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VIEW

Vermont Information Exchange for Women

Newsletter



February 16th, 2017

News & Resources

Workplace Accommodations for Healthy Pregnant Workers

Under current state and federal law, employees experiencing healthy, uncomplicated pregnancies are not entitled to receive workplace accommodations such as having access to water, access to a stool or a chair, longer or more frequent restroom breaks, or avoiding heavy lifting. On Tuesday, February 14th, H.136, re: accommodations for pregnant employees was introduced in the House Committee on General, Housing, and Military Affairs. [VCW released this info sheet](#) about this issue. Highlights from the info sheet include:

- Nationally, 250,000 pregnant workers are denied requests for accommodations every year
- Three-quarters of women entering the workforce will be pregnant and employed at some point in their lives
- The majority of pregnant women in Vermont are employed during their pregnancies
- Workers in part-time or lower-wage jobs, women of color, and those with a high school degree or less education are more likely to need some kind of

minor accommodation at work, and are impacted disproportionately compared to their counterparts

VCW will share stories from Vermonters about working while pregnant and needing minor accommodations with policymakers. Have one to share? Send it to: lilly.talbert@vermont.gov



Women & 1970s Counterculture

Wed. March 15th • 7:00 pm
Haybarn Theater, Goddard College

Our Annual Women's History Month Event Presented by Vermont Historical Society
and Vermont Commission on Women.



Many of the features that are today considered quintessentially Vermont – politics, local food movements, offbeat culture – have origins in this period. The 1970s saw incredible advancements in public engagement with, and recognition of, women's rights. What was this flowering of second-wave feminism like for women who participated in the counterculture during that time? What challenges did they face, and what opportunities did they find? How was women's experience in Vermont unique, and what did it share with the rest of the country? How does it relate to the current generation of young women? Bring your ideas, questions, and thoughts for this free and far-reaching roundtable conversation reflecting on the past and its connections to the present. This FREE event will be moderated by director of VCW, Cary Brown and will feature Bridget Downey-Meyer, Louise Andrews, Melinda

Moulton and Verandah Porche, reflecting on what brought them into this movement, what their experience was like, and what lasting impact it's had on their own lives and on Vermont society.

Call for Presenters for an April 22nd Peace Conference

A newly-formed coalition, Vermont Stands for a World Beyond War, is sponsoring an April 22nd Peace Conference at Winooski High School. Coalition members include the Burlington Branch of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF), Save Our Skies VT, the Peace and Justice Center, Veterans for Peace, Stop the F35s, and Vermont Action for Peace. Conference organizers of *Building a World Beyond War: What Will It Take?*, seek presenters/presentations that will answer the conference's main question by focusing on solutions that will help to revitalize the peace movement in Vermont and find common ground between participant groups in order to develop an action agenda for the future. The Call for Presenters is due by February 28th. [Find more information.](#)

Mercy Connections to Honor Lisa Ventriss at Annual May Luncheon

Mercy Connections is pleased to share that Lisa Ventriss, President and CEO of Vermont Business Roundtable, will be this year's recipient of the Catherine McAuley award, exemplifying Mercy values and the example of Catherine McAuley, foundress of the Sisters of Mercy. The award ceremony will take place at Mercy Connections Annual May Luncheon on May 4, 2017 at the Sheraton Burlington Hotel & Conference Center in South Burlington.

Vermont Network Against Domestic and Sexual Violence Awarded \$65,000 from the Allstate Foundation

The Allstate Foundation, a leading advocate for victims of domestic violence and financial abuse, announced \$1.2 million in grants awarded to 20 domestic violence programs around the country. The grants expand financial empowerment services for approximately 30,000 survivors. The Vermont Network Against Domestic and Sexual Violence will receive \$65,000. [More details.](#)

February is Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month

Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month (#teenDVmonth) is observed every year in the United States during the month of February. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) defines teen dating violence as "the physical, sexual, psychological, or emotional violence within a dating relationship, including stalking." Girls and young women between the ages of 16 and 24 experience the highest rate of intimate partner violence, almost triple the national average, according to a U.S. Department of Justice Report, [Intimate Partner Violence and Age of Victim](#) (PDF). Further, youth who are victims of teen dating violence during high school are at higher risk for victimization during college.

Vermont Crime Victim Service Awards 2017 Nominations

These awards recognize victim activists who have inspired us through their acts of courage and compassion, programs or individuals whose work has been particularly innovative and pioneering, and those who exemplify the long-term commitment that characterizes many of Vermont's victim service providers, some of whom are themselves victims of crime. The award winners will be honored at a special ceremony the week before National Crime Victims' Rights Week, April 10 – 16, 2016. [Nominate a victim activist.](#)

Kiki McShane: The Vision for Evolve Rutland

Kiki McShane of Evolve Rutland [was showcased on Davis & Hudson Associates blog!](#)

Governor's Institutes of Vermont Summer Applications are Open!

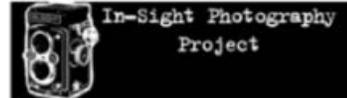
All Vermont 9th-11th graders are invited to apply for the Governor's Institutes of Vermont summer programs! With over 50 topics spanning the visual and performing arts, science, technology, mathematics, current events, writing, architecture, and more, there is something for everyone. Whether you're looking to the stars, painting on canvas, programming a robot, or starting a new business, the sky is the limit. Application deadlines in March. [Learn more.](#)

Let's Grow Kids Seeks Town Meeting Day Volunteers

VCW's newest Advisory Organization, Let's Grow Kids, seeks volunteers on Town Meeting Day (March 7th) to help build momentum for this campaign about the need for more high-quality, affordable child care in Vermont by: Handing out literature; Advocating for increased public investments in high-quality, affordable child care;

Encouraging community members to sign the Petition (Goal: 1,000 signatures in 1 day!); Inviting participants to the Rally for Kids; and drinking hot chocolate! [Learn more or sign up to volunteer at your local polling place.](#)

Special thanks to January [Vermont Equal Pay Compact Signers:](#)



[Brooke Moen Acupuncture & Wholistic Medicine](#)

[Carrier Roasting Company](#)

[Donna P. Johnson Physical Therapy PC](#)

[Good Measure Brewing Co.](#)

[Harmonized Cookery](#)

[In The Kitchen with Bronwyn](#)

[In-Sight Photography Project](#)

[Justice for All Vermont](#)

[Say It Forward Productions](#)

[VRS Disability Management](#)

[Wheel Pad L3C](#)

Has your business signed on to the [Vermont Equal Pay Compact?](#)

The Compact is a **voluntary online pledge** that enables Vermont employers to

learn about and indicate their commitment to closing the wage gap.
We offer a [list of strategies](#) to consider and resources to inform employers.

Employment Opportunities

Clarina Howard Nichols Center is Hiring an Executive Director!

Founded in 1981, the Clarina Howard Nichols Center, a 501c3 not-for-profit organization, works to end domestic and sexual violence in Lamoille County. Clarina provides advocacy programs, emergency shelter, support and direct services to survivors of domestic and sexual violence as well as community outreach programs to affect social change. The Executive Director, supported by the Board of Trustees, administers, coordinates, and manages operations. [Learn more.](#)

Parental Leave Project Seeks Part-time Development Officer

Parental Leave Project Inc. seeks a part-time Development Officer to aid in the mission of providing small grants to families without access to adequate paid parental leave in Addison County. [Learn more.](#)

Funding Opportunities

Grants up to \$500,000 Available for Economic and Infrastructure Development in Northern Vermont

The Northern Border Regional Commission (NBRC), a federal-state partnership for economic and infrastructure development, has announced the availability of grant funds for projects in Essex, Orleans, Caledonia, Lamoille, Franklin, and Grand Isle counties in Vermont. The Commission seeks applications from public bodies or non-profit organizations for projects that will help achieve Vermont's statewide economic and community development priorities. [Learn more.](#)

USDA Energy Program Seeks Grant Applications

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) seeks grant applications from rural businesses interested in increasing their bottom line through performing energy efficiency upgrades or installing renewable energy systems. USDA Rural Development is

accepting applications until March 31st for funding through the Rural Energy for America Program (REAP). [Learn more.](#)

Upcoming Events

Gendered Violence in Today's Culture

TONIGHT, Thursday, February 16 from 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m., Children's Advocacy Center, St. Johnsbury

Examining society's norms around sexism, understanding healthy sexuality, and how porn (and media) represent women and how that shapes our views as a society. Free and open to the public. [Learn more.](#) Please contact The Advocacy Program at Umbrella at 748-8645 to register.

Community Book Discussion: Brown Girl Dreaming

Tuesday, February 21 at 7:00 p.m., Richmond Free Library

2017 marks the 15th year of the Vermont Reads program, in which the Vermont Humanities Council invites citizens across the state to read the same book and participate in [community activities related to the book's themes](#). This year, the book is *Brown Girl Dreaming* by Jacqueline Woodson. This beautiful memoir of the author's childhood is written in verse. It tells the story of a young person finding her voice and examining the strength of family bonds while growing up African American in the 1960s and 1970s. Children and adults alike will enjoy the authenticity of this memoir.

League of Women Voters 97th Birthday Tea

Thursday, February 23 from 4:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m., Down Home Kitchen, Montpelier

The League of Women Voters is hosting [a birthday tea celebration in Montpelier](#), they

have been around for 97 years! It'll be a fun evening to sip tea, eat cake, talk, laugh, and get to know each other. Refreshments and Cash Bar.

Female Founders Speaker Series: Design and Manufacturing

Monday, February 27 from 5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m., Hotel Vermont, Burlington

In the second of a six part series from the Vermont Center for Emerging Technologies and Hotel Vermont the Female Founders Speaker Series spotlights female entrepreneurs from around the state. [February's "Design and Manufacturing" event](#) will feature Corinne Prevot of Skida, and Sascha Mayer and Christine Dodson of Mamava. The cost of the event is \$15 per person, proceeds will benefit the Boys & Girls Club of Burlington.

Girl Develop It: Intro to HTML/CSS

Tuesdays and Thursdays February 28 – March 9 from 6:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m., Dealer.com, Burlington

Learn to build your own website OR learn how to better harness your powers over the one you've already got! No prior web development experience is necessary to benefit from this course. This course starts with the basics and ends with a simple formatted website utilizing HTML and CSS! [\\$100 fee for all four sessions.](#)

Jane Austen in Her Time

Wednesday, March 1 at 7:00 p.m., Brooks Memorial Library, Brattleboro

Jane Austen lived in exciting times, and yet until recently was considered "untouched by the political, intellectual, and artistic revolutions of her age." Drawing on Austen's novels, Dartmouth visiting assistant professor [Suzanne Brown shows how Austen was in fact a keen observer of her era's values](#) who both shared and critiqued them. Offered by the Vermont Humanities Council as part of their First Wednesdays series.

A Barstool of One's Own: Making a Place for Women in the Pub

Thursday, March 2 at 5:30 p.m., Fleming Museum, Burlington

An evening in the Fleming Museum's beautiful Marble Court where you can [sip](#)

[cocktails and hear how a sense of community develops in a pub from guest speaker Rosie Schaap](#). Schaap celebrates the atmosphere of warmth, good conversation, and camaraderie that can develop among people who might seem to have little in common. Schaap, a natural storyteller, praises the sense of community at the heart of a good bar and speaks about a woman's place within it. Guests will also be able to visit the special exhibition, Imbibe: Drinking in Culture before and after the talk.

Winter Doe Camp

Friday – Sunday, March 3 – 5, Hulbert Outdoor Center, Fairlee

Winter Doe Camp is a women's weekend retreat for outdoor skill development, adventure, education and just plain fun. Participants will make new friends while staying with other women in heated cabins and play in the outdoors all day. Activities include: dog sledding, winter camping, basket weaving, handgun, muzzleloader and rifle classes, ice fishing, Nordic skating, snowshoeing, survival skills, archery, forest management, ax skills, campfire cooking, wildlife photography, deer and spring turkey hunting, tracking, backpacking and more. [Cost for the all-inclusive weekend program is \\$390.](#)

Girls Get the Message

Saturday, March 4 from 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., Dartmouth Hitchcock Women's Resource Center, Lebanon

Girls Get the Message helps girls age 10-12 develop the skills to wade through the media messages that bombard them daily. The program encourages girls to evaluate messages in media. The program helps girls recognize stereotypes in media and differentiate between those stereotypes and their own lives. Girls learn to "read" media messages with a critical eye as they consider issues in the media business and the roles of women and minorities "behind the scenes" in media careers. Please bring a brown bag lunch. [Free, but registration is required.](#)

Women Veterans Ski Appreciation Day!

Tuesday, March 7, Mount Sunapee, NH

The VA Boston Healthcare System in partnership with NEHSA and Mount Sunapee

are proud to announce [the 8th Annual Women Veterans Ski Appreciation Day](#). Women Veterans of all ages and abilities are welcome to register for FREE. Registration deadline is February 27.

Camp Resilience Women's Retreat for Veterans

Tuesday, March 7 - Friday, March 10, Lakes Region, NH

The Patriot Resilient Leader Institute (PRLI) will be running a [Camp Resilience session for women veterans only](#). Attendees will spend 3 nights in the beautiful Lakes Region of New Hampshire at no cost to them. The sports activities will include snowshoeing, cross-country skiing, downhill skiing, yoga and water aerobics. There will also be workshops discussing such topics as wellness through lifestyle changes, resiliency and trauma recovery. The session will be led and facilitated by women.

Society of Women Engineers Technical Tour at NRG

Wednesday, March 8 at 5:30 p.m., Renewable NRG Systems, Hinesburg

Join the Society of Women Engineers (SWE) for a [technical tour at Renewable NRG Systems](#) for an informal opportunity for SWE members to see the facilities, meet their employees, and gain a better understanding of the sensor technology behind the renewable energy industry. NRG will provide pizza, salad, and assorted beverages.

26th Annual Women's Film Festival

Friday, March 10 – Sunday, March 19, New England Youth Theatre, Brattleboro

The [26th Annual Women's Film Festival](#), a Women's Freedom Center fundraiser, will present 40 films, documentaries, romances, thrillers, and comedies, from around the world directed by, and about women. There is something for everyone films about activism, art, reproductive rights, mothers and daughters, romances, discrimination, aging, gender roles, incarceration, stage fright and synchronized swimming just to name a few! Over the course of two weeks, beginning with the Opening Night Gala on Friday, March 10th and continuing to Sunday, March 19, 2017, 13 documentaries, 10 feature films and 17 shorts will be screened at the New England Youth Theatre.

Beginning Blacksmithing for Women with Caitlin Morris

Saturday and Sunday March 18 and 19 from 9:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., Lake Champlain Maritime Museum

Discover the magic of moving hot metal! [Learn the basic skills](#) (including everything from hammer control and fire maintenance to forge welding), through simple and practical projects. Individualized instruction to help you feel strong, confident, and comfortable in the workshop. Open to all skill levels, abilities, and genders.

Vermont Women in Higher Education Annual Spring Conference

Thursday and Friday March 23 and 24, Killington Grand Resort

Register now for the [2017 Vermont Women in Higher Education Annual Spring Conference](#) for networking, empowering speakers, and a wide selection of workshops to help you achieve your professional goals. Additional events include a clothing swap to benefit Dress for Success Burlington, a raffle, and more, all at the beautiful Killington Grand Resort. The theme this year is "Strong Women, Strong World." Featured speakers include VCW's Cary Brown with Change The Story's Tiffany Bluemle, who will present *Telling the Story to Change the Story for Women in Vermont: What We've Learned About What's Left to Do*.



We choose events for VIEW from our [statewide events calendar](#) for women and girls. If you'd like your event featured in the VIEW, make sure you [add it](#).

Looking for more? You'll find many more events for women & girls in Vermont on the calendar.



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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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