

The Vermont Community Foundation
Long-Term Pool Investment Performance/Strategy
As of June 30, 2022

Long-Term Pool Investment Performance vs. Benchmark- Through 6/30/22, Net of Investment Management Fees

| | Latest <u>Quarter</u> | Latest <u>3 Years</u> | Latest <u>5 Years</u> | Latest <u>7 Years</u> | Latest <u>10 Years</u> | Latest <u>15 Years</u> |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Long-Term Pool | -10.4% | +3.4% | +4.4% | +5.2% | +6.6% | +5.4% |
| <i>Target Benchmark*</i> | -10.5% | +5.0% | +5.5% | +5.6% | +6.3% | +4.3% |
| <i>60% MSCI ACW/40% Bloomberg Agg</i> | -11.4% | +3.7% | +4.8% | +5.0% | +6.0% | +4.5% |

* The market benchmark is a blended index using market benchmarks weighted based on the Foundation's asset allocation strategy

Investment Philosophy/Asset Allocation Strategy

The Vermont Community Foundation invests its assets to foster strong support of the community's current needs while also providing resources for future generations. The Foundation intends to achieve this objective via a well diversified asset allocation strategy executed using highly capable investment managers combined with index funds.

| <i>Asset Class</i> | <i>Target/Actual Allocation</i> | | <i>Managers</i> |
|--|---------------------------------|---------|-----------------------------------|
| U.S. Large/Mid-Capitalization Equities | 11.0% | (13.2%) | Adage/FPR/Focused |
| U.S. Small Capitalization Equities | 6.5% | (3.6%) | Ashford/Champlain |
| Global Equity | 12.0% | (11.5%) | Generation/Gobi/Theleme/Barker |
| International Equities | 11.0% | (6.6%) | Sanderson/Brown Capital |
| Emerging Markets Equities | 6.0% | (6.0%) | Elephant/Westwood |
| Hedge Funds | 5.0% | (8.0%) | Various Direct Funds |
| Special Opportunities | 14.0% | (14.1%) | Ashe/Cevian/Effissimo/HCIF/Ichigo |
| Private Assets | 12.0% | (11.1%) | Various Direct and Fund of Funds |
| U.S. Investment Grade Fixed Income | 8.5% | (4.6%) | IR&M/Vanguard |
| TIPS | 4.2% | (3.1%) | Vanguard |
| Global Fixed Income | 4.8% | (4.6%) | Colchester |
| Vermont Investments | 5.0% | (6.8%) | |
| Cash | 0.0% | (6.8%) | Transactional |

The Foundation's portfolio was constructed with the following concepts in mind:

- Allocate the majority of the portfolio to asset classes with high long-term returns, i.e. equities/alternative asset classes
- Consistently utilize meaningful asset class diversification to achieve return objectives during a variety of economic and market conditions.
- Avoid attempts to predict short-term market behavior via market timing strategies.
- Retain world-class investment managers who are expected to out-perform index funds over most three to five year periods. In areas where the Foundation does not believe meaningful or reliable above benchmark performance is available, index strategies are used.

Current Market/Performance Commentary

A meaningful and potentially lasting change in the disinflation regime of the past 40 years has led to a more difficult capital market climate thus far this year. While it is natural to focus on the recent damage to portfolio values, we believe the more meaningful issue is the risk that five, seven, or ten years of poor returns for major stock and bond indices has just begun. If true, the difference between one's theoretical time horizon (essentially infinite for endowments) and that of key decision makers will now have great meaning.

The bad news is that the strategies with which many have grown comfortable may now be taking their place in history as victims of the noxious combination of excessive capital and overconfident optimism. Yet, all is not lost, as great opportunities abound. While the journey will be undeniably rocky, time-tested fundamental and behavioral investment principles will provide the confidence and patience needed to persist and thrive in what too many will perceive as a difficult to disastrous period.

While the excesses of the current cycle may have already reached levels that would have led to their demise with or without the withdrawal of central-bank liquidity, rising and what appears to be durably higher inflation has introduced a new dynamic and narrative that suggests an important inflection point has arrived. The days of plentiful and inexpensive capital appear to be over for some time. While we're hesitant to forecast inflation rates or Fed policy decisions, it is useful to remember that capital-market activity and pricing is built on confidence. The last six to twelve months have introduced doubt regarding the mindset that became ingrained over the past five to seven years; this in and of itself is enough to meaningfully shift perception away from the highly speculative climate that had taken hold.

In Q2 2022, the Long-Term Pool fell 10.4%, a result that topped the custom benchmark's return by 10 basis points. Returns across growth-oriented sectors in global public equities were the primary detractor to absolute returns during the quarter,

Individual Asset Class Performance – Q2 2022

| | | |
|--|---------------|--|
| <i>Large/Mid-Capitalization US Equity</i> | <i>-15.0%</i> | <i>(+1.7% vs. Russell 1000)</i> |
| <i>Small Capitalization US Equity</i> | <i>-21.2%</i> | <i>(-4.0% vs. Russell 2000)</i> |
| <i>Global Equity</i> | <i>-24.0%</i> | <i>(-8.3% vs. MSCI ACWI)</i> |
| <i>International Developed Markets Equity</i> | <i>-14.9%</i> | <i>(-0.4% vs. MSCI EAFE)</i> |
| <i>Emerging Markets Equity</i> | <i>-13.0%</i> | <i>(-1.6% vs. MSCI Emerging Markets)</i> |
| <i>Hedge Funds</i> | <i>-6.8%</i> | <i>(-2.7% vs. HFRI Fund of Funds)</i> |
| <i>Special Opportunities</i> | <i>-7.7%</i> | <i>(+8.0% vs. MSCI ACWI)</i> |
| <i>U.S. Investment Grade Fixed Income</i> | <i>-4.1%</i> | <i>(+0.6% vs. Bloomberg Aggregate)</i> |
| <i>Global Fixed Income</i> | <i>-9.3%</i> | <i>(-0.4% vs. FTSE World Govt Bond)</i> |
| <i>Treasury Inflation Protected Securities</i> | <i>-6.0%</i> | <i>(+0.1 % vs. Bloomberg US TIPS)</i> |