



# 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 Board Members

### *Executive Board*

President: Alisha Adams [alisharadams@yahoo.com](mailto:alisharadams@yahoo.com)  
Treasurer: Sheila Quenneville [sheila3640@aol.com](mailto:sheila3640@aol.com)  
Secretary: Amie Choiniere [haminjuly@yahoo.com](mailto:haminjuly@yahoo.com)

### *Board Members-At-Large*

Teresa Fowler [tfhappy2000@yahoo.com](mailto:tfhappy2000@yahoo.com)  
Bevie Greenwood [beviogreenwood@comcast.net](mailto:beviogreenwood@comcast.net)  
Cindy Daniels [cindyd@vclf.org](mailto:cindyd@vclf.org)  
Patricia Blood [trishb17@aol.com](mailto:trishb17@aol.com)

Contact the  
Vermont Child Care Providers Association

Email:

[vtchildcareprovassoc@gmail.com](mailto:vtchildcareprovassoc@gmail.com)

Facebook:

[www.facebook.com/VermontChildCare  
ProvidersAssociation](http://www.facebook.com/VermontChildCareProvidersAssociation)

Website:

[www.vccpa.org](http://www.vccpa.org)

## Upcoming Meetings

### VCCPA ANNUAL MEETING

*You are cordially invited to attend the Vermont Child Care Providers Association's Annual Meeting*

Date: Friday May 30, 2014

Time: 6:00pm – 8:30pm

Location: Spare Time Lanes, Colchester VT

Come help us celebrate the successes of the past year and welcome in the new officers that will serve us over the next.

Dinner will be provided!

Please RSVP to Tricia Blood at [trishb17@aol.com](mailto:trishb17@aol.com)

Or 985-9160

At the Annual Meeting the following seats are up for election:

2 Year Terms: Vice President and Secretary

2 Year Terms: 4 Board Members-At-Large

1 Year Terms: 8 Board Members-At-Large

To nominate yourself or another candidate please fill out the nomination sheet and submit to [vtchildcareprovassoc@gmail.com](mailto:vtchildcareprovassoc@gmail.com) or mail to VCCPA

### Annual Meeting Agenda

Welcome & Introductions

Election of Officers

Vote on revised By-Laws

Recognition

Bowling and Dinner

Closing

# VCCPA Provider Pages

April 1, 2014

## VCCPA's 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Family Child Care Conference

### Strengthening Families *by Building Strong Provider/Family Relationships*

DATE: March 3, 2014

TIME: 8:30 – 4:15

LOCATION: Steakhouse Restaurant Barre, VT

The VCCPA will be hosting our first annual conference offering 6 hours of training for our members.

Featuring

VT's Director of Child Care Licensing and Financial Assistance Barbara Thompson Snow and Wonderblasters Lisa M. Guerrero as Keynote

And workshop presenters:

Cindy Daniels, VT Community Loan Fund

Lou Ann Beninati, Vermont Birth to Three

Johanna Vaczy, VT STARS

Registration is limited to the first 50 people to register visit us on the web @ [vccpa.org](http://vccpa.org)

For questions email [vtchildcareprovassoc@gmail.com](mailto:vtchildcareprovassoc@gmail.com) or call Alisha Adams (802) 524-5449

Registration fee includes breakfast and lunch!

## Current Events

VCCPA Board Members have been traveling around the state of VT to network and connect with providers over the past few months we have visited Starting Points groups in White River Junction, Montpelier, Springfield, St. Johnsbury/Lyndonville, Derby and Bennington. On our travels we have learned about interests of providers across the state of Vermont and have shared some of Vermont Child Care Providers goals. We are excited to have Starting Points Network connections to assure we are representing the voice of providers in Vermont.

**“EVERY KID IS ONE CARING ADULT AWAY FROM BEING A SUCCESS STORY.”**

~ JOSH SHIP ~



Lyndonville/St. Johnsbury Starting Points Group  
Back Row: Anneka and Monica  
Front Row: Hannah, Pam, Terri

## Quarterly Membership Update 3/31/2014

### New Members:

- Carolyn Ingerson
- Linda Buker
- Winnie Adelt
- Trisha Difonzo
- Heather Armell
- Kara Towne
- Wilhelmina Minor
- Lisa Bostwick
- Elizabeth Roberts
- Tina Tuttle
- Megan Williams
- Jessie Casavant
- Wendy Ballou
- Theresa Forbes
- Kim Plante
- Patti Smith
- Shannon Kirkpatrick
- Brenda Buzzell
- Kristin Grenier
- Linda Mandiso
- Valerie Williams
- Holly Rivers
- Colleen Christman
- Carolyn Ingerson
- Linda Buker

### Renewing Members:

- Sonia Koehler
- Lorrie Ploof
- Amie Decker
- Tammy Charland
- Debbie Boyer
- Donna Keement
- Debra Thayer
- Gail LeBlanc
- Marlene Chates
- Deborah Richards
- Katrina Whitcomb
- Melissa Benjamin
- Tina Bidwell
- Michelle Sheldon
- Lynn Roberts
- Michelle Ryan
- Kathleen L'Esperance
- Miranda LaHue



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

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## Children's Corner

Skip the plastic store-bought eggs: this Easter, make a papier-mâché Easter egg sculpture instead! Kids love the ooey-gooiness of papier-mâché, and working with it helps build strong hand muscles and develop their fine motor skills. With just a few simple craft materials, you can make a charming hand-crafted sculpture that will last for many years—and Easters!—to come.

### What You Need:

- Balloon
- 1 cup all-purpose flour
- 2 cups water
- Mixing bowl
- Scissors
- Newspaper, torn into strips
- Tempera paint in spring colors like yellow, pink, green, or white
- Paintbrush
- Glitter (optional)

### What You Do:

1. Blow up the balloon as big as you want your egg to be.
2. Prepare the papier-mâché paste. Help your child measure out the flour and add it to the mixing bowl. Gradually add the water, asking your child to mix as you do. Keep adding water until the paste is thick and gooey but not lumpy.
3. Help your child dip a newspaper strip into the papier-mâché paste and lay it on the balloon. Have her continue adding newspaper strips to the balloon until the balloon is completely covered.
4. Set aside to dry. You can create a simple drying stand for the egg using a strip of cardboard stapled into a circle.
5. Once the papier-mâché is dry, ask your child to decorate her egg using the tempera paint. If you have white paint, try having your child mix it with the other colors to get lighter shades.
6. Help your child add glitter for a sparkling effect if she wants.
7. Let the paint dry, then display!

After your papier-mâché egg dries the balloon inside will eventually shrink down. Have your child shake the egg gently and listen for the balloon inside.



## Provider Spotlight

As you read this fellow child care colleagues I hope your day has been filled with wonder, adventure and inspiration. Hello! My name is Meri Carpenter-Saladino. I am the facilitator of My Second Home a licensed family home in Bradford. I have an Associate's in Early Childhood Education, a C.D.A. in Center-based Preschool and the honor of being an assessor for NAFCC and also STARS.

In 1987 I opened a registered home with the intent of providing care until my kids were in school. That day came and went and in 1995 I took the jump to licensed home status. As My Second Home evolved I found myself wanting to take the program to higher levels in ways that were purposeful and meaningful to me. In 2004 I became the 3<sup>rd</sup> child care program in Vermont to be awarded STARS. My next goal of NAFCC accreditation was realized in 2007. Concerned about the environment and its impact on our children my next achievement came in 2011 with an Eco-Healthy Certified Child Care Program Endorsement and this past November my second co-teacher completed the Apprenticeship program.

Presently our multiage (2-5 years) nature-based program offers an indoor classroom with natural elements, a fenced in outdoor classroom and ten acres for exploration including a wetland, stream, open fields and woodland. Adjacent to our ten acres are fields of commercial crops to explore. The children interact daily with our five horses, four chickens, three cats, the dog and fish. They raise vegetables and flowers in the gardens and if Mother Nature cooperates will soon be gathering sap to boil. Our world is a world of discovery and after more than twenty-six years I am proud to say My Second Home continues to be a work in progress.

Vermont has a vast number of registered programs worthy of NAFCC accreditation, Eco-Healthy certification and STARS. Currently Vermont has 12 NAFCC accredited programs and 7 Eco-Healthy. One of my favorite pieces outside my classroom is assessing registered programs. These unsung heroes provide an amazing service to Vermont's families and should be recognized for the work they do in preparing the next generation. Often their contribution goes unnoticed and underappreciated.

I hope some of you will be moved to look into NAFCC accreditation, Eco-Healthy Child Care or STARS and I hope I have the privilege of assessing your program. Whatever you find meaningful pursue it with passion and may you fill your days with wonder, adventure and inspiration.

Meri S.

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## Committee Highlight

### Vermont Early Childhood Alliance and T.E.A.C.H. updates

The VCCPA board has been busy keeping up on highlights and news in the Child Care Community. The Vermont Early Childhood Alliance has been successful with our legislative agenda. The Governor's budget proposal will add \$740,000 to CCFAP current payments by adopting the 2014 Federal Poverty Level guide.

The Governor's budget also includes \$812,488 to STARS to cover new programs enrolling and STAR level increases of currently enrolled providers. The Race to The Top funds will allow for annual quality differential payments during the four year grant period, beginning this year. Those funds will also allow the expansion of Strengthening Families Grants to home providers.

T.E.A.C.H., Teacher Education and Compensation Helps, which will be hosted by VAEYC, will provide scholarships to home and center providers and employees for Associate Degrees through CCV. The details of this program are still being determined. Stay tuned to the VAEYC website for more details. VCCPA will also email and post to Face Book updates on this exciting project to our membership.

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P.O. Box 1002  
Williston, VT 05495