



**EDUCATION & HUMAN DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**Friday, February 5, 2021 | 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.**  
**Teleconference**

**Commissioners present:** Kellie Campbell, Sarah Mell

**Commissioners absent:** Nancy Brooks

**Advisors present:** Lisa Townsen of Vermont Women in Higher Education, Jen Horowitz of Let's Grow Kids, Rhoni Basden of Vermont Works for Women, Amy Brady of Voices for Vermont's Children, Amy Russo-Perler of Vermont Early Childhood Advocacy Alliance, Morgan Crossman of Building Bright Futures.

**Staff present:** Hannah Lane

**Presiding:** Kellie Campbell

**Recording:** Hannah Lane

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**Called to order at 10:02 a.m.**

Approval of December, January 6<sup>th</sup>, and January 13<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes  
Moved by Nancy, seconded by Sarah.  
Motion approved unanimously.

Kellie moved the Committee language to the end of the agenda.

Kellie shared the final Getting Vermonters Back to Work data with the Committee. Women made up 81% of the total distribution of CRF funds at Vermont Tech. At CCV, Castleton, NVU aids like housing, food, tech, medical, childcare, related/transportation & books, 84% of the funds went to folks who identify as female. This was an effective stimulus for VT women.

Sarah – can this data be broken down by county or program? It would be really interesting to see if there are any differences in utilization across the state.

**Youth Risk Behavior Survey**

How do organizations use this data?

VWW uses this in their grant proposals and uses this data to help justify why we need programs like Rosie's Girls, in that these numbers are often far worse for students who identify as female.

Some consideration of doing an op-ed about this right before the pandemic, but that's been stalled.

Jen has used this data a lot in past jobs, and so is very familiar with the tool. They don't use it in great detail at Let's Grow Kids.

Kellie and Hannah reviewed some highlights about areas where female, LGBTQ students, and students of color are doing worse.

Sarah – we need to also recognize the positive data and the influence of the data on youth behavior as they hear about it.

Nancy – how many students are seeing a mental health provider? Not represented in the data.

Sarah - The YRBF is controlled in how many questions are asked – so when we add a question we need to take away a question.

Anticipating that the next report will be fascinating as it captures what's been happening for youth during the pandemic.

Sarah – the YRBF asks folks to be vulnerable, and sexual and dating violence is more underreported for men and boys, and so that's something we need to keep in mind when we review this data.

Students may be less likely to report walking, or dancing, other non-formalized activity as physical activity.

The group discussed tech center enrollment rates for female-identified students.

Let's Talk Harassment with Randolph Tech Center, and thinking about their home high schools about policies around dress codes that negatively impact female students, on average. Tech Centers have cultural issues, and there is still a stigma around who goes to tech centers. Unwritten rules have a huge impact but are hard to quantify. Eg, rule the girls have to wear a skirt or dress on game day.

We will link this out in our notes.

Sarah shared the [VT Network's Askable Adults campaign](#).

## **Updates**

2021 Legislative Agenda. Early Childhood Day at the Legislature is coming up on Wednesday, March 10<sup>th</sup>, registration will go out next week. Keynote speaker, two groups to learn about advocacy, and then a lunchtime chat with legislators by county.

Jen – H.171 is their vehicle for moving the work to transform VT’s childcare system. More opportunities to ramp up advocacy in the coming weeks and will keep us updated. Jen will be heading out on parental leave at the end of May.

Amy will also be going out on parental leave at the end of May.

Alison has just put together their advocacy priorities for the year. Just put out an outline – Rentry services, equitable career & employment pathways, & childcare and workplace policies that support women. Youth programming is ramping up this year, with virtual events with youth at Randolph Tech and Burlington Tech. Women Can Do will happen via a virtual package, including some hands-on kits. Hiring a program manager, and building out an online classroom, as well as a mentoring program.

VWW is preparing to do some outreach about new Perkins requirements, and there is a role for them to do more of this work with CTEs. Putting together a robust proposal about what they can offer in hopes they can engage more of them. Also working with CCV on access days, looking for some programming with a gender lens, highlighting females in non-trad roles.

Kellie would like to draw some attention to this high school, and beyond the young adult age group, it’s such a critical time in the development of youths' lives and can be very preventative.

The NEK Collaborative put together this [action report about how to rebuild in the NEK](#) and wanted to mention that one of their main sections draws attention to the educational needs of at-risk students, barriers, gaps in programs, and wanting to be sure that the lens is intersectional as they look at this data.

Tanya Kristen, Green Mountain United Way, covers the NEK, and she would be a great resource.

Hannah will connect Kellie with Eileen and others who are involved in the work.

**Meeting adjourned at 10:07 a.m.**