Resources for Families with Young Children

FINDING CHILD CARE

You can use the state of Vermont’s Bright Futures Information System to find information about child care programs in your area: www.brightfutures.dcf.state.vt.us.

If you would like one-on-one support with your child care search, you can contact your regional Community Child Care Support Agency. A list of regional Community Child Care Support Agencies can be found at dcf.vermont.gov/cdd/cccsa.

PAYING FOR CHILD CARE

Vermont’s Child Care Financial Assistance Program helps eligible families pay for child care services for children up to 13 years old, or up to age 19 for children with specialized needs. You can visit dcf.vermont.gov/childcarefinancialhelp or call 802-241-0849 for more information.

Act 166 Universal Prekindergarten Education provides access to 10 hours of publicly-funded prekindergarten education for Vermont students. You can find the application for pre-qualification, frequently asked questions, and other information at https://education.vermont.gov/student-support/early-education/universal-prekindergarten-act-166.

CONNECTING FAMILIES TO SUPPORTS

Parent Child Centers
Vermont’s network of 15 Parent Child Centers offer parent education, family support groups, playgroups, home visiting, and other family and child services. A list of regional Parent Child Centers can be found at dcf.vermont.gov/cdd/cccsa.

Vermont 2-1-1
If you need help finding housing, affording groceries, etc., you can contact Vermont 2-1-1 by dialing 211 from your phone. A 211 referral specialist will talk to you about your needs and help connect you to community supports and services.

Help Me Grow
The Help Me Grow Resource Hub, a key component of Vermont’s Help Me Grow system, provides information on parenting, connects families with community resources, and offers tools and screening to assess a child’s developmental progress for both caregivers and early childhood professionals. To access this information, you can call 211 extension 6, email info@helpmegrowvt.org, text HMGVT to 898211, or visit: helpmegrowvt.org.

Children’s Integrated Services (CIS)
Children’s Integrated Services offers family support, prevention services, and early intervention to help ensure the healthy development and well-being of Vermont’s young children. Services are low-cost or no-cost. For more information on available services and support, contact your regional CIS Coordinator at dcf.vermont.gov/partners/cis.

Vermont Early Childhood Special Education Services (ECSES)
ECSES provides early childhood special education for children ages 3 to 6 years old through the Vermont Agency of Education. For more information, contact Katie McCarthy, ECSES coordinator, at (802) 828-5213.