

From: [Talbert, Lilly](#)
To: [Talbert, Lilly](#)
Subject: VCW VIEW Message: September 3rd
Date: Wednesday, September 03, 2014 12:32:32 PM

Improve Services to Families with Children Served by DCF

The Governor's Council on Pathways from Poverty, in collaboration with AHS and DCF, is seeking public comments on ways the Agency of Human Services can improve the delivery of services to families with children served by the Department for Children and Families. There are three ways to provide comments:

1. Attend a Public Hearing:

Next one: Friday, September 5th at 2PM.

You can attend at any of the 13 Vermont Interactive Television sites located around the state. For a complete list of VIT sites go to <http://www.vitlink.org/location> or call (802) 728-1455.

2. Mail your comments:

You can mail your comments to the following address through Tuesday, September 30th: Agency of Human Services, Secretary, 208 Hurricane Lane, Suite 103, Williston, VT 05495.

3. Complete an online survey:

Complete an online survey (anonymously if you wish) at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/L3J2T56>

Cary Brown, VCW Executive Director, serves on the Governor's Pathways From Poverty Council. Learn more: [website here](#)

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CANCELLED - 5th Annual Courage in Bloom Garden Ceremony

Regretfully, due to a high level of construction in close proximity to the garden space, Vermont Center for Crime Victim Services is cancelling this year's Courage in Bloom Garden Ceremony, originally planned for this Friday, September 5th.

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Fall classes are starting at Dartmouth-Hitchcock's Women's Health Resource Center On the mall in Lebanon

Free programs, support groups and classes are starting. Classes in Memoir Writing, Sending Your Child to College, Healing Arts, Pregnancy and Support Groups, and First Aid. Learn more [here](#) or by calling 603-650-2600.

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Know your Resources Workshop for the Faith Community in Chittenden County
Tuesday, October 21st 9:30 am-12:00 pm
Faith United Methodist Church, 899 Dorset St., South Burlington

This event provides support and connection for members of the faith community to local service providers addressing domestic and sexual violence with victims, perpetrators and bystanders in Chittenden county. The training will be followed by a light brunch. Learn from colleagues and meet experts in the field. Trainings emphasize the important role of faith leaders for domestic violence survivors.

Trainings feature:

- discussion of domestic violence as may be encountered in the faith community
- scenarios explored through a case study approach
- introduction of domestic violence resources specific to Chittenden County
- information on referrals and what to expect
- opportunity for small group conversations with service providers

9:30-11:00 – introductions and presentations; 11-noon – small group conversations with service providers, and light brunch. Please RSVP to Rev. Krista Beth Atwood at revkristabeth@myfairpoint.net or 802-863-6764. (Please indicate if you will stay for Brunch)

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Vermont Connected Summit

Hosted by Vermont Council on Rural Development's Vermont Digital Economy Project

Tuesday, September 23rd

Vermont State House, Montpelier

Participants will reflect on past work and lessons learned from helping small businesses, nonprofits, and communities in Vermont to effectively use digital tools to further community engagement, and engage in conversations about the role the internet and other advances in technology will play in the future of Vermont's economy. The event features four main conference tracks, each with a sub-track:

- * Educating for a Digital World (K-12 and Beyond; Bridging the Digital Divide)
- * Building Effective Organizations (For Nonprofits; For Small Businesses)
- * Creating Resilient Communities (Open Data in Government and Beyond; Resilience through Engagement)
- * Steering Vermont's Digital Future (Vermont's Technology Industry; The Creative Economy)

Get more info and [register online here](#) or contact sharon@vtrural.org.

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18th Annual Women's Economic Opportunity Conference

Saturday, September 20th at Vermont Technical College in Randolph

Registration is now open for this free and fabulous statewide women's conference presented by U.S. Senator Patrick Leahy. The day's events will bring together hundreds of Vermont women exploring new careers, forging professional contacts, discovering financial resources and getting more from social media. With 30 workshops to choose from, there will be a wide range of offerings for many skill levels. This year's conference features a new Coaching Café, where more than a dozen

skilled coaches will hold one-on-one sessions for conference-goers looking to turn their ideas into action. Donna Carpenter, President of Burton Snowboards, this year's keynote speaker, will discuss her style of professional leadership, her approach to balancing life's demands, and her commitment to hiring, retaining and promoting women in a male-dominated industry. In the interest of making this conference accessible to all, there is *no charge for registration, lunch, or pre-arranged child care.* [Register now](#) (deadline: next Wednesday, Sept. 10th).

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Vermont Humanities Lecture Series: First Wednesdays
Hosted at 9 Libraries Around Vermont
Monthly talks begin October 1st @ 7 pm

Some highlights:

- Long-time NPR commentator Susan Stamberg on the power of radio (Norwich)
 - Award-winning novelist Salman Rushdie: "What's the Use of Stories That Aren't Even True?" (Essex Junction)
 - Vermont author Julia Alvarez reads for National Poetry Month (Middlebury)
- Read more and [see the schedule here.](#)

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Divas Do Good

Chandler Music Hall, Randolph

Saturday, October 4th 7:30 PM reception in Upper Gallery, 8 PM show
tickets: \$20 to benefit Safeline, Inc.

The premier all-female comedy troupe in Vermont strikes again! This time the show will benefit Safeline, Inc. serving domestic and sexual violence victims in Orange County and the northern Windsor towns of Sharon, Royalton, Bethel, Stockbridge and Rochester. Safeline runs a 24/7 toll free number that provides support, safety planning, information and referrals as well as in-person support and legal, economic and medical advocacy. More info on the show [here](#). Order tickets in advance by mail: Safeline, Inc., POB 368, Chelsea, VT, 05038 (checks payable to Safeline; include your full name and address information). She Who Laughs, Lasts!

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Zumba For Laurie's House

Saturday, September 13th, 10 - 11:30 am
BFA, Saint Albans

Raise funds for Laurie's House and get a workout at the same time! Fabulous local instructors will lead this exhilarating Zumba workout. Registration cost is \$10: [Pre-register online](#) or day-of starting at 9:30. Get sponsors for a chance to win prizes going to the top fundraisers! More [info here](#) or by calling 802-524-6575. For over 30 years Voices Against Violence and Laurie's House have been providing free and confidential crisis intervention, support, and advocacy services to victims/survivors of domestic and sexual violence in Franklin and Grand Isle Counties. [Click here to learn more.](#)

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Advanced Training on Trauma and the Impact of Child Sexual Abuse
Hosted by the Community Engagement and Training Department of the Vermont
Center for Crime Victim Services
VSBIT Training Room, 52 Pike Drive Berlin, VT
Monday, September 29, 9 am to 4 pm

This training for Victim Advocates, Law Enforcement, CAC staff, SUI staff, DCF Social Workers, SANE Nurses, Mental Health Providers, Medical and Community Health Center Staff, Prosecutors, Hospital ER Personell and any other interested allies helping professionals. Learn more [here](#).

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President Barack Obama signed the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) into law on July 22, 2014. WIOA is designed to help job seekers access employment, education, training, and support services to succeed in the labor market and to match employers with the skilled workers they need to compete in the global economy. Congress passed the Act by a wide bipartisan majority and it is the first legislative reform in 15 years of the public workforce system. Learn more about WIOA [here](#).

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Step Up programs

Vermont Works for Women (VWW) received a grant from the Wider Opportunities for Women (WOW) foundation, funded by the Walmart Foundation for the Step Up program. Although VWW has been offering Step Up programs for years, they were able to expand the service area to Brattleboro and Rutland in addition to continuing work in Chittenden County, and expand programs to include Step Ups in Manufacturing and Information Technology in addition to Carpentry/Electrical/Trades and Law Enforcement. Below are programs under current recruitment – stay tuned to VIEW for more!

Step Up to Manufacturing – RUTLAND

Status: Currently Recruiting – classes begin September 15th

Length: 3 months

Schedule: Classes meet on 3 weekday evenings from approximately 5:30-8:30 (dependent on which classes a participant chooses)

Description: VWW is partnering with Stafford Technical Center to recruit and help support women who are interested in a career in manufacturing. In the fall, Stafford will offer classes in Welding, Blueprint Reading and Sketching, Introduction to Industrial Maintenance and Troubleshooting and OSHA10. We will supplement this coursework with soft skills classes. The schedule of those classes will be dependent on participants' schedules.

An orientation for the program will be held on Saturday, September 6th from 9-12.30pm at Stafford Technical Center.

Step Up to Commercial Truck Driving – RUTLAND

Status: Currently recruiting – rolling enrollment

Length: 3-6 months depending on whether a participant is going for an A or B level license

Schedule: Classes meet on Saturdays from 8-4pm

Description: VWW is partnering with Stafford Technical Center to recruit and help support women who are interested in a career in commercial truck driving. We will supplement the CDL course with soft skills classes. The schedule of those classes will be dependent on participants' schedules.

An orientation for the program will be held on Saturday, September 6th from 1-4pm at Stafford Technical Center.

More info: [Jenny Beaudin](#) Step Up Program Coordinator, VWW, (802) 622-0400, ext. 150

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Vermont Commission on Women's (VCW) Panel Discussion: Successful Reentry for Women in Corrections

Wednesday, October 8th, 2014, 5:30 - 7:00 PM

St. Albans City Hall, Council Chambers

VCW presents this panel discussion, "Successful Reentry" with a focus on employment, educational opportunities, risk reduction, anti-recidivism programs, health care, and support for building better and stronger relationships with family, children and the community as a whole. The Commission will share the findings from this forum with the legislature, policy makers, and various state and community organizations with the goal of creating a correctional system that is more responsive to the unique needs of the women. Questions? Contact [us](#).

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Learn strategies to end mean-girl dynamics

Half-day workshops: [Strategies to Transform Peer Aggression Among Girls](#)

All from 12:30-5 pm:

Burlington, Burlington - Tues., Sept. 9th

Rutland - Mon., Oct. 27th

Brattleboro - Tues., Nov. 11th

St. Johnsbury - Thurs., Dec. 11th

[Vermont Works for Women](#) designed this wonderful interactive workshop that teaches parents, educators, coaches, youth service providers - all adults - how to identify, address and prevent mean-girl behavior. Participants will:

- understand the dynamics of peer aggression
- learn & understand new strategies to implement
- hear examples & case studies first-hand from young women
- name & claim your own anxieties around dealing with peer aggression
- discover new ways to create supportive, girl-centered environments like [Rosie's Girls & Dirt Divas](#) camps

More info [here](#) or contact [Kelly Walsh](#), 802.622.0400, x 105

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New England Women's Policy Conference: The Unfinished Agenda
Friday, November 7th, 10 AM-5 PM
John F. Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum, Columbia Point, Boston, Mass

The Vermont Commission on Women joins with UMass/Boston's Center for Women in Politics and Public Policy, five other New England-based women's commissions and our region's Women's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor to convene "The Unfinished Agenda: New England Women's Policy Conference".

Honorary Host Committee Co-chairs will be Congresswoman Rosa L. DeLauro (D-CT) and Senator Susan Collins (R-ME), reflecting the conference's emphasis on bipartisan approaches. The conference theme, "Economic Security for All Women and Their Families," will provide a platform for analyzing the impact of the recent recession and the widening inequality in wages and wealth. Participants will build bridges and forge solutions to enhance women's economic security through the public policy process and in partnership with the private sector.

The conference expects to bring together more than 350 leaders—women and men—from diverse communities in the six New England states, including elected officials, heads of nonprofits, business executives, and members of state women's commissions. These leaders will return to their states and work with local stakeholders from the public, private, and nonprofit sectors to enact change.

Save the Date flyer [here](#). Venue directions and parking info [here](#).

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The Breastfeeding Project of Rutland County and The Addison Breastfeeding Coalition
Baby-Friendly hospitals and The Ten Steps to Successful Breastfeeding

The Ten Steps to Successful Breastfeeding were developed by a team of global experts and consist of evidence-based practices that have been shown to increase breastfeeding initiation and duration. Baby-Friendly hospitals and birthing facilities must adhere to the Ten Steps to receive, and retain, a Baby-Friendly designation.

The Ten Steps to Successful Breastfeeding are:

1. Have a written breastfeeding policy that is routinely communicated to all health care staff.
2. Train all health care staff in the skills necessary to implement this policy.
3. Inform all pregnant women about the benefits and management of breastfeeding.
4. Help mothers initiate breastfeeding within one hour of birth.
5. Show mothers how to breastfeed and how to maintain lactation, even if they are separated from their infants.
6. Give infants no food or drink other than breast-milk, unless medically indicated.
7. Practice rooming in - allow mothers and infants to remain together 24 hours a day.
8. Encourage breastfeeding on demand.
9. Give no pacifiers or artificial nipples to breastfeeding infants.
10. Foster the establishment of breastfeeding support groups and refer mothers to

them on discharge from the hospital or birth center.

The Ten Steps are endorsed and promoted by the major maternal and child health authorities in the United States, including:

- American Academy of Family Physicians
- American Academy of Nurses
- American Academy of Pediatrics
- American College of Nurse-Midwives
- Academy of Breastfeeding Medicine
- Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics
- Association of Women's Health, Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses (AWHONN)
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
- National WIC Association
- U.S. Breastfeeding Committee (USBC)
- U.S. Preventive Services Task Force
- U.S. Surgeon General

What is your local hospital doing to become Baby Friendly? How was your experience at the hospital? Connect with the coalition [on Facebook](#), and provide feedback, experiences, and recommendations.

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View the League of Women Voters Vermont's public access tv show "[Spotlight on Issues](#)" [here](#). Featuring Jean Hopkins of the Champlain Valley League, with Josh Kelly of Vermont Agency of Natural Resources speaking about Act 148 and reduction of Vermont's solid waste stream.

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A new report issued by Center for Law and Social Policy, Inc. (CLASP) takes a look at recent job creation and job quality nation-wide. In the wake of the Great Recession, job growth is concentrated in low-wage sectors that leave families struggling to get by, and the wages in these sectors are getting worse. Over the past four years, wages have declined for millions of U.S. workers in the top ten lower-wage occupations, including declines of more than 5 percent for personal care aides, restaurant cooks, food preparation workers, maids and housekeepers, and home health aides. Read the [CLASP report here](#).

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The Incarcerated Women's Initiative, Then and Now: Vermont Summit on Women in Corrections

Tuesday, September 30th

Chase Community Center, Vermont Law School, South Royalton

In 2005, the Agency of Human Services developed the Incarcerated Women's Initiative (IWI) to address the growing number of women in prison and minimize the

overall impact on their children, families and communities. As the IWI's tenth anniversary comes up, this summit will serve as an opportunity for community leaders, legislators, legal professionals, criminal justice-involved individuals and other interested citizens to re-examine the history of incarcerated women, to discuss the issues still facing women in corrections today, and to propose new policy recommendations. Formal invitations will be sent out soon with registration details. For more information, please contact Claire.Greene@state.vt.us.

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Sharing with VIEWers this [moving youtube video](#) about Marion Milne by Jeff Kaufman.

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Training of Trainers: Sexual Abuse Prevention in Early Childhood (PK- Grade 2)
[Prevent Child Abuse Vermont](#)

September: Monday - Tuesday, the 8th-9th

November: Monday - Tuesday, the 3-4

Participants in this 2-day training will become certified trainers in the Nurturing Healthy Sexual Development™ and Care For Kids Programs.

Nurturing Healthy Sexual Development™

Participants will learn to present this 2-3 hour workshop for adults who learn about the relationship between healthy sexuality and child sexual abuse prevention. Topics include: identifying and responding to normal vs. concerning sexual behaviors in young children, answering children's questions about sexuality, and developmentally targeted education for children about sexuality.

Care For Kids: Early Childhood Sexuality and Abuse Prevention

Care for Kids is a sexual abuse prevention program for children ages 3 to 8, their educators, and caregivers. Recognizing that adults need to take responsibility for protecting young children, the program provides specific ways to foster the open, non-threatening, and developmentally appropriate communication about the broad range of issues connected to healthy sexuality. Care for Kids addresses both victim and victimizer prevention.

For more information or to register for Sexual Abuse Prevention in Early Childhood training, please contact Robin Castle at 1-800-975-7147 or RCastle@pcavt.org.

Training of Trainers: Youth Sexual Abuse Prevention (Grades 7-8)

September: Wednesday - Thursday, the 10th-11th

November: Wednesday - Thursday, the 5th-6th

Participants in this two day training will become trained Trainers in the Sexual Abuse Free Environments for Teens (SAFE-T) Program.

SAFE-T is a sexual abuse prevention program for students in grades 7 and 8, educators, and parents. Components of the program include training for school staff in child sexual abuse and its prevention, information for parents, and a skills-based

curriculum to be used in the classroom with students. The SAFE-T curriculum works to build healthy relationship skills through addressing risk and protective factors.

For more information or to register, please contact Johanna Straavaldsen at 1-800-975-7147 or JStraavaldsen@pcavt.org

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Vermont Commission on Women (VCW)

VIEW Message – Vermont Information Exchange for Women

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