# **Addison County**

#### **BUILDING SUSTAINABLE CHILD CARE BUSINESSES**

Early Childhood Business Collaboratives (ECBC) help early childhood educators build financially sound, sustainable, high-quality businesses. In Addison County, the Counseling Service of Addison County (CSAC) coordinates the county-wide ECBC. The ECBC coordinator works with child care programs to contract for shared business needs and offer required professional development trainings for staff, as well as access human resources support, maintenance services, and information technology services. Sharing services saves time and money and allows early childhood educators to instead spend their energy on providing high-guality child care.

In 2021 CSAC and the ECBC began piloting a technology-based substitute teacher pool for local programs, and in partnership with Let's Grow Kids, CSAC is implementing a grant from the United States Department of Agriculture Rural Community Development Initiative to improve the financial stability of child care programs. The initiative offers training and resources to increase financial and business literacy skills, as well as access to business management experts. Based on learnings from this pilot, Let's Grow Kids supports a similar program in Chittenden County and recently launched an initiative with the Orange County Parent Child Center. Let's Grow Kids envisions scaling the model statewide as part of Vermont's sustainable child care system.

#### THANK YOU FOR YOUR YES VOTE ON H.171!

#### SENATORS: Christopher Bray

#### **REPRESENTATIVES:**

- Matthew Birong Ruth Hardv Peter Conlon Mari Cordes
- Philip Jay Hooper Diane Lanpher Terry Norris Larry Satcowitz

Robin Scheu Amv Sheldon Harvey Smith

### **ADDISON COUNTY BY THE NUMBERS**



#### CHILDREN LIKELY TO NEED CARE:

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- 471 Infants
- 240 Toddlers
- 475 Preschoolers

#### CHILD CARE SPACES NEEDED TO MEET DEMAND:

- 323 for Infants
- 129 for Toddlers
- 148 for Preschoolers

**Family child care homes** are the backbone of early childhood education in rural Vermont. I am one of over 400 family child care homes entrusted with guiding the development of children while their parents work."

#### COOKIE DANYOW

Owner, Mountain Road Preschool | Addison 2017 Vermont Early Educator of the Year

## "

My husband and I have always provided care for our grandchildren and our support helps reduce our own children's stress. Not every family has grandparents or other family members nearby who can

help with child care. Making high-quality, affordable, accessible child care available for all Vermont families is essential. The time is now."

> JODY BRAKELY, MD Retired Pediatrician | Middlebury

#### LetsGrowKids.org • invest@letsgrowkids.org