

# Upper Valley Teaching Place Collaborative

## Strategic Plan Overview 2020-2023

### Mission

The Upper Valley Teaching Place Collaborative is a network of education professional development providers and practitioners working together to advance high-quality place-based and ecological education in all Upper Valley Schools.

### Vision

We envision an Upper Valley where all students are deeply engaged in education that fosters ecological understanding and connection to place.

## Strategic Goals

### Goal #1: Shore up the UVTPC's foundation for success

Objectives	Actions
<b>A. Work with NHCf and Vital Communities to secure an organizational home for the UVTPC at Vital Communities in FY 2021</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Clarify funding expectations from the Wellborn Ecology Fund</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Secure an extension of fiscal sponsorship agreement with Vital Communities for FY 2021</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Develop a proposal for the UVTPC to become a program of Vital Communities, in consultation with Vital Communities' outgoing and incoming Executive and board leaders. Plan will include a synopsis of strategic goals, and a plan and projections for multi-year funding.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● In consultation with Vital Communities leadership, identify and work through questions and logistics (e.g. on Coordinator position, Steering Committee functions, etc.) toward a merger decision.</li> </ul>
<b>B. Articulate and build leadership and governance models to effectively guide and support the Collaborative</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Revisit SC statement of purpose and define membership needed in the next year; articulate roles and affirm decision-making process in its current structure.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Following confirmation of a new organizational home and structure, adjust or redefine the Steering Committee's purpose and role, and the role of the staffing lead.</li> </ul>
<b>C. Expand the base of funding sources and partnerships</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Identify potential sponsors and secure sponsorship of key activities to begin to extend funding base</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Explore additional funding possibilities such as joint grants with partners, selected private donors, etc.</li> </ul>
<b>D. Clarify support structure and assessment process for the Coordinator aligned with the strategic plan</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Revise Independent Contractor Agreement based on new strategic plan including reporting structure</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Convene bi-annual conversations to discuss progress against goals in the IC Agreement</li> </ul>

**Goal #2: Curate and cultivate high-quality, accessible professional development programs and resources in place-based ecology education for a variety of audiences.**

<b>Objectives</b>	<b>Actions</b>
<b>A. Encourage the development of high-quality professional development collaborations between providers</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Develop and advertise a curated list of principles for high-quality PBEE and PBEE professional development</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Develop and advertise clearly differentiated PD entry points (calls to action) into PBEE for teachers and administrators with a focus on “getting closer to PBEE”</li> </ul>
<b>B. Update the UVTPC Leadership Conference to address evolving needs</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Adapt the conference to respond in content and format to the Covid disruptions of 2020</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Develop clearly differentiated learning opportunities for teachers new to the conference, as well as experienced educators</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Include new content on diversity, equity and inclusion in PBEE</li> </ul>
<b>C. Revitalize a community of practice for PD providers to</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Through the Professional Development Working Group or a new effort, bring together Wellborn Ecology Fund “Anchor Grantees” and other PD providers 2-4 times a year to share</li> </ul>

<b>share best practice and keep one another updated</b>	with one another.
<b>D. Maintain high-quality informational resources</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Maintain a high-quality website. Drive people to this site through the newsletter and social media.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Continue to publish a practical and inspirational monthly newsletter aimed at UV school staff.</li> </ul>

### **Goal #3: Expand and refine the UVTPC’s communications and outreach**

<b>Objectives</b>	<b>Actions</b>
<b>A. Strengthen and develop messaging rich with timely anecdotes, supported with data</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Develop long form articles about the need for/importance of/impact of PBEE. Identify core themes that these stories fall into.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Supply SC and other network members with key UV PBEE talking points to be used as well as guidance for when to use them</li> </ul>
<b>B. Develop an outreach campaign targeting all school administrators and staff</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Convene a School Administrators community of practice</li> </ul>
<b>C. Connect PR messages and activities with the Wellborn Ecology Fund’s 20th anniversary</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Use the Wellborn Ecology Fund’s 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary to promote PBEE in the Upper Valley, to increase the visibility of the UVTPC and the resources it offers, and to engage new people as community and school champions, advisory or governance volunteers, or donors</li> </ul>

**D. Identify and exercise strategic opportunities to advocate for PBEE in regional and statewide education policies**

- Identify opportunities matched with the UVTPC's capacity and value-added role to other advocacy efforts to integrate PBEE with core standards, etc.