Priority Communities

Every team’s application must include at least one priority community listed below and represent an area with more than 6,000 people. Every town in Vermont can be part of an application as long as the team’s application meets these conditions: includes a priority community and represents an area of more than 6,000 people. Multi-town or regional applications are welcome to meet the 6,000 person threshold.

Priority communities have been identified by the WCC Steering Committee as those towns and small cities that (1) meet conditions of high economic need and (2) provide a likely opportunity for greater systems change that benefit residents with lower incomes.

Priority Communities

Each of these priority communities has a total population above 6,000 and can submit an application independently or as part of multi-town or regional application.

Barre City  Springfield
Bennington  St. Albans City
Brattleboro  St. Johnsbury
Middlebury  Winooski
Rutland City

Each of these priority communities has a total population below 6,000 and therefore must partner with other communities in their market/area/region to reach a total population of at least 6,000 people.

Barton  Pittsford
Bradford  Poultney
Castleton  Putney
Enosburgh  Randolph
Fair Haven  Rockingham
Hinesburg  Royalton
Johnson  Stowe
Lyndon  Vergennes
Morristown  Westminster
Newport City  Windsor

See the GIS map for a visual representation of priority communities with data on city/town population, prepared by the Vermont Center for Geographic Information. (https://vcgi.maps.arcgis.com/apps/View/index.html?appid=1220b8486269447aadb280db8ca3c902)

1 These Vermont towns/cities have poverty rates above the state poverty rate (11.4) and median household incomes below the state’s median household income ($57,808).