

The Prouty Voice

June 2016

Volume 10, Issue 10



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

Family Matters: Positive Solutions for Families

The latest episode of Family Matters, the BCTV talk show where we discuss topics of interest to families with young children, features Brandy Levesque, an Early Childhood Educator who has worked in the field for many years, and currently works as an Inclusion Facilitator and in Children's Integrated Services. Brandy provides consultation and education to early care and education providers. One of the programs she has developed in the past few years is a parenting class with Janice Stockman (Early Childhood Coordinator, WSESU), called "Positive Solutions for Families." This framework outlines the foundations and strategies for supporting your child's social emotional development with a positive approach.

Two of the questions that arise are (1) What is social emotional development? and (2) Why is it so important? We have learned a tremendous amount about how our brains develop and how much brain development occurs up to age 5 (90%). Social, emotional development refers to the skills we have around building relationships, managing our emotions including being able to identify them and regulate them, and recognizing, understanding and being able to empathize with other people's emotions. It turns out that these skills are the foundation for school readiness and research shows that this is more predictive of future success than intellectual skills. While reading, writing and arithmetic are obviously important, it is difficult to be available for learning those skills when you are not able to regulate your emotions or interact with others in a healthy way. Therefore, families should also be working on emotional literacy.

Having a solid relationship is the foundation to supporting children's social emotional development. This means having lots of different types of interactions that help develop trust and attachment, including lots of playing. This is how children learn. It is surprising how many of us either never learned to play or forget how to do it as adults. Spending time with your child, following their lead, and simply enjoying being with them establishes that sense of "I like who you are and what you are doing, I value you." This is filling up a bucket with positive experiences so that when there are challenging times it can be easier to move through it and get back to a stable place.

Challenging behavior is what often brings families to a parenting class like "Positive Solutions." Brandy shares some approaches and strategies for shifting how we view behavior and help kids learn how to understand what they are feeling, express their needs, and find ways to address those in a healthy way. One strategy for families is to look for the positive side of a behavior and act from that lens in responding. For instance, if you child is nagging and bugging you about something they want to do, and you have already told them 10 times, "We are not doing that right now," it can be very frustrating to stay calm and regulated as a parent. A positive lens at that point might be that we want our children to be resilient and persistent in achieving their goals, and "nagging" can be viewed as being persistent. Expressing understanding ("I know you really want to do that") and value ("and I appreciate your desire not to give up on something"), along with a boundary ("but we are not going to do that right now") can keep a situation from escalating. The next strategy might be re-direction ("How about we go do this instead"), and moving on.

Another strategy we discuss is the importance of providing structure, and being consistent and predictable. Kids are looking for the boundaries of what is okay, and feel more secure when they understand what is expected of them. Having household rules helps provide that structure particularly for situations where the stakes are higher. The rules should cover broad ground, for example "Be safe," so that they can be applied as needed. And there should be no more than three to five rules. You do not want to have to try to keep track of much more than that when you are trying to be consistent.

Administration

802-257-7852

Chloe Learey	Executive Director	Ext. 11	chloe@winstonprouty.org
Lisa Whitney	Director of Operations	Ext. 12	lisa@winstonprouty.org
Paula Schwartz	Development Assistant	Ext. 41	paula@winstonprouty.org
Bridget Goodell	Operations Assistant		bridget@winstonprouty.org
Mike Curtis	Assistant		

Wish List

- *Highchair or Booster Seat with Tray
- *Baby Carriers/Slings
- *Infant Swings
- *Bassinets
- *Boppy Pillows
- *Booster Seats
- *(not new) Towels!
- *Baby Mirrors
- *Baby Beds (for toy dolls)

Some Important Phone Numbers

Please make a note of them!

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

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



EL1 having fun at the nearby Farmer's Market!



Board of Trustees

David Dunn (President)
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Jon Neurock (Treasurer)
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Heather Golding

Rachel Henry
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Thea Lloyd

Management Team

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

Community Page

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

Campus Update: We plan to move to Vermont Hall the week of July 5-8th, reopening the ELC on July 11th!



June 7th - Save the Date!

We're excited to be participating in the first ever VT Day of Giving. You can help support our move to the new campus where we will be expanding our services to meet the growing needs of our community. To learn more about Vermont Gives and support our campaign visit:

<https://www.vermontgives.org/organizations/the-winston-prouty-center-for-child-development>



Saturday, June 4th The Strolling of the Heifers Parade

10:00 am up Main Street. The heifers lead the parade, so don't be late!

9:00 am—4:00 pm Slow Living Summit at Brattleboro Commons & Retreat Grounds

Information: <http://www.strollingoftheheifers.com/our-parade-and-weekend/>



Saturday, June 18th Magical March

First annual fundraising walk through the woods to the Retreat Tower. Dragons, princesses, knights, fairies and other magical creatures are invited to this family-friendly celebration of young children. Walk as an individual or form a team and raise funds to support core programming at Windham Child Care Association.

10:00am—12:30 pm at the Brattleboro Retreat

For schedule and more details: <http://www.windhamchildcare.org/special-events/2016/03/magical-march/>

Community Based Services (CBS) 802-258-2874

Lisa Adams	Developmental Educator	Ext. 24	ladams@winstonprouty.org
Kerri Beebe	Family Support Worker/Housing	Ext. 26	kerri@winstonprouty.org
Crystal Blamy	Family Supportive Housing	Ext. 13	crystal@winstonprouty.org
Emily Clever	Housing Resource Coordinator	Ext. 25	emily@winstonprouty.org
Mary Coogan	Early Interventionist	Ext. 15	mary@winstonprouty.org
Terrill Douglas	Maternal Child Health Nurse	Ext. 28	terrill@winstonprouty.org
Willie Gussin	Family Support Worker	Ext. 26	willie@winstonprouty.org
Kathy Hallock	Developmental Educator	Ext. 16	kathy@winstonprouty.org
Rebecca Krause	Maternal Child Health Nurse	Ext. 28	rebecca@winstonprouty.org
Brandy Levesque	Inclusion Facilitator	Ext. 31	brandy@winstonprouty.org
Kellyn McCullough	Family Support Worker	Ext. 21	kellyn@winstonprouty.org
Sally Pennington	Maternal Child Health Nurse	Ext. 28	sally@winstonprouty.org
Megan Seidner	Early Interventionist	Ext. 24	
Joanne Shaw	Community Resource Parent	Ext. 14	joanne@winstonprouty.org
Shelly Torunski	Developmental Educator	Ext. 30	shelly@winstonprouty.org
Alison Wheeler	CIS Coordinator	Ext. 29	alison@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.

Alison and Mary met with providers at Just So Pediatrics, Brattleboro Primary Care and Maplewood Family Practice on May 12th to discuss our partnership and ways we can strengthen our communication around the mutual families we serve. It was a great meeting and we were able to determine some helpful steps for communications moving forward. Ona Johnston, the Care Coordinator at Brattleboro Primary Care, has arranged for a follow-up meeting with Brattleboro Primary Care and the Blueprint Community Health team on June 13th.

Emily will be attending a conference, "Housing as a Platform: CSH Summit 2016" in Chicago on June 7th-10th. She was invited to attend this conference by Windham and Windsor Housing Trust. Three other community partners will also be attending. All those attending from our region will be participating in two sessions together "Keys to Effective Coordination between Housing and Services" and "Supportive Housing 101." Windham and Windsor has asked that participants take notes in their sessions, be willing to write up conference learnings and possibly present the learnings to various local and statewide housing groups.

Mary continues working with the state team on the Strategic Planning Advisory Group for Early Intervention services statewide. There will be a statewide Early Intervention Summit on June 24th

Kellyn is planning to start working toward becoming a licensed social worker. We are very excited for her to begin this step in her career!

CIS Wish List

Update on Goldsmith Family: In late January, one of the families in the our community lost their home to an electrical fire. While they've received many generous donations, diapers (sizes 4 and 6 or 7), wipes, dog food and cleaning supplies are greatly needed at this time. Also if anyone is able to donate time for any of the projects that need to happen at this property, your help would be very appreciated. Please contact Kellyn McCullough at (kellyn@winstonprouty.org / 258-2414 x 21) regarding either of these efforts.

An opportunity has presented itself to potentially receive a donated double-wide trailer that the Goldsmiths could place on their property in Putney. At least \$20,000 needs to be raised in order to transport it to there, so any and all financial contributions would also be gratefully appreciated. Any tax deductible donations can be made out to the Winston Prouty Center for Child Development with a memo that the donation is for the Shane P. Goldsmith benefit fund. Checks can be dropped off in person or mailed to: Winston Prouty Center for Child Development, Attn: Kellyn McCullough, 20 Winston Prouty Way, Brattleboro, VT 05301.

You can also donate via Paypal or GoGetFunding at: <http://gogetfunding.com/mobile-home-move-for-family-in-need/>

Resources

State-wide community resources	Vermont 2-1-1	2-1-1	www.vermont211.org
Child care referrals and resources	Windham Child Care Association (WCCA)	802-254-5332	www.windhamchildcare.org
WIC	Vermont Department of Health	802-257-2880	www.healthvermont.gov
Mental health and substance abuse ser-	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

802-257-2101

Education Supervisor

Sara Lovell-Allbee

Ext. 32 sara@winstonprouty.org

ELC Coordinator

Kimberley Paquette

Ext. 32 kim@winstonprouty.org

ELC Program Assistant

Angela Hoag

Ext. 19 angela@winstonprouty.org

Teaching Staff

EL1: Susan Heimer, Amy Fulton

Ext. 20 susan@winstonprouty.org

EL2: Brianna McCain, Lyn Call

Ext. 18 brianna@winstonprouty.org

EL3: Michelle Goodwin, Kim Jacques, Alfred Hughes Jr.

Ext. 22 michelle@winstonprouty.org

EL4: Ana Williams, Kristine Arnold

Ext. 17 ana@winstonprouty.org

Floaters: Kathy Wright, Mandi Martin, Mare Lundy, Lorraine Gilman

Congratulations to the 2016 Preschool Graduating Class



**Winston Prouty ELC Graduation will be
Thursday, June 30th at 3:00 p.m.**

EL3:

- ∞ Eduard Boyce
- ∞ Ava Keppler
- ∞ Dory Lyford
- ∞ Victoria Nelson-Dolmen
- ∞ Steven Patrick
- ∞ Ciara Prue
- ∞ Wesley Steckler-Jensen

EL4:

- ∞ Chloe Evanson
- ∞ Micheala Gardent
- ∞ Addison Hallock
- ∞ Jackson Jillson
- ∞ Sam Lyford
- ∞ Anastasia Papadimitriou
- ∞ Arya Patel
- ∞ Calvin Ronconi
- ∞ Sylar Torunski

Non-Teaching Staff

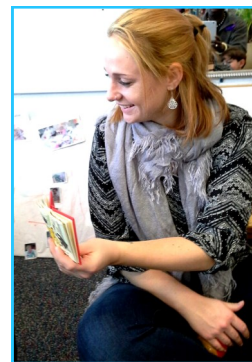
Liz Martin
Paul Rossi

Volunteers

Susan Mandell
Bob Peeples

Bye Bye Bri!

As many of you know, Brianna McCain, who is the lead teacher in EL2, is leaving at the end of this month. It's been an awesome year, and Bri, you will be greatly missed. Thank you for all your hard work and your commitment to the Prouty children and families. Good luck with your new endeavors and adventures! We hope you come back and visit!



EL3 Update: After graduation, Michelle Goodwin, lead teacher in EL3, will be returning to her position as a substitute teacher. Going forward, Michelle will be spending more time in each of the classrooms, with a wider variety of children, teachers and families.

In the Garden with Children

by Lyn Call

They experience the garden with every one of their senses. Finding an earthworm, while digging will bring squeals of delight. Raiding the cherry tomatoes as soon as they're ripe, munching kale and peas are far more fun in the garden than on a plate at the table. The warm, sweet smell of ripening melons and rich, dark scent of fresh rain on the dirt. The sounds of the birds and sight of a beetle crawling on a leaf.

Children learn to understand that the seedlings are babies and should be handled with care. They also learn that plants need sun, water and "good" dirt to grow. They love to create play paces within the garden, teepees, pea and bean climbing poles, sunflower houses.

Allow them to dig, water, plant, create paths, "blanket" with mulch and have their own little sets of tools, watering cans and baskets. An understanding of "good" dirt begins in the kitchen with compost. Having them help to bring it out everyday, turn the compost pile and see the plant "food," which comes from it and goes back feeding the growing plants, which in turn feed the growing children. They can help to put the garden to "bed" in the fall, and "wake" it up again in the spring, thus learning the importance of the seasons.

So much has been and will be written about gardening with children that my words feel rather repetitious. So.....

- Let them help
- Let them get dirty
- Let them make a mistake...it can be fixed or learned from
- Let them have a little bit of earth to call their own
- Let them eat in the garden
- Let them play in the garden
- Watch them grow with the plants and seasons

There is a garden in every childhood, an enchanted place where colors are brighter, the air softer, and the morning more fragrant than ever again.

- Elizabeth Lawrence



June Happenings

Nat'l Smile Month

Nat'l Safety Month

Nat'l Adopt a Cat Month

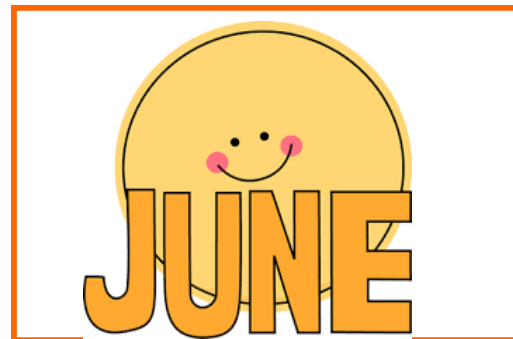
Caribbean American Heritage Month

June 14th Flag Day

June 19th Father's Day

June 21st Summer Begins

June 27th Sun Glasses Day



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

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 CENTER CLOSED at 3:30 for All Staff Meeting	2	3	4
5 Anthony is 4! Madison is 1!	6 Wesley is 5! Jaden is 3!	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14 Rosa is 3!	15	16 Happy Bday Alison!	17	18
19 Jack is 3!	20	21 Gabriel is 3!	22 Happy Bday Kathy W!	23	24	25 Derek is 3!
26	27	28	29 Sarah is 3! Tours of New Campus 4:00-6:00 pm	30 ELC Graduation 3:00 p.m.		

Upcoming
Events:

July 1st: ELC CLOSED for First Aid/CPR Training

July 4th-July 8th: CENTER CLOSED for move!

July 8th: Tours of New Campus - 4:00-6:00 pm

July 11th: Start of ELC Summer Program on the New Campus