



**United Way
of Windham County**



The **United Way Fund for Quality Early Education (UWFQEE)** is a grant program administered through the Winston Prouty Center for Child and Family Development and is specific to individuals working in early childhood and out-of-school programs in Windham County VT. The goal of the grant is to improve the quality of early childhood programs throughout Windham County to assure that all children get a good start. Please read the following guidelines carefully and thoroughly. They have been established to help our volunteer grant committee in their decision-making process.

ELIGIBILITY

The grant is available to persons working in an early childhood program or after school program in Windham County that holds a current license or registration issued by the licensing unit of the Child Development Division of the Vermont Agency of Human Services.

USE OF FUNDS

Funds may be used in the following ways:

- ❑ **Professional development for educators in early childhood and out-of-school programs:** Professional development includes college courses, conferences, workshops or mentoring. Requests can be made for tuition, registration fees, or books and materials directly related to the course or workshop, or the cost of mentor services.
- ❑ **Program enrichment:** Program enrichment funds are for special events and activities in your program that benefit children, and that you could not otherwise afford to offer.
- ❑ **Program improvement:** Program improvement funds are used for equipment and materials (furnishings, books, toys) needed to improve the program as identified by an Environmental Rating Scale assessment. Program Improvement grants may also be used to provide technology that will be used to support child observation, documentation, and assessment, or improve child care business practices.
- ❑ **Collaborative Training and Enrichment:** Groups may plan collaborative training or enrichment events which serve unmet needs within our region.

GUIDELINES

Professional Development- College Course Work: Applicants must first apply for state and federal financial aid, and/or seek support from their employer or other sources before requesting funds from the UWFQEE.

Professional Development Other than College Coursework

Applications should include details of the training or conferences and associated costs. Funds may be used for books and materials associated with Professional Development.

Program Enrichment

These funds can be used for special events and activities in your program that you could not otherwise afford to offer. These include but are not limited to music, art and language activities, visiting artists, field trips etc.

