

The Prouty Voice

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Our Mission

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

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Note from Chloe Learey, Executive Director

When Plans Change

By now many of you have heard that we are delaying our construction of the building project which we planned to start this spring. While it is challenging to press pause we are doing it for a very positive reason: we may be able to have the space we need in an existing facility with renovations that would cost less than the budget we planned.

This opportunity came in the midst of some hard news. We learned that the cost of the project as designed is \$700,000 over the budget figure we established. It is possible to scale back the project, build what we need and stay within budget, it will just require some rework. At the same time it was recommended that we relocate during reconstruction, so we toured a building on the Austine campus that previously housed the Little Arrows Early Learning program, among other things. As it turned out there is enough space on one floor of that building to accommodate all of the space expansion provided by our project here, which caused us to ask the question "should we relocate permanently?" The Board of Directors and Management Team decided that, in order to be fiscally responsible, we needed to thoroughly explore that option before making a decision about where to expand. So truly the pause is a positive one which will ultimately lead to the better decision whichever way we go.

My son (a Prouty graduate, now 14) has a favorite saying: "When one door closes, another opens, but things sure are hard in the hallway." I am not sure where to give credit for that saying but I find it very helpful in times like this. We are in the hallway, talking about possibilities and opportunities, which is both exciting and stressful. When we think about some of the social-emotional skills we want to help children learn, being flexible, adaptive and responsive to a challenge are certainly on the list, and situations like this ask us to use those skills as best we can. We all have different temperaments and approaches to change and the unknown, and it is important to remember that some of us will find this pause exciting and full of possibility, others who will be worried about risk, some who will be uncomfortable not knowing exactly what is going to happen, and many feelings in between. We strive to create an environment at Prouty which both fosters opportunity and feels secure, and those can sometimes seem at odds with each other. Being in the hallway requires us to adapt and manage the balance, and I know we have the strength to do this as an organization. Ultimately we will expand, carry out our strategic plan and be successful – we just are not sure where we will actually be yet.

Our capital campaign will continue full speed ahead because we will need resources to make the changes we are planning. Our next fundraising event, "Par for the Cause", is our inaugural indoor mini-golf tournament which is replacing the "Taste of the Town". We hope it is fun enough to last for 25 years! There will also be an event for kids on Sunday, May 17th. See information on page 9, buy tickets on-line, and bring your friends – it is going to be a blast!

Administration

802-257-7852

Chloe Learey	Executive Director	Ext. 11	chloe@winstonprouty.org
Lisa Whitney	Director of Operations	Ext. 12	lisa@winstonprouty.org
Angela Hoag	Office Manager	Ext. 10	angela@winstonprouty.org
Miles Shaw	Assistant		

Some Important Phone Numbers

Please make a note of them!

To reach the ELC after 4:30 pm, call 257-2101 ext. 23

To reach us during a power failure, call 257-4147

Wish List

- *Boppy Pillows
- *Baby mirrors
- *Booster seats
- *Push toys
- *Rhino balls
- *Highchair



Thank you to everyone who helped make The Hatch Storytellers on a Mission such a fun and successful event!
Thank you to Zach Stephens for taking photos and sharing them with us.

Host, Tom Bodett with the Storytellers; Ernesto Quiñonez, Lizz Winstead, Adam Wade, David Martin, and Catie Lazarus



Board of Trustees

David Dunn (President)	Rachel Henry
Sue Dyer (Vice President)	Frederic Noyes
Jon Neurock (Treasurer)	Thea Lloyd
Sarah Nohl (Secretary)	
Heather Golding	

Management Team

Chloe Learey, Executive Director
Lisa Whitney, Director of Operations
Alison Wheeler, CIS Coordinator
Mary Coogan, Early Interventionist
Sara Lovell-Allbee, Education Supervisor

Community Page

If you know of an event that may be of interest to the Prouty community, please email angela@winstonprouty.org with details. Thanks!

Please help us spread the word to families!

We are currently looking for people who would like to reserve a table and sell items at the event.

Mommy's Marketplace

Saturday May 30th 9am-2pm

Route 30 Townshend, Townshend Town Hall

Currently seeking reservations for tables-If you have children's items and would like to have a table to sell your items and earn some money selling them, we are taking reservations for tables- \$20 per table call Judy at 802-874-4020.

Mommy's Marketplace is a great place to shop for gently used items for your children. Maternity, nursery, infant to teen items are available. Don't miss the bargains and a chance to stock up on essentials at affordable prices. We average around 20 plus different tables with a wide variety of items for sale.

Questions, call Judy at 802-874-4020- Lisa's Love Charitable Association a 501 C 3 organization in memory of Lisa Young Noble.



Save the date for
Saturday, May 16th

May is National Golf Month Check your mail and the flyer on page 9 to learn more about the first annual ***Par for the Cause***~ A mini golf event to help raise money for the Winston Prouty Center



**Cinco
de
Mayo**

Tuesday, May 5th
Cinco de Mayo Salsa Tasting

Place: Brattleboro Food Co-op

Price: Free

Time: 11:00 am to 2:00 pm

Phone: 802-246-2822

Come to the co-op and do your own salsa taste test! We'll have several different products to try, mostly from local vendors. Yum.
From vermont.com/calendar

Community Based Services (CBS) 802-258-2874

Emily Clever	Family Supportive Housing	Ext. 25	emily@winstonprouty.org
Crystal Blamy	Family Supportive Housing	Ext. 13	crystal@winstonprouty.org
Mary Coogan	Early Interventionist	Ext. 15	mary@winstonprouty.org
Jillsen Deignan	Developmental Educator	Ext. 24	jillsen@winstonprouty.org
Terrill Douglas	Maternal Child Health Nurse	Ext. 28	terril@winstonprouty.org
Kathy Hallock	Developmental Educator	Ext. 16	kathy@winstonprouty.org
Sally Pennington	Maternal Child Health Nurse	Ext. 28	sally@winstonprouty.org
Brandy Levesque	Inclusion Facilitator	Ext. 31	brandy@winstonprouty.org
Joanne Shaw	Community Resource Parent	Ext. 14	joanne@winstonprouty.org
Alison Wheeler	CIS Coordinator	Ext. 29	alison@winstonprouty.org
Kellyn McCullough	Family Support Worker	Ext. 21	kellyn@winstonprouty.org
Shelly Torunski	Developmental Educator	Ext. 30	shelly@winstonprouty.org
Danielle Southwell	Family Support Worker	Ext. 26	danielle@winstonprouty.org

News from Community Based Services

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

The first 4 workshop sessions for the Renters 101 course were held this month on April 8th, 15th, 22nd, and 29th here at Prouty. There have been 10-15 participants in attendance for each session. Topics have included budgeting, tenant rights & responsibilities, housing search, and application support. These workshops have had guest speakers, including Sara Kagle from VT Legal Aid and Peter Lynch from the Town of Brattleboro. Participants will be given a certificate of completion that can be included with housing applications. Both Emily and Danielle from Community Based Services have participated in developing, organizing and running this very successful initiative!

Brandy was retrained in CLASS – (Classroom Assessment Scoring System) a classroom observation tool that looks mainly at teacher/ child interactions in three domain areas – Emotional Support, Classroom Organization and Instructional Support. She has to take a reliability test (which she has passed twice before) to be official, but then she will be available to do CLASS observations in preschool classrooms in our community.

Brandy and Janice Stockman from EEE are starting a 6 week long Parenting Education Series – Positive Solutions for Families on Tuesday evenings from 5-7 here at Prouty. Dates are: May 5, 12, 19, 26 and June 2, 9. The class provides information on how to promote children's social and emotional skills, and use positive approaches to help children learn appropriate behavior. They will teach strategies to handle daily routines, prevent challenging behaviors, cope with challenging behaviors when they do occur, how to nurture success, and how to have clear and consistent consequences. This program is designed for families with children ages 3 – 6.

"I'm thankful for my struggle, because without it, I wouldn't have stumbled across my strength" by Alex Elle.

CIS EI has had 8 referrals for April and they currently have 79 children on One Plans

Children's Integrated Services providers will be attending the next annual CIS Conference on May 13th and 14th in Burlington. Alison, Kellyn and Emily will be holding a workshop on housing with Paul Dragon, who oversees the Family Supported Housing Programs in VT. Other workshops providers can attend during this conference include:

Babies Born to Addicted Mothers

Identifying a CIS Service Delivery Model: What It Is and How We Got There

In Home Asthma Education and Identifying Triggers

Developmental Trauma: The Impact of Adversity on Child Neurodevelopment

A Holistic Approach to Services for Families that Are Homeless

Service Coordination: Recognizing Strengths and Building Skills

Reflective Practice and Supervision

Building and Supporting Trauma Informed Communities

Community Cafe Approach: Partnering with Parents to Strengthen Families and Build Community

Beyond Mindfulness- Based Stress Reduction for Children, Youth, Families, and Clinicians

Resources

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

Early Learning Center

Education Supervisor

Sara Lovell-Allbee

Ext. 32 sara@winstonprouty.org

Teaching Staff

EL1: Susan Heimer, Kelsey Carew

Ext. 20 susan@winstonprouty.org

EL2: Jordan Wyckoff, Maggie Sullivan, Katrina Irish

Ext. 18 jordan@winstonprouty.org

EL3: Ana Williams, Kim Jacques, Alfred Hughes Jr.

Ext. 22 ana@winstonprouty.org

EL4: Amy Fulton, Martha Rath

Ext. 17 amy@winstonprouty.org

Floaters: Kathy Wright & Lyn Call

Non-Teaching Staff

Liz Martin

Paul Rossi

Volunteers

Susan Mandell

Marki Webber



EL2 Getting a little fine motor practice in while prepping a yummy picnic snack to take over to the park!



Yellow & orange peppers and strawberries gave the EL2 kids a burst of energy to be able to run around on the stage at Living Memorial Park.



Thanks Maggie for sharing these beautiful photos!

What can I do to prepare my child for Kindergarten?

Children enter Kindergarten at varying levels across development, no matter the district or region. For some children this transition is smooth, but many experience a few hiccups. My daughter will complete her kindergarten year this June. I can remember the anxiety I experienced around this BIG transition, as a parent, and the hiccups she experienced as a student moving into a much larger school community. It is important to acknowledge that this anxiety is natural and that you are not alone (nor is your child).

Families often wonder what they can do to ease this transition to Kindergarten and get their child ready. Listed in the box are a number of simple things that you can do with and for your children to prepare your child a little better. Most importantly, you can know your children. Know what they can do around the concept of number or alphabet. Know what social situations may present challenges for them and where they might excel. Every child is unique and special, there will be growth. Create a positive space for them to show us what they know – open communication with their teaching team from day one is the best advice I can give. You are the expert on your child!

Many districts have begun their transition to Kindergarten activities, if your child is entering kindergarten and is involved in these activities great – if you are unsure of your districts activities I would be happy to call around and find out how you can join in. ~ By Sara Lovell-Allbee, Early Learning Center Education Supervisor

*Create a consistent daily evening routine (dinner, bath, book and bed)
– Sleep is CRUCIAL

*Talk to your child about their day (make it a game, draw about it, talk in the car) – OPEN COMMUNICATION helps create a safe space

*Read books any chance you get!

*Draw attention to written words (in books, STOP signs, Letters in signs
– Like Hannaford, or GAS – Environmental text is everywhere)

*Draw attention to numbers (in books, on clocks, on signs, price tags
– numbers are everywhere too)

*Count objects (any objects!!! Peas on your plate, trucks driving by, stairs to your door)

*Be consistent with consequences. (This is hard, I know! Stick to your word
– once you say it you gotta follow through with it-so only say it if you intend on doing it)



May Happenings

National Golf Month
National Pet Month
National Burger Month
National Foster Care Month
National Bike Month

First week of May *National Teacher Week*
May 1st *May Day*
May 5th *Cinco De Mayo*
May 10th *Mother's Day*
May 25th *Memorial Day*

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



June 3: CENTER closes at 3:30 for All Staff Meeting

June 26: ELC CLOSED for First Aid/CPR Training

June 29: Start of the ELC Summer Program

Upcoming Events:

May 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6 Center CLOSSES @ 3:30 for ALL Staff Meeting	7	8	9
10 Phin is 4!	11 Dory is 4!	12	13	14	15 Happy Bday Kellyn!	16 Par for the Cause to benefit the Winston Prouty Center
17	18 Domonic is 1!	19 Jacob is 2!	20 Sam is 5!	21	22	23
24 31	25 Center CLOSED for Memorial Day	26	27	28 Lyrical is 2! Avalynn is 3!	29	30 Pepper is 1!

Please join the Winston Prouty Center for

PAR FOR THE CAUSE

Inaugural Indoor Mini-Golf Classic

Saturday, May 16, 2015 | 6-9 pm



To Benefit



WINSTON PROUTY
Center for Child Development

To buy tickets visit

winstonprouty.org/parforthecause

or call 802.257.7852

Come enjoy food, fun and prizes at our new spring fundraiser.

The tournament will be held at the beautiful International Center at World Learning's SIT campus in Brattleboro, VT.

Tickets \$25 | Cash Bar | Black tie optional

Look for details about a kid-friendly event in the afternoon on our website.

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