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VIEW

Vermont Information Exchange for Women

Newsletter



June 6th, 2017

News & Resources

The Equal Pay Compact Goes On The Road

Thanks to all who attended our Brattleboro Equal Pay Compact Networking & Exchange event. We partnered with the US Department of Labor, Women's Bureau to hear from Windham County companies who have signed on to the Vermont Equal Pay Compact about their experience. We love learning and listening to our Signers! Read more about the event: [Equal Pay Compact Sees Rapid Expansion](#) (from VTDigger, 5/24/17).



At our Brattleboro Compact event: (left to right) VCW Commissioner Kerry Secrest, VCW Director Cary Brown, DOL Women's Bureau Regional Director Jackie Cooke.

Save the Date for the Women's Economic Opportunity Conference (WEOC) – September 16th!

Please mark your calendars for Sen. Leahy's 21st Annual Women's Economic Opportunity Conference (WEOC) taking place Saturday, Sept. 16th at Vermont Technical College in Randolph. This FREE conference (including lunch and child care) draws hundreds of women to develop new skills, make new acquaintances and swap personal experiences. In addition to personally and professionally enriching workshop offerings, [Change the Story VT](#) will be the focus of lively discussions on how to improve women's economic status. Stay tuned to VIEW for the keynote speaker announcement and registration information. See pictures and more from last year's WEOC [here](#).

New Interactive Report Hosted by Vermont Insights - Stalled at the Start

In June 2016, Let's Grow Kids developed [Stalled at the Start](#), an analysis of the supply of, and demand for, regulated (licensed or registered) infant and toddler care in Vermont. This report is now hosted on [Vermont Insights as an interactive narrative that users can explore](#) to learn more about Let's Grow Kids' work using an engaging and responsive format.

Vermont Women in Higher Education (VWHE) Seeks Executive Board Members

VCW Advisory Council Member [VWHE](#) is seeking board members. Do you have an interest in working with some fabulous women throughout the state and have time, energy and talent/expertise that you could dedicate to help grow this volunteer organization assisting women in the pursuit of careers in higher education? Send an email with your interest and resume to Catherine Welch at cwelch2@smcvt.edu by June 9th.

Mercy Connections Honors Lisa Ventriss at Annual May Luncheon

Mercy Connections thanks the more than 450 community members who attended their annual May Luncheon. Lisa Ventriss, President and CEO of Vermont Business Roundtable, was presented the Catherine McAuley award for living and modeling the values of mercy and lifelong service to others.

Vermont State Treasurer Launches VT-ABLE (Achieving a Better Life Experience) Savings Plan

[VT-ABLE](#) is a federally tax-deferred plan allowing eligible Vermonters to save for disability-related expenses like housing, transportation, employment training, and other important needs. Balances and distributions do not affect needs-based financial aid such as Medicaid or SSI. Earnings on savings are tax-deferred and

tax-free when used to pay for qualified expenses. VT-ABLE participants will be able contribute up to \$14,000 annually. This program is a way parents and other relatives can put aside money for the future of a family member with a disability, and allows working adults with disabilities to keep what they earn without frequent adjustments to benefits like Social Security, which has a \$2000 asset limit. Visit the [website](#) or contact the Vermont State Treasurer's Office at treasurers.office@vermont.gov for more information.

Congratulations to Deb Markowitz on Winning EPA Lifetime Achievement Award

Deb Markowitz, the former head of Vermont's Agency of Natural Resources (and former Secretary of State) has been awarded a lifetime achievement award by the New England division of the Environmental Protection Agency. As secretary of the agency between 2011 and 2017, Markowitz introduced "one of the most productive and innovative eras in the agency's history," according to the EPA. [Read more here.](#)

Vermont Human Rights Commission's May Newsletter Focuses on Breastfeeding

The newsletter discusses breastfeeding at work, at public accommodations, offers information for those whose rights may have been violated, and includes interesting facts about the status of laws protecting the right to breastfeed in the U.S. [Read the newsletter here.](#)

The Vermont Historical Society Researching "Anything for Speed: Automobile Racing in Vermont"

The Society is actively seeking information on the history of automobile racing in Vermont: memories, papers, objects, and anything Vermonters might have to

share. *They are particularly hoping to find women who raced, joined pit crews, or supported the sport of racing in any way.* If you have anything to share, please reach out to Amanda Gustin at the Vermont Historical Society at amanda.gustin@vermonthistry.org or 802-479-4264. The exhibition will open in April 2018.

New AAUW Report: *Deeper in Debt: Women and Student Loans* Estimates Women Hold Two-Thirds of the Nation's Student Loan Debt

The new report, [*Deeper in Debt: Women and Student Loans*](#), estimates that women hold almost two-thirds (\$833 billion) of the country's \$1.3-trillion student debt while men hold \$477 billion, and that following graduation, women repay their loans more slowly than do men, in part because of the gender pay gap.

The Pipeline Problem: How College Majors Contribute to the Gender Pay Gap - Glassdoor Economic Research

Glassdoor is a for-profit enterprise that analyzes employment and labor trends. [This new research](#) highlights how the choices women make for college majors affects their earning power because of the occupations those majors tend to earn less (no surprise) unless women continue to earn a "professional" or masters degree. Women-dominated professions require more preparation than the male dominated ones before they can hope to have comparable earning power. There are only loans, no grants for masters programs...unless an employer is willing to help.

Vermont Code Camp Seeks Speakers and Sponsors

Vermont Code Camp is a full day event bringing together technology community members, students and professionals, and will take place Saturday, September

16th, 2017. Consider submitting a speaker session proposal for sessions 30 min – 1 hour. [Learn more.](#)

Vermont Early Childhood Alliance Offering Advocacy Training this Summer

The Vermont Early Childhood Alliance offers advocacy training and issue presentations to community groups around the state to explore early childhood policy issues and solutions and to support effective interactions with policymakers in future legislative sessions. These sessions can be tailored to participant interests, and can include Policymaking, Advocacy, 2017 Legislative Session in Review, and Looking Ahead to 2018. Sessions can include interactive segments, strategic planning and understanding how and when to use collective impact or results-based accountability in advocacy efforts. To discuss ideas, contact Kelly Ault at 802-272-0795 or kelly@vteca.org.

Vermont Gives: Day of Giving Wednesday June 7th – Thursday June 8th, 6:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Vermont Gives is a 24-hour fundraising event, created by Vermonters for Vermonters, to support local charities and causes, highlight the impact of nonprofits, and strengthen our local communities. Last year's Day of Giving raised more than \$83,000 for over 209 nonprofit organizations statewide representing a variety of communities and causes. Eligible nonprofits may register for this year's Vermont Gives at <http://www.vermontgives.org> by June 2nd.

Indicators of School Crime and Safety Report Released

The Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) and the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) released their annual report, [Indicators of School Crime and Safety: 2016](#). This report provides data on crime and safety at schools from the

perspectives of students, teachers, and principals collected by various surveys from 2009 through 2015. The report found that while the overall number of on-campus crimes reported has declined since 2001, the number of reported forcible sex crimes on campus increased by 205% from 2,200 in 2001 to 6,700 in 2014.

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

[AccessCMO](#)

[Bluehouse Group](#)

[Edgeworks Display](#)

[Global-Z International](#)

[Helm Construction Solutions](#)

[Lynx Mountain Guides of Vermont](#)

[Milk Money](#)

[OneReport, Inc.](#)

[Sugarbush](#)

[Twincraft Skincare](#)

[Vermont Gas Systems](#)

[Vermont Student Assistance Corporation](#), and

[Windham Regional Commission](#)

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

Highway Construction on the Job Training Positions Available Statewide

VTrans is looking for women and minorities who are interested in starting or advancing a career in highway construction. Contractors around the state have PAID training opportunities available. [Learn more here](#) or by contacting Beth Meyer-

Funding Opportunities

Vermont Mentoring Grants

Mobius announced the start of the 2017-2018 Vermont Mentoring Grants application process. These annual grants support new and existing mentoring programs in Vermont that match adult volunteers as mentors for youth mentees (ages 5-22) in long-term, one-to-one, quality-based mentoring relationships. *Applications are due by July 28.* [More information](#)

Ehrich at (802) 828-2715 or
beth.meyerehrich@vermont.gov.

[about the grant guidelines and how to
apply here.](#)

Upcoming Events

Top Tips for Digital Media Outreach

[Monday, June 12 from 1:00 - 4:00 p.m., RETN - Burlington Media Factory](#)

Get started telling your organization's story online and via video at this Vermont Story Lab workshop. Learn strategies for reaching your audience and explore digital media tools that elevate and amplify your story. Regional Educational Television Network's (RETN) Gin Ferrara and Ross Ransom will share great examples and provide a basic toolkit for getting underway. Cost is \$35.

Secure Attachment Hacks with Ana Campanile

[Monday, June 12 from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., Good Beginnings of Central VT](#)

[Monday, June 19 from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m., Aldrich Public Library, Barre](#)

Good Beginnings of Central Vermont presents Secure Attachment Hacks as part of their early parenting class series, The Birthing Year. All classes in this series are free and open to the public. Registration requested.

SWE Conflict Management Workshop

[Monday, June 12 from 5:30 – 7:00 p.m., Essex Police Department](#)

This SWE North Country workshop on conflict management will be presented by Basak Simal and Kendra Goudreau. The interactive workshop will cover techniques to help navigate even the toughest conflicts, explores conflict management styles,

will help participants figure out which one is their default, and determine when to waiver and use a specific style. Participants will further understand how to navigate volatile situations such as office politics and how to disagree with their boss. Optional dinner at your own cost after the workshop at Mimmos in Essex.

Getting to Thrive: Equity Matters

[Friday, June 15 from 5:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m., Burlington Boathouse](#)

Voices for Vermont's Children's annual awards celebration & fundraising event celebrating advocacy on behalf of kids and families. Listen to music from Young Tradition Vermont and dance to Red Hot Juba. James Duff Lyall, the new Executive Director of the ACLU of Vermont speaks about why fighting for equity matters and how together we can make a difference for kids and families. Tickets cost \$60 - \$70.

Pricing for Your Market

[Thursday, June 16 from 12:00 – 2:00 p.m., Center for Women and Enterprise, Burlington](#)

Understanding your customers' perceived value and establishing a pricing strategy that is right for your market is as important to your success as understanding your costs and breakeven point. This workshop covers pricing strategies, prospective customers' value points, and maximizing profits using various pricing strategies and tactics. Fee is \$20.

Storytelling Strategies that Move People to Donate

[Thursday, June 22 from 1:00 – 4:00 p.m., Marlboro College Graduate Center](#)

At the heart the work as a nonprofit communicator is the powerful mission-driven story that your organization has to share. How effectively are you bringing that story to funders, grantors, businesses, and individual donors so that they feel

moved to support your work over the long-term? This half-day workshop, sponsored by Vermont Story Lab, will offer creative, dynamic strategies to showcase programs and participants to demonstrate impact. From shaping a poignant client story for an annual appeal to representing your program work through a compelling infographic, this interactive lab will share robust examples of effective nonprofit storytelling for specific diverse audiences. Please bring a stellar example of your own to share. The session will be facilitated by Marybeth Christie Redmond, a writer-journalist and former director of development and communications at Vermont Works for Women. Workshop cost is \$35.

Women in Wind Keelboat Basics

[Monday – Friday June 26 – 30, 5:00 – 8:00 p.m., Community Sailing Center, Burlington](#)

If you have never experienced big boat sailing or enjoy the more relaxed side of the sport, then keelboats may be the right boat for you. Participants will be in a boat with several adults and an instructor, all learning how to sail together. Everyone will have an opportunity to trim sails, steer the boat, and approach a mooring. Cost is \$320 for the 15-hour class.



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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