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VIEW

Vermont Information Exchange for Women

Newsletter



AUGUST 25th, 2016

Women's Equality Day is Tomorrow!

The graphic consists of two parts. On the left is a historical poster with a red, white, and blue striped background and stars. The text on the poster reads: "A WOMAN LIVING HERE HAS REGISTERED TO VOTE THEREBY ASSUMING RESPONSIBILITY OF CITIZENSHIP". On the right is a dark blue rectangular area with a red wavy banner at the top containing the text "WOMEN'S EQUALITY DAY". Below the banner, the text reads: "Women's Equality Day commemorates the signing of the 19th amendment into law on Aug. 26, 1920, granting women the right to vote." At the bottom of this area, it says "Let your voice be heard" and "women.vermont.gov".

News & Resources

Study Gives Vermont a ‘B’ for Enacting Workplace Policies that Support New Parents

Conducted by the National Partnership for Women & Families, [Expecting Better: A State-by-State Analysis of Laws That Help Expecting and New Parents](#) is a comprehensive analysis of state laws and regulations governing paid leave and other workplace rights. Vermont earned a grade of “B” for its policies, including the paid sick days law adopted earlier this year.

Families Change: A Guide to Separation and Divorce

Legal Services Law Line of Vermont (Law Line), Vermont Legal Aid’s partner organization, has launched a new website called [Families Change](#), a guide to separation and divorce. The site uses text, audio and video formats to provide Vermont-specific, age-appropriate materials for parents, teens and kids. The goal is to help all family members understand, prepare for and cope with the legal, emotional, social, educational and economic impacts of a family breakup.

Early Childhood Workforce Index 2016

The Center for the Study of Child Care Employment at the University of California, Berkley released a new [state-by-state review](#) of workforce policies and practices in the early childhood field. According to the report, Vermont is making progress in many areas, but stalled out on compensation strategies for early childhood workers.

Are You Biased against Women Leaders?

Knowing about the unconscious associations and connections we hold is the first step toward correcting our biases. That’s why AAUW is conducting their own

original research on people's associations between gender and leadership, and you can contribute by participating online. All results are anonymous. Take 10 minutes to fight gender bias. [Take the test.](#)

Blue Ribbon Commission on Financing High Quality, Affordable Child Care Community Forums - Survey

The Blue Ribbon Commission held community forums across the state to understand Vermonters' concerns. For those unable to attend the community forums, the deadline to complete the [Commission's online survey](#) is *September 15*.

Vermont Victim Assistance Academy Applications are due Friday, September 23rd

The VVAA is a comprehensive, foundation-level course on victims' rights, services, and their experience of crime and its aftermath. The VVAA is a practical, interactive training presented by seasoned professionals from a variety of fields. It is open to those whose work and lives intersect with victims and survivors of crime. The VVAA consists of 64 hours of guided instruction — or eight, 8-hour days. It is broken into four, 2-day sessions from October 2015 to May 2016. [Program and Application Information.](#)

2017 Vermont Early Childhood Alliance Agenda-Setting Process

The Alliance's Legislative Agenda is crafted annually in partnership with organizations that are advancing early childhood policy solutions through the legislative process. The Alliance Steering Committee invites proposals by organizations for consideration during the Alliance agenda-setting process. Selected issues will make up the 2017 Legislative Agenda and the proposing organization would be established as the "lead" on legislative and advocacy strategy. [Find details](#) on proposing an issue and a description of the agenda-setting process, including timeline and scoring system. *The deadline for submissions is Tuesday, September 27th.*

STEP Ahead: Women In Manufacturing Award Nominations

The Science, Technology, Engineering and Production (STEP) Ahead initiative honors and promotes the role of women in the manufacturing industry through recognition, research, and leadership. The [STEP Ahead Awards](#) recognize women at all levels of manufacturing, from the factory floor to executive offices. These awards illustrate the widespread impact women have on shaping the industry, whether they are running the company, designing the next big product, or testing innovations on the shop floor. *Nomination deadline is October 7.*

Upcoming Events

First Thursday Concert featuring Cricket Blue

Thursday, September 1 from 6:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. at Shelburne Vineyard

[Free concert with Cricket Blue!](#) They'll have a food truck onsite and 10% of proceeds will go towards Steps To End Domestic Violence! All Ages welcome.

Courage in Bloom Garden Ceremony

Friday, September 2 from 10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. at The Courage in Bloom Garden, Montpelier

Rain Location: Vermont Statehouse, Cedar Creek Room

In addition to honoring the courage of victim-survivors, [this year's Ceremony](#) will celebrate Judy Rex and her 15 years of service to the Vermont Center for Crime Victim Services. They will also announce several exciting new initiatives made possible through Vermont's FY15 VOCA grant increase. Some special guests are expected this year, including U.S. Senator Patrick Leahy.

Laura's March – A 5k Walk/Run to End Sexual Violence

Saturday, September 10 at 9:00 a.m. at Oakledge Park, Burlington

Primary beneficiaries for [Laura's March 2016](#):

- H.O.P.E. Works, which will expand free counseling and clinical support services to children, youth, and their non-offending family members;
- Pride Center of Vermont, which will expand sexual violence prevention advocacy to LGBTQ immigrant farm workers; and
- The Safety Team, an organization of 7 women martial artists that will work with local colleges to teach women self-defense, self-advocacy skills, and comprehensive safety techniques.

Register and donate [online](#).

Women's Community Justice Project Panel Discussion

Saturday, September 17 at 2:00 pm at Bennington College

Approximately 600 women are currently incarcerated on Rikers Island, New York's notorious jail. Fewer than 10% of these will ultimately be sentenced to state prison, but more than 80% of them (many charged with only a misdemeanor) face long-term detention because they are unable to post bail. The Women's Community Justice Project (WCJP) is a consortium of five agencies that developed a pilot program which will immediately divert women from Rikers and provide them with shelter and community-based services. The consortium will convene in CAPA on September 16-17. On Saturday afternoon, the panel will discuss the program, plans, and innovations and will answer audience questions. [Free and open to the public.](#)

The Birthing Year – Early Parenting Classes: How to Postpartum Like A Boss with Ana Campanile

Monday, September 19 from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. at Aldrich Library, Barre
Tuesday, September 27 from 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. at Hunger Mtn. Coop.
Montpelier

While payment is not required, we gratefully accept donations. A suggested donation of \$25 will help us continue to offer Birthing Year Workshops to all Central Vermont expectant parents, regardless of income or circumstance.

American Women Artists Workshops at the Bennington Center for the Arts

Tuesday, September 20 - Thursday, September 22 at the Bennington

AWA presents an exciting [series of workshops](#) taught by Master & Signature members in partnership with the Bennington Center for the Arts. Workshops are open to all artists for registration.

**** NEW DATE Gubernatorial Candidate Forum on Women's Issue**

Thursday, September 22 from 12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. at the Vermont State House

The Vermont Commission on Women, the League of Women Voters of Vermont and Vermont Federation of Business and Professional Women will present a [gubernatorial candidate forum](#) on women's issues. The moderator will be Anne Galloway of VTDigger.org. Are you planning to attend? Let us know on [Facebook](#) and share this event with your friends!

The Vermont Network Against Domestic and Sexual Violence Celebrates 30 Years

Friday, September 23 from 4:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. at ECHO, Leahy Center for Lake Champlain, Burlington

Lavon Morris Grant, Survivor and Author, Art for Shelter Benefit featuring Maggie

Neale, Performace by Muslim Girls Making Change. Annual Awards featuring Governor Madeline Kunin and Senator Bernie Sanders (invited). [Cash Bar – Dinner – Registration costs \\$50.](#)

Prevention Works: Vermont’s Renewed Commitment

Thursday, September 29, from 9:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. at the Capitol Plaza Hotel, Montpelier

Prevent Child Abuse Vermont, on the occasion of its 40th Anniversary, is pleased to host an [all-day conference](#) to celebrate Vermont's 40-year commitment to prevention, in the broadest sense of the word, to recognize Vermont's success in producing excellent outcomes for Vermont children, families, and communities, and most importantly, to renew Vermont's commitment to a strong prevention focus moving into the future. Registration Fee is \$35 per person and includes lunch.

**SPECIAL THANKS TO THE BUSINESSES THAT HAVE RECENTLY
SIGNED ONTO THE VERMONT EQUAL PAY COMPACT**



[802Social](#)

[Capitol Stationers](#)

[DC Energy Innovations, Inc.](#)

[Dinoman Science Series](#)

[DominionTech Computer Services](#)

[Down Home Kitchen](#)

[Massage Vermont LLC](#)

[Merritt & Merritt](#)

[Paul Frank + Collins P.C](#)

[Pride Center of Vermont](#)

[Renewable NRG Systems](#)

[State Treasurer](#)

[VBSR](#)

[Vermont Center for Independent Living](#)



The Vermont Commission on Women (VCW) is a non-partisan state agency advancing rights and opportunities for women and girls. Sixteen volunteer commissioners, along with representatives from organizations concerned with women's issues, guide VCW's public education, coalition building, and advocacy efforts. For more information, please visit us at <http://women.vermont.gov>.

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