA program is a matched savings plan that provides low to moderate income individuals a 2:1 match on their savings to help them save for the purchase of a first home, a college education, or to start or expand a small business. Participants complete comprehensive financial literacy training covering topics such as budgeting, credit, and investments.

Home Weatherization

SEVCA has helped thousands of low-income residents reduce their heating cost and energy usage through our Home Weatherization program. A certified energy auditor inspects the home for heat loss, air infiltration, moisture problems and heating system inefficiencies. Our crew technicians complete the work to make the home warmer and more energy efficient. Weatherization services are no-cost to home owners or renters who meet the income



guidelines and at a very reasonable cost for those who can afford to pay for the services

Emergency Home Repair

This program provides energy-related repairs that also address urgent health & safety problems such as leaking roofs, rotted siding, or leaking pipes. The Coordinator works closely with community groups and local contractors to pull together the resources to complete the project, and stimulate jobs in the local economy.



“Good Buy” Thrift Stores

Our four thrift stores offer affordable clothing, furniture and housewares for residents of the communities they serve. They also provide free clothing, furniture and other necessities to individuals and families who are facing emergency situations or struggling to make ends meet on a very limited income. We can also provide assistance to individuals who are trying to enter the workforce by offering a supportive workplace with on-the-job training and community service opportunities.

Textile Reuse and Recycling

The textile recycling program provides another opportunity for Vermont residents to reduce waste by recycling clothing, linens, and shoes that would otherwise be disposed of in local landfills. We collect and recycle textiles from many local thrift stores, and provide drop-off locations at transfer stations in ten Vermont towns.

