

University of Vermont

Community News Service

College of Arts and Sciences

Burlington, VT

Partnership

Students across multiple classes provide content to about 20 community papers and outlets

Lead faculty

Justin Trombly, editor, jtrombly@uvm.edu

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Website

[Community News Service](#)

Collaborators

Charlotte News, Colchester Sun, Essex Reporter, Hardwick Gazette, Hinesburg Record, Bradford Journal Opinion, Milton Independent, Rutland Herald, Vermont Community News Group (Shelburne News, The Citizen, The Other Paper, Stowe Reporter, News and Citizen), Vermont Public, VTDigger, Waterbury Roundabout, White River Valley Herald, Winooski News, Williston Observer, the Commons, the Barton Chronicle

Impacts

The Community News Service is a student-powered partnership between UVM and community newspapers across Vermont. The program pairs student reporters with a professional editor to provide critical reporting to local news outlets. The goals of the program are to educate students for futures as ethical journalists and engaged citizens and to provide professional reporting to community newspapers to help support a sustainable future for Vermont news media.

Students

11,625 at the University of Vermont

15-30 in the partnership, per semester

Student work

The work is edited by the editor of the Community News Service. The work is also sometimes edited by the editors of partner outlets.

Course name

AS-189, Community News Service

Faculty/staff

A faculty member is responsible for teaching the course, which is an introductory journalism class, while the editor, a staff member, edits student stories and manages relationships with partner organizations

Funding sources

CNS has received funding from AARP, the Lake Champlain Basin Program (for basin-centric stories), VEIC (for energy stories), Humanities Council (for arts stories), Preservation Trust of Vermont (for country store stories), National Life (corporate support), Ben & Jerrys, Vermont Community Foundation (which funds the Winooski News outlet), Gannett, Scripps, ISNWE and the Lintilhac Foundation. But the biggest gifts have been individual alumni with help from our foundation office — totaling more than \$200,000 over three years.