



ADDISON COUNTY

Economic Development Corporation

Great starts here.

Thanks for taking the time to read our newsletter!

As always, your feedback is welcome and appreciated.

Enjoy,
ACEDC

From the Desk of the Executive Director

I am incredibly excited to be sharing my first newsletter as the Executive Director of the Addison County Economic Development Corporation. My first day with ACEDC was February 10th, and it is hard to believe that it has already been five months!

Before I share details on all the great things we've been up to in that time, I'd like to acknowledge my predecessor, Fred Kenney, whose guidance and wisdom was invaluable to a successful transition. Fred's successful tenure leading ACEDC over the past eight years was a major factor I considered when applying for this position. After learning from and shadowing Fred for the past five months, it is clear that I have big shoes to fill, but I also have the advantage of taking over an organization that is reputable, is thoroughly equipped with sound administrative protocols and processes, and is well-positioned for growth.

I am proud to say that in just five months, ACEDC has already accomplished so much. First, we have completely overhauled our operating strategy with a bold vision guided by our Board of Directors that addresses access to capital, workforce development, entrepreneurship, organizational sustainability and resiliency, and for the first time ever, housing.

Recently, ACEDC was awarded a Workforce Expansion Program technical assistance grant by the Vermont Department of Labor that will place a full-time workforce expansion coordinator in Addison County for two years. That coordinator will work directly with employers and service providers to connect youth ages 16-24, adults without a high school diploma, and people with disabilities to jobs in manufacturing and human services.

In April, ACEDC entered a partnership with the Town of Middlebury and Middlebury College to complete extensive predevelopment work in the Phase II and Phase III areas of the Middlebury Industrial Park. This is a vital first step in an effort that will ultimately deliver

nearly 200 acres of shovel-ready land to the market for new commercial and industrial development.

Since February, ACEDC staff has had over 130 direct engagements with Addison County businesses and nonprofits! In almost every case, these engagements involved staff advisement on critical business issues, coordination of long-term projects and programs, or referrals to other service providers that offer specialized support to our businesses and community partners.

We have set a high bar for fiscal year 2026. While our goals for expanding services and implementing new programs are lofty, our small but mighty team is excited to have your support as we continue to help businesses start, grow, and thrive in Addison County!

ACEDC News

Fred Kenney's Retirement Celebration



From all of the staff and board members of ACEDC, we truly appreciate all who came out to honor Fred Kenney's well-deserved retirement! Thank you!

[Read More](#)

Addison County and Northeast Kingdom Awarded VDOL Workforce Development Program

The Vermont Department of Labor has announced the selection of pilot projects proposed by Northeast Kingdom Chamber of Commerce and the Addison County Economic Development Corporation for the state's new Workforce Expansion Program.

[Read More](#)

ACEDC 2025 - 2026 Sponsorship Opportunities

Event Sponsorships



Business Webinar Series
Annual Member Meeting
Annual Mixer

Marketing Sponsorships



Quarterly Newsletter
Annual Report
Preferred Placement
Member of the Week

Great starts here.



ACEDC is dedicated to helping Addison County businesses from all backgrounds, at all stages, in all sectors and size to grow and create good-paying jobs.

We offer services to individual business, assist groups of businesses, and work with business associations. We also partner with local, regional, state, and federal partners to advance community and economic development in the County.

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Addison County Economic Development Corporation is accepting marketing and event sponsorships for FY2026.

Get your brand in front of Addison County's most robust network of businesses and community organizations.

[Read More](#)

Thank You to Our Renewing Members

Champlain Orchards
Middlebury College
Otter Creek Engineering
VELCO
Shacksbury Cider
Holdings Inc
Vermont Natural Ag Products & Foster Brothers Farm
M&T Bank
Vermont Integrated Architecture, PC
Mechanical Advantage LLC
Middlebury Pediatric Dentistry
Champlain Valley Equipment
Good Point Recycling
Town Hall Theater
Addison County Alignment & Repair
National Bank of Middlebury
Collins Aerospace
Multy Builders

Is your ACEDC member profile up to date?

We want our member directory to be a useful resource for everyone; please take a few minutes to make sure your business profile is up to date.

We have a [video tutorial](#) and [written instructions](#) to guide you through the process. If you have any questions or issues, please reach out by emailing us at info@addisoncountyedc.org or calling 802-388-7953.

2025 Vermont Legislative Session Wrap-Up



The 2025 legislative session unfolded under growing pressure to address affordability, workforce retention, and economic stagnation across Vermont's regions. Lawmakers responded with a mix of transformative and incremental legislation touching on education governance, public infrastructure, business financing, and labor protections.

[Read More](#)

ACEDC Members and Partners in the News

2025 Small Business Awardees of Addison County



**Congratulations to the 2025 SBA Small Business Awardees
from Addison County!**

- Kevin Moyer of [Vermont Frames and Foam Laminates](#) awarded Veteran-owned Business of the Year
- Laura Mack of [LuLu Ice Cream](#) awarded Woman-owned Business of the Year
- Nathaniel Klein of [Treeline Terrains](#) awarded Young Entrepreneur of the Year

Danforth Pewter Celebrates 50 Years



If you live in Vermont, you have most likely heard of Danforth Pewter, maybe even bought or received a gift from there. But did you know as of 2025 they are celebrating 50 years of handmade gifts, jewelry, ornaments, oil lamps, and much more?

[Read More](#)

Agricola Farm Awarded Funding

Congratulations to ACEDC Member Agricola Farm, located in Panton Vermont, as one of 18 businesses in Vermont that were recently awarded funding from The Business Enhancement Grant provided through the Working Lands Enterprise Board (WLEB).



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VBM Best of Business Award Winners in Addison County



Congratulations to the Addison County businesses named in *Vermont Business Magazine's* 2025 Best of Business Awards!

These awards celebrate the best Vermont companies in more than 100 business-to-business categories. Winners were chosen by VBM's readers.

Addison County winners include:

Basin Harbor
Community Bank
Fire & Ice
Vermont Gas
Otter Creek Engineering
RK Miles
Cabot Creamery Cooperative

[Read More](#)

Community News

Town Hall Theater Expansion Celebration



(THT pictured above, photo courtesy THT website)

The 141-year-old theater recently unveiled the completion of their long-awaited expansion which includes an entire new wing, performing arts center, and public plaza.

Read more about THT in the news: [THT Addison Independent](#)[THT SEVEN Days](#)

Visit Town Hall Theater's website to check out the Summer Sounds and upcoming events throughout 2025! [Town Hall Theater](#)

Vergennes Grand Senior Living Reopens



ACEDC Executive Director, Alex Armani-Munn, was honored to be in attendance for the grand opening of the newly expanded senior living community at Vergennes Grand.

The project had been delayed because of increased construction costs due to the COVID-19 pandemic. but now offers space for up to 88 residents thanks to a low-interest loan from the 10% in Vermont program.

WCAX grand reopening coverage:

<https://www.wcax.com/.../delayed-senior-housing-project.../>

During the reopening celebration, Treasurer Mike Pieciak, announced that another \$20M has been awarded through his office's 10% in Vermont program for public investment in housing and economic development.

To learn more about how 10% in Vermont is investing in Vermont's future read their most recent press release here - <https://www.vermonttreasurer.gov/.../treasurer-pieciak...>

For more information about
Vergennes Grand Senior Living visit their website at



<https://www.vergennesgrand.com/>

Town of Bristol Hires New Administrator



Town officials have chosen Gregory W. Faust to serve in the role, with an anticipated start date of July 28. Faust will succeed former Bristol town administrator Valerie Capels, who retired from the post this past December.

The selectboard voted to hire Faust at its June 2 meeting. Faust is in the process of moving from Phoenix to Vermont with his partner and their three dogs.

[read more....](#)

(article & image courtesy of Addison Independent)

Resources for Businesses & Municipalities

Imagine Addison County



ACEDC and Addison County Chamber of Commerce are administering a "Grant for Relocation Outreach Work (GROW)," a program of the Vermont Agency of Commerce & Community Development, Department of Tourism and Marketing. If you have staff or otherwise know folks who are new residents to Addison County, please direct them to [Grow Here - Addison County Chamber of Commerce, VT](#). The website provides a network, events and activities designed to welcome them to the community. And if you're recruiting from out-of-state to fill positions, be sure to include [Imagine Addison County Vermont - Addison County Chamber of Commerce, VT](#) in your information to prospects for access to relocation information and support.

[Read More](#)

Available Commercial Properties in Addison County



Looking for Space to Start, Expand, or Relocate Your Business?

[Visit our website for current property listings](#)

[Read More](#)

ACEDC Events

Financing Projects: Resources, Capital Campaigns, and Fundraising



Tuesday, September 8th from 11am-1pm

In-Person Seminar at Town Hall Theater

Presenters: Linda January, Otter Creek Childcare Center; Lisa Mitchel, Town Hall Theater; Susan Schaefer or Gerianne Smart, Vergennes Opera House; Dana Hart, Ilsley Library; Fred Kenney, ACEDC

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Business Cash Flow Analysis and Projections

Tuesday, November 11th from 9:30-10:30am

Webinar offered virtually via Zoom

Presenters: TBD



[Read More](#)

Maximizing Event Sponsorship Opportunities



Tuesday, December 9th from 9:30-10:30am

Webinar offered virtually via Zoom

Presenter: Phil Summers, Addison County Chamber of Commerce

[Read More](#)



Thanks to Community Bank, NA for sponsoring our business education series!
Visit the [ACEDC Events Calendar](#) for more events

Community Events

July

July 9: [Starting Your Own Business - With VT Small Business Development Center](#)

July 10: [Policy in Action: VBSR's 2025 Legislative Session Highlights](#)

July 10: [VTBuys Supplier Training](#) (*Held Weekly throughout July*)

July 17: [Chamber Networking Mixer](#)

July 22: [Lending & Financing for Small Business](#)

July 30: [Starting Your Own Business - With VtSBDC](#)

August

August 11: [Vermont Community Leadership Summit](#)

August 14: [Business Plan Basics](#)

September

September 11: [Social Media Made Simple](#)

September 17: [Marketing 101](#)

September 20: [ACORN Tour de Farms](#)

Visit our Community Events Calendar for an extensive list of local and virtual events

Employment, Training and Education Opportunities

Visit our website for a current list of job opportunities

Job Fairs

[Vermont Department of Labor #Hiring2DayVT Virtual Job Fairs](#)

Weekly VT DoL Virtual Workshops

[Resume Writing Workshop](#) - Mondays at 9am

[Regional Employment Connections](#) - Mondays at 1pm

[Interviewing Skills](#) - Tuesdays at 9am

[Re-Employment Strategies](#) - Wednesdays at 9am

[Resume Writing Workshop](#) - Wednesdays at 1pm

[Interviewing Skills](#) - Fridays at 1pm

Highlighted Partner

Porter Medical Center Celebrates Centennial!



Most people living in Addison County can't remember a time without Porter Medical Center and its vital convenience to the local community.

Prior to June of 1925, the only option for people in need of medical was traveling to Burlington, up to an hour away for some in Addison County.

The vision for Porter Medical Center became a reality in 1923 following a seed gift from Middlebury College Trustee and banker William Henry Porter.

[read more....](#)

Visit [Porter Medical Center's website](#), now part of UVM Health Network, to learn more about their history and the services they currently offer.

Follow their Facebook page where they share useful health tips and information as well as local news and healthcare updates. [PCM Facebook](#)

(Article courtesy the Addison Independent. Photos courtesy PMC's website.)



Stay up to date between newsletters by visiting our [News Feed](#), the [ACEDC Events](#) and [Business Community Calendar](#) webpages, and following us on social media!



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ACEDC activities are made possible, in part, by a grant from the State of Vermont through the Agency of Commerce and Community Development. Loan programs are made possible by USDA/Rural Development. ACEDC is an equal opportunity service provider and lender, with all services and funds available on a non-discriminatory basis.



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