OKEMO VALLEY TV

FY2022 ANNUAL REPORT
July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022

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Okemo Valley TV is an independent, nonprofit community television station and media center, located in the Ludlow Community Center complex. It has been serving the local area since 2001. Okemo Valley TV is one of 24 such community TV stations and media centers in Vermont, represented by the Vermont Access Network, our membership and advocacy organization.

Our services include operating two community access television channels – one, a public / community access channel and the other an educational & government access channel. These are respectively carried on local cable TV on Comcast channels 1076 & 1086 and VTEL channels 166 & 167. Both of our TV channels can also now be viewed online, where they are streaming 24/7 on our website (okemovalley.tv). The first of these streams (of the Public / Community channel) was launched during the previous fiscal year (FY2021), while the second stream (of the Education / Government channel) launched this past year. In addition to live streaming, local programming is viewable on demand on both our website and You Tube channel.

During FY22, we presented 1,934 new programs. Of those, 1202 were locally-produced, amounting to 860 program hours. This is an increase of nearly 25% over the previous year (FY21), which was just about 50% more than FY20. The amount of content being generated is on the rise. One of the core services we provide is with the coverage of local government meetings, which we have been doing for more than 20 years. The pandemic brought changes to the format of public meetings, first going fully remote and – at least for many of them – migrating to a "hybrid" format. Hybrid is here to stay; we have assisted the local municipalities with implementing hybrid formats for their government meetings. In three of the Towns that we cover – Ludlow, Plymouth, and Mount Holly – we have assisted with the installation of AV systems in the Town Offices. For these locations, the Towns have invested in the service by allocating a portion of their ARPA funds to purchase & install the equipment. This investment was made during FY22, and the equipment will be put to use in each of these locations during FY23. Similar discussions have also taken place with Andover and Cavendish.

Our FY22 Annual Meeting was held in late June. It included the annual presentation of producer awards, which are given to community members who produce noteworthy programming deserving of attention, in four different categories. These went to Amy Mosher ("Producer of the Year"), Dr. Linda Thomson ("Outstanding Achievement"), Kata Welch ("Youth Producer"), and Liza Eaton ("Community Impact").

Our revenues for FY2021 totaled $236,478 and the total expenses were $21,225. The primary funding comes from "PEG Fees" collected by the cable TV operators, as per Vermont regulations. In FY22, a typical year, this amounts to over 90% of our budget)

We are grateful the support of the Towns of Ludlow, Cavendish, Plymouth, & Mount Holly, who provided budget appropriations, totaling $4,500 in revenue, and to the Vermont Legislature, which provided us with a $12,500 appropriation from the State budget.

Thanks also to our local business underwriters for their support: HWC Financial, Heritage Family Credit Union, Marylou Scofield, Esquire, VT Properties / William Raevis Real Estate , Little Yellow House Studio, and Senior Solutions. We also received for in-kind underwriting support from VTEL, which powers our high speed fiber optic internet connection, making it possible to do all of the streaming and other distribution of video programming. And thank you to all of the community members who have supported us through membership. Together, contributions from individual memberships & business underwriting comprised $4,425 of total revenue.