

# 2021 ANNUAL REPORT



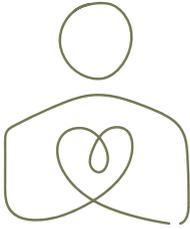
## Cultivating Community



# 2021 RACDC Year in Review

**100**

seniors participated in **SASH** (Support And Services at Home)



**26**

businesses participated in the **Randolph Bucks** stimulus program, which helped infuse

**\$11k+**

into the local economy



**121,000kwh+**

produced from our solar array partnership, totaling over **\$5,400** in utility savings for RACDC properties



**197**

individual donors contributed to RACDC's mission and programming

**245**

people in affordable and safe housing, including over **40 children**



**\$25k**

in grants received for local business support and economic development



**450**

community members received support through the **Randolph Area Mutual Aid Network (RAMAN)**

## FY21 FINANCIALS

NET ASSETS: \$4,126,779

REVENUE: \$1,530,230

EXPENSES: \$1,417,455

PROPERTY TAXES PAID: \$224,000.00+



# Our Strategic Plan

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In March 2021 the RACDC Board and staff embarked on a multi-stage strategic planning process to formulate a road map for the future of our organization. Pam Mischen Ph.D., a local Braintree resident and associate professor at Binghamton University, facilitated the process and we are very grateful for her expertise and guidance.

A series of goals were defined to help us improve existing services and programs, in addition to a new vision statement. In this year's Annual Report, we're excited to share some of the outcomes of this process with our greater community and partners as we look to the future **together**.

Cultivating  
Community



*"Cultivating a thriving, resilient,  
and inclusive community that  
we call home"*

RACDC VISION STATEMENT, 2021 STRATEGIC PLAN



# GOAL 1

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*All individuals and families in the Randolph Area have affordable housing and the supportive services they need.*

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## CULTIVATING WELLNESS

*Promoting healthy communities*

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## HOUSING AS MEDICINE

COVID-19 has shown us just how crucial stable housing and a strong community truly are to our well-being. RACDC has continued to provide affordable housing to over **245** families and individuals, and connected dozens more to ancillary services and area partner organizations.

In 2021, our team has worked diligently to improve existing housing options with planned renovations at Randolph House, design and permitting of a new net zero development at the old Ethan Allen Furniture site in Downtown Randolph, and fundraising for porch and ramp restorations at Joslyn House.

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## A PLACE WE CALL HOME

*"Our family moved to Vermont early this year after I got a job at Nolato G.W. Plastics in Bethel. When we first arrived, we stayed in a hotel while trying to find a place to rent. Little did we know that the process of finding a place would take us months. For a number of reasons, between time of year, consequences of Covid, and fluctuations in the housing market there was next to no availability for our family. We were finally saved when we contacted RACDC about a rental listing for the Armstrong Trailer Park. It seemed like every other place in the area had been evicting tenants and selling their property, but RACDC was there to help us find a place to live."*

- Armstrong Mobile Home Park Tenant



Photos Courtesy of KAD Models, 2021

## GOAL 2

*The Randolph Area has a vibrant and diversified economy that contributes to the resilience and sustainability of the community.*

### CULTIVATING ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY

*Supporting local economic development with the Business Revolving Loan Fund (BRLF)*

#### MACHINING IN CENTRAL VERMONT

East Randolph recently welcomed its newest business, **KAD Models & Prototypes**, a highly specialized machining company, to the old L W Greenwood & Sons building on Route 14. They provide custom design and prototyping services to a variety of clients in the medical, tech, and product manufacturing industries.

Brian Kippen, Tunbridge native and founder of KAD, and his team opened the business' Vermont satellite site in 2020, and was able to get the shop outfitted to begin operations thanks to funds made available by the BRLF.



*"RACDC's business revolving loan fund helped KAD obtain necessary equipment for our Vermont shop so that we could get up and running at our new location. Randolph is a great place to do business for KAD as nearby programs, such as VTC, are producing talented students/potential future employees, it is a good location for accessing local clients and suppliers, and it is generally a beautiful area with a wonderful community."*

*- Kacie Merchand, COO  
KAD Models & Prototypes*

# GOAL 3

*People in the Randolph Area come together as a community.*

## CULTIVATING CONNECTION

*Celebrating our community*

After many months of isolation, it feels so important to be able to create spaces for community members of all ages to safely gather and build lasting connections. While in-person events have remained limited in 2021, RACDC has maintained a commitment through encouraging safe community celebration in Randolph's Downtown, and beyond!

Some of this year's highlights include welcoming the return of Amtrak service, a community block party, and our Annual Meeting featuring speakers on energy resilience.

A huge **"Thank You!"** goes to our 2021 event volunteers and sponsors, including **Rain or Shine Tents**, **Frankenburg Insurance**, **Compucount Inc**, **Catamount Solar**, and **Ridgeline Outdoor Collective**.



## 2021 EVENTS AT A GLANCE

- **Welcome Back Amtrak! Celebration** 
- **Salisbury Square Block Party & Cornhole Tournament**
- **Safe & Seen Halloween (In partnership with the Town of Randolph)** 
- **RACDC Annual Membership Meeting**

Did you know that RACDC hosts a **FREE online meeting platform?**

SCAN ME

**Scan the QR code to learn more!**



<https://meeting.racdc.com/b/>



## GOAL 4

*RACDC has the resources to accomplish its mission.*

### CULTIVATING CAPACITY

*Building strong foundations together*

#### Our new SASH Coordinator: Ann Howard!

Ann Howard is a life-long resident of Braintree who has a BA in Literature from Castleton State College. She has been working with older adults for the past 10 years, mostly in the Lebanon region, first as a PCA and then as a Care Coordinator and Office Administrator for a non-medical home care agency. Growing up in a multi-generational family, Ann has always been comfortable with people of all ages.

She enjoys serving her community, cooking and crochets blankets with more enthusiasm than skill. She hopes to bring kindness and curiosity to the role of SASH Coordinator!

#### "It Takes a Village"

From offering a spare set of hands at an event to bringing new energy to a program, our amazing volunteers truly enliven our work and make it possible to serve the Greater Randolph Community. We can't do this work alone, and we are so grateful for the dedicated community members that support their neighbors and friends by volunteering with RACDC's events, SASH Program, Joslyn House, and fundraising activities!

***Interested in volunteer opportunities? Visit [www.racdc.com](http://www.racdc.com) for info!***

## GOAL 5

*RACDC collaborates with the other organizations so that the whole is greater than the sum of its parts.*



### CULTIVATING RESILIENCE

*Stewarding networks for the future*

## Mutual Aid Benefits Us All

Since early 2020, the **Randolph Area Mutual Aid Network (RAMAN)** has woven a strong network of area organizations, municipalities, and volunteers with the collective goal of supporting those impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. The group, of which RACDC is the fiscal sponsor, has raised almost **\$14,500** for the **RAMAN Community Fund** to support those in need.

As 2021 has progressed RAMAN and its collaborating partners have begun planning for how this entity can be a permanent asset for our greater community to respond to crisis in the future - *because we're all in this together.*

**To learn more about RAMAN:**  
**[www.racdc.com/COVID19](http://www.racdc.com/COVID19)**

"Mutual aid consists of the collective actions it takes to **support community well-being** and reaffirm that all lives have inherent value."  
- *Climate Justice Alliance*



*Solidarity  
Not charity*

# HONORING OUTSTANDING SERVICE



## Hutchinson Award for Community Service

Rosalind Burgess  
Elm Street Garden

*"To plant a garden is to believe  
in tomorrow." - Audrey Hepburn*

When commuting past the mural at the intersection of Route 12, 66, and Elm Street, it's hard not to notice the intensely vibrant flowers that bloom in the surrounding gardens from spring to fall. Once a blighted parcel, the Elm Street Garden exists because of the dedication, creativity, and true "green-thumb" of **Rosalind "Roz" Burgess**. Over the years, the vacant lot has been transformed by Roz to a cherished public park that features seasonal flowers, a locally crafted sculpture, and true sense of place that welcomes visitors and residents alike to the Randolph community. Locals are sure to see Roz in all weather digging weeds and planting flowers with diligent care, inspiring young and old alike to engage in the joy that is tending a garden.

RACDC is pleased to honor Roz with the 2021 Hutchinson Award for Community Service for her work in beautifying Randolph at the Elm Street Garden and beyond. The award is named in honor of the late Jim Hutchinson, a vibrant leader whose boundless volunteer spirit, tireless work on behalf of adaptive ski and sports programs, and service on the Randolph Selectboard and in the Vermont House set the standard for selfless service to community.

***Thank you Roz!***



*Photos courtesy of Randolph Rotary Club & Sonny Holt*

# HONORING OUTSTANDING SERVICE

## Energy Rising! Award

*Since 2019, the Energy Rising! Award has been granted to outstanding members of the Greater Randolph Area who show exemplary engagement, raise energy, and contribute to the spirit of the community.*

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### **Patty & Travis Burns** Kuya's Sandwiches + Kitchen

With a globally inspired menu and locally crafted sense of community, Patty and Travis Burns have brought a unique flair to Main Street's business community. As persevering entrepreneurs, the Burns' have not only provided delicious food to the community, but also a space for showcasing local artisans and musicians through the pandemic. We commend them for their incredible enthusiasm and care for community, and wish them continued success!



*Kuya's Owners Patty & Travis Burns at the restaurant located at 29 N Main St*

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*TacoCat Owner Jennifer Bird stands outside the cantina located at 21 Merchants Row*

### **Jennifer Bird & Adam Hineman**

#### TacoCat Cantina | Taco Truck All-Stars

When the pandemic hit, Jenn and Adam began a short-term residency along Randolph's Route 66 serving up Mexican-inspired cuisine to the community with locally sourced ingredients. Fast forward, and the pair have a more permanent presence with their Cantina space on Merchant's Row where they continue to create delicious meals for all. As participants in the statewide "Everyone Eats!" program, Jenn and Adam provided over 60 free meals per week for those impacted by COVID-19. Thank you, Jenn & Adam for your service!

# Investing in Community

We want to **thank you** for all that you do to make this special community a place that we call home.

Together, we've are weathering the storms of a global pandemic. Together, we're supporting thriving new businesses navigating difficult economic waters. Together, we're working to improve existing housing options in our region while striving to design and permit new housing options. **Together, we're weaving the social fabric of our community into a tighter bond.** In the past year, we've accomplished so much:

- Connected scores of community members impacted by COVID-19 to vital services and resources through RAMAN
- Promoted economic development via the RACDC Revolving Loan Fund, tax credits, the Downtown Program
- Provided affordable housing to more than 200 families and individuals of all ages
- Supported over 100 individuals to stay well through the pandemic with the SASH program
- Provided digital connectivity via the rollout of the Downtown WiFi project

**RACDC can't do any of this work without you.** Your support is essential to our continued work together, strengthening a community we're blessed to call home. Please share your donation in the envelope that accompanies this 2021 Annual Report. You can now also become a monthly sustainer of RACDC by visiting [www.racdc.com/donate](http://www.racdc.com/donate).

**Thanks again for your generous support!**

Thank you for supporting another year of progress!



*Josie Newport & Lynne Petrucelli  
prepare stockings for SASH participants  
Dec 2020*

*"SASH has been my lifeline. It has given me peace of mind and human connection. I appreciate the compassion and understanding of the staff. The SASH program has helped me connect to resources for transportation and health care. When I first moved in Erin came by with a Christmas Stocking and it was beautiful. It even had something for my dog. I had nothing because it was COVID-19 and people couldn't come around. That kindness touched me greatly. The abundance of that gift from the community was overwhelming."*

- Randolph House Resident

## Board of Directors

### **Robert Wright**

President

### **Peter Reed**

Vice President, Treasurer

### **Robert Moyer**

Secretary

### **Cristine Maloney**

### **Dan Devoe**

### **Patrick French**

### **Pam Stafford**

### **Bert Blais**

### **Tom Ayres**

### **Bob Sparadeo**

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## Staff

**Julie Iffland** Executive Director

**Darlene Kelley** Finance

**Amy Urana** Office Manager

**Wayne Fontanella**

Housing Specialist

**Ann Howard** SASH Coordinator

**Nathan Johnston** IT

**Sarah Shaw** Communications

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## Joslyn House Staff

### **Becky Wright**

Resident Manager

**Linda Wheelock**

**Patricia LaPlante**

**Holly Pratt**

**Richard Dorson**

**Orlene LeFebvre**

**Stacey Renner**