

**Dear Collaborative Partner,**  
PLAN LOCALLY.

ACT REGIONALLY.

All politics is local. So is all planning. However, we can reduce costly duplication of effort by acting regionally and learning from each other. This is the mission we carry out each day- through our housing & Village Center Vitality initiatives we are creating specific local action plans cost & time efficiently by acting regionally. Much of what we learn is posted on our website and available to all. Below are updates on these initiatives, we look forward to planning & acting with you.

#### WHAT WE'VE BEEN WORKING ON:

#### Collaborative Expands Services



We are now expanding our service area and our menu of direct services to your town!

Since we were established in late 2006 **we have raised over \$400,000** to provide planning services to our towns. We will continue to apply for grant funding but we also need our towns to become contributing members. (Just like NPR! You can benefit from the free resources we provide in our newsletters and on our website but if no one contributes there will be no newsletter or website.)

All town's in the NWCCOG and LHCEO region will be receiving a letter in the mail inviting them to become contributing members by either:

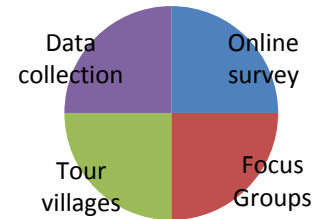
1. **Becoming a member of the Collaborative** (Cost- \$350 annual contribution) OR
2. **Choosing from the list of services** we will be providing in the coming fiscal year.

To discuss other possible services, please [contact us](#).

#### Village Center Vitality Study Underway

The pie chart shows the 4 major parts of the Village Center Vitality Study which are currently underway. We hope to have preliminary action strategies for our towns to review by late July.

#### Village Center Vitality



This project made the front page of the Community Foundation of NW CT's latest newsletter- for a copy, visit our [website](#) or [www.cfnwct.org](http://www.cfnwct.org).

#### HOMEConnecticut Celebrates 3<sup>rd</sup> Birthday

More than 70 people attended the forum "HOMEConnecticut: 3 Years In" on April 21 to share experiences, tips and concerns as towns move from the planning stage to zoning stage in the new program that allow towns to find locations that residents support to create Incentive Housing Zones. The \$1 million left in funds for the program also survived state budget cuts through strong support for the program.

We continue to work with our towns to consider whether Incentive Housing Zones could be a useful tool to proactively address the local need for moderately priced housing options.

#### UPCOMING EVENTS:

##### June 17<sup>th</sup>: Collaborative Lunch

We have invited other conservation & economic development organizations in the region to share ideas and information about how we can assist towns in the region without duplicating efforts.

**June 25-26<sup>th</sup>: A Celebration of Connecticut Barns Barkhamsted.** Friday evening barn art gala and Saturday guided walking tour. For more information visit our [website](#)

**July 21<sup>st</sup>: Collaborative Oversight Committee meeting, 9am, Warren:** all are welcome to attend.