

# The Prouty Voice

May 2017

Volume 11, Issue 9

## *Note from Chloe Learey, Executive Director*



### **Our Mission**

The Winston Prouty Center for Child and Family Development provides inclusive education and family support to promote the success of children and families.

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### **Windham Child Care Association to Merge with Winston Prouty Center**

Last week Windham Child Care Association (WCCA) announced that they will cease operating and integrate its programs, services and staff into Winston Prouty Center for Child and Family Development (WPC) on June 30th.



WCCA has served as a vital resource to families and early educators for 35 years, advocating for growth and change in the field of early care and education. According to Margaret Atkinson, WCCA Executive Director, due to an extensive reorganization of statewide programs for early care and education providers, one of WCCA's major contracts with the Child Development Division (CDD) has been eliminated.

"That CDD contract largely paid for support of professional development of early educators in the region, and made up one quarter of our annual budget," Atkinson said. "This funding loss endangers all the other programs and supports we offer, and ultimately affects our existence as an organization. WCCA provides key support for families with young children and for early educators. To preserve and strengthen our remaining programs and services, it just makes sense partner with an allied organization."

"Windham Child Care Association has collaborated with the Prouty Center for many years as part of the Children's Integrated Services team," said Chloe Learey, WPC Executive Director. "Both of our organizations seek to support the success of all children and families."

Some of the programs and services that will be integrated into the Prouty Center are:

- **Child Care Referral Program:** provides personalized counseling, consumer education and referral support for families in need of child care.
- **Child Care Financial Assistance Program (CCFAP):** assists families, including those whose child care options are limited due to financial constraints, mental health issues or other family challenges, in accessing state-sponsored child care tuition assistance.
- **Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)** is part of the National School Lunch Act, administered through the US Department of Agriculture. CACFP guidelines ensure that food served to children in child care provides for optimum growth and development of children. Child care providers are reimbursed monthly for meals that meet the USDA standards.
- **Early Learning Express:** a bookmobile which visits child care programs, local housing communities and summer food program sites throughout Windham County bringing books, literacy activities and curriculum materials to early education programs.

Learey added, "The welcomed addition of WCCA's programs to the Prouty Center's Community Based Services will strengthen the Winston Prouty Center for Child and Family Development as an important community asset, a resource for families, and a leader in the early childhood community."

# Administration

## 802-257-7852

Chloe Learey	Executive Director	Ext. 301	chloe@winstonprouty.org
Lisa Whitney	Director of Operations	Ext. 302	lisa@winstonprouty.org
Bridget Goodell	Operations Assistant	Ext. 304	bridget@winstonprouty.org
Paula Schwartz	Development Assistant		paula@winstonprouty.org
Mike Curtis	Assistant		

### Wish List

- \*Big Bibs
- \*Highchair or Booster Seat w/Tray
- \*Gently Used Infant/Toddler Shoes
- \*Baby Carriers/Slings
- \*Infant Swings
- \*Bassinets
- \*Boppy Pillows
- \*Booster Seats
- \*Baby Bath Tubs
- \*Baby Mirrors
- \*Baby Beds (for toy dolls)
- \*Rhino Balls

### Important Number to Note!

Please note that if you need immediate assistance after the office is closed, and the classroom isn't answering their phone, please call the ELC cell phone at **802-246-7852**. This rings to a cell phone that the ELC Staff brings with them onto the playground in the afternoons.

## Help Us Improve our Playground!

**Winston Prouty's Playground Enhancement Day** is scheduled for Saturday, May 20<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.—rain or shine! With the weather finally warming up, this is a great opportunity to do your Family Participation Hours. More details and Sign Up Sheets will be posted later this week.



## Board of Trustees

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Frederic Noyes  
Thea Lloyd  
Scott Lyford  
Ann Allbee

## Management Team

Chloe Learey, Executive Director  
Lisa Whitney, Director of Operations  
Alison Wheeler, CIS Coordinator  
Mary Coogan, Early Interventionist  
Kim Paquette, ELC Program Coordinator

# Community Page

## Introducing Bob Peeples

Bob Peeples volunteers in the Oak room on Wednesday and Thursday mornings. He is often found reading to the children, listening to them share stories, and even helping to heat up their lunches. He is known as “Rock Star Bob” around here and he more than lives up to the name. As soon as he arrives, the first child who sees him usually screams in delight: “BOB! Bob’s here!” Its ripple effect can then be heard throughout the building as other children join in announcing Bob is back!



Bob has spent his career in the education field. He was an elementary and junior high school teacher for several years in Keene, NH. He then worked as a guidance counselor in Omaha, NE, at the famous Father Flanagan’s Boys Town. He also spent time as a guidance counselor at two elementary schools on Long Island, NY. When Bob retired he went to RSVP Volunteer Center to look for mentoring/tutoring positions in the Windham school system and the Prouty Center was also seeking volunteers at that time! He remembered seeing children walking downtown holding onto ropes with their classmates (he often can be found walking his dog on Main Street), and thought it would be fun to work with a younger population. He says that the kids here have brought so much joy into his life and it has been the best thing he has done in his retirement.

Bob said he really has enjoyed his time in the classroom getting to know the children but also the staff. He said it’s amazing how you can see every range of human emotion in the kids, and the patience and love shown by the teachers is admirable — that it takes a special person to work with this age group. We are so grateful to have such an outstanding volunteer here at Prouty, who shares his time and wisdom with all of us!



## New England Youth Theatre

### Disney’s Alice in Wonderland Jr. – Winston Prouty is a Sponsor!

#### Performances:

Friday, May 5 at 7pm

Saturday, May 6 at 2pm and 7pm

Sunday, May 7 at 2pm

Friday, May 12 at 7pm

Saturday, May 13 at 2pm and 7pm

Sunday, May 14 at 2pm



## Seeking Substitute Teachers

We are seeking energetic team players to join our growing team! A commitment to collaboration and learning, a can-do attitude, and a sense of humor are essential. Substitutes must be at least 18 years of age and a high school graduate. Looking for enthusiastic educators to join our program as Substitute Teachers, full-time and part-time positions. Interested candidates should send a letter of interest, resume and names of 3 references to:

Human Resources

The Winston Prouty Center

209 Austine Drive

Brattleboro, VT 05301

[bridget@winstonprouty.org](mailto:bridget@winstonprouty.org)

Fax [802-258-2413](tel:802-258-2413)

EOE

## Community Based Services (CBS) 802-258-2414

Lisa Adams	Developmental Educator	Ext. 224	ladams@winstonprouty.org
Kerri Beebe	Family Support Worker/Housing	Ext. 204	kerri@winstonprouty.org
Crystal Blamy	Family Supportive Housing	Ext. 201	crystal@winstonprouty.org
Emily Clever	Housing Resource Coordinator	Ext. 203	emily@winstonprouty.org
Mary Coogan	Early Interventionist	Ext. 209	mary@winstonprouty.org
Willie Gussin	Family Support Worker	Ext. 303	willie@winstonprouty.org
Kathy Hallock	Developmental Educator	Ext. 219	kathy@winstonprouty.org
Rebecca Krause	Maternal Child Health Nurse	Ext. 211	rebecca@winstonprouty.org
Brandy Levesque	Consultation & Education, ECFMH	Ext. 228	brandy@winstonprouty.org
Shawn Lund	Consultation & Education, ECFMH	Ext. 216	shawn@winstonprouty.org
Kellyn McCullough	Family Support Worker	Ext. 305	kellyn@winstonprouty.org
Ellen Ostrander	Early Interventionist	Ext. 227	ellen@winstonprouty.org
Sally Pennington	Maternal Child Health Nurse	Ext. 206	sally@winstonprouty.org
Megan Seidner	Early Interventionist	Ext. 226	
Joanne Shaw	Community Resource Parent	Ext. 208	joanne@winstonprouty.org
Alison Wheeler	CIS Coordinator	Ext. 213	alison@winstonprouty.org
Maura Shader & Jennifer Emerson CIS Early Childhood Family Mental Health (ECFMH)		Ext. 202	

## News from Community Based Services

*Community Based Services includes Children's Integrated Services (CIS) and Family Supportive Housing (FSH). CIS is a resource for families when they have questions or concerns about their child's development during pregnancy, infancy and early childhood.*

- ◆ Rebecca Krause, CIS Nurse, is leaving to work in the Nurse Family Partnership program. Her last day will be May 12th. Terrill Douglas is available to do per diem work while we recruit. We wish Rebecca the best in her new position.
- ◆ Mary is working with the Higher Ed Collaborative on their professional development offerings.
- ◆ On May 10th and 11th, Chloe, Mary and Alison will be attending the annual CIS Institute program at Lake Morey Resort in Fairlee, VT. This year the Institute will be focusing on Examining Family Engagement. They are offering six workshops to hone provider skills to engage families and parents or guardians. By the end of the Institute attendees will: describe the framework for family partnerships; practice & apply family engagement philosophy in scenarios & other meaningful workshop activities; and identify strategies that help and support families outside of simply fixing a problem.



### WCCA Update

- ◆ Jeanna Genest, Toyona Kangas and RoseAnn Grimes are moving into Vermont Hall on Friday, May 12th.
- ◆ Margaret Atkinson, Sarah DiNicola and Sueño LeBlond will be moving in on Wednesday, June 21st.
- ◆ Everyone will officially become Prouty employees beginning July 1st.



## CBS Wish List



- ◆ Rebecca Krause, CIS Nurse, is looking for a crib and stroller for one of her moms. Please contact her at 257-2101 ext. 211, if you can help this family out.
- ◆ Kerri Beebe, CIS Family support, is searching for a crib and mattresses (not older than 10 years old and slats no more than 2 3/8 inches between crib slats so that a baby's body cannot fit through the slats. If a soda can fits easily through the slats on the crib, the spaces between the slats are too wide). Please contact her at 257-2101 ext. 204, if you can help this family out.

Thanks so much!

Winston Prouty's **Family Supportive Housing Program (FSH)** assists chronically homeless families in finding stable housing and providing case management to support them in their housing. To celebrate, we want to provide families with New Beginnings Baskets on their move-in day. Our FSH program needs your help filling the baskets! We are seeking :

- Monetary donation – any donation appreciated
- Batteries for smoke detector
- Safety covers for outlets
- Gift card – for food or merchandise, coupon for a discount
- Cleaning supplies such as dish soap, bleach, broom, dust pan, etc.
- Dish cloths and dish racks
- Picture frames, key chains
- Items such as band-aids, thermometer, ice pak for first aid kits



These baskets will also have helpful information about community supports and ideas for budgeting and saving. Our goal is to fill 20 baskets. In the meantime, please feel free to contact Kerri at 257-2101, ext. 204 if you have any questions. Thank you!

## Resources

State-wide community resources	<b>Vermont 2-1-1</b>	2-1-1	<a href="http://www.vermont211.org">www.vermont211.org</a>
Child care referrals and resources	<b>Windham Child Care Association (WCCA)</b>	802-254-5332	<a href="http://www.windhamchildcare.org">www.windhamchildcare.org</a>
WIC	<b>Vermont Department of Health</b>	802-257-2880	<a href="http://www.healthvermont.gov">www.healthvermont.gov</a>
Mental health and substance abuse services	<b>Health Care and Rehabilitation Services (HCRS)</b>	1-888-888-5144	<a href="http://www.hcrs.org">www.hcrs.org</a>
Housing and other services for people in poverty	<b>Southeastern Vermont Community Action (SEVCA)</b>	802-254-2795	<a href="http://www.sevca.org">www.sevca.org</a>
New Moms Network (Dawn Kersula, MA, RN)	<b>Brattleboro Memorial Hospital</b>	802-257-8278	E-mail: <a href="mailto:dkersula@bmhvt.org">dkersula@bmhvt.org</a> <a href="http://www.bmhvt.org">www.bmhvt.org</a>
Local event listings and information	<b>Parent Express</b>	603-352-1234	<a href="http://www.sentinelsource.com/parent-express/">www.sentinelsource.com/parent-express/</a>

# Early Learning Center

# 802-257-2101

## ELC Program Coordinator

Kimberley Paquette

Ext. 306 kim@winstonprouty.org

## ELC Administrative Coordinator

Angela Hoag

Ext. 210 angela@winstonprouty.org

## Teaching Staff

Acorn: Nancy McMahon, Michelle Goodwin, Mandi Martin

Ext. 218 nancy@winstonprouty.org

Elm: Susan Heimer, Allie Barrett

Ext. 207 susan@winstonprouty.org

Maple: Amy Fulton, Mindy Brennan

Ext. 205 amy@winstonprouty.org

Oak: Sarah Bemis, Lorraine Gilman

Ext. 217 sarah@winstonprouty.org

Birch: Kim Jacques, Alfred Hughes Jr. Brandy Levesque

Ext. 220 brandy@winstonprouty.org

Floaters: Kathy Wright, Lyn Call, Alyssa Kelly, Sara Fradkin, Jamie Champney

## Non-Teaching Staff

Liz Martin  
Paul Rossi

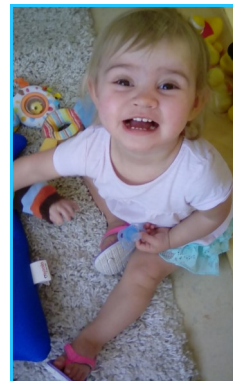
## Volunteers

Susan Mandell Bob Peeples  
Amelia Goodnow Kayla Parro

## Acorn Room (Infants)



We're getting so big!



**Elm Room (Young Toddlers)** As the days have warmed, our outside times have become the highlights of our everyday curriculum. Most of us can walk successfully on a safety rope, and Teacher Allie even joined us with baby Grayson. We love getting to use the big playground during toddler-only time. The hike up the big hill is exhilarating (we invite you to check it out with your children). Science observations have included noticing the change from snow mountains to puddles, and the transformations of tree buds and flowers emerging all over our beautiful campus. We continue to enjoy our daily care of our indoor seedlings with the ever popular spray bottles.





**Maple Room (Older Toddlers)** The month of April began with an April Fool's snow storm and fun playing in deep snow, while having warm weather! Our older toddlers are now very independent putting on their snow clothing, and enjoyed this brief spring snow, but are now so very happy being able to get outside in the morning and afternoon. We've traded all our snowsuits for raincoats and boots, having just as much fun stomping in puddles and mud. We had a week long break mid-April and returned to trees with "baby leaves" and green shoots that turned into daffodils. The bushes have turned into forsythia, and we discovered trees have buds that produce pollen. The Maple room has been enjoying playing outside on the big playground and were excited to take out sand toys for digging, trucks for filling, and shovels to find worms. Our flower shop will be closing, and turning back into a kitchen area. We've enjoyed sand in the sensory table and have been painting on the easel. Our sensory table will soon become our soil and insect center. We look forward to May and planting flower seeds, as well as making goop and playdough. Later this month we'll make carrot cookies and paint with cars! We plan to make some flowers out of egg cartons, and continue to make bouquets in the flower shop. We may even make some for a special person on Mother's Day!



**Oak Room (Preschool)** In the month of April we have enjoyed experiencing all of the changes that spring has to offer. As the warm weather approaches we've been noticing the changes to the trees around us. We have brought this into our classroom by decorating our class tree with small buds. The dramatic play center is now a colorful flower shop where children can grow, pick and arrange flowers. Our sensory table is filled with dirt as we practice digging and planting. We also explored weather changes in the art center by blowing through straws to create a watercolor masterpiece. The week of Easter we enjoyed dyeing duck eggs and visiting with baby chicks! During May we look forward to learning more about plants as we begin to grow our own flowers and vegetables. We will also explore more about the weather through nature walks, math, literacy, art and science activities.



**Birch Room (Preschool)** As spring finally arrives, the children are enjoying using observation skills to notice signs that it is finally here. While taking walks, the children listen for “Nature’s Lullabies” – birds singing, wind blowing through the trees, and especially the stream of water flowing from the woods. Inside the classroom we are continuing to support social emotional development. During an art activity, we purposely put out limited quantities of some items, such as glue or scissors, which encourages the children to practice skills related to turn taking; asking for a turn and waiting patiently for a turn, for example. The children have also been enjoying visits from the Early Learning Express where they listen to rhymes and stories and then choose a book to borrow until Sueño’s next visit.



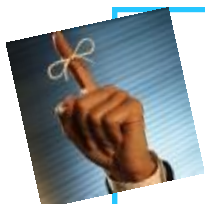
Kali practices fine motor skills.



Christian builds a large block structure.



Shawndra makes room so Anthony can play too!



The **Center closes** at **3:30** on the first Wednesday of each month for Staff Meeting.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Alexander is 1!	2	3 Rebecca & Cora are 2! CENTER CLOSED at 3:30 for All Staff Meeting	4	5 Owen S is 5!	6 Emma is 1!
7	8 Happy Bday Megan	9	10	11	12	13
14	15 Happy Bday Kellyn	16	17 Happy Bday Mindy	18 Domonic is 3!	19 Olivia S. is 3! Jacob is 4!	20
21	22 Charlotte is 4!	23	24	25	26	27
28	29 Lucilia is 1! CENTER CLOSED for Memorial Day	30	31			

**Upcoming Events:**

June 7th Center Closes at 3:30 for All Staff Meeting

June 29th ELC Graduation

June 30th ELC Closed for First Aid/CPR Training