

The Prouty Voice

June 2017

Volume 11, Issue 10

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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Brattleboro, VT 05301**

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www.winstonprouty.org



Welcome to New Programs and Staff – an Eye on the Future

As of June 20th all the staff from Windham Child Care Association will be located with us here at Prouty, and we are excited to embrace this next iteration of the Center. We had three staff join us in May: RoseAnn Grimes, Referral and Eligibility Specialist; Jeanna Genest, Financial Eligibility Specialist; and Tonya Kangas, Specialized Child Care Coordinator for CIS. RoseAnn helps families learn what early care spaces are available in the region and attributes to consider as they choose a spot; Jeanna helps determine family eligibility for financial assistance for early care; and Tonya works with families who need specialized care for a variety of reasons. The transition has gone pretty smoothly as they adjust to the new space and we adjust to incorporating new work into the organizational flow. The expertise and professionalism they bring is part of why everything is going so well.

In June we will welcome the remaining staff who are making the transition: Suñeo Leblond will continue doing Early Education Outreach with the Early Learning Express; Margaret Atkinson will be taking over Development and Community Relations; Sarah DiNicola will be working as an Executive Assistant; and Grace Edson will be training our newest employee, Kristy Rose, to take over the food program from her during the month of June. As of July 1, everyone will officially become employees of Winston Prouty.

One of the most exciting parts of taking on new staff and programs are the possibilities to imagine how we might be able to better support children and families in our community, as well as work more closely with other providers in early childhood. There is a lot happening in early childhood services and systems in Vermont, and it is important to stay invested in the progress we have made in raising awareness about this critical time of life. Being able to align supports and services as we are in the merger between Windham Child Care and Winston Prouty allows us to put more energy towards working on large issues such as publicly-funded preschool, how to make high-quality, affordable early care accessible, why that access is important to economic development, and understanding trauma and how adverse childhood experiences can impact the future of our youngest citizens. There are opportunities to think creatively and try new ideas when a shift like this occurs, and we are already talking about initiatives that could move us forward towards a future where children have what they need to live their full promise, families have what they need to support their children, and community partners work together to make this possible. While we are saying goodbye to a venerated organization who has done tremendous work over its 35-year history, we are harnessing this excellence towards a stronger future for us all. Welcome to this next part of the journey!

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
- *Baby Carriers/Slings
- *Infant Swings
- *Bassinets
- *Boppy Pillows
- *Booster Seats
- *Baby Bath Tubs
- *Baby Mirrors
- *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.



Congratulations to the 2017 Preschool Graduating Class!
ELC Graduation will be Thursday, June 29th at 3:00 p.m.

Oak:

- ∞ Oliver Baker
- ∞ Jaxson Bristol
- ∞ Matthew Houle Jr.
- ∞ Deshawn Jones
- ∞ Violet Lavoie
- ∞ Ayaan Patel
- ∞ Evelyn Putzig

Birch:

- ∞ Zane Bassett
- ∞ Perry Gelke
- ∞ Jazmin Messier
- ∞ Christian Olmstead
- ∞ Anthony Patrick
- ∞ Owen Seidner
- ∞ Haydan Vanleeuwen
- ∞ Indigo Wainhouse



Board of Trustees

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

Rachel Henry
 Frederic Noyes
 Thea Lloyd
 Scott Lyford
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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



We Believe That Hunger Doesn't Take A Vacation

Put more healthy food on your table with 3SquaresVT. Tens of thousands of Vermonters rely on this program every month to help them afford groceries and feed their families healthy food. A family of four earning up to \$3746 a month may be able to get benefits. Those that qualify for the VT Earned Income Tax Credit are automatically eligible. Households can have a savings account or an asset like a car or home and still qualify. It also means children can get free school meals and you could qualify for phone assistance.

Older Vermonters nutrition is also very important. It helps them stay active and prevent sickness. High cost of food, fuel and health care make it hard for seniors to put good food on the table. 3SquaresVT comes either on an EBT, debit card or as cash direct deposited into your bank account. You have no doubt worked hard all your life and have earned the help that can benefit you now.

A single able-bodied individual 18 or older that receives 3SquaresVT may be able to participate in the Jobs for Independence program that could lead to training and employment. You may also use your benefit to double your money with special coupons at the farmers markets this summer. Information on Farm to Family coupons will be available at the end of June.

Sevca's Family Services staff is available to assist households in applying for 3SquaresVt. Please Call 1-800-464-9951 and a staff person will be happy to help you. You may also visit www.vermontfoodhelp.com for more help or apply online.

Welcome Jamie Champney to the ELC!

We are happy to announce that **Jamie Champney** has accepted the position of Lead Teacher in the Birch preschool classroom. She actually started here last month as a part time floating teacher. Jamie has her degree in Early Childhood Education, and is the mother of two children. She will start full time as Lead Teacher on July 3rd, and until then she will continue to be part time and floating in all the classrooms to get to know the children, families and staff. We're very excited to have her as part of the Prouty community!

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

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. 315	mary@winstonprouty.org
Willie Gussin	Family Support Worker	Ext. 303	willie@winstonprouty.org
Kathy Hallock	Developmental Educator	Ext. 219	kathy@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. 314	alison@winstonprouty.org
Tonya Kangas	CIS Child Care Coordinator	Ext. 312	tonya@winstonprouty.org
RoseAnn Grimes	Referral & Eligibility Specialist	Ext. 313	roseann@winstonprouty.org
Jeanna Genest	Eligibility Specialist	Ext. 311	jeanna@winstonprouty.org
Kristy Rose	Food Specialist	Ext. 317	kristy@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), Child Care Support Services, and Family Supportive Housing. CIS is a resource for families when they have questions or concerns about their child's development during pregnancy, infancy and early childhood.

Alison attended a CIS data workshop on May 19th, and we will start tracking indirect services as of July 1 to capture the full scope of work done by staff, not just the direct service. This will be submitted quarterly, and will be incorporated into the tracking system for billing hopefully.

Alison met a Keene State student who is majoring in public health and interested in an internship this summer with CIS. We will be working on designing something for her.

CBS Wish List

- ◆ Sally Pennington, CIS Nurse, is looking for a crib and a stroller. Please contact her at 257-2101, ext. 206, if you have one to donate.
- ◆ Kerri Beebe, CIS Family support, is searching for a crib and mattresses (not older than 10 yrs. old and slats no more than 2 3/8 inches between crib slats so that a baby's body cannot fit through. 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.

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	Vermont 2-1-1	2-1-1	www.vermont211.org
Child care 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/
Vermont's Early Childhood State Advisory Council	Building Bright Futures	802-876-5010	buildingbrightfutures.org/
Program for early childhood education, health, nutrition for low income children and their families	Head Start	802-254-3734	www.headstartprogram.us/state/vermont/
Indoor play space for children 0-8 years old and their caregivers	KidsPlayce	802-254-5212	www.kidsplaycevt.org

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

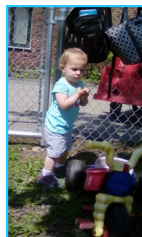
Non-Teaching Staff

Liz Martin
Paul Rossi

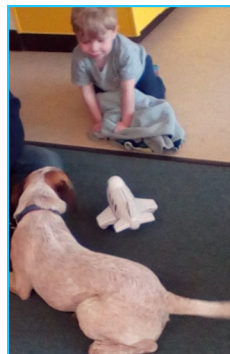
Volunteers

Susan Mandell Bob Peeples
Amelia Goodnow Kayla Parro

Acorn Room (Infants) Here we are in June already. Summer is approaching fast. And so are our hopes and dreams for our summer infant program. July will be our 1-year anniversary of opening an infant program at Prouty. We're beginning to say goodbye to our original babies (now toddlers) and welcoming in a new group of younger infants. We've already moved up some into the Elm room, and the remaining toddlers will all be moved up by the end of summer. Infants love to be outside so we've been working on our outdoor classroom. We constructed a platform for non-crawlers to play, lay and roll on. We made a stick house for toddlers to walk, crawl and roleplay in and out of. We're also working on a sensory area under our trees and still need to wash and paint our picnic table. Soon we will have grass to crawl and play on, and we have a raised bed to begin our gardening. Gardening with infants you say? Of course!! We will grow nontoxic edible plants; weed play in the dirt, and water and reap the benefits from our harvest. Thank you to all the parents and staff who made our volunteer work day a success. We really appreciate your hard work. If anyone has any spare veggie plants to donate we would appreciate it as we are planting this week. So we will see you out there in our quad strollers, rain or shine, learning about the environment around us!



Elm Room (Young Toddlers) We continue to explore our first spring on our new campus, discovering many beautiful flowering trees and perennials. With the emergence of these flowers we are also watching bees and hearing many bird songs. Our walks are extending into the South Woods Trail as well as spending more time on the "big" playground. Our baking project was mini raspberry "hide and seek" muffins, the children had fun "hiding" the berries in the muffin batter and finding them later after baking. The children loved meeting our pet "visitors," including Cora's puppy Rosie, who enjoyed all the treats and petting we could give her. Our volunteer classroom friend Amelia brought in her pet duck Carla, who had the softest feathers to touch, and made some very interesting squeaky quacking noises



Maple Room (Older Toddlers) May has been a full month for the Maple room, beginning with Mother's Day activities, making individual bouquets, and taking our pictures by the blossoming apple trees. We have enjoyed playing in our newly "enhanced" playground and look forward to playing on the climbing structure. We even had a chance to watch the tractor pick up our school bus climber and move it across the yard. We have new garden beds to plant, and have made our own sunflower garden. With the warmer weather we have been able to go on our first woods walk in a long time. We walked over a small stream in the woods, up the hills and to the frog pond. We were so delighted in seeing our first frog of the season, and he was so big. He quickly hopped into the pond, turned and popped his head out to stare at us! We have enjoyed both the sunny days and the wet, rainy days. We even played outside and enjoyed the mud, squishing and stomping in the puddles and gooey mud. May has been a month of changes also. Our friend Luna will be moving to the Birch room, and we welcome friends Adrian and Ali to the Maple room. We look forward to the month of June with the promise of warmer days and lots of sunshine.

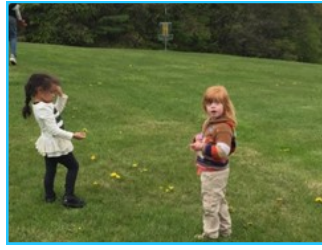
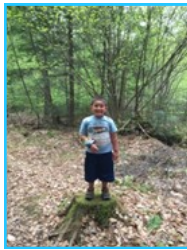


Oak Room (Preschool) The month of May we enjoyed exploring activities related to the weather. We created beautiful cloud mobiles and sun catchers that now decorate our classroom space. At circle each day we enjoy singing songs about the sun and the rain. We also have begun to read a collection of poems related to each season. One day we even enjoyed a sunshine snack made with oranges. The children enjoyed creating and experimenting with homemade sun dials.

In the month of June we look forward to learning about bugs! We will focus on many different kinds including: caterpillars, butterflies, lady bugs and bees. In dramatic play we will have a picnic. We will play new matching and counting games in math. Literacy activities will include reading a wide variety of bug themed books and retelling stories on our felt board. The month of June will also be filled with preparation for our graduation ceremony on **June 29th!**



Birch Room (Preschool) May was another busy month in the Birch room. We enjoyed a wonderful family nature hike through the trails on campus. We were so pleased to have families join us for this activity. If you were unable to join us, no worries, we plan to do it again in June. Children are learning how to get someone's attention by saying their name and gently tapping them on the shoulder. They are learning that our brains are where we think thoughts and our hearts are where we feel feelings and that thoughts and feelings are connected. We are also working on the concept that our eyes give us a lot of information about our world. What we are looking at is what we thinking about. This connects nicely to our classroom rule of "Looking eyes." One of the ways we pay attention and are ready to learn is by looking at the person who is speaking. We can also use our eyes to tell us what is going on with one another. Alfred has been doing yoga with the group as they transition to circle time. This is an opportunity to help children be at an appropriate level of arousal for the learning expectations at circle. The children are really engaged in this and even lead their classmates in this activity. The children loved attending the circus right here on campus. Ariel acrobats, huge hula hoops, and music were some of the favorites. The children were delighted when the acrobats entered balancing books on their heads.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3 Reece T is 2!
4	5 Anthony is 5! Madison E is 2!	6 Violet is 5!	7 CENTER CLOSED at 3:30 for All Staff Meeting	8	9 Lillian is 1! Langden is 1!	10 Belle is 2!
11 Aliyah is 4!	12	13	14	15	16 Happy Bday Alison	17
18 Oliver R is 2!	19 Jack is 4! Everly is 3!	20	21	22 Happy Bday Kathy W	23	24
25	26	27	28 Asher is 3!	29 ELC Graduation	30 ELC CLOSED for First Aid/ CPR Training	

**Upcoming
Events:**

**July 4th Center Closed for July 4th Holiday
July 3rd ELC Summer Program Starts**