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VIEW

Vermont Information Exchange for Women

Newsletter



October 1, 2020

News & Resources

[Today is Native American Women's \(un\)Equal Pay Day](#)

Native women will lose \$1,035,360 over the course of their careers to the pay gap.

Source: National Women's Law Center

#NativeWomensEqualPay
#EquityforNativeWomen



Despite being original inhabitants and stewards of this land, Native American women have never been compensated for the full value of their labor in the U.S. workforce. Native American women are typically paid only 60 cents for every dollar paid to white, non-Hispanic men. Over the course of a 40-year career, this adds up to a total of \$1,035,360. This wage gap means that Native American women have to work until October 1 – to make as much as white, non-Hispanic men were paid in the previous calendar year alone.

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month

Find your [local member program of the Vermont Network Against Domestic and Sexual Violence](#) to get help and support, or to donate or volunteer.

October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month

It's a great month to schedule your mammogram and remind those you love to do so as well. [Find guidelines for breast cancer screenings from the American Cancer Society.](#)

Ginsburg, Champion of Gender Equality, Becomes 1st Woman to Lie in State | VPR

[Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg lay in state Friday at the U.S. Capitol,](#) the first woman and the first Jewish person to be given that honor in the nation's history.

Lisa Senecal: Justice Ginsburg's genius was that she taught us how to row | VTDigger

"Justice Ginsburg's legacy of legal arguments and victories as an attorney, and her majority opinions on the Supreme Court, changed lives and our country for the better. Yet, despite her great body of work, we remain a flawed nation with inequities that cannot be left to stand. She moved us closer to being "a more perfect union" as our Constitution's preamble describes, but Justice Ginsburg left us all with much to do. And that's the superpower of the leader type of hero: [She taught us how to row toward shore, while lifting others and teaching them along the way.](#)"

Melinda Moulton: RBG and women's rights | VTDigger Commentary

"A new generation of young women are rising up to meet this moment to fight to protect the rights that Justice Ginsburg so skillfully fought for. And RBG's words will forever carry them forward toward their dreams of a more equal and just world for all women: ['Women belong in all places where decisions are made.](#) It shouldn't be that women are the exception.'" - Former VCW Commissioner Melinda Moulton for

VTDigger

Speaking Truths Project | Women's Justice & Freedom Initiative

The Speaking Truths Project is a WJFI initiative to create space for all women, all girls and all LGBTQ+ people who have been or are incarcerated in CRCF to share their experiences, art, wisdom, expertise and words. [Check it out.](#)

Community activists push for prison alternatives | WCAX

[Women's Justice and Freedom Initiative held a community discussion on Tuesday night to hear from those in support of prison abolition.](#) The group brainstormed alternatives to incarceration. Their main goal is to ultimately get rid of all prisons in the state, specifically Chittenden Regional Correctional Facility, which is the state's only women's prison. Some of the panelists, including Ashley Messier, who is the executive director of WJFI, were formerly incarcerated at CRCF. She's a survivor of domestic and sexual violence and believes prison is ineffective in addressing victims' underlying trauma. Messier thinks the answer is to confront those issues in more holistic, healing and restorative ways, such as therapy and rehabilitation, to actually meet their needs.

. . . and they cared: How to Create Better, Safer Learning

Environments for Girls of Color | National Women's Law Center

For many girls of color, in particular Black girls, school discipline and safety has traditionally been more about criminalizing their behavior than supporting their learning and growth. In partnership with the Education Trust, NWLC hopes to reverse that trend with the release of [". . . and they cared": How to Create Better, Safer Learning Environments for Girls of Color.](#) Contrary to the belief that exclusionary discipline policies make schools safer, this guide shows that when schools have high rates of suspension for minor offenses, students and teachers more often report feeling unsafe or unsupported in their learning environment.

When policymakers and educators intentionally focus on understanding discipline data and purposefully work alongside students and families to adjust policies in equitable ways, exclusionary discipline incidences decrease and school safety increases.

J. Alvin Wakefield: Yes, all lives matter, but some seem to matter more | VTDigger Commentary

“What is very much in doubt today, however, is that many Blacks and other people of color do not feel that we are included in the “ALL” part of that proposition. If anything, we are treated as though our lives do not, in fact, matter. Most of us can readily recall the unprovoked killings of unarmed Blacks for the most minor (or nonexistent) offenses across the country by various “authority” figures with guns: a young caregiver shot while sleeping in her own bed in Kentucky; a bright young man jogging through a neighborhood road in Georgia; a 12-year-old child playing with a toy gun in a park in Ohio; a man choked to death over selling single cigarettes in New York and another experiencing the same result while clearly in police custody; an amateur violinist killed while walking home from the grocery store in Colorado; a young boy returning in early evening to his father’s home after buying some Skittles in Florida; and many others far too many to enumerate.”

Alis Headlam: Acknowledging white privilege | VTDigger Commentary

“I never saw nor understood that there was a significance to the privilege of living in neighborhoods that offered better equipped schools, good health care and safety from localized crime. When doors opened for me, I thought it was because I deserved the opportunities given me. [I did not realize that others were not given the same chances in life.](#) I believed in the ‘American dream.’ Belief in the dream permeated every step, every opportunity, every benefit I encountered.”

Special Film Series Race & US Elections | White River Indie Films

WRIF (White River Indie Films) presents [special film series Race & US Elections](#), [four current documentary films](#) and two live panel discussions that aim to elucidate interrelated forces of structural racism impacting the functioning of American democracy. Available to the public free of charge with support from the NH Charitable Foundation, the Leslie Center for the Humanities at Dartmouth, and the Ben & Jerry's Foundation, this film series aims to catalyze dialogue and action to protect our democratic processes.

The Family Connectivity Project | Good Beginnings of Central Vermont

The Family Connectivity Project is a collaboration of Building Bright Futures, the Green Mountain United Way, The Family Center of Washington County, Good Beginnings of Central Vermont, and rbTech. Our goal is to ensure that families with children 0 to 5 can access virtual or phone-in services from community service providers during this COVID-19 pandemic. Specifically, we aim to help families with barriers to access that result from poor internet or cell service or lack of a device or other appropriate technology. If you know of a family who could benefit from this assistance, please encourage them to fill out this [online referral form](#). A member of the Family Connectivity Project will be in touch to identify the family's needs and next steps.

Scientists thought only male birds sang - until women joined the research | World Economic Forum

"Recent findings have shown that female song is widespread, and it is likely that the ancestor of all songbirds had female song. Now, rather than asking why males originally evolved song, the question has become why both sexes originally evolved song, and why females have lost song in some species.

In a recently published study, [we reviewed 20 years of research on female bird](#)

[song and found that the key people driving this recent paradigm shift were women.](#)

If fewer women had entered this field, we believe that it likely would have taken much longer to reach this new understanding of how bird song originally evolved. We see this example as a powerful demonstration of why it's important to increase diversity in all fields of science."

Study Examines The Lasting Effects Of Having — Or Being Denied — An Abortion | NPR

In The Turnaway Study, Diana Greene Foster shares research conducted over 10 years with about 1,000 women who had or were denied abortions, tracking impacts on mental, physical and economic health. [In June, NPR's Terry Gross spoke with Diana Greene Foster on Fresh Air.](#)

Communicating About People with Disabilities | National Disability Rights Network

The National Disability Rights Network shares [suggestions for writing, reporting, and speaking to or about people with disabilities.](#)

Beyond the poverty rate: what are families really working with? | Voices for Vermont's Children

[When families move "out of poverty" according to the official poverty measure, they often remain well below incomes that could provide economic security.](#) People who are below two times the poverty threshold (what is often called "low income"); three times the threshold (which is closest to what our State's Basic Needs Budget lays out); and only half the poverty threshold, also need to be carefully counted. In 2019, for example, Vermont estimates show a slight decrease in official poverty for children - but the same percentage of children - 30% - remained "low income."

Telling a Story About Families and Opportunity | The Opportunity Agenda

[This memo lays out a foundation for communicating about the importance of paid family and medical leave policies](#) for all types and shapes of families. It is based on both qualitative and quantitative research completed in 2019, with additional research from May 2020 during the COVID-19 pandemic, and builds on a range of additional communications best practices garnered from both research and the experience of communications experts and family support advocates from across the country.

Child Marriage in the United States: A Synthesis of Evidence on the Prevalence & Impact | International Center for Research on Women

“The research that has been done to estimate the prevalence and impact of child marriage in the U.S. to date shows that without legal protections, [significant numbers of children \(mostly girls\) continue to marry in the U.S. each year](#), preventing them from completing their education; lowering their future earnings; causing physical, reproductive, and mental health problems; exposing them to multiple forms of violence; and increasing their likelihood of divorce.

These findings are not surprising. Where this evidence overlaps with the much richer body of evidence from countries where child marriage has classically been studied, the findings are consistent. Just like in the U.S., child marriage in other contexts has been shown to interrupt education, increase girls’ likelihood of living in poverty, increase the likelihood of early and frequent childbearing, harm mental health, increase girls’ likelihood of experiencing domestic violence and divorce, and reduce girls’ agency and decision-making power over their education and reproduction.”

Girl Scouts of the White and Green Mountains donate more than 81,000 packages of cookies | Vermont Business Magazine

[Girl Scouts of the Green and White Mountains have donated more than 81,000 packages of Girl Scout Cookies to hometown heroes, those in the military, and to those simply in need this year.](#) That's more than four times the number of packages donated last year, and a likely record for the council. The Vermont Foodbank and the New Hampshire Food Bank were grateful to receive thousands of packages of Girl Scout Cookies, which immediately went out the door to people feeling the pinch in this difficult time.

Employment Opportunities

Regional Coordinator for Southeast Vermont (part-time) | Building Bright Futures

Building Bright Futures (BBF) is seeking a collaborative leader to be the [Regional Coordinator supporting early childhood councils in the Southeast Vermont region](#) serving the Brattleboro AHS district which includes much of Windham County. The Regional Coordinator is responsible for supporting regional council operations, coordinating the implementation of the region's action plan, and serving as a liaison between the regions and BBF's statewide network. The ideal candidate will have a proven ability to foster coordination and cooperation among diverse partners, excellent facilitation skills, and be organized and results-oriented. Regional coordinators are based from home with the ability to travel regularly to support work across the region.

Finance Manager (full-time) | Steps to End Domestic Violence

The [Finance Manager](#) is responsible for the overall administration and fiscal functioning of the agency. In addition to the oversight of payroll, grant management, budgeting, accounting, Finance Manager engages in proactive annual planning to meet the agency plans and needs in collaboration with the Executive Director and Administrative Team. The Finance Manager is a member of the Administrative Team and reports directly to the Executive Director.

Operations Support Associate | VT-HEC

This [part-time position will be our primary customer service liaison](#), providing support for registration, billing, and general inquiries regarding our workshops and courses. Additional responsibilities include helping to coordinate our live and virtual events, providing communication and support leading up to/during/post events, and keeping consistent business hours (email and phone). This position will have the opportunity to telecommute, but some office hours will be required.

Upcoming Events

Child Nutrition during COVID - What Vermont Community Leaders Need to Know | Hunger Free Vermont

Today, October 1, 3:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Legacy of Learning: Women in Leadership | Norwich University

Today, October 1, 4:30 – 5:30 p.m.

Social Construction & Implicit Bias: A Discussion of Land Use Law & the Economics of Crime | Vermont Law School

Today, October 1, 6:00 – 7:30 p.m.

Community Recovery Visits: Grand Isle, and Windsor

Grand Isle, Today, October 1, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Windsor, October 8, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

A Force to be Reckoned With: Womxn in VT's Food System | Shift Meals

Vermont's New Wave of Agriculture: Womxn in Hemp & Cannabis, Tonight, Thursday, October 1 at noon

Impactful Structural Change, Land Sovereignty, and Reparations, Thursday, October 8 at noon

BIPOC Womxn and Femmes: Navigating Vermont's Food System, Thursday, October 15 at noon

2020 Virtual 3SquaresVT Conference | Hunger Free Vermont

Tuesday, October 6 & Wednesday, October 7, 9:00 a.m. – 2:15 p.m.

Nurturing Healthy Sexual Development | Prevent Child Abuse Vermont

Tuesday, October 6, 5:00 – 7:00 p.m.

**Annual Benefit Celebration feat. Briana Scurry, U.S. Women's
Soccer World Cup Champion & 2-time Olympic Gold Medalist |
Vermont Women's Fund**

Tuesday, October 6, 5:30 – 7:00 p.m.

**New England Women in Livestock Business | UNH Cooperative
Extension**

Tuesday, October 6 – Thursday, October 15

Child Protection in Context | Voices for VTs Children

Wednesday, October 7, 12:30 p.m.

**Conspiracy Talk and American Democracy Today | VT Humanities
Council**

Wednesday, October 7 at 7:00 p.m.

**COVID Response: How to Prepare Your Business for the Next
COVID | Center for Women & Enterprise VT**

Thursday, October 8, 12:00 – 1:00 p.m.

**Making Videos: Arts for the Internet | Main Street Landing, Theatre
Engine, Big Heavy World, Vermont Dance Alliance**

[Production Basics](#), Thursday, October 8 at 6:00 p.m.

[Where to Host/Stream](#), Thursday, October 8 at 7:30 p.m.

Leading with Love and Empowering Families: Exploring COVID-19 and Racism Against AAPI Community Members | VT Human Rights Commission

Friday, October 9, 2:30 p.m.

Unpacking Whiteness | Peace & Justice Center

Friday, October 9, 5:30 – 6:45 p.m.

Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion in Work Spaces and Outdoor Places | VT Outdoor Business Alliance

Wednesday, October 15, 12:00 – 1:00 p.m.

Fall Conference: Pivot to Thrive | Women Business Owners Network

Wednesday, October 14, 1:00 – 4:30 p.m.

Power Forward | Center for Women & Enterprise VT

Fridays, starting October 16 from 9:30 a.m. – noon

Race Conversations | Waterbury Public Library

Tuesday, October 20, 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Legal Considerations for New Business Owners | Center for Women & Enterprise VT

Wednesday, October 21, 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Dr. Sally Roesch Wagner on the Women’s Suffrage Movement: Performances and Discussions | WILPF Burlington

Women Voted Here—Before Columbus, Wednesday, October 21 from 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Women’s Suffrage: The Rest of the Story, Thursday, October 22, 2:00 – 3:30 p.m.
Power, Privilege and the Vote: Women, Culture and Herstories of Suffrage, Thursday, October 22, 5:00 – 6:30 p.m.



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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Forward

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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