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VIEW

Vermont Information Exchange for Women

Newsletter

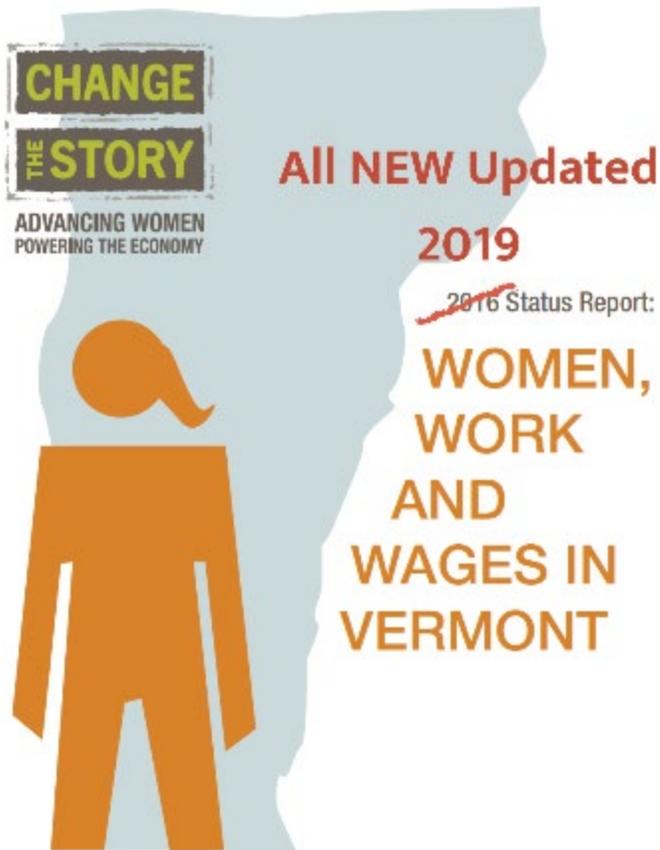


December 6, 2019

News & Resources

You're Invited: The Women, Work, and Wages Report Launch

Our partnership initiative with the VT Women's Fund and Vermont Works for Women, Change the Story has expanded this new Women, Work, and Wages report to include data about women with disabilities, women of color, unionization, intimate partner violence, student loan debt, the pink tax, and more. Join us in Barre on December 18th to learn more! [RSVP](#)



Change The Story Mini-Documentary by UVM Student Kate Troiano

The [video features our Chair Lisa Senecal](#) addressing this work, along with many VCW Commissioner cameos.

Seven Days | Guarded Secrets: Claims of Sexual Misconduct, Drug Use Plague a Vermont Prison for Women

A Seven Days investigation turned up credible allegations of sexual harassment or assault against more than a dozen officers who have worked at the Chittenden Regional since it became a women's prison in August 2011. Though the state appears to have investigated many of them, the findings of such probes remain confidential unless an officer is charged with a crime. Corrections officials refused to discuss the status of any accused officers. [Read more of Seven](#)

[Days' reporting.](#)

VT Digger | Report Sparks State Probe into Abuses At Vermont's Prison For Women

Gov. Phil Scott and Attorney General TJ Donovan will join forces to investigate claims of systemic abuse at Vermont's women's prison following an investigation published Wednesday in Seven Days. Chittenden County State's Attorney Sarah George has also pledged to review the sentences of 22 women inmates currently locked up at the Chittenden Regional Correctional Facility, with an eye toward reducing their time in the prison. [Read more.](#)

Related Event: Emergency Community Convening to Discuss CRCF

The ACLU-VT and Women's March Vermont host this [open community forum](#) on Tuesday, December 10th at 5:30 p.m. at the Ohavi Zedek Synagogue in Burlington to discuss systems accountability and immediate change.

#ICYMI: Watch the League of Women Voters' Criminal Justice in Vermont Speaker Series

Available thanks to ORCA Media.

- [The Impact of Incarceration: Women, Families, Society](#) panel held October 9, 2019
- [Prison Health Care panel](#) held November 13, 2019

Vermont PRAMS Data Brief - Workplace Leave, 2016-2018

The Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System (PRAMS) is a survey of women who recently gave birth, asking about their experiences and behaviors before, during and shortly after their pregnancy. Vermont has participated in PRAMS since 2001. A new [Vermont PRAMS data brief on workplace maternal leave](#) for 2016-2018 Vermont births is available.

VT Ranked #4 for Elder Economic Insecurity and Poverty for Singles, #2 for Couples

[Living Below the Line: Economic Insecurity and Older Americans, Insecurity in the States](#) 2016 from the Center for Social and Demographic Research on Aging, which promotes the demographic and applied research capacity within UMass Boston's Gerontology Institute.

Scott Administration Invites Public Input on State Budget

View the administration's [FY2021 budget overview](#), and submit comments about state expenditures through an [online forum](#) and [survey](#).

New episodes of *the Mend* from the Center for Crime Victim Services

"The Mend," is a podcast created to connect survivors and victims of crime with the services, organizations and resources that help support them.

- [Episode 10: Human Trafficking with Kira Krier from the Center for Crime Victims Services](#)
- [Episode 9: The Power of Storytelling with Keesha Ram](#)
- [Episode 8: Music & Massage](#)

and, #ICYMI:

- [Episode 7: Restorative Justice with VCW Commissioner Lisa Ryan](#)
- [Episode 6: Vermont National Guard with Sgt. Christine Lazelle](#)
- [Episode 5: Crime Victims Law & Policy with Rep. Maxine Grad](#)
- [Episode 4: The VT Network with Kelli Risitano](#)
- [Episode 3: APRISS Safety VineLink with Karen Adams and Lacey Reiber](#)
- [Episode 2: Anna Nasset](#)
- [Episode 1: VT Center for Crime Victim Services](#)

VT Digger: Advocates strategize on how to communicate about racial justice

About 70 local and state government, business, school, spiritual, civic and law enforcement leaders of different races, ethnicities and sexual orientations gathered for this month's [Vermont Vision for a Multicultural Future Conference](#) at Brattleboro's World Learning to talk about obstacles and opportunities. Xusana Davis, the state's first executive director of racial equity who recently moved to the state from New York City, said while Vermonters take pride in early historic efforts to abolish slavery and adopt same-sex unions, residents here have a ways to go when it comes to

racial discrimination. [Read more.](#)

VTDigger: Number of hate crimes reported by police in Vermont rises

Hate crime incidents reported by Vermont law enforcement agencies continued to rise in 2018, reaching their highest number since the Federal Bureau of Investigation began collecting data in 1995. In the 2018 report, released by the FBI, 30 of the 45 hate crime incidents in Vermont were attributed to the victim's race. Eleven were based on religion, three on sexual orientation and one on disabilities. [Read more.](#)

NYTimes: Men Say They Want Paid Leave but Then Don't Use All of It. What Stops Them?

Men today are as likely as women to say they need to have time off work to care for babies, aging parents or sick family members, new data show. Yet men are much less likely than women to actually take leave if it's not paid — and even if it is paid, they take much shorter leaves than women do. This is true even though many men say they want to share caregiving responsibilities equally, and despite the fact that they are more likely than women to have access to paid leave. [Read more.](#)

Farmer Focus Groups on Climate Change Adaptation Tools: Calling Women Farmers!

The University of Vermont is establishing focus groups on climate change adaptation resources to pilot climate change adaptation tools and resources designed for Vermont and Maine farmers. These resources were identified through interviews with farmers. The research team would like to hear more from you about how to improve these materials and make sure they address climate concerns of women farmers in New England. The team is looking for Maine and Vermont farmers to participate in focus groups in the winter of 2020. Farmers will be compensated \$50 each for their time, with focus groups lasting about 1.5 hours. To register your interest, please e-mail Dr. Meredith T. Niles.

National Women's Law Center Releases *Seize The Moment: State Playbook for Gender Equity*

Across the country, women, girls, and all people who face gender-based discrimination are standing up and speaking out, whether raising their voices in the Me Too movement, calling their elected officials, running for office, or taking to the streets. What they want is to knock down barriers to success and put in place policies that help them achieve their potential throughout their lives – at school, at work, at home, and in their communities. [Download the State Playbook for Gender Equity.](#)

Congratulations, Elizabeth Novotny, Esq., New President of the Vermont Bar Association

Elizabeth Novotny, Esq of Chittenden County, Vermont, became President of the Vermont Bar Association during the Vermont Bar Association's annual meeting on September 27, 2019. In Ms. Novotny's remarks to the membership, she praised the deep commitment of Vermont lawyers to public service and underrepresented communities. [Read more.](#)

Congratulations, Megan O' Brien, on Receiving 2020 AANP Nurse Practitioner State Award for Excellence

The American Association of Nurse Practitioners (AANP) has recognized Gifford Family Nurse Practitioner Megan O'Brien with the 2020 AANP Nurse Practitioner State Award for Excellence. O'Brien, who cares for patients as part of the hospitalist team at Gifford Medical Center, will be honored for her achievement in June 2020 during the AANP National Conference in New Orleans, La. [Read more.](#)

Former VCW Commissioner | 'Development is my thing': Melinda Moulton and Main Street Landing

The City of Burlington is defined by its waterfront, and its waterfront is defined by the work of Melinda Moulton. Moulton has restored, built or rebuilt some of the waterfront's most iconic structures, including a stunning restoration of the 1916 Union Station at the foot of Main Street. All the while, she has been proving that you can do well by doing good — really. [Read the cover story from VT Business Magazine.](#)

Special thanks to recent [Vermont Equal Pay Compact](#) signers:

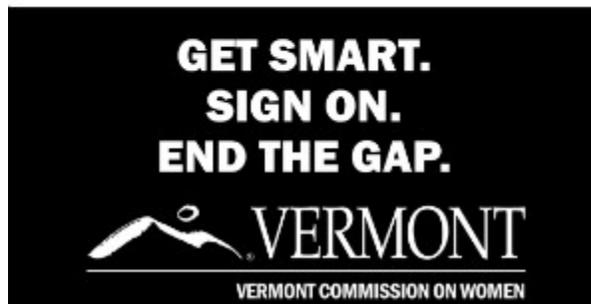
- [Landmark College](#)
- [MamaSezz Foods, Inc.](#)
- [Powers & Powers, P.C.](#)

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.

**VERMONT
EQUAL PAY
COMPACT**



Funding Opportunities

Funds Available from the Office on Violence Against Women

They plan to award up to \$467 million next year to help prevent violence against women in communities on tribal lands, rural areas and cities. Go here to find the open solicitations: <https://www.justice.gov/ovw/open-solicitations>.

Upcoming Events

2019 Advocacy Conference: Leading Change for Children | Let's Grow Kids

Saturday, December 7, 9:00 am to 2:00 pm, Northern Vermont University, Johnson

Saturday, December 7, 9:00 am to 2:00 pm, Burr & Burton Academy, Manchester

Annual Mercy Marketplace | Mercy Connections

Saturday, December 7 from 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m., Robert Miller Community Center, Burlington

Baker v. Vermont 20th Anniversary Celebration | Pride Center of Vermont

Friday, December 13 at 6:00 p.m., Burlington City Arts

Women, Work, and Wages Report Launch | Change The Story VT

Wednesday, December 18 from 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m., Old Labor Hall, Barre

Spotting the Signs of Forced Marriage: Tips for Hotline Advocates | Tahiri Justice Center

Wednesday, December 18 from 1:00 – 2:00 p.m., online webinar

Women's Game Night | Pride Center of VT

Monday, December 30 at 5:45 p.m., Pride Center of Vermont, Burlington

Farm Succession Planning Retreat | Annie's Project Managing for Today & Tomorrow

March 20-22, 2020, Lake Morey Inn, Fairlee, VT

This estate and succession planning course for farm women will be held over a 3-day weekend March 20-22 at Lake Morey Inn, Fairlee, VT. For more information, please contact [Kelly McAdam](#), tel. (603) 527-5475.



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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