

The Prouty Voice

August 2016

Volume 10, Issue 12



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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www.winstonprouty.org



Note from Chloe Learey, Executive Director

Family Matters: Parents as Teachers

Kerri Beebe talks about a home-visiting model called "Parents As Teachers" (PAT) (<http://www.parentsasteachers.org/>) on an upcoming episode of 'Family Matters', the talk show where we discuss topics of interest to families with young children. Kerri is a Family Support Worker and Family Supportive Housing Coordinator who has been trained in this model and will be helping implement it in our region. We are excited about this program because it aligns well with our organizational values and how we approach our work with families. It is a parenting education and support model that acknowledges that parents are their child's first and most influential teacher, and builds on the strengths that parents bring.

I often say that people should not get into the field of early childhood because they like children – they also need to like adults, too. One of our primary activities towards fulfilling our mission of ensuring each child's optimal development is to help families build their knowledge and capacity as parents. This requires our professionals to bring the expertise of child development AND skills around coaching adult learning. PAT brings these elements together in one model by offering a framework that includes in-person regular visits, a network of resources and information about child development and parenting, a structure for helping parents connect with one another, and tools such as developmental screenings to inform the process. The foundation is created by joining families where they are and developing a relationship that allows for learning together about who a child is, where she or he is developmentally, what meaning parents make of their child's behavior, and where they want to build their capacity as a parent. Elements that are emphasized include focusing on the parent-child interaction, keeping development at the center of the work and connected to parenting, and identifying and understanding issues and developing workable solutions. Family well-being is also a central aspect of PAT. This is key to understanding that child development happens in the context of the family, so stressors on the family directly impacts on how a child develops. It is critical to acknowledge this in any parenting and family support program even if it is not the primary goal of the program.

Another aspect of PAT that is consistent with our work with families is the focus on parent strengths, and 'Strengthening Families', a framework from the Center for the Study of Social Policy (<http://www.cssp.org/reform/strengtheningfamilies>); a framework which informs the PAT model. Five protective factors are described in the 'Strengthening Families' framework including: (1) parental resilience, (2) social connections, (3) concrete supports, (4) knowledge of parenting and child development, and (5) the social emotional competence of children. PAT highlights building knowledge and social connections specifically. We are particularly excited about creating monthly parent group connections as part of our implementation of the program. As an inclusive early childhood program we believe that it is imperative for children to learn from each other, and this applies to parents as well.

Strong communities, thriving families, and children who are healthy, safe, and ready to learn are the articulated long-term outcomes of PAT. These certainly resonate with those of us who work in early childhood. This isn't just about making sure that young children are doing the best they can. Ultimately it is about making sure that our youngest citizens grow up to be confident, competent adults who can contribute to strong communities. Investing in families and supporting them to build their capacity as parents through programs like PAT is an investment in all of our futures.

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

- *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)
- *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.

ELC Lead Teacher

Looking for a full-time, enthusiastic team player to join the ELC as a Lead Teacher. Qualifications include a Bachelor's degree or higher, and early childhood teaching experience. Vermont Early Childhood Education licensure preferred. Preferred Start Date: August 29th

Interested candidates should send a letter of interest, resume and names of three references by August 5, 2016 to:

Kim Paquette, ELC Program Coordinator
 The Winston Prouty Center
 209 Austine Drive
 Brattleboro, VT 05301
kim@winstonprouty.org
 Fax [802-258-2413](tel:802-258-2413)
 EOE

Assistant and Per Diem Teachers

We are always interested in adding fun and dedicated early educators to our team!

We are looking for Part-time Assistant Teachers, who can work in the afternoons. We are also looking for Per Diem teachers, who don't have set schedules and may be needed on short notice.

Please see our web site for more details.

Board of Trustees

David Dunn (President)
 Sue Dyer (Vice President)
 Jon Neurock (Treasurer)
 Sarah Nohl (Secretary)

Rachel Henry
 Frederic Noyes
 Thea Lloyd

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

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 continue to settle in to the new space, including figuring out how best to use it and what else we need to do. The playground equipment from our former location will be moved to campus the 3rd week of August, and staff are planning how to set everything up.

There is one classroom that is not open yet, and we are still talking about ideas for how best to use it. One thought is to open a part-time toddler program, and other ideas for using the space have included parent-child classes and playgroups.

We are still looking for tenants for the lower floor of VT Hall.



Photo Credit: Howard Weiss-Tisman/VPR

Prouty ELC Family Summer BBQ



Save the Date!!

Thursday, August 18th

5:00-7:00pm

@ the Winston Prouty Center

RSVP to Angela by Monday, Aug. 15th

angela@winstonprouty.org or

802-257-2101 ext. 210

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
Kellyn McCullough	Family Support Worker	Ext. 305	kellyn@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
Shelly Torunski	Developmental Educator	Ext. 227	shelly@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), 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.

Changes are coming up with the Early Intervention evaluation process. At least one discipline conducting the initial evaluation for CIS-EI children must hold a CIS-EI certificate. Evaluations also have to include staff with two different disciplines.

Congratulations to Shelly, Lisa, Mary and Kathy for completing the EI Certification process!

The next EI strategic planning meeting with the state will be on Thursday, August 11th.

CBS Wish List

There are two mothers in the CBS community who are expecting and both are due this month. Items needed are two cribs, a child sized dresser and a queen mattress/bed frame. Please contact Kerri Beebe at Ext. 204 if you're able to donate any of these things. Please spread the word. Thank you!

As many of you already know, we'll be saying goodbye to Shelly Torunski, CIS Developmental Educator. Her last day is Friday, August 19th.

Thank you, Shelly, for all that you have done for children and families through your work in Early Intervention.



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 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

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 Room (Infant): Nancy McMahon, Mandi Martin

Ext. 218 nancy@winstonprouty.org

Elm Room (EL1): Susan Heimer, Allie Barrett

Ext. 207 susan@winstonprouty.org

Maple Room (EL2): Amy Fulton, Lyn Call

Ext. 205 amy@winstonprouty.org

Oak Room (EL3): Kim Paquette, Lorraine Gilman, Sarah Bemis

Ext. 217 kim@winstonprouty.org

Birch Room (EL4): Ana Williams, Kim Jacques, Alfred Hughes Jr.

Ext. 220 ana@winstonprouty.org

Floater: Kathy Wright, Mare Lunderville

Non-Teaching Staff

Liz Martin
Paul Rossi

Volunteers

Susan Mandell
Bob Peeples
Francesca Carasi-Schwartz

As many of you know, later this month we'll be saying goodbye to Ana Williams, who is the lead teacher in the Birch classroom (EL4). Her last day is Friday, August 12th. Ana, thank you so much for all that you've done for the Prouty Community over the past four years. You will be missed and we hope you come back and visit!



2016 Graduation



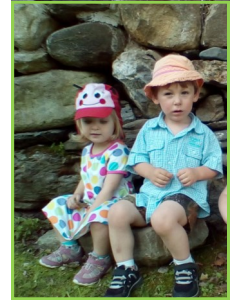
Photo Credit: Maggie Sullivan

August Happenings

Nat'l Immunization Awareness Month

Nat'l Breastfeeding Month

Aug 3rd Nat'l Watermelon Day
 Aug 10th S'mores Day
 Aug 13th Int'l Lefthanders Day
 Aug 15th Cupcake Day



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3 Sienna is 4!	4	5 Hayden S. is 3!	6 Hayden F. is 2!
7 Shawndra is 3!	8	9 Sophia is 3!	10	11 Caitlin and Christin are 1!	12 Layla is 3! Happy Bday Lisa A	13
14 Happy Bday Crystal	15	16 Louis is 4! Kamron is 1! Happy Bday Brandy	17 Kai is 3!	18 ELC Family BBQ	19 Austin is 3!	20
21 Eryn and Samantha are 1!	22	23 Chloe Marie is 5!	24	25	26 Mason is 26! ELC Summer Program ends	27
28	29 ELC 2016-2017 Program begins	30 Michaela is 5! Ciara is 5!	31			

Upcoming
Events:

September 5th: Center Closed for Labor Day