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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT LAB ANNOUNCES NEW MANAGING DIRECTOR AND PARTNERSHIPS MANAGER TO SUPPORT EXPANDING PROGRAMS

Montpelier, Vt – Jenn Wood has joined the Community Engagement Lab in the new position of Managing Director, and Claire Tebbs has joined as Partnerships Manager. The CEL is expanding its staff to meet the need for more programming that helps schools and communities engage in the work of realizing change around complex social and environmental justice issues.

Jenn Wood has previously held leadership positions with, among others, Green Mountain Transit and the Champlain Valley Office of Economic Opportunity. She currently serves on the board of Vermont Businesses for Social Responsibility and recently joined the Vermont Council on Rural Development’s Climate Catalyst Community Leadership Cohort.

Claire Tebbs is a seasoned community planner and educator in art-based placemaking and community design, and has worked in rural and urban communities in the U.S. and Canada for the past 20 years. She is also an environmental educator and holds professional certification through the American Institute of Certified Planners.

In their positions with the CEL, Wood and Tebbs will work to expand the CEL’s creative engagement programs across the state, helping communities, large and small, in the work of realizing change.

Eric Booth, Co-Founder and Engagement Director of CEL, feels that Jenn Wood and Claire Tebbs bring a perfect fit of background skills and passion to support the CEL in achieving its potential. “Sometimes growth happens just right. Their bold creative thinking and proven ability to effect change will make a lasting difference to communities across the state,” said Booth.

The CEL’s programs are well known to foster safe-and-charged working environments into which participants can bring their bravest and boldest selves to inspire the social imagination and civic agency their communities need to achieve social and environmental justice.

“Jenn and Claire bring a depth of experience in systems implementation, social and environmental justice, and creative placemaking that will be a major boost to our capacity for engaging schools and communities with the creative programming they are asking for, and we couldn’t be more excited to be having them join our team in these key leadership roles,” said Paul Gambill, the CEL’s Co-Founder and Executive Director.

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The Vermont-based Community Engagement Lab (CEL) provides leadership to design and implement bold school-and-community based projects that activate participants' creative capacities, build partnerships that have a strong commitment to change, and foster safe-and-charged working environments into which participants can bring their bravest selves to make the changes needed to achieve social and environmental justice.