

Subject: FW: VCW VIEW: April 28th

## Vermont Commission on Women (VCW) on All Things Considered

On Friday afternoon VCW Executive Director Cary Brown was interviewed by National Public Radio's correspondent, Jennifer Ludden about Vermont's new flexible working arrangements law. The interview is part of a story looking at how this new protection has worked in Vermont and San Francisco and will likely air tomorrow, Tuesday, April 29<sup>th</sup> on All Things Considered. Once aired, the podcast link will appear in the VCW In The News section of our site.

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18th Annual Women's Economic Opportunity Conference  
Saturday, September 20, 2014  
Vermont Technical College in Randolph Center

Always free and fabulous, Senator Leahy's Women's Economic Opportunity Conference enjoys a long tradition of bringing women together from all corners of Vermont to explore career opportunities, sharpen business skills and expand professional networks. The Saturday conference draws hundreds of women for a full day of workshops tailored to meet a range of talents and skill levels and includes free lunch and free pre-arranged child care. Conference keynote speaker this year is Donna Carpenter, President of Burton Snowboards. Over three decades, Donna has played a critical role in growing Burton from a once-small factory in a Vermont barn, to a thriving international powerhouse. Watch for details on workshops and registration in VIEW or find them on the Senator's website at [www.leahy.senate.gov](http://www.leahy.senate.gov).

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Follow VCW Commissioner, Dr. Felicia Kornbluh, Director of UVM's Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies Program and Associate Professor of History on Twitter: @VTfeminist. She writes about Chittenden county and VT politics (including labor conflicts), offers feminist responses to contemporary issues, and shares information from the Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies Program at UVM.

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Transforming Peer Aggression in Girls  
Thursday, May 29, 12:30-5 pm  
Vermont College of Fine Arts, Noble Hall, 36 College St., Montpelier

Vermont Works for Women has designed an interactive, half-day workshop that teaches educators, administrators, youth service providers, coaches - all adults - how to identify, address and prevent peer aggression in girls. We do not support the idea that this unhealthy, negative behavior among girls is a normal rite of passage. This workshop will help participants: 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 news ways to create safe, girl-centered environments like VWW's Rosie's Girls & Dirt Divas programs. Cost is \$50. Pre-registration required. For more information: Kelly Walsh, 802.622.0400, ext 105.

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RU12?'s 16th Annual LGBTQ Community Celebration: The Big Reveal  
Friday, May 2, 2014 from 6:00 to 10:00 pm  
Echo Lake Aquarium in Burlington, Vermont

RU12?'s annual event features fabulous food at tasting stations; cocktails, silent and live auctions, speakers like Eva Sollberger of Stuck in Vermont, Quechee George of Peep Show Vermont, and fun improve theater, as well as the Vermont Pride Awards. The Big Reveal will be the new name of RU12?'s center. More info here.

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Over 320 people attended VCW's 50th anniversary celebration April 9th at the State House. Thank you to all who worked with us and to all who attended!  
See pictures and read more about the event

View Senator Leahy's Congressional Record statement honoring the work of VCW

View our event program thanking those who have worked to improve the lives of Vermont women and girls as part of the Commission

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VCW Commissioner Gretchen Bailey was recently selected as the 2014 recipient of the Greater Boston Federal Executive Board's Congressman John Joseph Moakley Award for Exemplary Public Service. She serves as Casework Coordinator in Senator Bernie Sanders' Burlington Office. The Moakley Award is presented to an individual in recognition of outstanding accomplishments and achievements as a staff member of a New England Congressional delegation member. The Award will be presented at the Excellence in Government awards ceremony next week at the John F. Kennedy Library and Museum in Boston.

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Talk To Your Teens About Sexting is a brochure for parents, caregivers and all adults from the Vermont Network Against Domestic and Sexual Violence.

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Dress for Success Burlington  
95 St. Paul Street, Suite 110  
Burlington, VT 05401  
802.861.2243 / www.dressforsuccess.org/burlington

Dress for Success® Burlington is an affiliate member of Dress for Success Worldwide, an international not-for-profit organization whose mission is to promote the economic independence of disadvantaged women by providing professional attire, a network of support and the career development tools to help women thrive in work and in life. Partner organizations throughout the state of Vermont refer job ready women to Dress for Success Burlington for professional attire and access to our Career Center. Staff members help participants create superior résumés and cover letters, provide career counseling, conduct mock interviews, and facilitate access to our professional skills training course. Our Career Center will take women’s job readiness “beyond the suit” to help raise their chances of success in a competitive job market.

### Services Summary

#### Suggested Heading: Employment

Dress for Success® Burlington is an affiliate member of Dress for Success Worldwide, an international not-for-profit organization whose mission is to promote the economic independence of disadvantaged women by providing professional attire, a network of support and the career development tools to help women thrive in work and in life. Programs include:

#### Suiting Program

Job-ready women come to Dress for Success Burlington by referral only from a range of non-profit organizations. Each woman works one-on-one with a highly trained volunteer personal shopper who helps her select professional attire that includes a career appropriate clothing, cosmetics, footwear and accessories. After she finds work, she can return to Dress for Success Burlington for a full week’s worth of professional attire.

#### Career Center

Access to the Career Center is by walk-in or referral and not only assists women when searching for a job but also provides one-on-one career consultation, tips for enhancing their resume and cover letter, assistance with advancing in their careers, and opportunities to attend specialized workshops and trainings. Through the Career Center, women have access to our job preparedness program: Paving the Way Forward (PWF), which helps unemployed and under-employed women gain professional skills, accelerate their job search and build confidence through weekly training sessions, one-on-one career coaching and networking in a supportive environment. The ultimate goal of the program is to help participants gain employment or make significant progress on their path toward employment.

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VCW’s June’s 11th meeting on the campus of CCV in Springfield will feature a noon time panel discussion. Stay tuned to VIEW for more details, or contact us for more info.

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88th Annual Meeting of the Brattleboro Branch, American Association of University Women  
Tuesday May 6<sup>th</sup>  
Dalem's Chalet, West Brattleboro, 6:45 pm

Taking a moment here to ask the question: How many organizations can take part in an 88th Annual

Meeting!?! The Brattleboro Branch American Association of University Women can! President Mary Hawkes will preside over this business meeting following dinner, which will be served at 6:45 p.m. Election of officers will be held, and this year's secret honoree will be revealed! Guest speaker will be Orly Munzing, founder and director of the annual "Strolling of the Heifers Parade," an annual attraction for New England and beyond. Located in the downtown River Garden, she will describe the history of the event and answer questions. For more information, call Marion Daley of Putney, at 387-5822.

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U.S. Department of Labor recently updated their [equal pay website](#).

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Read about the Vermont Women's Fund's competitive grant awards in their [April 2014 newsletter](#). Over a dozen organizations received grants totaling more than \$105,000. The grants support projects and programs that provide young Vermont women ages 15-25 with positive relationships and role models; development of self-advocacy skills; and opportunities to learn life-skills, job-readiness, and traditional and non-traditional education and vocation. They range from health career exploration programs for high school juniors and seniors to a visual art program aimed at building self-esteem, communication skills, and independence.

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Improve your understanding of how young Vermonters and their families are faring in our state from region to region: read the new report ["How are Vermont's Young Children?"](#) published by Building Bright Futures, the Governor-appointed early childhood advisory council and 501(c)3 statewide network of 12 regional councils across Vermont. Some key points from the report:

- There are 57,412 children age 8 or younger living in Vermont. That is 9.2% of Vermont's total population.
- Immunization rates for Vermont toddlers are below the national average and the state goal. As of 2012, 63% of children under 3 received the full series of recommended vaccines. The US rate was 68% and the Healthy People 2020 goal is 80%.
- Parents report only 32% of infants, toddlers, and young children age 0-5 received developmental screening in 2011/12, while the state goal is 95%.
- 26.6% of Vermont children live in families headed by a single parent.
- 2 out of 5 Vermont children under 6 live in low-income families.
- Since 2002, the rate per 1,000 children under six years for those newly placed in protective state custody increased from 4.5 to 5.3 per 1,000 children.
- 38% of Vermont children were deemed "not ready" for Kindergarten in 2012-2013.

- 32% of third graders in Vermont are reading below grade level and among children living below the poverty level, that rate increases to 45% in 2011-2012.

- Two-parent working families earning above \$47,100 but below the state median household income of \$54,168 are ineligible for child care financial assistance. These working families are expending 27-33% of total family income to pay for the up to 40 hours a week needed for child care outside the home.

- The average Vermont household with two working parents and two children cannot afford to meet their basic needs. While the State Median Income for such a family is \$54,168 a year, the State Legislature Joint Fiscal Office (JFO) calculates it costs \$77,880 a year to meet

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Learn about Let's Grow Kids, a campaign working with Vermont communities, organizations, businesses and individuals to raise understanding of the importance of the earliest years in the lives of Vermont's children and create positive, lasting change that will allow all of our children to succeed in life. More information here, on Facebook and Twitter or contact Kelly Ault, Alliance Public Engagement Director and Campaign Speaker's Bureau Coordinator, at 802-272-0795 or kelly.vtalliance@gmail.com.

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Vermont Commission on Women (VCW)

VIEW Message – Vermont Information Exchange for Women

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*Celebrating 50 Years of Progress | 1964 - 2014*

*Share your VIEW: forward this email to colleagues who share your interest in improving the lives of Vermont women and girls. | Get the VIEW: it's easy! Reply to this message and include "subscribe" in the subject heading. | Missed a VIEW? Find recent VIEW messages on our website: women.vermont.gov. | To unsubscribe: reply and add the word "unsubscribe" in the subject heading.*