

2003



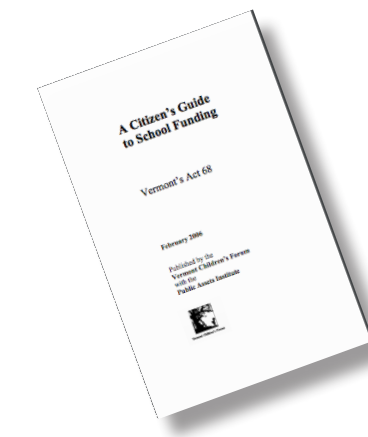
- Incorporated as a Vermont nonprofit to provide policymakers and all Vermonters with state tax, budget, and economic analysis
- Founder, Paul Cillo, was the only staff person and was paid for his work only when there was contract income
- The founding board had three members: Carlen Finn, Treasurer; Sheila Reed, Secretary; and Paul Cillo, President.



BOARD
STAFF

2004

- Developed five-year Vermont fiscal projection on contract with Vermont Association of Nonprofit Organizations to invite longer-term thinking about state revenue and budgets
- Published first edition of "A Citizens Guide to School Funding: Vermont's Act 68" in partnership with Voices for Vermont's Children



2005

- Adopted organizational bylaws
- Published a five-year analysis of Vermont's minimum wage, public assistance, and cost of basic needs called "Earning More, Losing Ground" with Voices for Vermont's Children
- Received a planning grant from the Annie E. Casey Foundation



- Paul Cillo was hired as executive director
- Linda Markin joined the board and served as Chair until August 2012



- David Tucker joined the board and served as Vice Chair until August 2012



2006

- Moved into an office at 34 Elm Street in Montpelier; Website went live
- Published first State of Working Vermont report with the Carsey Institute
- Co-sponsored first statewide conference with Voices for Vermont's Children
- Sarah Lyons was hired as executive/communications assistant



- Was a founding partner of the One Vermont Coalition bringing advocates together to make Vermont a state that works for everyone



2007

- Published first bi-monthly newsletter in April
- Jack Hoffman was hired as senior policy analyst
- Co-sponsored second statewide conference with Voices for Vermont's Children

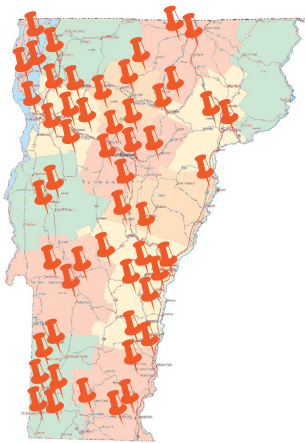


- Received first major press coverage with cover story in Seven Days
- Marion Milne (1935–2014) joined the board and served until 2010
- Cheryl Mitchell joined the board and served until 2011



2008

- Developed a major-donor fundraising plan
- Received two-year funding from the Public Welfare Foundation
- Developed a communications strategy with help from Demos, The Hatcher Group, and the Vermont's Center on Media and Democracy
- Accepted as a full member of the national network, now called the State Priorities Partnership (SPP)
- Published reports on budget cuts, economic development, school funding, energy costs, and Medicaid
- Began doing annual Summer Speaking Tours; 2008: *State Budget—Managing the money isn't working*



2009

- Moved to 149 State Street, Montpelier
- LEGISLATIVE WIN:** Legislature eliminated the deductibility of state income taxes on state income taxes, making the system more progressive
- VT Transparency website, a joint project with Ethan Allen Institute to make state fiscal data accessible to all Vermonters, went live
- Started the blog *Back of the Envelope*



- Published reports that tracked Vermont impacts of federal tax cuts and stimulus funds
- Launched monthly jobs reports on Vermont jobs and employment with Vermont Community Foundation funding



2010

- Report on the cost of universal pre-kindergarten
- Tracked the Vermont impacts of the Great Recession with reports on cuts to state services and use of rainy day funds
- Continued the fight for public investments instead of budget cuts

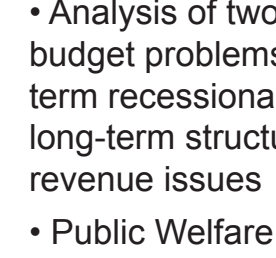


- Major migration reports examining who's coming into and leaving Vermont
- Con Hogan (1941–2018) joined the board and served until his appointment to the Green Mountain Care Board in 2011
- Summer Speaking Tour: *The State Budget: Looking Beyond the Recession*

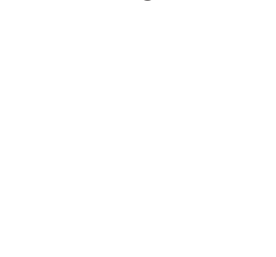


2011

- LEGISLATIVE WIN:** Our report on the cost of expanding pre-kindergarten led to legislation that made pre-K programming available to all Vermont kids.
- Launched in-depth work on income inequality and rebuilding a declining middle class
- Analysis of two state budget problems: short-term recessionary and long-term structural revenue issues



- Public Welfare Foundation funding ended; Stoneman Family Foundations funding began
- Summer Speaking Tour: *Rebuilding Vermont's Middle Class*
- Paul elected to national SPP network Steering Committee

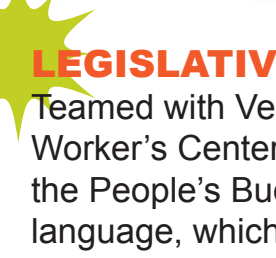


- Steve Gold joined the board and served as Vice Chair until 2019 when he became Chair



2012

- Introduced new logo
- Paul served as vice-chair of SPP Steering Committee
- Summer Speaking tour on health care reform
- Held a fundraiser for our work on healthcare with Michael Moore



- LEGISLATIVE WIN:** Spearheaded the One Vermont coalition's successful fight to protect the state Earned Income Tax Credit from the governor's proposed cut

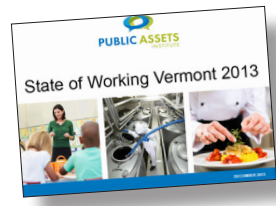


- Paul served as Chair of SPP Steering Committee
- Summer Speaking tour: *Smart investments to move Vermont forward*

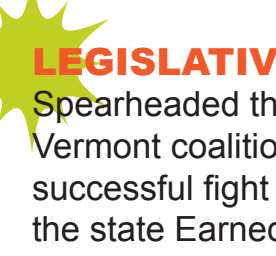


2013

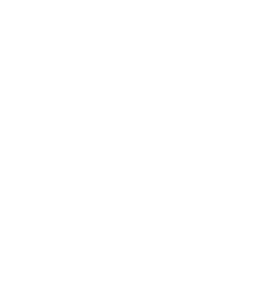
- Launched new website and redesign of annual State of Working Vermont report



- Major policy proposal with One Vermont on filling the state budget gap by closing tax loopholes that benefit the wealthy



- LEGISLATIVE WIN:** Spearheaded the One Vermont coalition's successful fight to protect the state Earned Income Tax Credit from the governor's proposed cut
- Paul served as Chair of SPP Steering Committee
- Summer Speaking tour: *Smart investments to move Vermont forward*



- Steve Gold joined the board and served as Vice Chair until 2019 when he became Chair

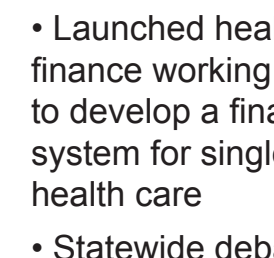


2014

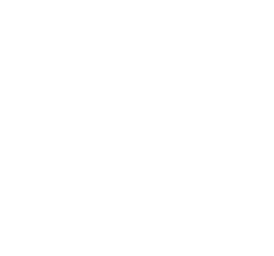
- Kicked off Second Decade Campaign
- *Pies & Charts* state tour highlighted structural challenges in the state budget



- Began to work more on offense as well as defense



- Launched health care finance working group to develop a financing system for single payer health care
- Statewide debate tour with the conservative Ethan Allen Institute on the privatization of public education
- VT Transparency became a non-profit



- Steve Gold joined the board and served as Vice Chair until 2019 when he became Chair

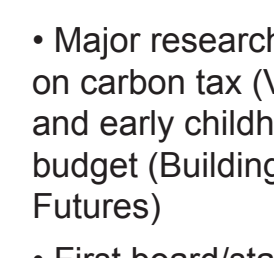


2015

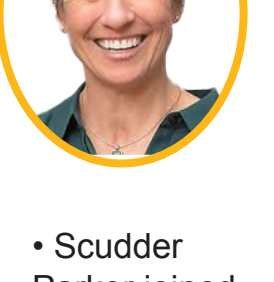
- Ramped up coalition-building and working groups



- Stephanie Yu joined the staff as a policy analyst
- *Building Vermont's Moral Economy* tour with Vermont Interfaith Action



- Major research projects on carbon tax (VPIRG) and early childhood budget (Building Bright Futures)
- First board/staff retreat and strategic planning process
- Tiff Bluemle joined the board and served as Chair 2019-2020

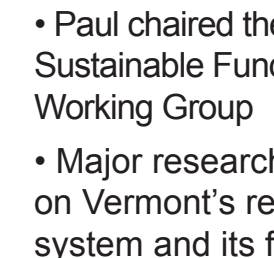


- Scudder Parker joined the board

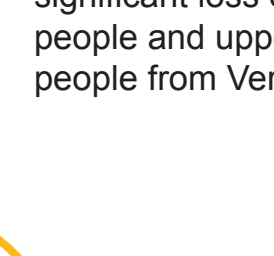
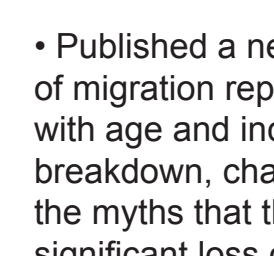


2016

- Introduced *A Framework for Progress*, a roadmap of policy solutions for moving Vermont forward that was distributed to all general election candidates for legislative and statewide offices
- Paul chaired the SPP Sustainable Funding Working Group
- Major research project on Vermont's revenue system and its failure to keep pace with economic growth

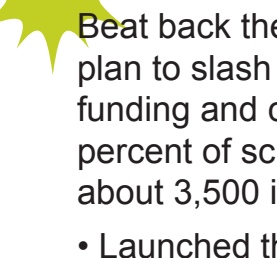


- Published a new series of migration reports with age and income breakdown, challenging the myths that there is a significant loss of young people and upper-income people from Vermont

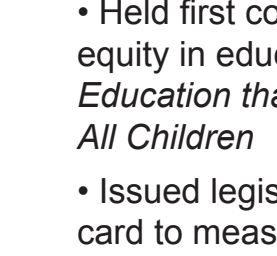


2017

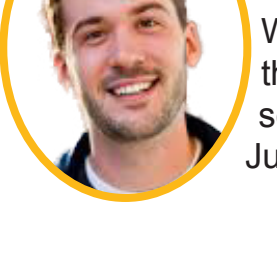
- Held a 20th anniversary celebration of Act 60, which created the most progressive education funding system in the nation, and issued a series of reports



- LEGISLATIVE WIN:** Beat back the governor's plan to slash education funding and cut 20 percent of school staff, about 3,500 individuals
- Launched the Vermont Education Equity Project (VTEEP) with Voices for Vermont's Children



- Held a series of data walks on education funding and outcomes
- Held first conference on equity in education *Public Education that Works for All Children*
- Issued legislative report card to measure progress on the Framework
- Jared Duval joined the board and has served as Secretary since 2020



- Sarah Waring joined the board and served until June 2022

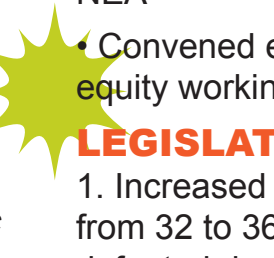


2018

- Julie Lowell joined the staff as a policy analyst



- Second annual VTEEP conference on building an education equity agenda
- Launched campaign for income-based school taxes with Voices and VT-NEA



- Convened education equity working group
- LEGISLATIVE WINS:** 1. Increased state EITC from 32 to 36%; 2. defeated damaging House education funding plan; 3. eliminated itemized deductions and increased income tax progressivity

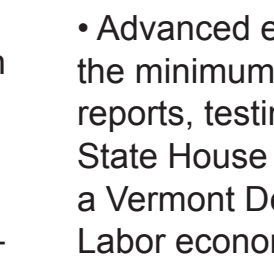


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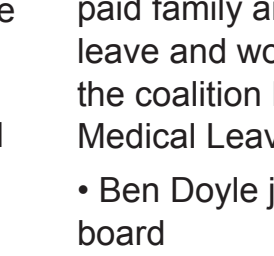


2019

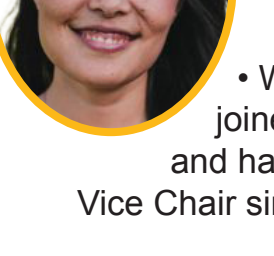
- LEGISLATIVE WINS:** 1. Worked with Voices for Vermont's Children and other partners to secure first increase in Reach Up grants since 2004; 2. Worked with other partners to make additional investments in child care subsidies



- Advanced efforts to raise the minimum wage with reports, testimony, and a State House debate with a Vermont Department of Labor economist



- Provided analysis on paid family and medical leave and worked with the coalition Family and Medical Leave coalition
- Ben Doyle joined the board

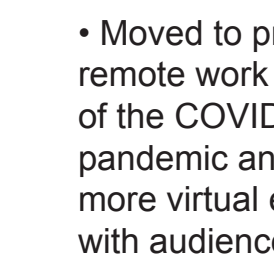


- Weiwei Wang joined the board and has served as Vice Chair since 2020

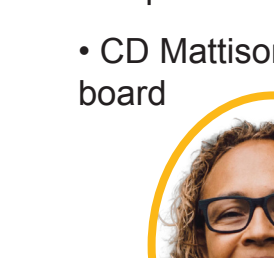


2020

- Adjusting to pandemic realities, staff began working from home



- Moved to primarily remote work because of the COVID-19 pandemic and began more virtual engagement with audience. Provided flexibility to staff, particularly those with school-age children. State of Working Vermont 2020 focused on the distribution of federal COVID aid to individuals, businesses and public services.

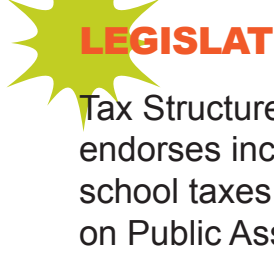


- CD Mattison joined the board

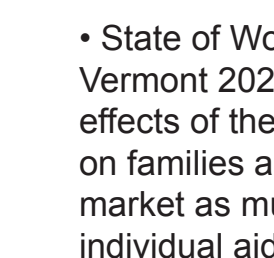


2021

- Paul informed the board that he was stepping down as President/Executive Director at the end of 2022



- LEGISLATIVE WIN:** Tax Structure Commission endorses income-based school taxes after building on Public Assets' analysis.



- Testified multiple times to the Pupil Weighting Task Force.



- State of Working Vermont 2021 tracked the effects of the pandemic on families and the labor market as much of the individual aid wound down.

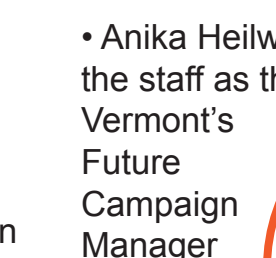


- The Next Generation Campaign launched with the aim to raise \$250,000 to support the leadership transition.

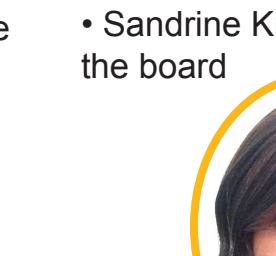


2022

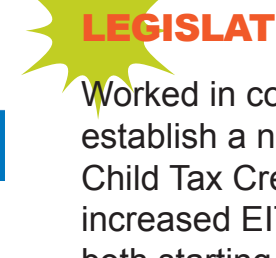
- Paul announced his stepping down



- Anika Heilweil joined the staff as the Fund Vermont's Future Campaign Manager



- Steph Yu named new President/Executive Director effective January 1, 2023



- Sandrine Kibuey joined the board



2023

- Steph begins January 1 as President & Executive Director



- The Next Generation Campaign meets it's goal of raising \$250,000 to support the leadership transition



- Public Assets turns 20!



- Public Assets turns 20!



- Public Assets turns 20!

