

Bennington County

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATORS ADVANCING AS A PROFESSION

Alyson Grzyb is the Director of the Bennington Early Childhood Center and a member of the Vermont Association for the Education of Young Children's (VTAEYC) Advancing as a Profession Task Force and Let's Grow Kids' Early Childhood Educator Leadership Circle. As a program director, Alyson notes that staff retention is a struggle, and that educators who share her passion for teaching young children are leaving the early education field for higher pay.

"We need a system that supports our educators so that all children can thrive—that's something I can't do on my own."

Advancing as a Profession is Vermont's workforce-led initiative. "Our goal is to create a unified fairly compensated workforce with clearly defined roles and sensible pathways to enter and grow within the profession." In her work as a member of both VTAEYC's Task Force and Let's Grow Kids' Leadership Circle, Alyson has teamed up with other early childhood educators to be a leading voice for systemic change.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR YES VOTE ON H.171!

SENATORS:

Brian Campion
Dick Sears Jr.

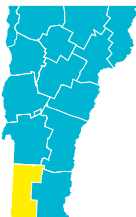
REPRESENTATIVES:

Sally Achey
Seth Bongartz
Nelson Brownell
Timothy R. Corcoran II

David Durfee
Kathleen James
Mary A. Morrissey
Michael Nigro

Kelly Pajala
Laura Sibilia
Linda Joy Sullivan
Dane Whitman

BENNINGTON COUNTY BY THE NUMBERS



CHILDREN LIKELY TO NEED CARE:

- 549 Infants
- 296 Toddlers
- 579 Preschoolers

CHILD CARE SPACES NEEDED TO MEET DEMAND:

- 338 for Infants
- 91 for Toddlers
- 157 for Preschoolers



“As an employer, I think that child care is essential to a thriving economy in our state, and we need an equally thriving child care infrastructure to support Vermont's workers.”

JAMES D. SAWTELLE
Wealth Management Advisor | Bennington



Despite my husband being a teacher and myself a pediatrician, we both learned from our children's early childhood educators. We would not have thought to have our children do things to build their self-care skills such as serving themselves food from a shared serving bowl or getting themselves dressed to go outside in their winter gear. **Child care is learning for both the child and the family.**



Photo courtesy of Megan Cross Photography

MEGHAN GUNN, MD
Pediatrician

Southwestern Vermont Medical Center | Shaftsbury