



Town of Barnard, Vermont

Chartered July 17, 1761

P.O. Box 274
Barnard, Vermont 05031
(802) 234-9211

Social Service Appropriation Policy Town of Barnard

PURPOSE: Under Vermont law, a town may appropriate such sums of money as it deems necessary for the support of social service programs and agencies that provide services to town residents. See 24 V.S.A. § 2691. The purpose of this policy is to establish procedures for managing social service agency appropriations that will be voted upon at the Town of Barnard Annual Meeting.

APPLICABILITY: This policy applies to appropriation requests from social services agencies and programs subject to the provisions of Title 24, Chapter 73 of Vermont Statutes Annotated. Such programs include, but are not limited to, transportation, nutrition, childcare, medical care, and other rehabilitative services for senior citizens, children, disabled persons, persons with mental health and substance use issues, and persons requiring employment to eliminate their need for public assistance. This policy does not apply to town membership organizations such as the Vermont League of Cities and Towns, the Two Rivers Ottauquechee Regional Planning Commission, or the White River Alliance Solid Waste Management Plan. This policy does not apply to the organizations whose officers are appointed by the Selectboard or public elected, to organizations that provide fire and rescue services, or to organizations created or chartered by town vote.

PROCEDURE: The Town of Barnard does not submit social service agency funding requests as individual Articles in the Warning published in the annual Town Report. These requests are submitted for voter approval as part of the line-item General Fund budget under a category titled "Appropriations." All social service agencies requesting an appropriation must submit a petition requesting funding in accordance with 17 V.S.A. § 2642. Such petitions must be signed by at least five percent of the voters of the town and filed with the town clerk by December 15th each year.

Petitions submitted after the deadline will not be honored. Petitions submitted prior to the deadline but not containing the required number of signatures shall be returned by the town clerk within 24 hours of receipt stating in writing on the petition why it cannot be accepted. Any petition returned to the petitioners may be amended to correct any stated deficiencies and refiled with the town clerk not later than 48 hours after the petition was returned by the clerk, or the filing deadline, whichever is later. However, supplementary petitions shall not be accepted if the original petition did not meet the filing deadline or did not contain the requisite

number of signatures. If a funding request is approved, the social service agency will be contacted by the town treasurer with instructions for payment requests and terms & conditions. Payment is subject to the availability of funds. The petition should be in substantially the following form:

Petition of Legal Voters of the Town of Barnard

We, the undersigned legal voters of the Town of Barnard, hereby petition the Selectboard to include the following funding request in the Appropriations section General Fund budget for the annual town meeting to be held on Tuesday, March __, 20__:

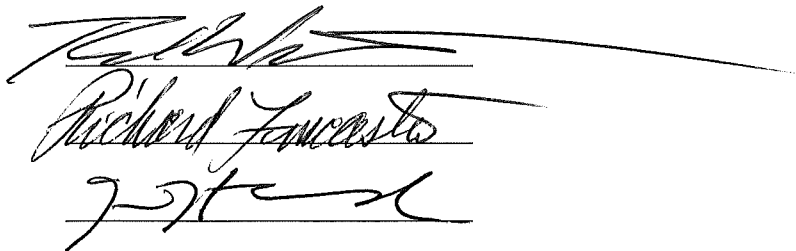
Shall the town appropriate \$[insert amount of request] to [insert name of social service agency], for [insert brief description of the purpose of the proposed appropriation] in accordance with 24 V.S.A. § 2691?

Print Name	Physical Street Address	Signature
------------	-------------------------	-----------

Pursuant to 17 V.S.A. § 2642(a)(3)(C), a petition must contain the petition language on every page on which signatures are collected and must contain the legibly printed name, signature, and street address of each voter who signs the petition.

The foregoing policy is hereby adopted by the Selectboard of the Town of Barnard, Vermont, this 3rd day of December 2025, and is effective as of January 1, 2026, until amended or repealed.

Selectboard Signatures:



The image shows three handwritten signatures, each written on a horizontal line. The top signature is a cursive scribble. The middle signature is legible and reads "Richard Lucasta". The bottom signature is another cursive scribble.