

Karen L. Marshall

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Karen L. Marshall is the Chief of ConnectVT, appointed by Governor Peter Shumlin to lead the State of Vermont's initiative to achieve universal availability of broadband and mobile service by 2013. She works within the Agency of Administration to provide strategic direction, policy and accountability for achieving goals with various stakeholders in the telecommunications sector. These stakeholders include private sector telecommunications providers, Vermont's electrical transmission and distribution utilities, the Vermont Legislature, arms of state and federal government, regulatory bodies, and the Vermont Telecommunications Authority.

She has a wealth of private sector experience having served in various roles to define and lead change in organizations. Those roles include: as the Chief Operating Officer at SecurShred, a Vermont owned and operated business providing confidential document shredding, imaging, storage and electronic waste services throughout the region; as the principal strategist at her own firm, **cogent strategy**, where she specializes in assisting organizations in developing talent, operationalizing strategic planning, and creating successful marketing and media strategies. Her early career spanned 25 years in media in various roles including: VP Northern New England for Comcast Spotlight, the advertising division of Comcast Cable and Vice President /Vermont for Clear Channel Communications where she managed 15 radio stations.

She has a long community career, serving currently as Chair of the Vermont Economic Progress Council, a board member of the Visiting Nurse Association of Chittenden and Grand Isle counties, the Lake Champlain Regional Chamber of Commerce, and UVM's Athletic Advisory Council.

She has contributed to the Vermont community with leadership roles in the following organizations: The United Way of Chittenden County, The Champlain Initiative, United States Olympic Committee as Vermont State Olympic Committee Chair, Vermont public representative to the New England Association of Schools and Colleges, Greater Burlington YMCA, and Leadership Champlain as a participant and past chair of the program.

She lives in Williston with her teenagers, Teddy and Haleigh. She is a competitive runner, triathlete and sailor. She enjoys cycling and painting, and spends a fair amount of time at ice rinks throughout the northeast watching hockey 😊