

Vermont Commission on Women Welcomes Hannah Elle Myers

The Vermont Commission on Women welcomes Hannah Elle Myers of Norwich as Executive Staff Assistant. Ms. Myers spent several years as Staff Attorney serving clients in the Northeast Kingdom for [Have Justice – Will Travel](#) (HJWT), a Vermont non-profit providing holistic pro-bono representation to low-income victims of domestic and sexual violence. Ms. Myers provided direct free legal services to hundreds of Vermont women and families for matters such as obtaining Relief from Abuse Orders (RFA's), divorce, child custody, and child support. She also provided legal guidance and direction for pro-se clients as part of HJWT's Legal Empowerment Assistance Program. Prior to her work at HJWT, Ms. Myers performed a broad range of legal activities at the South Royalton Legal Clinic, working with supervising attorneys on divorce, consumer debt, bankruptcy, foreclosure and juvenile cases. Ms. Myers holds an Associate's degree in Liberal Arts from Greenfield Community College, a Bachelor of Arts degree, *cum laude*, in Political Science from the University of New Mexico, and a Juris Doctor, *cum laude*, from Vermont Law School.

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[CLASP](#) (the Center for Law and Social Policy) brought officials and advocates from across the country together at the first "Making Paid Sick Leave Work: Sharing Strategies" convening. CLASP will launch a new website soon – [EnforcingSickDays.org](#), to continue the dialogue, which aims to be a one-stop shop for enforcement materials developed by agencies, advocates, and researchers across the country. Read more about it on their [website](#).

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Pathways from Poverty Council just presented their [annual report to the governor](#). Read the Council's report and recommendations to address poverty in Vermont for 2015 [here](#). VCW is proud to serve as a Council member. Read more about the report in this VT Digger [article](#).

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Capstone Community Action is conducting a [Community Needs Assessment Survey](#) of Lamoille, Orange, and Washington county residents. Residents are encouraged to take time to fill out the survey.

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Lund VT is presently hiring to fill several open positions, descriptions of open positions and directions to apply are available on their [website](#).

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Change The Story shared [this article](#) on Facebook

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VA in White River Junction offers ongoing Women's Group for Women in Recovery

Wednesdays, Starting November 18th from 11:00 am – 12:00 pm at the VA Medical Center in WRJ

The VA offers women's group for female patients enrolled in care at the VA who have a history of addiction, to learn and practice skills that can aid in the recovery process. For more information, contact [Carey Russ](#), Women Veterans Program Manager at (802) 295-9366x 5743.

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Child Protection Oversight Committee

Wednesday, November 18 from 10:00 am - 3:00 pm at the State House

Find agenda, documents and meeting updates on the [committee's webpage](#).

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[Paid Sick Leave Coalition](#)

Thursday, November 19th from 9:00 am – 10:30 am at Vermont NEA

The Paid Sick Days Coalition will review plans for the 2016 legislative session. To attend or to join the PSD, please contact [Anne Accettella](#), Campaign Director.

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Blue Ribbon Commission on High Quality, Affordable Child Care Meeting

Thursday, November 19th from 10:00 am – 12:30 pm at the State House

The Blue Ribbon Commission on Financing High Quality, Affordable Child Care was established by the Vermont Legislature to determine the hallmarks of a quality child care program and recommend to the Legislature and Governor strategies to support affordable, quality child care in Vermont. Check the [Commission's webpage](#) for updates on the meeting, such as location and agenda, as well as minutes and meeting handouts. To get involved in the Commission's work, contact [Let's Grow Kids](#).

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[Mercy Connections' InnovateHER Pitch](#)

November 22 from 2:00-5:00 pm at Mercy Connections

In collaboration with the Small Business Administration, Mercy Connections' Women's Small Business Program is hosting [InnovateHER](#), a national pitch competition to highlight women's businesses and their impact on the economy. The winner of each local pitch competition will have a chance to go to the national competition in Washington, DC to compete for up to \$70,000 in cash prizes! To participate, submit your business plan (20 pages or less, including attachments) to [Gwen](#), WSBP Director, by Wednesday, November 18 at 8am.

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[The Raising of America: Early Childhood and the Future of Our Nation](#)

The Raising of America series is available to stream online for free until November 30. The Raising of America Series is a five-part documentary series that explores the question: Why are so many children in America faring so poorly? What are the consequences for the nation's future? How might we, as a nation, do better? The National Partnership for Women and Families is conducting a survey about the documentary which can be found [here](#).

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[Mercy Connections' Women's Small Business Program offers Bookkeeping 101](#)

December 1 from 6:00 - 9:00 pm at Mercy Connections

3 weeks, 9 hours, and infinite savings in confusion! Learn things like: Cash vs. Accrual Accounting, Debits vs. Credits and Proper record-keeping. [Register and learn more today!](#)

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Women Veterans Writing Workshop

December 2nd, 9th, and 16th from 5:00-6:30 pm at the VA Medical Center in WRJ

Women have many stories to tell—whether about adventures or triumphs; traumas or challenges; loves or interests—for women live many lives, both on the outside and within. In this three-part writing workshop series for women veterans, writers will mine their life experiences—from the humorous, to the mundane, to the difficult—for stories that want to be told. Creative Nonfiction, the genre of memoir and personal essay, lends itself to personal narrative, and especially to the rich interior landscapes that define women’s lives. Workshops will consist of short creative nonfiction reading assignments, writing prompts and exercises, tips and strategies for development and revision, and workshop time to share and critique peer writing. Writers of all levels are welcome, and the goal of this fall series is to develop some understanding of nonfiction narrative, to practice certain elements of craft and technique, and to leave the workshop with one writing project underway. To sign up please call or email [Carey Russ](#), Women Veterans Program Manager, 802-295-9363x 5743.

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Film Screening of [Paycheck to Paycheck: The Life and Times of Katrina Gilbert](#)

December 3rd from 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm at Main Street Landing Film House

Presented by the United Way of Chittenden County Women’s Leadership Council, a panel discussion featuring Rachel Jolly of Vermont Works for Women, Heather Newcomb of VT Works for Women’s Fresh Food Kitchen, Dr. Felicia Kornbluh of University of Vermont (a former VCW Commissioner), and Anne Levesque of Wake Robin will follow the film. RSVP and learn more [here](#).

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[Mercy Connections’ Mercy Marketplace](#)

Saturday, December 5 from 10:30 am - 1:30 pm at Union Station

Purchase homemade crafts, art and food made by Mercy Connections participants! All income earned from sales goes directly to the participants. Mercy Marketplace is a project of Mercy Connections’ Education & Transition and Women’s Small Business Programs. Through a series of workshops led by our Women’s Small Business Program director, participants are gaining new skills in marketing and business basics which will be on display along with their creative talents. For more information, visit the Mercy Connections [website](#).

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Congratulations to **Suzi Wizowaty** of [Vermonters for Criminal Justice Reform](#) who was presented the David W. Curtis Civil Liberties Award from the ACLU-Vermont this month!

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[Vermont Commission on Women \(VCW\)](#)

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