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VIEW

Vermont Information Exchange for Women

Newsletter



April 25th, 2018

News & Resources

VCW Listening Project Survey

The Vermont Commission on Women would like to know about the most important issues facing women in Vermont. We are doing this survey to learn about what is working well, and what is not working well. Anything you share with us will help us understand how we can best help women in Vermont. Your answers to this survey are completely anonymous and confidential. Nobody will know what answers you gave, so you can feel free to tell us whatever you want. It only takes 5 – 10 minutes to complete. [Take the survey here](#), and please share it widely. Many

thanks for helping to inform our future work.



VCW Presents FREE Salary Negotiation Workshop

*Saturday, May 26 from 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m., Goodrich Memorial Library,
Newport*

Choosing not to negotiate is leaving some serious money on the table. Over 50% of women say they are apprehensive about negotiating and only 30% of women consistently negotiate salaries. For many of us, even the thought of negotiating makes us nervous. How much do I ask for? When is the best time to do it? What if I don't feel like I deserve more? Let's answer these questions and more! This workshop is designed to teach you how to negotiate with confidence. Avoid the traps many of us fall into and get in plenty of time for practice. VCW is sponsoring this free workshop, facilitated by Lindsey Lathrop, Career Coach at FromWithin Coaching.

Summer Camp Registrations Open

- [Camp Outright](#), August 19th -25th, at Camp Common Ground, Starksboro
- [Girls Rock Camp](#), August 6th – 11th, Rock Point School, Burlington
- [Girl Scouts of the Green and White Mountains](#), various dates and locations
- [Vermont Tech's Coder Camp for Girls](#), July 16th – 20th, Vermont Tech, Willison
- [Vermont Tech's Rosie's Girls STEM Leadership Camp](#), July 8th -12th, Vermont Tech, Randolph
- [Vermont Works for Women Rosie's Girls Weld & Rosie's Girls Build](#), various dates and locations

Falcone Selected as Fourth Executive Director of Mercy Connections

Lisa Falcone has been selected as the fourth Executive Director of Mercy Connections. Lisa comes to Mercy Connections from United Way of Northwest Vermont, where she currently serves as the Working Bridges Director. She is also Founder and Senior Advisor of WorkLab Innovations, a start-up organization supporting communities across the country as they replicate and build sustainable workplace practices through employer networks. Lisa spent many previous years working in higher education and business/industry workforce development. She has a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Maine, and a Master of Arts from Bowling Green State University. [Read more.](#)

Vermont Women in Higher Education Seeks Board Member

The Board consists of a group of dedicated women who are responsible for working toward the goals of the organization, including the planning and implementation of conferences and events which will further the professional development of women across the state. Ideally, candidates will have demonstrated a commitment to the advancement of women in Vermont through past VWHE volunteer service.

However, a strong work ethic and passion are always welcome, no matter your past service to VWHE. If you are interested in being considered, please send an email with letter of interest and resume to [Catherine Welch](#) by **Friday, May 4th**.

Vermont Human Rights Commission March/April Newsletter

The Vermont Human Rights Commission's March newsletter focused on fair housing, familial status, and public assistance. [Read it here.](#)

Star Teacher Held Back by Vermont's Child Care Crisis

"One competitive center had two openings, but to secure the spots, the Scotts would have had to start paying for both of them right away. Joanna remembers thinking, 'There's no way I'm paying for six months to hold a spot for a child that's not even born yet.' Joanna had to sign her contract for the next school year in March of 2016, around the time Bree was born. She waited until the last minute to make the decision. 'I remember being in the birthing center with Bree and discussing 'Am I going back or not?' with my family. We had looked for child care, went over our finances,' she says. Jake made more money than she did. It would be easier to live without her salary than without his. 'All signs were pointing toward, don't go back to work.'" [Read more.](#)

Lucy Leriche: Birth Control is Not an Optional Health Care Expense

"For the 99 percent of U.S. women of reproductive age who rely on, or have relied on, birth control to function in their lives, we know that this critical component of health care is not optional. In Vermont, the unemployment rate is the fourth lowest in the country. Among women, it is just 2.9 percent compared to men at 3.2 percent. Women now participate in the workforce in numbers nearly equal to men. For the women who rely on birth control to support themselves and their families, or for women who rely on birth control to complete their education and pave the way to their future, we know that birth control is an essential, necessary part of day-to-day life..." [Read more.](#)

Then Again: From farm to factory, young Vermont women were pioneers of paid labor

"New Englanders had heard the horrors of the child labor employed in Britain and mimicked by some American factory owners, and they wanted no part of it. They

would create mills that treated and paid their workers decently. Older farm girls like Mary Paul were the solution. They quickly became skilled workers and were comparatively inexpensive. New to the workforce, they seemed glad for the money they received, even if it was half what their male counterparts were paid.” [Read more.](#)

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

[ACLU Vermont](#)

[Karmic Connection Yoga](#)

[Ladeau & Ladeau, LLC](#)

[Pathways Vermont](#)

[Rhino Foods](#)

[Sprout New Media](#)

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

Building Bright Futures is hiring a Regional Coordinator in Chittenden County!

Building Bright Futures (BBF) is seeking a collaborative leader to be the Regional Coordinator supporting the Chittenden BBF regional early childhood council. This is a great opportunity to join a vibrant, public-private partnership with statewide impact on Vermont's early childhood system, and at the same time deeply engage with the local community in collective efforts improve outcomes for young children and families. The ideal candidate is a collaborative leader with excellent facilitation skills and experience, a proven ability to foster coordination and cooperation among diverse partners, and experience managing multiple priorities in an

organized and results-oriented way, who is committed to children, families, and building social and racial equity in organizations and systems. The Regional Coordinator position is part-time, 32 hour a week position with a competitive salary, benefits, and flexible work schedule. Please email a cover letter, resume and contact information for three references **by May 9th** to kmobbs@buildingbrightfutures.org.

Upcoming Events

Lunchtime Town Hall with Lt. Gov. Zuckerman on Women in Politics and Leadership

[TODAY, April 25 at noon, Facebook Live](#)

Lt. Gov. Zuckerman will talk with Cary Brown, Executive Director of Vermont Commission on Women and Representative Diana Gonzalez about opportunities for women in politics and leadership.

Wholesomebodies: A training for adults with youth in their lives

[Thursday, April 26 from 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Orleans County Child Advocacy Center, Newport](#)

This curriculum is sponsored by Umbrella, and will help participants increase knowledge, skills, and motivation to model and teach healthy sexuality to youth.

H.O.P.E. Works' 38th Annual Take Back the Night

[Thursday, April 26 from 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m., UVM Royall Tyler Theatre, Burlington](#)

Take Back the Night is an international rally and march, organized in local

communities with the purpose of unifying people of all genders in raising awareness of and ending sexual violence, with a special focus given to the recognition of survivor experiences. The event begins at the UVM Royall Tyler Theatre and will be followed by a march down Church Street and will conclude at City Hall. At 6:30 p.m., an optional survivor speak out will take place in Contois Auditorium at Burlington City Hall.

Film Screening: The Mask You Live In

[Thursday, April 26 from 6:30 – 9:00 p.m., Catamount Arts, St. Johnsbury](#)

A free community screening of *The Mask You Live In*, followed by a community discussion led by panelists including Health and Wellness educator Jesse Holden and Human Services veteran and activist Greg MacDonald. Directed by filmmaker Jennifer Seibel Newsom, *The Mask You Live In* follows the struggles of young men and boys trying to stay true to themselves while negotiating restrictive masculinity ideals. Pressured by media, peer groups, and even the adults in their lives, the film's protagonists confront messaging encouraging them to disconnect from their emotions, devalue authentic friendships, objectify and degrade women, and resolve conflicts through violence.

G.I.R.L. Expo

[Saturday, April 28, Champlain Valley Expo, Essex Jct.](#)

Where else can you discover your inner artist, relax with yoga, meet a superhero, or pound a giant drum? Girls ages 5 to 18 and their families will enjoy a day of workshops, mainstage performances, hands-on exhibits, giveaways, and more! This event is open to Girl Scouts and the general public. Tickets are \$5 per person. Don't miss Change The Story VT's table at G.I.R.L. Expo!

Break the Silence Film Screening

[Sunday, April 29 at 4:00 p.m., Manchester Community Library](#)

A screening of 'Break the Silence,' a powerful documentary about women's reproductive & sexual health histories by local filmmaker Willow O'Feral, followed by a panel discussion and talkback with the filmmaker, several film participants, and representatives of the LGBTQIA Alliance, Planned Parenthood, and PAVE Bennington. \$10-50 suggested donation, all proceeds go to Planned Parenthood's Southern VT health centers.

Life in a Jar: The Irena Sendler Project

[Monday, April 30 at 6:00 p.m., Maclure Library, Pittsford](#)

Dr. Jack Mayer tells the story of Irena Sendler, a holocaust hero who rescued 2,500 children from the Warsaw ghetto. Sendler's story remained unknown after the war—until three Kansas teens uncovered a reference to her heroism 60 years later. They helped transform her story into a National History Day play called *Life in a Jar*, finally bringing recognition to Sendler's heroism and helping to open dialogue about the Holocaust in Poland. The "girls from Kansas" continue to champion Sendler's legacy—courage, tolerance, and respect for all—and are living examples of the power individuals have to change the world.

Workers Rights Day / May Day Rally

[Tuesday, May 1 from 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m., Vermont State House](#)

Do you support raising the minimum wage and creating a paid family and medical leave program? Join the Vermont Raise the Wage Coalition a May Day celebration of economic justice and worker's rights. This event offers opportunities to advocate with policymakers, a press conference, and workshops on a variety of topics concerning the state budget and human rights. There will be a May Day rally immediately following afternoon workshops hosted by the Human Rights Council of Vermont on the Lawn at 4:30.

Screwnomics Book Discussion with Author Rickey Diamond and VCW's Cary Brown

[Tuesday, May 1 at 7:00 p.m., Bear Pond Books, Montpelier](#)

A book launch celebration and discussion on the state of women's economics with author Rickey Gard Diamond and Vermont Commission on Women Director Cary Brown. Free and open to the public.

Social Tango Dance Workshop with SafeArt

[Wednesday, May 2 from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m., SafeArt, Chelsea](#)

Social Tango is a dance of improvising together. It's intuitive collaboration and an encouraging way to learn about oneself and the other. Based on more combinations of walk, turn and hold than you ever thought possible, Tango is immediately do-able, and then limitless in possibilities. There are lead and follow roles, complete with a paradox: when the follower understands the movement, they become the leader by the simple act of moving, while the leader follows in order to offer the connection. Open to all ages and skill levels – no previous dance experience is necessary! \$12 per person.

What if Poor Women Ran the World?

[Wednesday, May 2 at 7:00 p.m., Goodrich Memorial Library, Newport](#)

Labor historian Annelise Orleck tells the story of nine African-American union maids in Las Vegas during the 1970s who challenged welfare cuts and built a long-lasting, vibrant anti-poverty program run by poor mothers.

Tamalpa Art/Life Process Workshop with SafeArt

Friday, May 3 at 9:00 a.m. – Sunday, May 5 at 4:30 p.m., SafeArt, Chelsea

In this free three-day expressive arts workshop for female-identifying participants, foster the body's capacity to heal and transform from stress and trauma through artistic expression and mindful contact with the natural world. This workshop will utilize the tools of the Tamalpa Life/Art Process, which include movement, drawing, and writing, to develop a connection, communication, and self-awareness. Developed by Anna and Darla Halprin, the Life/Art Process is an integrated approach to work through stress, illness, and trauma. It explores the wisdom of the body as expressed through movement, dance, and imagination.

Women's Self Defense with the Safety Team

Tuesdays, May 8 and 15 from 6:00 – 8:15 p.m., Montpelier Senior Activity Center

Women's Self-Defense Workshops teach simple, powerful, and effective personal protection strategies that are easy to understand and remember. Participants learn how to recognize predatory behavior before it becomes a threat, diffuse it verbally, if possible, and to apply effective physical self-defense techniques, if necessary. \$45 resident/\$60 non-resident per class.

Vermont Network ANI Conference

Wednesday, May 9 and Thursday, May 10, Topnotch Resort and Spa, Stowe

An opportunity to engage in dialogue about what it means to address domestic and sexual violence by uprooting the causes of violence and oppression from many different paths. By the end of the Vermont Network ANI Conference, participants will have built their capacity to engage in movement-building work and be better prepared for a future in which we engage a broader community of allies to uproot the causes of violence and will have examined what it means to uproot the causes of violence using many different strategies and pathways. **Register by TODAY, April 25th**, it costs \$50. Scholarships available.

SPARK: Women Can Do @ Generator

Wednesday, May 9 from 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m., Generator Makerspace, Burlington

Vermont Works for Women and Generator Makerspace present Spark: Women Can Do @ Generator, a free career exploration event for female and non-binary identifying high school students in grades 11 and 12. Meet women who are shaping the technology landscape of Vermont, tour the makerspace, participate in hands-on activities, and so much more! School administrators must return [student registration forms](#) along with proof of school insurance **no later than May 4th**.

Estate Planning Workshop for Women

Wednesday, May 9 from 9:30 – 11:30 a.m., The River Garden, Brattleboro

Women in the financial and philanthropic world will help you become well-versed in sound estate planning that fulfills your individual needs and values. We'll cover retirement income, taxes, asset protection, charitable giving, life insurance, trusts, long-term care, and advance directives. This is a free workshop; light refreshments will be provided. Registration requested.

2nd Annual Persist 5k Run/Walk

Sunday, May 13 at 9:00 a.m., Community Sailing Center, Burlington

Participants may choose to run or walk a 5k course (3.1 mi) or a shorter 1-mi course. Proceeds from the event will go to the [Vermont Women's Fund](#), an organization that supports Vermont's women and girls through collective philanthropic giving.

Dandelion Run

[Saturday, May 19 at 9:00 a.m., Derby Beach House](#)

The Dandelion Run is a competitive and recreational half marathon on back roads deep in the heart of the Northeast Kingdom of Vermont. Don't let the name fool you. The "Dandy" is a hilly, thigh-burning challenge. Your reward: a run that takes you through farms and forests, on dirt roads through uncut green fields blanketed with millions and millions of dandelions. The "Kingdom" is one of the first geotourism areas in the world, specially designated by National Geographic. The run also offers less hilly 10 k, 4-mile, 2-mile and 1-mile options for runners and walkers. Pricing varies depending on the course. 20% of all registration fees go directly to support Umbrella, an organization elevating the voices of women, families, and survivors of interpersonal violence in the Northeast Kingdom of Vermont since 1976.

Is Entrepreneurship Right for You?

[Wednesday, May 23 from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., Center for Women and Enterprise, Burlington](#)

During this free workshop, participants will learn about the common traits and characteristics of entrepreneurs, identify the risks and rewards of self-employment, conduct a self-assessment that will help participants decide if business ownership is right for them, discuss the importance of a business plan, and find out more about CWE programs and resources that can help.



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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