

Vermont Child Care Providers Association

The VCCPA is a statewide, not for profit, professional organization offering peer support as well as access to information and resources. We advocate on the state and national levels to assure that the needs of child care professionals are met. We believe that meeting providers' needs leads to a more stable child care systems and higher quality care for children.

VCCPA'S 2014 Annual Retreat

This year, 6/28-6/29, we held our annual retreat at the Killington Grand Hotel and Conference Center, where we developed our strategic plan for the upcoming year.

Activities we will accomplish this year:

- Increase statewide meeting availability via conference call.
- Ensure our members have a voice by representing them at statewide meetings.
- Keep our membership informed and engaged via quarterly newsletters, Facebook, Pinterest, emails, and our website.
- Become a Northern Lights sponsor of Professional Development.
- Advocate for the needs of our providers by collaborating with Statewide Partners.
- Hold our 2nd Annual Conference.
- Advocate for increase for CCFAP
- Offer support to our members:
 - TS Gold online - administration, training and support
 - FCCERS - in home support before having an "official" STARS observer
 - Northern Lights – level certificate support
 - Teacher Licensure - portfolio support

2014-15 VCCPA MEETING SCHEDULE

(any changes will be reflected on our website, vccpa.org)

Members are invited and welcome to attend meetings of the Vermont Child Care Providers Association

Monthly Board Meetings

Dates: Aug 14, Sept 11, Oct 9, Nov 13, Jan 8, Feb 12 & March 12 (2nd Thursday's)

Time: 6:00 – 8:00pm

Conference Call #: 712-432-1212

Meeting ID #: 121-132-070 (followed by #)

All meetings are available to all members via conference call and there will also be an in person option for Aug, Sept, Oct. and Nov. (location TBD)

VCCPA's 2nd Annual Conference followed by our Annual Meeting (potential date April 18th– more info soon)

VCCPA's ANNUAL RETREAT (Date & location TBD)

VCCPA's 2014 Annual Retreat – Killington, VT



Cindy Daniels, Alisha Adams, Beverly Greenwood



Beverly Greenwood, Sheila Quenneville, Meri Saladino, Johanna Vaczy, Suzanne Lague

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VCCPA'S President Corner

As the President of the VCCPA I just want to take a moment and reflect on the Association, and share how proud I am of the accomplishments we have made in the past year.

A year goes by quickly, however over the past year we have become a strong and effective Association. We have tirelessly advocated for the needs of providers by attending meetings and collaborating with partners, held our fun and successful 1st annual conference, made connections with our members through Facebook, redesigned our website, sent out our newsletter quarterly, built a strong organizational structure, created a handbook, rewrote our by-laws, and most importantly we have become a truly statewide association.

I am grateful to the members around the state that have now joined our Board. We are pleased to have representation from many counties throughout VT. If there is anyone that would like to join our Board we have one board position to fill. We also have many opportunities for all members to become part of our Leadership Team by becoming committee members!

For me, the most important thing we did this past year, is increase our membership by 50%. We are only as strong as the members we have. As we move forward we want our members to feel connected and supported. We want to bring YOUR voice to all that we do. We welcome all ideas and encourage our members to participate in our meetings, and respond to our emails and surveys. We want to hear from you so we can best serve you. As we move forward, I look forward to a continued increase in our membership and serving your needs!

Respectfully,

Alisha Adams, YOUR VCCPA President

Quarterly Membership Update April 1, 2014 to June 30, 2014

New Members:

- Wendy Ballou
- Theresa Forbes
- Heidi Evans
- Taralyn Thorne
- Michelle Tallman
- Lisa Bates
- Stephanie Sheltra
- Elizabeth King
- Katherine Egan
- Stephanie Wheelock
- Kimberly Catella
- Sherry Boudro
- Nicole Goulette
- Sue Clark
- Nicole Thomas-Demeritt
- Johanna Vaczy
- Ellen Drolette
- Rachel Hunter
- Crystal Wilkins
- Elsa Bosma
- Chrissy Wade
- Didi Harris
- Mary Langer
- Robyn Freedner-McGuire
- Valerie Hunter
- Louise Bowdish
- Robin Cassidy
- Emily Walsh
- Carlene Cubit
- Courtney Sanville
- Dianne Russell
- Tabby Deuso
- Terri Hunter
- Janette Dumont
- Sherrie Vincent
- Jennifer Bradley
- Robin Carey
- Raquel Bullard
- Amanda Pray
- Stacey Rheaume
- Tanya Wigmore
- Abby Trivento
- Paula Boudreau
- Susan Lapan
- Samantha Sucece
- Anissa DeLauri
- Peggy Chase Jones
- Tina Lothian
- Regina Houle
- Heather Vaillancourt
- Angela Carr
- Kristen De La Cruz
- Laurie Fortin
- Nicole Bevins
- Donata Bessette
- Starr Bidwell
- Judy Giroux
- Vickie Durgin
- Cindy Fagnant
- Kara von Behren-Herman
- Judy Bergeron

Renewing Members:

- Michelle Sheldon
- Lynn Roberts
- Michelle Ryan
- Miranda LaHue
- Kathleen L' Esperance
- Sheila Quenneville
- Cheryl Wells
- Eleanor Cheeseman
- Karalynn Grant
- Barbara Bluto
- Laura Butler
- Susan Bokelberg
- Wendy Farnham
- Janet Demar
- Trish Blood
- Gerri Barrows
- Lori Pinsonneault
- Denise Fleming
- Penny Clark
- Heidi McHugh
- Lisa Meunier
- Tracy Patnoe
- Alyson Grzyb
- Diane Meacham
- Sue Grenier
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Children's Corner

Health Care



Health Care Prop Box (Dramatic Play Center)

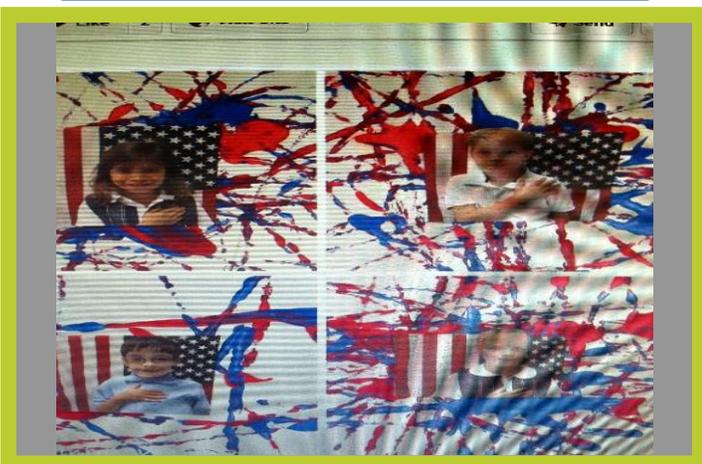
Doctor & Nurse coats, Scrub shirt, Stethoscope, Cloth bandage wraps, Band-aids, X-rays, Empty medicine bottles, and Shot syringes (without needle)

Doctor Foster Nursery Rhyme

Doctor Foster
Went to Gloucester
In a shower of rain.
He stepped in a puddle,
Right up to his middle,
And never went there again!

Note: Gloucester is a two-syllable word (Glouce-ster), and is pronounced "gloster", rhyming with foster.

Independence Day



VCCPA Member Question & Answer

You asked, "What is the Vermont Early Childhood Alliance?"

Get Involved in the Alliance, Advocating for Vermont's Children

The passage of the publicly funded prekindergarten bill this past legislative session means that many more of Vermont's 3, 4 and 5 year olds will have access to quality center-, home- and school-based programs in their communities.

This bill would not have passed without the voices of parents and child care providers across the state telling legislators about the needs in their communities and describing how this bill would make a difference. One of the groups helping those voices have the most impact was the Vermont Early Childhood Alliance.

The Vermont Early Childhood Alliance (formerly Kids Are Priority One Coalition) was founded in 2000 as a statewide advocacy coalition of parents, early childhood providers and organizations, businesses, and strategic partners that coordinates a unified early childhood voice around legislative proposals, like the prek bill.

The Alliance's seeks to improve public policies that would optimize good outcomes for young children and their families between birth and age eight. It focuses in the areas of health, safety, food, economic security, and early care and education. Each year, we bring advocates together to create a Legislative Agenda that represents the top priorities in the legislature for Vermont's children.

Beyond creating and advocating for the Legislative Agenda, the Alliance supports the early childhood community in numerous ways, such as:

- Supporting leadership development for community members so they can be knowledgeable, effective advocates;
- Creating opportunities for constituents to educate policymakers on the issues;
- Communicating accurate information about the issues and how to get involved; and
- Organizing events for learning and advocacy, such as Early Childhood Day at the Legislature.

The Alliance will soon start to develop a 2015 Legislative Agenda, and we need your input to help make our efforts next year successful. Providers have an important role to play in developing priorities, engaging parents of the children in their care on the issues, and speaking to legislators about solutions.

To get involved in the early childhood issues you care about, contact Kelly Ault, Alliance Public Engagement Director at 802-272-0795 or Kelly@vteca.org. Sign up for the e-network to receive regular updates on issues and action at www.vermontearlychildhoodalliance.org.

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Vermont Birth to Three presents info on Shared Services

Imagine being offered the opportunity to keep your program's identity and individuality while leaving some of your least favorite tasks behind. Picture being given the possibility to focus on what you enjoy and excel at while saving time, strengthening relationships, giving and receiving peer support and saving resources. Child care providers nationwide are joining together to develop networks based on the needs of their members. If you let your mind wander back to the last week of work are there parts of your job that come to mind immediately that you love? Being with the children, planning activities to do with them, cooking with the children, going for mud walks, chatting with the parents at the end of the day, for example? Are there other tasks that also come to mind that you have had to focus time on, that you don't feel you have the expertise to handle efficiently and accurately, that you wish you didn't have to do? Does that list include tasks such as developing a handbook, billing parents, finding a plumber and paying high prices for the one who will come in an emergency? What if you could do the parts of the job that you love and excel at and know that the other tasks are being addressed but in a different way than they have in the past?

Louise Stoney and her peers at Opportunities Exchange, www.opportunitiesexchange.org worked to identify the root of what makes a stable, successful ECE program and the strategies that other businesses are using to support good business practices. Using this information home and center based programs across the nation are entering into Shared Services relationships to support their programs. They are sharing costs, sharing services and supporting learning. And, they are doing this while maintaining their own individual program identity, business model, philosophy and practices. Members of Shared Services Networks are finding that their programs are stronger and more stable financially, the leaders of the programs are freed up to focus on teaching and learning and supporting the program to move up in STARS or toward accreditation. In addition, the teachers in the programs are mentoring each other, have the tools that they need to move up in STARS and have stronger incomes and benefits, and the families with young children are receiving the services they need.

There are many levels and ways that Shared Services Networks can be approached ranging from minimal to intensive cooperative practices. On a statewide or regional basis programs can have the opportunity to access an Early Childhood Website which offers access to discounts, templates for handbooks and policies, online training opportunities, information to help with Human Resource issues, information about curriculum and quality standards- NAEYC or STARS, and local resources such as the best price on fuel oil and plumbers. On a regional level groups such as Starting Points Networks and Director Groups are already meeting monthly and discussing curriculum, parent issues, and what is happening in their programs. They are leaving with new ideas and offering each other support and guidance. With a bit more cooperative work, these networks can move to a higher level of sharing services.

The keys to the success of these regional networks include local leadership, local interest on the part of providers, and support to get these partnerships underway. [Vermont Birth to Three](http://www.vermontbirthtothree.org), a statewide, privately funded initiative is providing support to develop the shared website and a number of regional cooperatives in Vermont. To share this exciting news conversations will be held throughout Vermont over the next few months to discuss the development of Shared Services Networks with interested providers and early educators. For more information visit the VB3 website at www.vermontbirthtothree.org or to host a conversation in your area, contact **LouAnn Beninati** at lbeninati@gmail.com.

Contact/Follow the Vermont Child Care Providers Association

Email:

vtchildcareprovassoc@gmail.com

Facebook:

www.facebook.com/VermontChildCareProvidersAssociation

Website:

www.vccpa.org

Pinterest:

[Vermont Child Care Providers Association](http://www.pinterest.com/VermontChildCareProvidersAssociation)

Address:

VCCPA

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VCCPA Board Members

Executive Board

President: Alisha Adams alisharadams@yahoo.com

Vice President: Cindy Daniels cindyd@vclf.org

Treasurer: Sheila Quenneville sheila3640@aol.com

Secretary: Patricia Blood trishb17@aol.com

Board Members-At-Large

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April Christenson aprilchristenson@yahoo.com



Become a member or renew your membership today! You can now renew NAFCC and VCCPA memberships at the same time!