# **CVOEO Mobile Home Program**

## **Our Mission**

To give mobile home park residents greater control over their housing, through organizing and education, in order to protect and improve their housing rights and living conditions.

#### Who we are

The Mobile Home Program is a program of the Champlain Valley Office of Economic Opportunity. We work with mobile home residents throughout the state of Vermont to defend their interests and ensure they are able to maintain their housing. We recognize that mobile homes are an important kind of affordable housing for many Vermonters and our goal is to keep mobile homes safe and affordable for Vermonters.

## What we do

#### Housing Counseling

We provide information about:

- Financing, purchase, repair, and replacement of mobile homes
- Resident and park owner rights and responsibilities
- How to resolve health and safety concerns related to water, sewer, electricity, road conditions and how to contact the proper enforcement agencies

#### We counsel individuals:

- To better understand the terms and conditions of their leases or loans
- To steer them away from predatory loans
- Who wish to sell their mobile homes or are looking for available lots
- Who are facing eviction or foreclosure

## Referral Services

We provide referrals to:

- Financial institutions for mortgages, refinancing, and home repair loans
- Agencies specializing in credit and debt counseling
- Lawyers and Superior Courts for illegal evictions, denied entry into parks, landlordtenant disputes, or small claims

#### **Contact Information**

## www.cvoeo.org

255 South Champlain Street, Suite # 9 Burlington, VT 05401 p) (802) 660-3451 x204 f) (802) 651-4179

# Referral Services (cont'd)

- Community action agencies for assistance with back-lot-rent, utility payment assistance, and weatherization services
- Fair Housing for cases of housing discrimination
- Efficiency Vermont for rebates and technical assistance

#### Resident Organizing

We assist residents:

- Who wish to organize resident associations
- Conducting elections for resident association leadership and writing by-laws
- Facing lot rent increases and provide guidance to residents who wish to seek mediation to dispute rent increases
- Facing park sales or closures

#### <u>Advocacy</u>

- We promote the interests of mobile home residents by participating in the legislative and policy making processes in Vermont as mobile home park experts, and
- Assist mobile home park residents in exercising their rights provided under Vermont state law.
  We do this by working directly with residents and in cooperation with governmental and nongovernmental agencies.

Sandrine Kibuey, Program Director <a href="mailto:skibuey@cvoeo.org">skibuey@cvoeo.org</a>