



**Vermont  
Energy Investment  
Corporation**

# Communicating for Change

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**1. Strategy**

**2. Social Media**

**3. Earned Media**

*What we'll  
cover...*

# Do these sound familiar?

If they just understood the facts, they would change..

This campaign is about raising awareness...

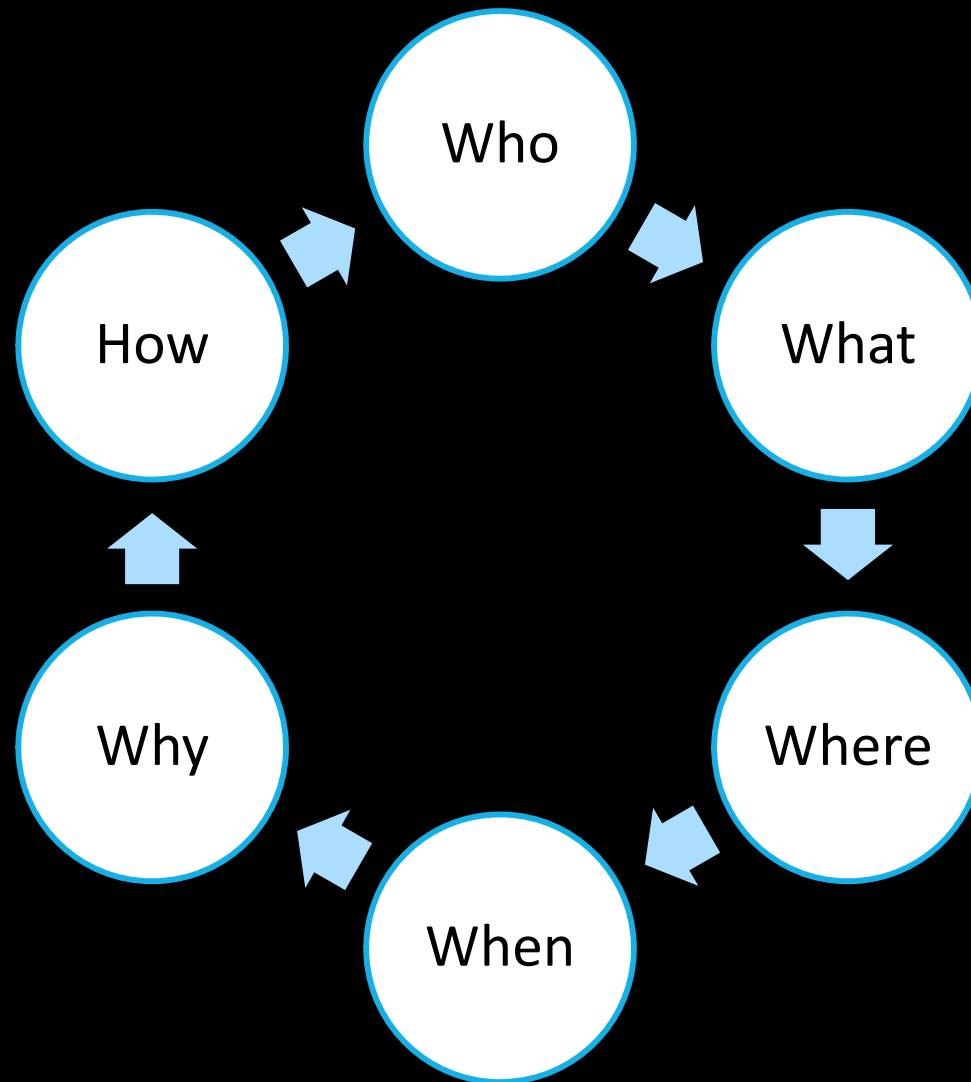
Our goal is to get 500 new Facebook fans.

Let's do an infographic—people love infographics!

# The hard truth is...

- Facts don't matter.
- Raising awareness isn't good enough.
- 500 Facebook Fans... Towards what end?
- Tactics in search of a strategy  $\neq$  impact

# Communications Strategy



# Key Questions

## *Before Getting to Action*

- What problem are we trying to solve?
- What do we want to accomplish?
- Who are we trying to reach?
- What do we want them to do?
- What's getting in the way of their participation?
- How will we know if we succeed?

# The MOST important question

What do you want this person TO DO as a result of your communication?

Call your legislator

Sign a petition

Vote

Donate

Tell a friend

Write an op-ed

Host an event

Buy something

Volunteer

Then...

Make it REALLY EASY



## Exercise 1:

Think of one thing you'd like to change in your community, workplace, or group of your choosing.

1. What's the problem you're trying to solve?
2. What do you want to accomplish? What is your ideal future state?
3. Who can help you solve this problem? Who might be a barrier to achieving success? Who influences the solution?
4. What do you want these people to do?

Write for 3 min

Group conversation

# The Social Media Revolution 2014

Video

# Social Media Best Practices

## First know...

1. How social fits into your strategy
2. Whether and where your audience is on social
3. Definitions of success

## Then...

1. Manage the risks
  - Monitor
  - Maintain a presence
  - Manage your community
2. Be useful
3. Be authentic
4. Be unique

# Earned Media

*Vermont*  
**HOME ENERGY**  
**CHALLENGE**

# Earned Media Best Practices

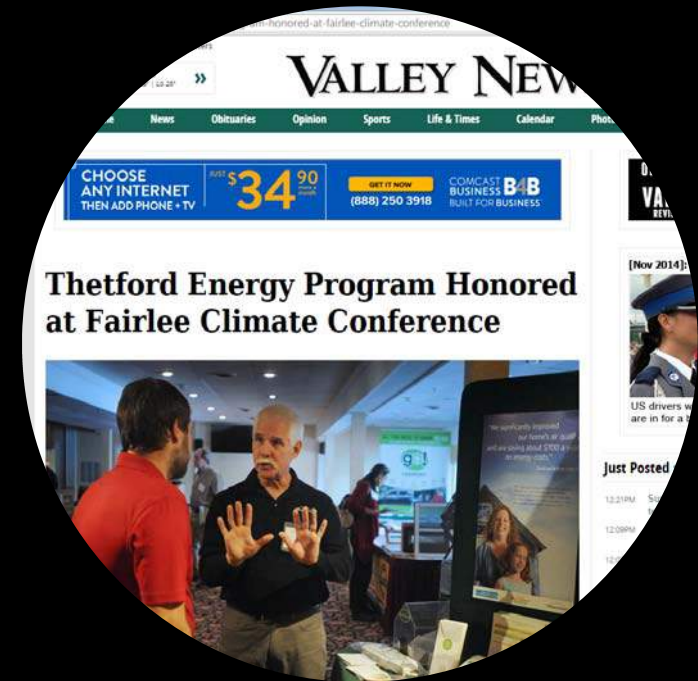
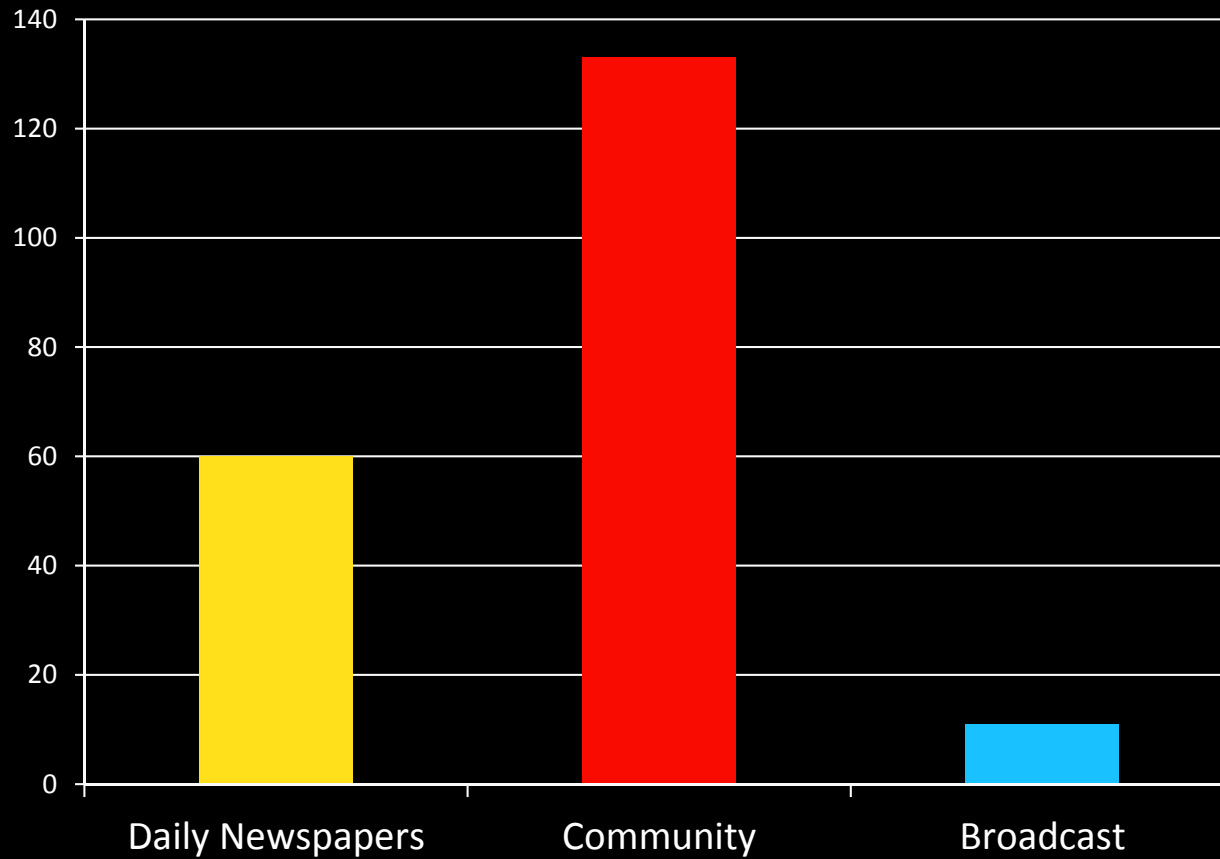
- Be timely
- Be relevant
- Be authentic
- Be focused
- Be brief



Don't make them think

# It Works!

## 2013 VHEC Media Placements



# An Awesome Resource

Spitfire Strategies  
Smart Chart 3.0

[www.spitfirestrategies.com](http://www.spitfirestrategies.com)

