



2025 INCOMING BOARD MEMBERS

HANNAH GALE

Hannah Gale is a multigenerational Vermonter living in Johnson with her husband, daughter, and four-legged fur balls. She is proud to have been raised by parents who instilled in her a desire to serve her community and those less fortunate than herself. Hannah has been working professionally in the affordable housing field for over eight years in the Chittenden County area, where her passion for housing has blossomed—particularly in housing opportunities for individuals and families experiencing homelessness, and the support needed even after putting a roof over their heads. She is thrilled to have the opportunity to be a part of bringing more housing opportunities to her own community and beyond with Downstreet Housing's fantastic staff and her fellow board members.

CRISTIN LAUX

Originally from Connecticut, Cristin Laux moved to Vermont while pregnant with her son and first looked into affordable housing when they lost their living arrangements eight years ago. At the time, she was ineligible for affordable housing options because she was making just \$70 more than the allowed income. She found a home to rent and lived there until 2022, when the landlord decided to either sell the property or double the rent. Wanting to keep her son in the Stowe school system but finding nothing affordable in the area, Cristin was prepared to move them both into a one-bedroom apartment when a condominium became available through Downstreet. She had already gone through the Downstreet homebuyer mentorship process the year before, and she ended up being able to purchase the condominium. During her time searching for and struggling to find housing, she decided to join the Board Housing Partnership and be part of the solution to the problems she was facing. It now is a fitting transition for Cristin to be part of the Downstreet board and its mission that she believes so strongly in.

KRISTY SANSONE

After living in Pennsylvania and Florida for ten years, Kristy Sansone returned home to Vermont only to be displaced by the COVID-19 pandemic soon after. Unemployed and with no place to call home, she was able to find temporary shelter in Stowe, and her experience with affordable housing in Vermont ultimately had a positive outcome. Kristy would like to serve on Downstreet's Board of Directors to help continue the inspiring work to expand affordable rental options and increase individual home ownership opportunities. She feels strongly that these should be available for everyone, regardless of their financial situation, through a joint effort of state and federal entities and the adherence to affordable housing standards and commitments.

JOHANNA THIBAUT

Johanna Thibault grew up as a military brat with a father in the Air Force, living in different parts of the US and abroad. They eventually settled in southern Nevada, where she attended high school and got her degree from UNLV. After college, she continued to move often as she built her career in environmental permitting and planning before deciding to go to law school. She earned her degree from Vermont Law School, where she fell in love with Vermont and her husband, who was an Army JAG officer. They spent the next decade living all over the world until they decided they were ready to finally move back "home" to Vermont and raise their family with more stability. Johanna was a law school professor and the COO and in-house counsel for an international A&E firm, but more importantly, she became a small business owner in 2017 running Harry's Hardware and The Den in Cabot, where she still is today. As a Vermont-barred attorney and small business owner in rural Vermont, Johanna brings a different perspective to the Board with regard to housing needs, especially as they relate to rural Vermont communities. She is in awe of the mission and the accomplishments of Downstreet and is honored to serve on the Board.