

## THE LINTILHAC FOUNDATION

# **2016 ANNUAL REPORT**





## THE LINTILHAC FOUNDATION

The character "Lin" translates to "forest" and has been the Lintilhac family's Chinese name for three generations. We continue to use this Chinese symbol, as we feel it clearly conveys the foundation's goals of protecting our natural environment.

# 2016 ANNUAL REPORT **Contents**

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## THE MISSION OF The Lintilhac Foundation

The Lintilhac Foundation's central purpose is to support organizations that are making sustainable, positive change for Vermont's environment and its people and providing Vermonters the information and resources they need to control their environmental destinies and strong traditions of democratic engagement.

#### **Core Giving Areas**

Water Quality, with a special focus on advocacy and science;

**Energy**, including the promotion of renewable energy and awareness of the dangers involved with nuclear power;

**Conservation**, especially recreational access to conserved and public lands, and integrative land-use planning.

#### Legacy Giving

Our Legacy Giving is in the fields of women's reproductive health, especially support for midwifery and for perinatal emotional and mental health; ending childhood hunger; and informing public debate, specifically programs that encourage awareness, discussion and understanding of ongoing challenges, and that educate Vermonters about the public policy process.

Legacy Giving grantees are selected by the Foundation trustees. We do not accept unsolicited proposals in regard to our Legacy Giving, and we are unable to respond to phone calls, emails or other forms of contact involving these fields. Thank you for respecting this boundary.



#### To Apply for a Grant

We welcome your proposal to our Core Giving Areas: water quality, energy and conservation. We accept proposals online exclusively — to apply, visit www.lintihacfoundation.org. Please do not send proposals or other materials by mail.

Application Deadline	Notification of Decision
March 1	April
June 1	July
September 1	October
December 1	January

The Lintilhac Foundation reviews grant proposals four times each year.

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# A BRIEF HISTORY OF The Lintilhac Foundation

Established in 1975 by Claire Lintilhac, the Lintilhac Foundation is a private foundation, located in Vermont, that grew out of Claire Lintilhac's interest in providing effective and sympathetic perinatal care for low-risk pregnancies. Her commitment to creating and developing a hospital-based nurse midwifery service in Vermont grew from her belief that, although modern obstetrical practice met the needs of high-risk mothers and babies, a nurse midwifery service could best serve the low-risk pregnancies that produced about 80% of the births at what is now the University of Vermont Medical Center.

Claire Lintilhac's vision for hospital-based nurse midwifery was rooted in her own experience as a nurse and midwife, working up and down the coast of China in the 1920s and 1930s. In the years since she passed away in 1984, the Foundation has continued to foster the development of a highly acclaimed nurse midwifery program. In 1992, the Claire M. Lintilhac Nurse Midwifery Service was dedicated to Claire at the Medical Center; and in 2004, a newly constructed, much-improved birthing center, built with the help of a \$500,000 Foundation grant, was dedicated as the Claire M. Lintilhac Birthing Center. The Nurse Midwifery Service today continues to provides personalized health care, and to support every woman's right to be an active participant in her own care and education. The service treats pregnancy as a natural process, and supports nonintervention in its management approach. The service provides continuity of care, with expert midwifery and expert medical backup.

The Lintilhac Birthing Center and Nurse Midwifery Service exist because of the vision of Claire Lintilhac and the inspiration of her close collaborator in this work, the late Dr. John Van S. Maeck, who was chief of Obstetrics and Gynecology at the Medical Center. Their shared commitment was to help women have healthy babies with the assistance of an empathetic nurse midwife in a medically safe environment. Over the past 42 years, the Lintilhac Foundation has continued to support the program, which today is flourishing — about 400 babies are delivered each year by nurse midwives at the Lintilhac Birthing Center.

The strength of Claire Lintilhac's convictions, and her understanding of the everyday problems that face new mothers, shaped the development of this program, and continue to guide the Foundation's efforts in support of nurse midwifery and perinatal health care today.



# Grants and Action for a Clean, Safe, Healthy Vermont

Grantmaking by the Lintilhac Foundation in 2016, our 41st year, continued at almost \$1 million total dollars. Grants were awarded primarily for proposals that addressed land conservation, water quality, nuclear decommissioning, environmental science and research, renewable energy, integrated land-use planning, Vermont journalism and public-affairs programming, and education in environmental studies and climate change. Grantmaking also included nurse midwifery and perinatal care at the UVM Medical Center.

The breadth and scope of the Foundation's grantmaking speaks to the unique and pivotal role that private foundations fill in the economy of Vermont civil society today. Nonprofit organizations that previously depended mostly or entirely on funding from local, state and federal sources are turning more and more to extramural grant support for their special projects, and to make possible their ongoing participation in public affairs and the shaping of public policy. In recent years, the Foundation has also advocated directly, and in working partnership with organizations like the Vermont Public Interest Research Group, the Conservation Law Foundation, Vermont Conservation Voters and others, to help shape public policy and encourage followup funding, action and enforcement to protect and improve water quality, conserve valuable land with recreation access, develop safe and renewable energy, build the science and data that underlie wise environmental decisions, and help Vermont and its communities adapt to the era of climate change.

The following pages offer brief insights into a number of the organizations and initiatives that the Foundation supported — and often worked closely with — during the past year. Following those profiles is a short article, "The Foundation's Ongoing Evolution," about how the Foundation is preserving its core values while its priorities continue to develop as a new generation of Lintilhacs gradually assumes a more active leadership role. Following these narrative pieces is the list of Top Grants and the full Report of Gifts, both for 2016.



# LEGACY GIVING: Nurse Midwifery and Perinatal Health Care

### Supporting Mothers and Babies in a Pioneering U.S. Program

Almost 50 years ago, Claire Lintilhac's conviction that women deserve more than just physical care brought midwifery services to what is now the **University of Vermont Medical Center**.

Having spent years as a nurse in China with a special interest in women's health, Claire believed midwives could contribute in multiple ways to prenatal and birthing care in Vermont, her adopted state. In 1968 she worked with Dr. John Maeck, chief of obstetrics at the Burlington hospital, to bring the first midwife, trained in England, onto its staff.

## "Midwifery wouldn't be where it is today without the Lintilhac Foundation and Claire's vision."

Midwifery today is a very strong presence at what is now the hospital's **Claire M. Lintilhac Birthing Center**, where nurse midwives support women throughout the natural process of birth. From 1977-81, foundation grants enabled the program to expand so that nurse midwives, available 24/7, were delivering about 400 babies per year. The hospital developed a three-option system: women could be seen by a physician only, by a doctor alternating with a midwife, or primarily by the four nurse midwives then on staff. By 1985, nurse midwives were caring for women through 37% of births at the hospital. Foundation support also enabled them to help teach medical students and residents; to do research that contributed to their profession; and for the program to create a lactation outpatient clinic. With the most recent grants, the Birthing Center — with eight nurse midwives on staff today — has developed new means of supporting women's mental and emotional well-being, before and after birth (see the next article for more).

"I believe, as Dr. Maeck and Mrs. Lintilhac believed, that the presence of midwifery, in combination with expert OB care at a tertiary care teaching hospital, has provided some of the best care possible to the women of Vermont and northern New York," said Martha Churchill, APRN, CNM, director of the Lintilhac Birthing Center, in a 2008 speech at the 40th anniversary of what is now one of the nation's oldest hospital midwifery programs.

"We are a model of care," she adds today. " Midwifery wouldn't be where it is today without the Lintilhac Foundation and Claire's vision."





The UVM Medical Center nurse midwives: standing, left to right: Bonita Steuer, Cormany Simon-Nobes, Krista Nickerson, Mary Jo Gehrett, Whitney Smith, Martha Churchill. Seated: Sandra Wood, Rebecca Montgomery

"I believe, as Dr. Maeck and Mrs. Lintilhac believed, that the presence of midwifery, in combination with expert OB care at a tertiary care teaching hospital, has provided some of the best care possible to the women of Vermont and northern New York."

– Martha Churchill, APRN, CNM Director, *Lintilhac Birthing Center* 

### **Compassion and Care for New Mothers' Emotional Health**

With ongoing support from the Foundation in 2016, the UVM Medical Center's Nurse Midwifery Service continued to develop and provide multiple services supporting women's mental and emotional health, both before and after childbirth.

"Perinatal mental health challenges, up to a year postpartum, are a normal part of pregnancy," said Sandra Wood, CNM, the psychiatric mental-health nurse practitioner and nurse midwife who coordinates these services. "The grant allows us to really make sure that we do this relationship-based work."

"All this is possible because of the financial support from the Lintilhac Foundation," said Martha

## "The grant allows us to really make sure that we do this relationship-based work."

Churchill, director of the service, noting that almost all these services are unbillable in the current health care system. "With more research studies like we are doing," she added, "we may be able to demonstrate that ongoing mental health support and attention creates a support network and resource base that prevents family mental health issues in the future."

#### Among the services now provided:

Sandra Wood followed up on all 457 births at the medical center in 2016, phoning mothers in the first week after delivery to screen them for mood and anxiety issues. First-time and at-risk mothers receive a second screening, two weeks postpartum; a third is included in the week-six final visit. Wood stays in touch with those who need continuing support. She offers a four-hour clinic each week for pregnant and postpartum mothers, with frequent followups. Psychiatric fellow Sarah Guth, M.D., provides a weekly consultancy for pregnant women who need medication advice and followup. Last year Dr. Guth and Wood also completed "Mindful Motherhood," an eight-week series teaching mindfulness skills to about 60 new moms. Findings showed a trend in participants toward reduced anxiety and depression symptoms. The Nurse Midwifery Service has published a self-care booklet for pregnant women, to help them plan for the postpartum support they'll need. The service runs a free postpartum support group, plus monthly meetings for families that have lost a baby. Wood also provides eight weekly hours as a "warm line" consultant for the Vermont Health Department, answering providers' questions on women's health needs.

# LEGACY GIVING: Ending Childhood Hunger

## Helping Schools Fuel a Generation of Learners

When this nonprofit began in 1983 as the Vermont Campaign to End Childhood Hunger, 17% of Vermont public schools served breakfast. Today, reports **Hunger Free Vermont**, 98% of schools serve meals to more than 90,000 students. Still, the need persists: 17% of Vermonters under 18 live in households that are food-insecure, lacking resources to fully meet basic food needs. Kids in food-insecure homes are at greater risk of poor health, obesity, developmental delays, depression and aggressive or hyperactive behavior.

With Foundation support, Hunger Free Vermont has lately helped 65 schools leverage a federal program to provide universal free meals, serving students regardless of income. The nonprofit helps schools to build a business plan and launch the service, which now benefits some 15,000 children.

"We have the flexibility to pursue something as creative and innovative as this because of the unrestricted funding of the Lintilhac Foundation and it's completely changing a generation of kids' experience at schools," said Marissa Parisi, Hunger Free's executive director.

#### Also during 2016:

 Hunger Free worked with the New England Dairy and Food Council to encourage schools to serve breakfast in classrooms after the school day starts, so more kids will have that critical first meal.

The Vermont Breakfast After the Bell Challenge has signed up 34 schools since January 2016.



- The nonprofit gave more than 25 trainings on nutrition education to Vermont childcare centers, and provided over 75 centers with technical assistance. Hunger Free is developing a "toolkit" of training resources for centers on teaching nutrition basics to parents.
- Hunger Free staff helped keep summer meal programs going around the state, filling a gap left by an Agency of Education staff shortage. It also provided support and technical help to 57 after-school meal sites.
- Through The Learning Kitchen, Hunger Free's six week nutrition class, 410 low-income young people and adults gained skills in buying and preparing healthy meals. The organization organized Hunger Councils in Bennington and Rutland counties in 2016, and began working with state agencies to let seniors on Medicaid know they may qualify for help in buying groceries through 3SquaresVT, formerly Food Stamps.



## LEGACY GIVING: Informing Public Debate

### Support for 21st Century Reporting

As declining ad revenues cause Vermont's daily newspapers to shrink news staff and coverage, the news website VTDigger.org has grown to fill the gap — so much so that it now has the state's largest reporting staff. Support from the Foundation has been vital to that growth, said Anne Galloway, founding editor and executive director.

"VTDigger was founded in 2009, with no budget at all," Galloway said. Soon, the site had 14,000 readers per month. Today, as a project of the nonprofit Vermont Journalism Trust, it has a budget of \$1.3 million and 17 employees, with about 200,000 monthly readers.

"The Foundation has been contributing to VTDigger every year for a while now, and that consistent support has made a huge difference for us," Galloway explained. "One year, they helped support our campaign finance database; another year they supported our energy and environment reporter, and the past two years they've supported our Southern Vermont Bureau."

After local papers again laid off reporters in Rutland, Manchester, Bennington and Brattleboro, VTDigger created its three-person Southern

"More than ever, we need to re-emphasize our common connections and our shared goals." Vermont Bureau to cover Rutland, Bennington and Windham counties. At the other end of the state, dogged reporting by Galloway on what became known as the EB-5 scandal played a key role in prompting a 2015 investigation that led to state and federal charges against two Northeast Kingdom business leaders accused of defrauding more than 700 immigrant investors in the EB-5 visa program.

When VTDigger began, about 75% of its budget was dependent on grants. Today, about 40% comes from underwriting, 40% from membership contributions, just 15% from grants, and the rest from news-related revenues.

"We distribute our news to 14 media partners," Galloway said. "We now have enough people on the news side to make things 'hum.' On the business side, we need to make some investments in more sustainable funding." She said the site is looking to add staff in development and social media, and possibly a "chief innovation officer."

"We've grown a lot." Galloway concluded. "It wouldn't have been possible without the Lintilhac name and support."





The VTDigger staff, with editor and executive director Anne Galloway in the second row, fourth from left.

"The Foundation has been contributing to VTDigger every year for a while now, and that consistent support has made a huge difference for us."

> - Anne Galloway, founding editor and Executive Director, VTDigger.org

### **Our Public-Affairs Conversations**

For many years running, the Foundation has helped underwrite the state's two most popular public-affairs broadcasts — "Vermont Edition" on **Vermont Public Radio**, and "Vermont This Week" on **VT PBS** television.

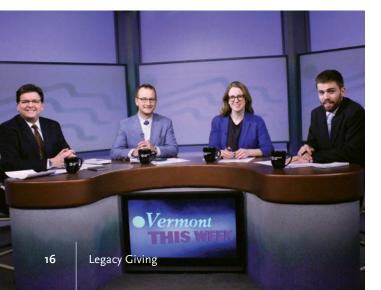
"Their funding was there at the beginning of Vermont Edition, and it goes back decades to the program's precursor, Switchboard," said Brendan Kinney, VPR's vice president for development and marketing. Broadcast every weekday noon and again at 7 p.m. since 2007, Vermont Edition reaches about 63,000 listeners every week as a call-in program, usually hosted by Bob Kinzel or Jane Lindholm.

"It's essentially a daily gathering of Vermonters, around a topic that is in the news or of the moment," Kinney said. "We cover a lot of topics that are important to the Lintilhac Foundation — wind and solar power, a big series last year on water quality in Lake Champlain. Their annual support has been absolutely critical, both to the program's creation and to its continuing run." Also available as a podcast, the program averages about 35,000 downloads per month. VPR is celebrating its 40th anniversary in 2017. Vermont PBS also has an anniversary in 2017 its 50th — and its relationship with the Foundation goes back to the mid-1990s. The Foundation is currently one of four underwriters of Vermont This Week, a discussion of state affairs by working journalists, currently hosted by Stewart Ledbetter, that has been on the air since 1982.

## "More than ever, we need to re-emphasize our common connections and our shared goals."

Each week, about 7,500 viewers tune into VT PBS. Studies have found that its viewers are 82% more likely than the general public to be involved with civic groups, 68% more likely to be involved with charitable organizations, and 36% more likely than non-PBS viewers to participate in environmental groups or causes.

At the same time, Vermont This Week "is consistently nonpartisan — and isn't that important, especially in times like this," said M.J. Reale, a development officer at VT PBS. Because people are inclined these days to choose information sources that "reinforce our preconceptions," she said, "more than ever, we need to re-emphasize our common connections and our shared goals."









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> - Brendan Kinney Vice President of Development and Marketing Vermont Public Radio

# CORE GIVING AREAS: Conservation

## **Backcountry Recreation: Conserving Trails & Building Networks**

Activities like trail hiking and mountain biking don't just get people outdoors — they build support for conservation, and they're helping Vermont's economy adapt to climate change.

The Foundation in 2016 supported efforts by **The Trust for Public Land** to protect conservation properties with high-value trail networks, by the **Vermont Mountain Bike Association** to build a regional alliance promoting the economic benefits of backcountry recreation, and by the **Vermont Huts Association** to create a network of backcountry lodging facilities.

"In most cases, we use public grants, state and federal, to actually purchase the land ... The Foundation has helped support our costs for these acquisitions."

"We look at the landscape as one of our most valuable resources," said Louise Lintilhac, a Foundation trustee who is assistant editor of *Backcountry Magazine.* "In order for people to really value its future, one of the most important things is getting people out in it, experiencing it."

As the Trust for Public Land works to conserve large parcels with high trail values as new public lands, Foundation support has leveraged \$5.2 million in additional funding. Recent projects include Rolston Rest, where the nonprofit is working to add 2,792 acres to the Green Mountain National Forest near Killington; Millstone Hill, 335 acres of former quarry land in Barre Town, with a volunteer-built trail network; and Ascutney Mountain in West Windsor, 470 former ski-resort acres with a 30-mile trail network.

"In most cases, we use public grants, state and federal, to actually purchase the land," said Kate Wanner, a TPL project manager. "The Foundation has helped support our costs for these acquisitions."

Meanwhile, the Vermont Huts Association is assembling a network of backcountry lodging facilities, from B&Bs to trail shelters and yurts, on or close to Vermont's 900-plus miles of trails. And as the Vermont Mountain Bike Association promotes the economic benefits of backcountry recreation, it is building a regional alliance that will encourage riders to contribute to the trails they use.

"If you think about ways we can shape our future economy in the face of climate change," Louise Lintilhac noted, "these are sports that can occur even if temperatures get warmer. It's about creating healthy communities — and I see that happening a lot in these areas where backcountry recreation is growing."









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> – Louise Lintilhac Assistant Editor, *Backcountry Magazine*

### **Standing Up for Land Protection**

The conservation easement has long been the primary legal mechanism for permanently protecting many thousands of pristine or productive Vermont acres from development. The Foundation took action in 2016 to protect the permanence of such conservation covenants, and to make information about them more readily accessible.

The Foundation supported legal work and expert testimony for **Protect Geprags Park**, a Hinesburg citizens' group battling to turn back the use of a local park as the last piece of a 41-mile natural-gas pipeline by Vermont Gas. Land for the park "was donated with a covenant in the deed, that the land be protected and maintained for recreation and educational uses only," said Rachel Smolker of the citizens' group. Concerned about harm to wetlands and bird habitat, the group was able to appeal to the state Supreme Court an easement granted by the Vermont Public Service Board.

Without support like this, "a small group of citizens like us could not possibly go out and raise the funds to go up against a corporation like this," Smolker said. The Foundation also opposed a bid by Vermont Rail System and Barrett Trucking to build and operate a rail spur and sheds for storing 80,000 tons of salt on the **LaPlatte River Marsh**, a Shelburne wetland adjacent to Lake Champlain.

Legal questions have developed around whether conservation easements can be amended, as conditions on land or its ownership change. The Foundation has worked to clarify those questions with the **Upper Valley Land Trust** and the **Environmental Tax Policy Institute of Vermont Law School**. "Easement permanence is a very complicated issue, and there are a lot of stakeholders — but every time we take half a step, the next steps get easier," said Jeanie McIntyre, present of the UVLT, which is advocating for the creation of a statewide easement registry.

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"The Lintilhac Foundation sets its sights on thorny environmental issues that affect Vermont and its landscape," observed Janet Milne, a VLS professor who directs the Environmental Tax Policy Institute. "It funds work conducted by others — but Crea Lintilhac's personal engagement in the issues buttresses and amplifies those efforts."



## Leveraging Love for Our Shared Outdoors

For two nonprofits that work for Vermonters who value the environment, support in 2016 was a jumpstarter that helped get important projects off the ground.

Since 1998, the **Stowe Land Trust** has conserved five properties with significant conservation value, safeguarding 865 total acres in a community where land is often prized for high-value development. The trust worked in 2016 to build support for its most far-reaching project: protecting 2,179 acres in four properties with high recreational, wildlife habitat and water-resource values in the Worcester Range. The properties are prime targets for development.

"It's critical to bring all sorts of donors behind these projects, because there are limited state and federal dollars," noted Caitrin Maloney, executive director. "Funding is even more critical when you're getting a project going. Being on the leading edge helps us build up the support we need."

Vermont Parks Forever was founded in 2013 to build support for state parks, and enhance the experience of everyone — especially young people, and those from underserved communities — who explores the natural world through park visits. In 2016, the Foundation helped fund Natural Connections, a partnership between Vermont Parks Forever, the state park system, and ECHO, the Leahy Center for Lake Champlain, to revamp and redesign the nature centers in six state parks.

Natural Connections aims to build positive attitudes toward outdoor activities and the environment in both young people and adults. "Because this is a really innovative project, it's very important to have this support," said Sarah Alberghini



"It's critical to bring all sorts of donors behind these projects, because there are limited state and federal dollars."

Winters, Vermont Parks Forever's executive director. In its first year, the partnership was able to develop the concepts, drawing and design work that can attract more support for its next phase.

"We can't overstate how important the contributions from the Lintilhac Foundation have been for this new nonprofit," added Deborah Markowitz, a Parks Forever board member who formerly headed the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources. "Within Vermont, the Foundation is seen as a real leader, and their willingness to provide early support has helped us leverage not just credibility in the nonprofit community, but dollars as well."



## The Legislature's Environmental Scorekeeper

At a time when federal leadership is working to turn back years of hard-won progress on environmental protection and renewable energy, "the importance of Vermont playing a leadership role on environmental issues has never been stronger," declares the leadership of the nonprofit **Vermont Conservation Voters**. The group continues to work with the **Vermont Natural Resources Council** on building a coalition with a shared agenda on environmental action in the State House — and it keeps a scorecard on how lawmakers have cast their votes.

"The Foundation's board is strategic and responsive to what's happening, when there are opportunities to make real progress on environmental issues."

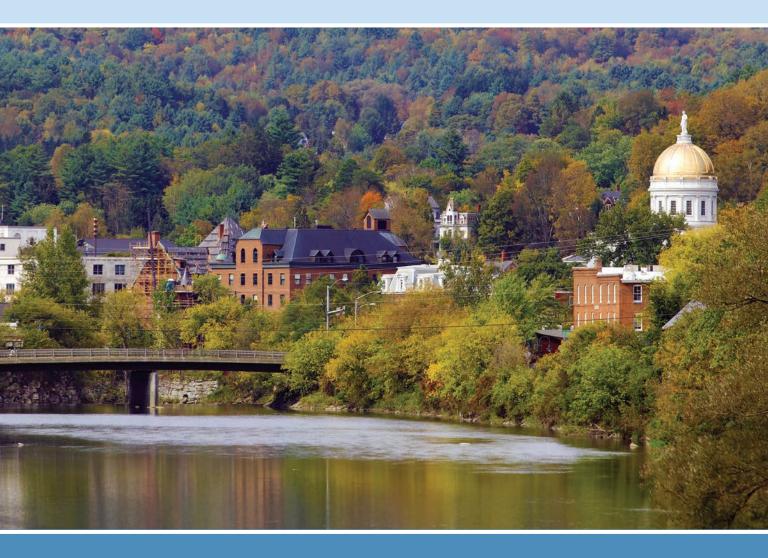
"We believe our advocacy, grassroots engagement, coalition-building, and efforts to hold elected officials accountable increased the environmental community's collective power which will be more important than ever in the coming years," the two groups said in their 2016 report to the Foundation, which continues to support their work. "They provide support for a lot of our work that other foundations don't: the behind-the-scenes, critical work of implementing, rulemaking and watchdogging the state to make sure they follow through on conservation initiatives," said Brian Shupe, VNRC's executive director. "The Foundation has underwritten VNRC's water program, and that allows us to do a variety of things. For example, we convene the Water Caucus, bringing together all the state organizations that are involved in water policy on a regular basis, to coordinate and have as much consensus as possible."

Support for Vermont Conservation Voters helps fund its annual Environmental Scorecard, given to every legislator on the first day of the annual session, along with its leadership in developing each year's Environmental Common Agenda of Legislative Priorities. VCV is currently pushing for sustainable funding for the Clean Water Fund, and it participates in the Toxics Working Group created by the Legislature in response to contamination of water supplies by industrial chemicals in the Bennington area.

"The Foundation's board is strategic and responsive to what's happening, when there are opportunities to make real progress on environmental issues," said Lauren Hierl, VCV's political director. "They know what's happening on the ground, and they've been a core supporter of our work."







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> – Brian Shupe Executive Director, VNRC

## CORE GIVING AREAS: Water Quality

### **Keeping Our Promises to Lake Champlain**

As the funder of the Emmy-winning "Bloom' documentary series on the algae-bloom pollution of Lake Champlain, the Foundation helped catalyze the fight to save the lake. That battle continues, with ongoing support for nonprofits that are leading key protection, advocacy or research efforts.

The **Conservation Law Foundation** is pushing for enforcement of Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) pollution standards. "It took 20 years of concerted advocacy and close to 20 lawsuits to get to the point where we have a real plan and some hope that Lake Champlain will get cleaned up," said Chris Kilian, CLF's Vermont director. "The case we're making in the State House is that we as Vermonters have made these commitments. Are we going to clean up the lake or not?

"The Foundation and the Lintilhac family really understand the need for philanthropists to stay engaged over the long haul," he added.

The Nature Conservancy is working with UVM's Gund Institute of Ecological Economics on a two-year research collaboration, supported by the Foundation, that aims to determine what needs to be done to make a real impact on the lake pollution, and how much that will cost. "We believe the science is going to help all of us make better, more strategic decisions with limited conservation dollars," said Heather Furman, Executive Director of TNC's Vermont Chapter. The **National Wildlife Federation** is fighting to prevent a potentially catastrophic pollution: the threat of an oil train derailment on the lake's shoreline. Each week, long trains carry up to tens of millions of gallons of crude oil on decades-old tracks and rail bridges along Champlain's western bank. The oil comes from fracking in the Great Plains and tar sands in Canada; the transporters are seeking to upgrade facilities below the lake so they can move even more.

## "The Foundation and the Lintilhac family really understand the need for philanthropists to stay engaged over the long haul."

The NWF builds awareness among policymakers, engages in permitting processes, and has created a coalition of environmentalists, businesses, municipalities and other stakeholders opposing the shipments. The Foundation has "given us the resources to engage at a higher level," said Jim Murphy, senior counsel with NWF's Northeast Regional Center. "And it's been consistent support, which is huge."









"The case we're making is that we as Vermonters have made these commitments. Are we going to clean up the lake or not?"

> - Chris Kilian, Vermont Director Conservation Law Foundation

## Working for a Clean-Water Future

Vermont developed rules last year for implementing its tough Clean Water Act of 2015 — but whether that will lead to a new, clean future for the state's water resources depends on continued activism and advocacy. Among the nonprofits helping to lead those efforts, with Foundation support, are the Lake Champlain Committee and Lake Champlain International.

## "This partnership frees us up to be deeply involved in the specifics of public policy — and that's where the real change occurs."

The Legislature is tasked with providing funds and a long-term financing plan for implementing the clean water law, also known as Act 64, in large part to help farmers meet strengthened standards for agricultural practices that impact water quality. Funding from the Foundation has enabled the Lake Champlain Committee to hire an environmental protection advocate, to work in the State House throughout the session.

"This is a critical time for environmental protection, and water quality in particular. The Lintilhac funding has given us the opportunity to help advance legislation, and to have a continuous presence there on environmental issues," said Lori Fisher, executive director. "Vermont has a citizen





legislature, and the nonprofit community can really provide a lot of support and reliable information."

Through advocacy and education, Lake Champlain International has brought together a broad coalition of Vermonters in support of developing a clean-water economy — "an economy that protects our water resources rather than poisoning them," said James Ehlers, executive director. The nonprofit is participating in stakeholder processes on wetland rulemaking, sewage overflow and discharge permitting, farming practices and stormwater rules, among others.

Foundation support "affords me the opportunity to retain expert legal counsel so that we can weigh in persuasively, on the 'inside baseball' stuff that has real impacts on the landscape," Ehlers said. Over the past several years, Lake Champlain International has built support within the business community for a clean-water economy. Ehlers worked closely with Vermont Businesses for Social Responsibility; that too, he said, was made possible by ongoing Foundation support.

"When you can count on that partnership, it frees you up to be deeply involved in the specifics of public policy," Ehlers said. "That's where the real change occurs."



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## **Science-Based Action for Vital Resources**

Committed to advocacy for water-quality protection that is built on hard data and real science, the Foundation continues to support efforts by the **Connecticut River Council**, formerly the **Connecticut River Watershed Association**, to find and fix pollution that threatens the great four-state watershed; and by the **Toxics Action Center** to spotlight, address and prevent pesticide contamination of drinking water across Vermont and New England.

"We work side by side with community groups that are facing pollution threats in their neighborhoods," said Shaina Kasper, Vermont state director for the Toxics Action Center. "Our work is often hard to fund, because we don't know what communities are going to call us or what the problems of the next year are going to be."

The nonprofit is in its 30th year of working throughout New England. In Vermont, Foundation support has enabled it to bring community groups together with advocates and experts, and to help them come up with long-term solutions that have real impact on local contamination problems.

Having rebranded itself as the Connecticut River Council in 2017, the multi-state nonprofit that was formerly the Connecticut River Watershed Association continues to focus on collecting and sharing reliable environmental data for decision makers. It has received Foundation support since 2003, and has used the funding for — among other projects — water-quality monitoring, building sciencebased advocacy against pollution issues, and constructing a lab for the testing of water samples gathered by volunteers.



"Our work is often hard to fund, because we don't know what communities are going to call us or what the problems of the next year are going to be."

"They've allowed us to address major issues. They're never the largest funder, but they are, if you will, first in, and that allows us to work to raise additional funds," said David Deen, who recently retired after 19 years as the Council's River Steward, and also chairs the Vermont House Committee on Natural Resources, Fish and Wildlife.

"Crea Lintilhac is an activist in her own right. She is at the same meetings that I'm at," Rep. Deen said. "She shows up at my committee and provides testimony. So it's not just the Foundation's presence, which allows others to be present. She's there herself."





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# core giving areas: Energy

### **Telling Truth to Nuclear Power**

With the Vermont Yankee plant having shut down in 2014, nuclear power in Vermont is less often in the news. But two citizen groups continue with Foundation support to advocate for public safety, and social justice, in the decommissioning of nuclear plants and the search for solutions on storing nuclear waste.

Educating the public on decommissioning and advocating for a safer process is the focus of **Fairewinds Energy Education**, a nonprofit led by Arnie and Maggie Gundersen. A longtime decommissioning expert on who helped write the first federal handbook for the process, Arnie Gundersen has been speaking up about an ongoing revision of federal decommissioning rules that are "making them less transparent and less safe," he said.

## "We have clearly shown that the NRC is a handmaiden to the nuclear owners."

Vermont Yankee is among the first generation of large nuclear power plants now nearing the end of their working lives, with almost 100 still operating. In a 40-page research report that Fairewinds filed with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission in 2016, and in public comments and presentations about the process, "we have clearly shown that the NRC is a handmaiden to the nuclear owners," Arnie Gundersen said. "We could not have done some of this work without the Foundation's support," Maggie Gundersen added. "The funding is helping us look at what is working and what is not working."

Based near Vermont Yankee, the **Citizen Awareness Network** is a grassroots nonprofit that organized and advocated for Yankee's shutdown. Now the group is focused on what Deborah Katz, its executive director, calls "the monstrous problem of nuclear waste disposal."

Entergy, Vermont Yankee's current owner, has sought state and NRC approval to transfer its responsibility for cleaning up the site and its radioactive waste to a contractor that may join a bid to store high-level waste at a rural location in Texas. "It is essential that reactor and targeted waste communities work together to create policy that supports the needs and concerns of both communities," the Citizen Awareness Network has declared.

"Because nuclear is such a controversial issue, it's very hard for us to get funding," Katz added. "We couldn't do this without the Foundation."

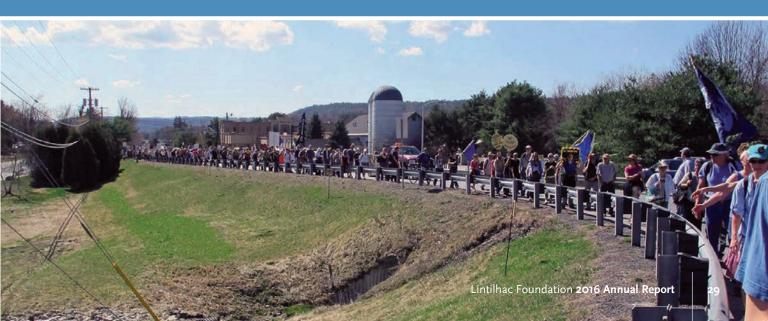


🔅 Citizens Awareness Network



"Because nuclear is such a controversial issue, it's very hard for us to get funding. We couldn't do this without the Foundation."

> Deborah Katz, Executive Director Citizens Awareness Network



## A Campaign for Energy & Climate Action

With over 30,000 members and supporters, the Vermont Public Interest Research Group is the state's largest consumer and environmental advocacy nonprofit. 2016 was the second year of a campaign to put a price on carbon pollution that is being led by VPIRG's education and outreach arm, the Vermont Public Interest Research and Education Fund.

"I would say there's no stronger supporter of climate solutions, and progress on energy efficiency, conservation and renewable energy, in Vermont than the Lintilhac Foundation. They are rolling up their sleeves and helping to advance real solutions."

Through door-to-door canvassing, phone banking, social media, email outreach, information sessions, activist trainings and one-on-one conversations, VPIREF has built support among more than 41,000 Vermonters and 500 small and medium-sized businesses for its multi-year campaign, Energy Independent Vermont. The initiative aims to convince state decision-makers that levying a tax on carbon pollution is a vital step in the crucial effort to address global warming. To advocate for putting this price on climateimpacting pollution, the nonprofit has brought together a coalition of environmental and business groups, low-income advocates and town energy committees. It is calling the effort "one of the largest grassroots campaigns in the state's history."

"This is a time when we're seeing the federal government retreat from a solutions-oriented path, and it is all the more important that the states step up," said Paul Burns, executive director of VPIRG and VPIREF. "If there is progress to be made against global warming in the U.S. in the near term, that progress will be coming from the states and local government. If you think about the states that have some capacity to lead on climate change, Vermont has to be very near the top of the list."

The Foundation has long supported the work of VPIRG, whose broader Clean Energy Future Campaign aims to help Vermont achieve its ambitious goal, set by state government, of meeting 90% of its energy needs from renewable sources by 2050.

"I would say there's no stronger supporter of climate solutions, and progress on energy efficiency, conservation and renewable energy, in Vermont than the Lintilhac Foundation," Burns observed. "They are rolling up their sleeves and helping to advance real solutions."





"One reason why we can make this case is that initial support from the Foundation allowed us to make an economic analysis showing that this will create jobs, and put more money in the pockets of Vermonters."

> Paul Burns, Executive Director VPIRG

# THE FOUNDATION'S Ongoing Evolution

### Fresh Perspectives from a New Generation of Leadership

The Lintilhac Foundation is a family foundation, founded by Claire Lintilhac and, since her death in 1984, guided by Philip and Crea Lintilhac, Claire's son and daughter-in-law, with Crea Lintilhac as the current executive director. The Introduction to this report describes how the Foundation's priorities evolved from its first to its second guiding generation. In recent years, the family's next generation — Phil and Crea's adult children, Claire's grandchildren — has gradually stepped into leadership roles. Today, Louise Lintilhac is president, William Lintilhac is vice president, and Paul Lintilhac is treasurer.

# As this generation plays more of a role in guiding the Foundation, how in the coming years might it continue to evolve?

"It's my belief that the Foundation moves in the direction identified by the talents and knowledge of current trustees," Crea Lintilhac observed. "You fund what you have knowledge about. That's what Claire did, and we have supported science and advocacy work in the environment, on energy and conservation, because of the knowledge and interests that I brought, and that Phil brought as well. "We are focused in Vermont," she added, "because this allows us to know personally the people who are the staff and leadership of the organizations we support — and that's very important to me. That's the kind of mentality that I hope the younger generation will bring to this."

"I certainly hope it stays science-based," noted Phil Lintilhac. "I think it's more and more important,



"It's my belief that the Foundation moves in the direction identified by the talents and knowledge of current trustees."

– Crea Lintilhac

in this crazy world, to follow some sort of sciencebased, fact-based agenda."The Foundation has supported plant biology at the University of Vermont, where Phil is a professor in that department, and he hopes that will continue. Beyond that, he also sees the new generation's own interests playing a shaping role.

"Every time we meet," Phil reflected, "I'm impressed with how the kids handle the issues. More and more, they guide us. It's an excellent thing." Whether the Foundation goes on advocating as actively and personally as it has under Crea's leadership, he said, will depend in time on Louise, Will and Paul.

"My passion is backcountry skiing, because it gets people out of doors in a healthy way, seeing these landscapes that we're trying to conserve; and the same goes for mountain biking." "My passion is backcountry skiing, because it gets people out of doors in a healthy way, seeing these landscapes that we're trying to conserve; and the same goes for mountain biking," said Louise Lintilhac, who is an assistant editor at *Backcountry Magazine* and studied stakeholder involvement in land conservation in graduate school. "I care about getting people involved in the conservation process from the beginning," she added.

The Foundation actively supports land conservation, especially on lands with public access that have high value for trail users and backcountry recreation. Louise continues to support that focus. She also believes the Foundation should retain its underlying focus on science and data gathering.

"I see scientific research always being the foundation of what we do," she said. "Past that, we need to work with nonprofits to make sure that stakeholders are engaging in their communities — and to communicate these findings. I think that's the next level, that social engagement."

Will Lintilhac's background is in sustainable agriculture. He has managed farm programs for the



Vermont Youth Conservation Corps and Amherst College, and for a commercial farm in Massachusetts. "A big change for us has been more actively working in recreation management, opening up more natural areas for people to use, to understand and love — and, really, to take responsibility for,"Will said.

## "We all have slightly different top priorities, but they intersect in these core values."

"At some point, food and agriculture may fit more squarely into our goals; but all five of us, my brother and my sister and our parents, feel certain about our focus on accountability and direct action."

At a time when the federal administration, at least, is stepping back from environmental action and enforcement, "there is a sense of immediacy," Will said. "We're going to have to work really hard to maintain the gains that we've made. Needless to say, our focus around advocacy feels very appropriate and timely." "We all have slightly different top priorities, but they intersect in these core values," observed Paul Lintilhac, who is completing Ph.D. studies in applied mathematics at New York University. "Our support for midwifery, education and the environment will remain; but what that means in this day and age may be a bit different.

"In terms of the environment, my focus at this point is on promoting solar and wind power. In terms of water quality, this is a really top priority for Vermont," Paul said. "Lake Champlain is very important for the entire ecosystem of the Northeast. It's important to focus on lake mapping and scientific research. I've always seen Vermont as a thought leader in progressive action nationwide — and the impact we can have on things like renewable energy is potentially very large, on the national scale."

Paul noted that the new generation has its own work to do: building relationships similar to those Crea Lintilhac has spent years developing, in the State House, among Vermont nonprofits, and with other leaders and policymakers. "Those are big shoes to fill! We're trying to make our own paths," he concluded. "And we're getting there."



"We're going to have to work really hard to maintain the gains that we've made. Needless to say, our focus around advocacy feels very appropriate and timely."

– Will Lintilhac

# THE FOUNDATION'S Officers and Staff



#### **Crea Lintilhac,** Executive Director

Crea has a BS in Education from Skidmore Collge and an MST in Geology from the University of Vermont. She also pursued post graduate studies and research at

several oceanographic institutes. She received an Honorary Doctor of Science degree from Middlebury College in 1998 and an Honorary Doctorate of Human Letters from the University of Vermont in 2014. She serves on the board of advisors of the Rubenstein School of Natural Resources, NOAA SeaGrant and the Water Resources and Lake Studies Center at the University of Vermont. Crea also serves as an officer/trustee of environmental advocacy boards including VPIRG, CLF, VT Digger and WHOI.



#### Louise Lintilhac, President

Louise graduated from Middlebury College in 2007 with a degree in Environmental Science. She also earned a master's degree in Environmental Thought and Culture at the Rubenstein School of the University

of Vermont. She is dedicated to a life spent both enjoying and preserving active opportunities outside. She is an assistant editor at *Backcountry Magazine*, and lives in Waterbury with her husband Dana Allen. Louise is a member of the Board of Directors of Vermont Parks Forever, and a member of the Vermont Mountain Bike Association. Adventure is in her blood, and through her work she looks to support healthy, active, outdoor lifestyles and environments that make adventure possible.



#### Will Lintilhac, Vice President

Will graduated from the University of Vermont in 2010, where he focused on Community Development, Ecological Design and Food Systems. He has worked as a field technician at the University's maple

research station, and helped manage crop production and programs for disadvantaged youth for the Vt. Youth Conservation Corps. Will recently worked on large-scale vegetable production as an assistant manager at Red Fire Farm in Granby, Mass., and at Book and Plow Farm, associated with Amherst College in Amherst, Mass.



#### Phil Lintilhac, Secretary

Phil lived in China and New York before moving to Vermont in 1958. He graduated from the University of Vermont in 1963 and earned a Ph.D. in 1971 from the University of California. He has served on

the faculty of UVM for over 40 years, specializing in plant development and the cellular architecture of plants. In 2006 the Botanical Society of America awarded Phil its Centennial Award recognizing excellence in plant science research.



#### Paul Lintilhac, Treasurer

Paul graduated from Dartmouth College with a degree in Math and Physics, continuing at NYU's Courant School to a master's degree in Financial Mathematics. Currently Paul lives in New York City

while pursuing a Ph.D. in Applied Math at New York University, and he works as a quantitative developer for Consensus Systems, a blockchain software technology company. He is a dedicated environmentalist and believes that science is one of the most important tools for addressing the world's problems. Paul has deep roots in the world of skiing and loves to travel. He spent a semester at the University of Havana in Cuba, and is conversationally fluent in Spanish.



#### Nancy Brink

Nancy graduated from Colby-Sawyer College in 1975 and moved to Vermont in 1978. In 2005 she was ordained a minister after attending seminary in Pittsburgh, PA. She has worked as the Foundation's administrator for over 30 years.

# THE LINTILHAC FOUNDATION 2016 Top Grants

<b>City of Burlington</b> In support of the City of Burlington's stormwater program	\$30,000
<b>Connecticut River Watershed Council</b> In support of One Great River Initiative-Vermont 2106	\$15,000
<b>Conservation Law Foundation</b> In support of Vermont Clean Water and Energy Priorities	\$45,000
<b>Fairewinds Energy Education Corp.</b> In support of the Nuclear Decommissioning Oversight of Vermont Yankee	\$15,000
Hunger Free Vermont In general support	\$30,000
<b>Lake Champlain International</b> Building a Clean Water Economy in Vermont	\$25,000
<b>Middlebury College</b> High-Resolution Bottom Mapping of Lake Champlain	\$15,000
Shelburne Museum	\$50,000
The Trust for Public Land Ascutney Mountain Conservation Project	\$20,000
<b>University of Vermont Foundation</b> Global to Local Assessment of Cyanotoxins in Fish	\$30,000
<b>University of Vermont</b> Part of a \$1 million grant for the new Plant Sciences Building	\$100,000
<b>University of Vermont Medical Center</b> In continued support of the lactation clinic and psychotherapy program	\$50,000
<b>Vermont Law School</b> Carbon Pollution Taxes: A Conversation with International Experts	\$26,500



Vermont Mountain Bike Association In general support	\$15,000
Vermont Natural Resources Council Championing Vermont's Waters	\$30,000
<b>Vermont Natural Resources Council</b> Educating and Inspiring Vermont Voters About Clean Energy and Water	\$15,000
Vermont Public Interest Research & Education Fund Energy Independent Vermont Campaign	\$35,000
<b>Vermont Youth Conservation Corps</b> Training Youth in Vermont's Forests and Parks	\$15,000

# THE LINTILHAC FOUNDATION 2016 Report of Gifts

Arts and Humanities	
Shelburne Museum General support	\$2,000
<b>Shelburne Museum</b> In support of the campaign for a new exhibition and education facility	\$50,000
<b>Stowe Performing Arts</b> In support of Concerts in the Meadow	\$2,000
Civic and Community	
Addison County Relocalization Network In support of the Local Food Market Development campaign in the Champlain Valley	\$10,000
<b>Catamount Trail Association</b> In support of the Vermont Backcountry Alliance	\$5,000
The Cuban American Friendship Society In support of the renovation of tennis courts for Kids on the Ball youth tennis project	\$30,000
Hunger Free Vermont In general support	\$30,000
<b>Northern Forest Center</b> In support of the Advancing Modern Wood Heat project	\$10,000
<b>Preservation Trust of Vermont</b> In support of the Responsible Growth Hinesburg Project	\$10,000
<b>Quebec Labrador Foundation</b> In support of the Vermont Trail Finder Expansion and Regional Support project	\$5,000
<b>Vermont Council on Rural Development</b> In support of the Gubernatorial Debate on Vermont's Economic Future in a Time of Climate Change	\$2,000

Civic and Community	
Vermont Mountain Bike Association In general support	\$15,000
Vermont Parks Forever In general support	\$5,500
Vermont Parks Forever In annual support	\$1,500
<b>Vermont Youth Conservation Corps</b> In support of Training Youth in Vermont's Forests and Parks	\$15,000

Conservation and Research	
Audubon Vermont In support of the Forest Bird Initiative	\$5,000
<b>City of Burlington</b> A matching grant in support of the City of Burlington's stormwater program	\$30,000
<b>Connecticut River Watershed Council</b> In support of the One Great River Initiatives Vermont Program 2016	\$15,000
<b>Conservation Law Foundation</b> In support of Vermont Clean Water and Energy Priorities	\$45,000
<b>David L. Grayck, IOLTA Client Trust</b> To support legal council and expert witnesses for efforts by Vermont Natural Resources Council and the Agency of Natural Resources efforts to protect a critical wildlife corridor from the construction of a telecommunications tower	\$40,136
<b>David L. Grayck, Esq.</b> To support legal council and expert witnesses for the Nature Conservancy's efforts in protecting the Laplatte River's water quality	\$35,796
Fairewinds Energy Education Corp. In support of the Nuclear Decommissioning Oversight of Vermont Yankee	\$15,000
Franklin Watershed Committee In general support	\$2,000
<b>James A. Dumont, Esq.</b> To support legal council and expert witnesses for the Nature Conservancy's efforts in protecting the Laplatte River's water quality	\$42,245

Conservation and Research	
<b>Keeping Track</b> In support of Habitats and Highways	\$3,000
Lake Champlain International In support of Building a Clean Water Economy in Vermont	\$25,000
<b>Lakeside Environmental Group</b> In support of the Nature Conservancy's Laplatte River Water Quality Study	\$5,106
<b>The Nature Conservancy</b> In support of the Vermont Forest Partnership project	\$10,000
<b>Toxics Action Center</b> In support of Protecting Our Waterways From Pesticides project	\$10,000
<b>The Trust for Public Land</b> In support of the Ascutney Mountain Conservation project	\$20,000
<b>Upper Valley Land Trust</b> In support of conservation easement work	\$8,000
<b>The Vermont Center For Ecostudies</b> In support of the Vermont Freshwater Mussel Atlas	\$5,000
Vermont Energy Investment Corp In support of Drive Electric Vermont	\$5,000
<b>Vermont Natural Resources Council</b> In support of Championing Vermont's Waters	\$30,000
<b>Vermont Natural Resources Council</b> In support of Educating and Inspiring Vermont Voters About Clean Energy and Water	\$15,000
<b>Vermont River Conservancy</b> In support of a project to protect public access to the Bolton Potholes	\$5,000
Vital Communities In support of the Upper Valley Home Energy Initiative	\$2,000
Watershed Consulting Associates In support of the Nature Conservancy's Laplatte River Water Quality study	\$29,257
Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute In unrestricted support	\$2,000

#### Education

<b>Center for Technology, Essex</b> In continued support of the Lintilhac Career Challenge Scholarship	\$1,500
<b>Middlebury College</b> High-Resolution Bottom Mapping of Lake Champlain	\$15,000
The University of Vermont Foundation In support of Improving STEM Education and Furthering STEM Research Related to Climate and Landscape Change	\$12,000
<b>The University of Vermont Foundation</b> Global to Local Assessment of Cyanotoxins in Fish	\$30,000
<b>The University of Vermont Foundation</b> Center for Research on Vermont – Energy Research Fellows	\$4,000
The University of Vermont Foundation Adaptation of Outdoor Recreationists to Climate Change in Vermont	\$10,000
The University of Vermont Medical Center In support of the Dermatology Resident Education	\$5,000
<b>University of Vermont</b> Part of a \$1 million grant for the new Plant Sciences Building	\$100,000
<b>Vermont Family Forests Foundation</b> In support of the Vermont Reptile and Amphibian Atlas project	\$5,000
<b>Vermont Law School</b> In support of Carbon Pollution Taxes: A Conversation with International Experts	\$26,500
Vermont Public Interest Research & Education Fund Energy Independent Vermont Campaign	\$35,000



"I see scientific research always being the foundation of what we do."

– Louise Lintilhac

#### **Education and Programming**

<b>Bright Blue EcoMedia</b> In support of the Sleeping Giant	\$5,000
Lake Champlain International In support of Our Nature radio show	\$5,000
<b>Vermont Democracy Fund</b> In support of Equal Time Radio	\$5,000
<b>Vermont Journalism Trust</b> In support of Vermont Digger, Southern Vermont Bureau	\$15,000
<b>Vermont PBS</b> In continued support of Vermont This Week	\$12,000
<b>Vermont Public Radio</b> In continued support of Vermont Edition	\$15,000
Health and Human Services	

University of Vermont Medical Center In continued support of the lactation clinic and psychotherapy program



For the National Wildlife Federation, Vermont Winter Olympians (from left) Susan Dunklee, Liz Stephen and Hannah Dreissigacker called for climate action, including rejection of a tar sands pipeline project through Vermont and New England.

\$50,000

#### Grants of \$1,000 or Less

#### **ARTS AND HUMANITIES**

Lake Champlain Maritime Museum University of Vermont Lane Series

#### **CIVIC AND COMMUNITY**

ANEW Place Death With Dignity National Center Institute for Sustainable Communities Lead International Northeast Organic Farming Association of Vermont Peace & Justice Center Shelburne Firefighters Association Shelburne Police Department Shelburne Rescue Squad Sierra Club Foundation Stowe Police Department Stowe Rescue Squad Stowe Volunteer Firefighters Assoc. Stowe Weekend of Hope Strolling of the Heifers Vermont Council on Rural Development Vermont Foodbank Waterbury Firefighters Association Waterbury Police Department Waterbury Rescue Squad

#### **CONSERVATION AND RESEARCH**

350Vermont

#### EDUCATION AND ADVOCACY

Burke Mountain Academy Mt. Mansfield Educational Foundation The University of Vermont Foundation Renewable Energy Vermont Education Fund Waterbury LEAP

#### EDUCATION AND PROGRAMMING

Democracy NOW

#### **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

University of Vermont Medical Center Foundation Vermont Woman Media/American Stroke Association Vermont Woman Media/Women Helping Battered Women Vermont Woman Media/Planned Parenthood of Northern New England

#### **TOTAL 2016 GRANTS:**

#### \$97<u>3,991</u>



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