

# CAREGIVER TRAINING COLLABORATIVE Fall/Winter 2015 Bulletin

*A listing of trainings, classes, and conferences geared towards supporting the needs of adoptive, foster, kinship, and guardianship caregivers in Vermont.*

## September 2015

### UVM CWTP Classes

UVM Child Welfare Training Partnership

Fall/Winter classes for **Foundations, First Steps, and Fostering To Forever** are beginning throughout the state. A complete course listing can be found at: [voicesatthetable.wordpress.com](http://voicesatthetable.wordpress.com)

### Crisis De-escalation

September 19, 2015, 9:30—12:30pm

Howard Center, 1138 Pine Street, Burlington

**Crisis De-Escalation for Caregivers.** This group training focuses on trauma informed interventions for caregivers when times get tough. This training draws from the Therapeutic Crisis Intervention model, created at Cornell University. The training consists of information sharing, group discussion and role playing to practice de-escalation skills.

Space is Limited RSVP FAST: Contact Katie Nee, 802-488-6742. [knee@howardcenter.org](mailto:knee@howardcenter.org)

### Growing a



### Grownup

Six Week Class beginning September 23rd, 6:30—8:30pm

Stowe Elementary School, 254 Park Street, Stowe VT

Parenting expert Vicki Hoefle makes the bold claim that it's time for parents to get off the perfection path and get back to the real job of parenting; To Grow a Grownup. Hoefle's no-nonsense parenting philosophy draws upon twenty-five years of experience with helping parents see the big picture and sidestep what she call the "detail drama" that too often trumps everyday life with out kids.

Register: [www.vickihoefle/ffc](http://www.vickihoefle/ffc)

Cost \$129 each or \$199 couple

The Caregiver Training Collaborative Bulletin is a quarterly publication. To advertise your event please use the form at the back of this bulletin. Questions or comments? [Pamela.Piper@vermont.gov](mailto:Pamela.Piper@vermont.gov)

## **Co-Regulation / Developmental Delays**

Sept 24, 2015 6:30 pm Williston, VT

**Learning to Dance: Co-Regulation for Children with Autism, Developmental Delays and Significant Social Challenges** . We often talk about the role of self-regulation and how it impacts behavior but miss the crucial role that co-regulation plays in laying the foundation for social and emotional development. This class will provide an overview of the research and theory on co-regulation, explore some of the obstacles that children present and offer video examples of co-regulatory interactions. We will then use small group demonstrations and role plays to practice some basic co-regulatory patterns.

Contact Child Care Resource Center 802-863-3367 for more information and to register

## **Chronic Trauma and the Develop- ing Child**

September 29, 2015 9:00 – 3:30

Franklin Conference Center 1 Scale Ave, Rutland VT

**Chronic Traumatic Stress and the Developing Child.** This workshop will focus on the expansive effects of chronic trauma , often referred to as the “Seven Domains of Impairment.” Through a mixture of didactic teaching, clinical vignettes, videotape and audience activities, participants will increase their understanding of complex trauma and their confidence in working with a broad variety of youth impacted by traumatic events. Presenter: Dave Melnick, LICSW.

Registration deadline Sept 22 or when full.

Contact Zoe Gascon: [zgasconcacsiu@gmail.com](mailto:zgasconcacsiu@gmail.com)

## **Wellness Collab- orative Groups**

Beginning in September in Berlin, VT.

Several therapeutic wellness groups; Mindfulness and Meditation, Self-Care and Stress Reduction, Therapeutic Art Groups, Cooking as Self-Care and Yoga. These groups are offered as a holistic approach to health and balance. These self-care techniques and wellness based therapies are supported as a means for healing and coping with the stressors of daily life. Take Care of Yourself!

Contact Ellia Cohen MSW 802-479-4083 for more information

## **Expressive Art Therapy Group**

Beginning September – for youth ages 15 -18 yrs old.

NFI - The Family Center in South Burlington

NFI is now taking referrals for this group that provides a safe place for youth to utilize art to express themselves, build healthy relationships, build confidence and so much more. This is an OPEN group that follows the school vacations and weather days. Youth may join at any time during the year as long as there is space.

**To register or for more information, please contact Kate Houston** at (802) 951-0450 x1032 or [katehouston@nafi.com](mailto:katehouston@nafi.com)

## Impact of Trauma on Development and Thinking Differently About Challenging Behaviors

September 24 and October 8, 2015 6:30—8:30 pm Springfield Area Parent Child Center

This workshop offers a framework for understanding the impact of trauma on healthy early development and on the effect of neglect and abuse on the developing brain. Content explores and defines Attachment Disorder and Developmental Trauma. We will explain how trauma may affect the way children function in school, with their families, and in various developmental phases of life. Emphasis on social/emotional development, relationships, and school functioning

Participants will discover why children with trauma history often need different styles of care giving. Participants will leave the workshop with tools and strategies for interacting and intervening with children who have Attachment Disorder or Developmental Trauma

Presented by Nancy Birge, LICSW.

Contact Kim Kiniry 802-886-5242 for details

## Parent- Child Group

Beginning Oct 1, 2015. Thursdays 4:30 – 5:45

NFI - The Family Center in South Burlington

Parents with children aged 5-16 years. Encouraged to inquire.

Learn, explore, and identify skills that will help improve self control, and parent-child closeness. We will utilize therapeutic drumming and movement based activities, which have been shown to improve emotional regulation, attention, and increase connection.

This is an OPEN group that follows the school vacations and weather days. Youth may join at any time during the year as long as there is space.

To register or for more information, please contact Michael Piche 802-951-0450

## October 2015

## The Blue Brain



Tuesday October 6, 2015, 6:00—8:00pm  
Lamoille Valley Church of Nazarene, Route 15 Johnson, VT

**Being Male Young & Energetic** What does the research say about the difference in male and female brains? Are these differences the result of nature or nurture? Does the “*rough and tumble play*” belong in childhood? How do parents, peers and society influence the wiring of our most complex system? Join us as we explore this fascinating topic with **presenter, author & educator Scott Noyes!** You’ll learn a lot while having fun. Scott’s trainings are always fast paced, humorous and memorable!

To register call Lamoille Family Center 802-888-5229

Childcare provided

## **"No Such Thing as a Bad Kid"**

October 10, 2015    8:30 am    St Johnsbury Region

Presented by Charlie Appelstein.

Strength-based practice is an emerging approach to guiding at-risk children, youth and families that is exceptionally positive and inspiring. Its focus is on strength-building rather than flaw-fixing. It begins with the belief that every individual has or can develop strengths and utilize past successes to mitigate problem behavior and enhance functioning. This presentation will highlight many of the key principles and techniques of this transforming modality. Areas covered include: What is strength-based practice & the power of a positive attitude & culture; the effects of trauma on the brain and how and why to create trauma informed treatment environments, strength-based communication principles and techniques - including reframing, using solution focused questions, positive predicting, the millimeter acknowledgement, and inspirational metaphors; self-esteem building & activities for at-risk children and youth; how to help cognitively inflexible young people; the importance of being family friendly; why, how, and when to use incentive plans; the importance of controlling personal emotions (i.e. managing number one first); respectful limit setting; and a host of creative cognitive behavioral strategies.

Contact: Kimberly Buxton (802)748-1992

\$15 per person

## **Healthy Sexual Development**

October 12, 2015    6:30 pm    Williston, VT

The **Nurturing Healthy Sexual Development** training helps participants better understand the sexual development of children, and how to respond to children's sexual behaviors and questions in ways that promote healthy development. This training also recognizes that a crucial component of nurturing healthy sexual development is protecting children from sexual abuse. Participants will gain an understanding of the scope of child sexual abuse and the relationship between healthy sexuality and child sexual abuse prevention.

Presented by Alex Marinelli, Child Sexual Abuse Prevention Coordinator/Trainer, Prevent Child Abuse Vermont.

Contact Child Care Resource 802-863-3367 for more information

## CHILD PSYCH- PHARMA- COLOGY

October 21, 2015, 5:30—7:00pm  
Howard Center 1138 Pine Street, Burlington, VT

**Medication Administration and Child Psychopharmacology** his training focuses on the medications that are commonly prescribed to children receiving mental health services. Caroline Connolly, RN, BSN, will share about the different classifications of medication, why they are prescribed and how they influence children. She will also discuss appropriate and therapeutic administration.

For more information please contact Katie Nee at 802-488-6742 or [nee@howardcenter.org](mailto:nee@howardcenter.org)

## Healthy Sexual Development

October 21, 2015, 6:00—8:00PM  
Lamoille Family Center, 480 Cadys Falls Rd, Morrisville, VT

**Nurturing healthy sexual development—What's Normal? What's Not?** This 2-hour interactive workshop focuses on normal sexual development and behaviors in young children, and what both children and adults need to know to keep them safer. Parents and caregivers will learn about healthy ways to respond to sexual questions and behaviors from children of all ages.

To register call Lamoille Family Center 802-888-5229      Childcare provided

## So Sexy So Soon? So Tough So Soon?

October 23rd, 8:30 am to 3:30 pm  
Kurn Hattin Homes for Children, Westminster, VT

**How Contemporary Society Impacts Attachment Relationships &What We Can Do About It** Today's children are growing up in an environment saturated with images of violent and sexualized behavior in media and popular culture that they cannot fully understand. What they see influences how they think about being male and female, their bodies, how they treat each other. Messages about sex and violence teach children to treat themselves and others like objects affecting their ability to form caring relationships as they grow up—Levin has coined this "Compassionate Deficit Disorder". The conference will explore the current situation and strategies for professionals for promoting healthy development and relationships.

For more information and to register please visit <https://kurnhattin.org/2015-conference>

## **Teaching Self Regulation to Young Children and mental Health in Early Childhood Education**

October 31, 2015 9:00 am Springfield, VT

Self-regulation is a complex set of skills that exert influence over internal sensations and states. These skills are necessary for consistent performance, behavior and school readiness. Without them, a child may experience a life of chaos characterized by explosiveness, violence, anxiety, substance abuse, impulsivity, hyperactivity, distractibility or mood disorders. This skill development begins at the point of conception and continues into the late twenties. We will guide participants as they examine self-regulatory functions through a developmental lens and offer proven strategies to develop and strengthen them. Contrary to popular belief, mental health is not treating the symptoms of disorder or disease. Mental health structures the conditions of an environment for optimal functioning. The conditions to be structured include creating a repertoire of effective strategies that meet the authentic needs of children, cultivating enduring relationships, transforming environments so they embrace full inclusion, and increasing competence through effective educational programming. The second part of this session examines these elements in ways you can immediately apply when you return to your place of work. Presented by Jeanine Fitzgerald

Contact Kim Kiniry for more information or to register 802-886-5242

## **November 2015**

### **Brain Development**

3 part Training Wednesdays Nov 4, Nov 11 & Nov 18 6:30 – 8:30pm Williston, VT

Raising children is all about growing brains. Does listening to Mozart make children smarter? What's up with Baby Einstein videos? Do brain toys and early academic exposure work? Does telling a child they are smart make them intelligent? Why is empathy important in an evolving brain? By examining the current research on infant and toddler brain development, this seminar works to develop the practical applications and action steps for child care providers. Understanding the difference between a stressed and an unstressed brain, boy brains and girl brains, and sensitive periods and critical periods, provides for many lively discussions addressing, "What does all this stuff mean?"

Presented by Scott Noyes, Empowering Programs, Inc. This is a three-part training. Session dates: Wednesdays, Nov 4, Nov 11 & Nov 18, 6:30-8:30 p.m. This is Part 1 of an 18 hour series. Cost \$45.00 Any registrations received after 09/18/2015 will require a \$5.00 non-refundable late fee per workshop.

For more info or to register contact Child Care Resource 802-863-3367

## **Improving Care for the Opioid- Exposed Newborn**

November 5, 2015

Norwich University

We hope you can join us with your hospital team. Feel free to share this announcement with others who may be interested in attending.

For additional information, please contact Kristen Brownlow, Project Coordinator, Vermont Child Health Improvement Program (VCHIP), 802-656-9295,

## **Building a Trauma Informed Community**

November 12, 2015, 6:00—9:00pm

Mary Johnson Children's Center, 81 Water Street, Middlebury, VT

Dr. Joelle Van Lent will offer an overview of the impact of early neglect and trauma on a child's development, including their ability to build relationships, learn, and respond to context. This training will incorporate approaches from attachment, family systems theory, clinical practice, and research on building resilience in children facing chronic adversity. An emphasis will be placed on the impact of developmental trauma on relationship capacity and communication skills, as well as specific recommendations for approaches and strategies to use.



## Save the Date!

NFI Presents Bruce Perry, MD  
May 2016

VFAFA Annual Spring Conference  
March 2016

### CTC SURVEY: NEW TRAINING TOPICS

Are you a caregiver or a professional who works with Vermont families?  
Do you, your families, or your district need training on a specific topic?

We are looking for suggestions for training topics and *we would love to hear from you!*  
Please share your ideas for topics, training times, and formats,  
and we will suggest them to the appropriate training development program.

Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Area: \_\_\_\_\_

Topic suggestions: \_\_\_\_\_

Format Preferred?      Classroom Training      Webinar      Conference

Respond to: [Leanne.Porter@vermont.gov](mailto:Leanne.Porter@vermont.gov)



# Statewide Training Resources

## Child Welfare Training Partnership

With the Vermont Department for Children and Families



The  
**UNIVERSITY**  
of **VERMONT**

College of Education & Social Services  
Department of Social Work  
Mann Hall 004, Trinity Campus, 208 Colchester Avenue  
Burlington, VT 05405-1757

### Foster, Adoptive, and Kinship Training

In Vermont, all Kin and Foster families must be licensed to care for children who have entered DCF custody. One of the requirements for licensure is the completion of **Foundations for Kinship, Foster and Adoptive Families**; a two-part training curriculum designed for Kin and Foster families in the state of Vermont. The Child Welfare Training Partnership has developed these trainings and offers them in each of the 12 districts at least twice a year.

Currently, Foundations for Kinship, Foster, and Adoptive Families consists of two parts: **First Steps** and **Classroom Sessions**.

**First Steps** is offered as two separate courses – one designed specifically for kinship families and one designed for foster families. This class can be taken as a series of teleconferences or 1 all-day classroom session.

**Foundations for Kinship, Foster, and Adoptive Families Classroom Sessions** consist of 6 sessions where Kinship and Foster families attend classes together in a safe, engaging environment. Sessions cover a variety of topics that include *attachment, trauma, and resiliency and self-care*.

#### **Fostering to Forever...a Lifelong Journey**

This class is strongly suggested for families that are providing, or hope to provide permanent homes for children through adoption or permanent guardianship. This class is intended to help your family prepare for this on-going commitment. Topics covered in the class include: *transitioning from fostering to permanence, celebrating and claiming the newest member of your family, and an introduction to the world of adoption*.

**This class is required for all families before adopting a child or youth in DCF custody.**

#### **Resource Parent Curriculum +**

This workshop is designed to provide resource parents with the knowledge and skills needed to effectively care for children and teens who have experienced trauma. Participants will learn how trauma-informed parenting can support children's safety, permanency, and well-being, and engage in skill-building exercises that will help them apply this knowledge to the children in their care. Caregivers will also learn and practice the Three P's. The Three P's are strategies adapted from PCIT (Parent Child Interaction Therapy) which has been shown to assist in managing children's problematic behavior, promote caretakers' reinforcement of child's positive behaviors, reduce conflict between caretakers and their child, and enhance positive interactions between the caretakers and their child.

#### **Advanced Trainings**

Advanced Trainings are offered within a district or regionally. They are designed to help provide additional training in subject areas of interest to Foster/Kin families.

**For a full listing of current classes go to Voices at the Table Blog**

<http://voicesatthetable.wordpress.com/>

# Child Welfare Training Partnership

With the Vermont Department for Children and Families

***For more information about the trainings  
offered by the Child Welfare Training Partnership,  
please contact the Training or Resource Coordinator in your district.***

## Resource Coordinators

<b>Barre</b>	Chrissy Pollard	802-479-4260	<a href="mailto:Christina.Pollard@vermont.gov">Christina.Pollard@vermont.gov</a>
<b>Bennington</b>	Valerie Miner	802-442-8138	<a href="mailto:Valerie.Miner@vermont.gov">Valerie.Miner@vermont.gov</a>
<b>Brattleboro</b>	Michelle Colburn	802-257-2888	<a href="mailto:Michelle.Colburn@vermont.gov">Michelle.Colburn@vermont.gov</a>
<b>Burlington</b>	Cathy Frost	802-863-7370	<a href="mailto:Cathy.Frost@vermont.gov">Cathy.Frost@vermont.gov</a>
<b>Hartford</b>	Deanna Rounds	802-295-8840	<a href="mailto:Deanna.Rounds@vermont.gov">Deanna.Rounds@vermont.gov</a>
<b>Middlebury</b>	Laurie Mumley	802-388-4660	<a href="mailto:Laurie.Mumley@vermont.gov">Laurie.Mumley@vermont.gov</a>
<b>Morrisville</b>	Joan Rock	802-888-4576	<a href="mailto:Joan.Rock@vermont.gov">Joan.Rock@vermont.gov</a>
<b>Newport</b>	Deb Richards	802-334-6723	<a href="mailto:Deborah.Richards@vermont.gov">Deborah.Richards@vermont.gov</a>
<b>Rutland</b>	Rebecca Fitzsimmons	802-786-5817	<a href="mailto:Rebecca.Fitzsimmons@vermont.gov">Rebecca.Fitzsimmons@vermont.gov</a>
<b>St. Albans</b>	Margi Cameron	802-524-4737	<a href="mailto:Margi.Cameron@vermont.gov">Margi.Cameron@vermont.gov</a>
<b>St. Johnsbury</b>	Monica Newell	802-748-6677	<a href="mailto:Monica.Newell@vermont.gov">Monica.Newell@vermont.gov</a>
<b>Springfield</b>	Robbie Wierzbicki	802-885-8902	<a href="mailto:Roberta.Wierzbicki@vermont.gov">Roberta.Wierzbicki@vermont.gov</a>

## Team Lead

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802-257-7967, Ext. 14

**For a full listing of current classes go to Voices at the Table Blog**  
<http://voicesatthetable.wordpress.com/>

# Statewide Training Resources

## Prevent Child Abuse Vermont

**Prevent Child Abuse Vermont** (PCAV) promotes and supports healthy relationships within families, schools and communities to eliminate child abuse. The organization is based in Montpelier, but offers comprehensive information and training throughout the state. A variety of educational trainings and workshops are offered free of charge. PCAV also provides or partners with other organizations to offer curriculum-based parent education classes as well as support groups.

Particular focus areas for trainings include but are not limited to:

### **Child and Youth Sexual Abuse Prevention Programs**

- Care for Kids: Early Healthy Sexuality and Abuse Prevention (focus: children 3-8)
- We Care Elementary (focus: students in grades 3-6)
- Sexual Abuse Free Environment for Teens (SAFE-T) (focus: students in grades 7-8)
- Nurturing Healthy Sexual Development
- Understanding and Responding to the Sexual Behaviors of Children
- Plugged-In: Technology, the Internet, and Child Safety (focus: young children)
- TECHNICOOL: Technology Safety for Children (focus: grades 4-12)
- Overcoming Barriers to Protecting Children from Sexual Abuse
- Act 1/Commit to Kids
- The Strengthening Families Approach in Action: An Overview

### **Family Support Programs:**

- Nurturing Parenting Programs (a variety of curriculum-based parenting classes)
- Circle of Parents Support Groups (ongoing support groups)
- Shaken Baby Syndrome/Abusive Head Trauma Prevention
- Safe Sleep Project
- Parents' Help Line
- Vermont Parents' Home Companion and Resource Directory

**To learn more about current offerings in your area or to request a specific training please call PCAV at 1-800-Children (1-800-244-5373) or 1-802-229-5724.**

**In addition, you can check out the website which has a wealth of information: [www.pcavt.org](http://www.pcavt.org)**

## Vermont Family Network

Vermont Family Network workshops give participants an opportunity to learn and share helpful information and connect with other families. Favorite topics for caregivers include Navigating Special Education and the IEP, and Advocating for Your Child.

VFN workshops are geared to families and suitable for professionals. For more information on workshops, webinars and support groups click on Resource; [www.vermontfamilynetwork.org](http://www.vermontfamilynetwork.org)

Please contact [Janice Sabett](mailto:Janice.Sabett@vermontfamilynetwork.org) or 1-800-800-4005 ext. 218 to request a workshop or to talk about how we can tailor a workshop to meet your group's needs.

# Statewide Training Resources



A program of LUND

**Mission:** To improve the well-being of children impacted by parental incarceration in Vermont.

Kids-A-Part (KAP) seeks to reduce the trauma children experience as a result of their mother's incarceration. The approach provides support to maintain contact between mothers and their children, provides outreach to children and caregivers during the mother's incarceration, links children and families to appropriate services, and prepares mothers to return to the community, exploring and planning for their role as mother.

Learn more about the importance of maintaining the bond between a child and their incarcerated mother. Kids-A-Part offers free trainings for support groups, conferences and community gatherings. Topics include:

**Kids-A-Part: A Program for Children of Mothers in Prison**

**Critical Time Support: Responding to a High Profile Arrest in your Community**

**Children of Incarcerated Parents: Understanding the Impact of Parental Incarceration**

**Children Affected by the Criminal Justice System: An Invisible Population**

**Planting the Seeds: Growing Partnerships That Support Children and Families Affected by Parental Incarceration**

Please visit their website [www.lundvt.org](http://www.lundvt.org) or contact Heidi Wener, 802-861-2561 [heidew@lundvt.org](mailto:heidew@lundvt.org) for more details

# Support Groups

Location	Support Group	Description	Contact for Info
Addison County	K.I.N. Support Group	Meets weekly	Sandi Yandow 802-759-2263 <a href="mailto:syandow@yahoo.com">syandow@yahoo.com</a>
Barre	Foster, Adoptive and Kinship Support Group	<b>Foster, adoptive, and kinship families</b> <b>Please contact Erinn if you may be interested in restarting this group!</b>	Erinn Rolland-Forkey 802-793-0906 <a href="mailto:centralvtfosterparentassoc@gmail.com">centralvtfosterparentassoc@gmail.com</a>
Barre	<b>Grandparents</b> Raising Their Children's Children	Sponsored by CYFS. Meeting first and third Wednesdays of each month, 10 am—noon. First Presbyterian Church in Barre.	Evelyn Sawyer 802-476-1480 X516 <a href="mailto:evelyns@wcmhs.org">evelyns@wcmhs.org</a>
Bellows Falls	A Time & Place: Family Fun & Potluck Dinner	Group meets monthly. Location varies, call Deb for details	Deb Witkus 802-463-9927 X212 <a href="mailto:deb@greaterfallsconnections.org">deb@greaterfallsconnections.org</a>
Bennington	DCF Licensed Kin/Foster Families	4 <sup>th</sup> Tuesday of each month. 6 – 7:30 pm @ Second Congregational Church, Hillside Ave, Bennington. Light dinner/optional childcare available with advanced notice.	Valerie Miner 802-442-8138 <a href="mailto:Valerie.Miner@vermont.gov">Valerie.Miner@vermont.gov</a>
Bennington	Shaftsbury Support Group	Supporting <b>adoptive and pre-adoptive families</b> who have adopted or hope to adopt domestically, internationally or through foster care. Meeting the third Thursday of each month at the Shaftsbury United Methodist Church in Manchester, VT	Amy Prentiss Rogers <a href="mailto:amyp@lundvt.org">amyp@lundvt.org</a>  Jill Bouton (413) 884-5589
Brattleboro	Parents of Adopted Children	For Brattleboro parents of adopted children . They meet the second Monday of each month from 6:30—8:30 at the Brattleboro Savings and Loan Bank in Brattleboro.	Danna Bare 802-258-0308
Burlington	<b>Foster, Kin and Adoptive Parent Support Group</b>	Questions about the fostering, adoptive or kinship path you're on? Connect with people who understand how you're feeling! Pot Luck! 3rd Wednesday of every month, 6 to 8pm DCF office, 426 Industrial Ave, Suite 130, Williston	Cathy Frost 802-951-0020

# Support Groups

Location	Support Group	Description	Contact for Info
Burlington	Burlington K.I.N. Support Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1st &amp; 3rd Wednesday, 9:30—noon JUMP Program at First Congregational Church, South Winooski Ave.</li> <li>Every Wednesday, 7:30—9:30 am at the Bagel Shop, Ethan Allen Shopping Ctr</li> <li>Every Thursday at Multigenerational Center by appointment</li> </ul>	Linda 802-864-5114 <a href="mailto:linda@deliduka.com">linda@deliduka.com</a>
Lamoille	Lamoille Valley Foster/Adoptive Family Association Meeting	The Book of the Month format provides interesting topic discussions on issues relevant to caregivers. Meets on the 3rd Wednesday of each month 5:30—7:30 Large AHS Conference Room. BYO dinner or something to share for potluck. Childcare is available	RSVP to Joan Rock 1 week in advance of meeting at 802-888-1375 or <a href="mailto:Joan.Rock@vermont.gov">Joan.Rock@vermont.gov</a>
Middlebury	Addison County Support Group for Adoptive Families	Bringing together <b>adoptive parents</b> to share the joys and challenges of being an adoptive parent. Meets once a month at the Addison County Parent Child Center in Middlebury, VT.	Donna Provin 802-343-0565
Milton	Circle of <b>Parents</b> Support Group	For all <b>families</b> , meets every Wednesday (except 3rd) from 12:00—2:00 pm New Life Christian Fellowship Church, 38 Centre Dr, Milton. Childcare provided.	Prevent Child Abuse VT <a href="mailto:phendee@pcav.org">phendee@pcav.org</a> 802-498-0607
Milton	<b>Grandparents</b> as Parents	1st and 3rd Mondays, 6:30—8:00 pm at the New Life Christian Fellowship Church, 38 Centre Dr, Milton. Childcare provided.	John Smith 802-893-3838
Montpelier	<b>Grandparents</b> Raising Their Children's Children	Sponsored by CYFS. Meeting the second Thursday of each month, 6—8:00 pm. Resurrection Baptist Church in Montpelier.	Evelyn Sawyer 802-476-1480 X516 <a href="mailto:evelyns@wcmhs.org">evelyns@wcmhs.org</a>
Orange County	Orange County <b>Kinship</b> Care Support Group	Meeting first Tuesday of the month at 6:00-7:30 pm. Childcare and supper provided.	Mary Ellen Otis <a href="mailto:Maryellen@Orangecountyppcc.org">Maryellen@Orangecountyppcc.org</a>

# Support Groups

St. Albans	Circle of Parents Support Group	For <b>mom's in recovery</b> , meeting every Monday from 9:30 - 11:30 am	Prevent Child Abuse VT <a href="http://www.pcavt.org">www.pcavt.org</a>
St. Albans	Circle of Parents Support Group	A self-help support group for adoptive, kinship and guardianship families. The group will discuss normative adoption issues as well as unique challenges families face.  This group meets the 1 <sup>st</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of every month from 5:30 to 7:30pm.	Nina Kempf-Miller or Robin Erickson at NFI-St Albans at 802-524-1700  Patricia Hendee at PCAV at (802)498-0607.
South Burlington	Circle of Parents Parent Support Group For Adoptive and Guardianship Families	A support group that offers a place to meet others and learn more about the parenting challenges that <b>adoptive/guardianship</b> families may face. Childcare/light meal provided. <b>RSVP required!</b> Meets the last Tuesday of every month., 5:00—6:30pm and please call Melissa Appleton or Katherine Boise to RSVP	Melissa Appleton Katherine Boise 802-864-7467
Springfield	<b>Adoptive &amp; Foster Parent</b> Support Group	Meeting the second Wednesday of every month from 6:30 pm—8:30 pm. Bank Block Building #205 Main Street , Springfield, VT	Nancy Birge 802-291-3907
Vermont Statewide	Vermont Family Network Parent-run groups ranging from special needs to educational supports	See website for complete listing <a href="http://www.vermontfamilynetwork.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/06/Support-Groups-in-Vermont-June-2014.pdf">http://www.vermontfamilynetwork.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/06/Support-Groups-in-Vermont-June-2014.pdf</a>	Vermont Family Network 1-800-800-4005
Morrisville	Parent Support Group	Thursday mornings 8:15 am – 9:45 am	Call 802-888-8320 for more information
Upper Valley Area	Adoption Conversation Group	A peer group conversation for those whose lives are touched by <b>adoption</b> . Participants include birthparents, adult adoptees or adoptive parents. Please call with questions and/or for more information and location. This is free and all newcomers are welcome. Monthly meetings are on the 2nd Tuesday, 7:00—9:00pm in Woodstock.	Judith Bush 802-436-1488 jbush@together.net

# Online Trainings and Resources

## Vermont Family Network

Vermont Family Network (VFN) offers free [workshops](#) and [webinars](#) for families.

Please call us if you would like to host a workshop in your area. We are here to listen and help with any needs or concerns you may have related to you or your child's health, education, or well-being.

Call us today to speak to a Family Support Consultant

For information: Call [Janice Sabett](#) or 1-800-800-4005, x218

## Foster Parent College

For information please call your local Resource Coordinator. Their names and numbers can be found on page 7 of this Bulletin.

This organization offers courses via internet on a wide array of topics that are beneficial to foster, kin, and adoptive families. Topics addressed include behavioral issues, educational needs, and how to help children and youth move forward in their relationships and work toward new goals. Even if you don't have access to a computer at home, you may be able to view these courses at your local library or at a DCF office.

You can view a comprehensive list of the courses available at

[www.fosterparentcollege.com](http://www.fosterparentcollege.com).

## Adoption Learning Partners

Online Training Resource

### Adoption Learning Partners

Offers meaningful, timely, web-based educational adoption resources for professionals, parents, adopted individuals, and the families that love them. You can access these classes for FREE by contacting your: local DCF Resource Coordinator, permanency planning counselors from LUND, or Brenda Hamlin at [brendah.kin@comcast.net](mailto:brendah.kin@comcast.net)

Their course listing is available online [www.adoptionlearningpartners.org](http://www.adoptionlearningpartners.org)



# Caregiver Training Collaborative Membership

*Members of the Caregiver Training Collaborative work together to ensure that Vermont kin, foster and adoptive families, and those who work with them, have access to high quality training in a variety of modalities.*

## **Child Welfare Training Partnership (CWTP)**

We develop dynamic trainings and educational opportunities for kinship, foster, and adoptive families. We collaborate with state, national, and international organizations, as well as individual leaders in fields related to child welfare, to ensure that families have the tools, resources, and skills they need to effectively care for children and youth.

## **Vermont Adoption Consortium** [www.vtadoption.org](http://www.vtadoption.org)

We recognize that adoption is a lifelong process with rewards and challenges at different stages along the way. We are committed to partnering with individuals, families and communities to further the knowledge and understanding of adoption and to ensure that all people whose lives have been touched by adoption have access to quality services throughout Vermont.

## **Vermont Foster and Adoptive Family Association (VFAFA)** [www.vfafa.org](http://www.vfafa.org)

Our mission is to empower, support and unify foster and adoptive families by strengthening the systems that care for Vermont's children. We envision a world where all foster and adoptive families have the resources they need to restore faith, hope, and joy to the children they nurture.

## **Vermont Kin As Parents (VKAP)** [www.vermontkinasparents.org](http://www.vermontkinasparents.org)

Vermont Kin As Parents is committed to support relatives who are raising children and to educate the public and community partners about the joys and difficulties these families experience.

## **HowardCenter** [www.howardcenter.org](http://www.howardcenter.org)

Our mission is to improve the well-being of children, adults, families, and communities. Howard Center provides an extensive array of services including supports for adult mental health, children & families, substance abuse, and developmental services.

## **VT Dept. of Children and Families /Family Services Division (FSD)** [www.dcf.vermont.gov/fsd](http://www.dcf.vermont.gov/fsd)

The Family Services Division is Vermont's child welfare and youth justice agency. We are responsible for making sure children and youth are safe, their basic needs are met, they abide by the law, and families are supported to achieve these goals.

This bulletin is for your convenience.  
CTC does not endorse any particular group or organization.

# Submission Form for CTC Bulletin

Do you have an upcoming *Training, Support Group, On-line Resource, or Conference* you would like to post in this bulletin?

Please complete the below form and return to at: [Pamela.Piper@vermont.gov](mailto:Pamela.Piper@vermont.gov)

**DEADLINE: December 5, 2015**

## **SUBMISSION FORM**

Type of announcement: \_\_\_\_\_

Check the box:      ☐ One-time class      ☐ Conference      ☐ Ongoing class  
                         ☐ Support group      ☐ Save the date      ☐ On-line training

Organization/Sponsor \_\_\_\_\_

General Topic: \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Time \_\_\_\_\_

Location \_\_\_\_\_

Brief Description

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Contact information for event: \_\_\_\_\_

Submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_ Contact: \_\_\_\_\_