

Vermont's Child Care Campaign

2022 SUMMER UPDATE

Your Support in Action

2022 GOALS

With your support, together we will...

- » **INSPIRE VERMONTERS** to join the child care campaign and organize their communities on behalf of child care system transformation.
- » **ADVANCE SYSTEM TRANSFORMATION** as articulated in H.171/Act 45 and secure immediate investments in our child care system and its workforce of early childhood educators.
- » **SUPPORT EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATORS** with resources, tools, training and more to strengthen the current system of child care.

OUR PROGRESS TOGETHER

Since January, with your support, we...

- » **WELCOMED 1,588 NEW SUPPORTERS**, including 84 businesses and organizations that have endorsed Vermont's child care campaign.
- » **SUCCESSFULLY ADVOCATED** for \$12.8 million in investments in Vermont's child care system and affordability for families.
- » **SUPPORTED 332 EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATORS** statewide to engage in child care business administration programs and technology, and to add 650 new, high-quality child care spaces.



A NOTE FROM ALY

In the first six months of 2022, we have worked together to advance our shared vision of a statewide system of child care that centers equity, affordability, and quality. We've also taken immediate action to respond to Vermont's early childhood education workforce crisis, because as you well know, when we invest in our children from the start, everyone wins! Whether you're looking for short-term gains or long-term solutions—public investment in child care is one of the most important investments we can make as a state for a stronger, brighter, more resilient future for all Vermonters.

THANK YOU for your unwavering commitment to Vermont's children, families, and communities. I look forward to our work together in the coming months!

◎ BUSINESSES & ORGANIZATIONS ENDORSE VERMONT'S CHILD CARE CAMPAIGN

Since January, a growing number of leaders have publicly affirmed their support of a public financing mechanism that will fund a statewide system of child care that caps family costs at no more than 10% of annual income and ensures fair compensation for early childhood educators.

Vermont's Child Care Campaign is proud to welcome early endorsements from 84 businesses and organizations and looks forward to growing this support!



As a working mother, I know that dependable child care will help out-of-work employees get back into the workforce, promote equality, and support businesses and our economy. Vermont's policy efforts are key in this fight for families and children as we work to lead the nation and transform our child care system.

.....
AKSHATA NAYAK | Founder, Little Patakha, Campaign Endorser



We recognize that families need more than affordable housing to thrive. Access to quality child care is a critical component to make sure our communities are prosperous while being places which are inclusive and welcoming.

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MICHAEL MONTE | Chief Executive Officer, Champlain Housing Trust, Campaign Endorser

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CHILD CARE IS EVERYONE'S BUSINESS

This year, because of your advocacy, lawmakers in Montpelier made important investments to stabilize Vermont's child care system, including:

- **\$7 million in retention bonuses** for people working in regulated child care programs.
- **\$4.9 million increase to the Child Care Financial Assistance Program.**
- **\$800,000 to increase child care capacity** for infants and toddlers.
- **\$100,000 to support high school students interested in Early Childhood Education careers** through the Pre-Apprenticeship program.

LEGISLATORS ALSO ADVANCED THE TRANSFORMATIVE GOALS OUTLINED IN H.171/ACT 45 BY:

- Authorizing funding for the Child Care Financing Study.
- Directing the Department for Children and Families to work with stakeholders and legislative committees on redesigning Vermont's child care quality improvement system.

PREPARING NOW FOR OUR FUTURE SYSTEM

To address Vermont's acute capacity crisis, Let's Grow Kids helps early childhood educators create new, high-quality spaces, with a focus on infants and toddlers, where the need is greatest. In 2022, Let's Grow Kids has already awarded \$717,248 to early childhood educators to create 650 new, high-quality child care spaces. As our recipients say, **these grants do more than increase child care capacity, they help build communities.**

We're also working hard to support the members of our essential early childhood education workforce. In 2022, 332 early childhood educators have participated in trainings and technical assistance programs, including 26 graduates of the Child Care Business Administration course developed in partnership with the Vermont Higher Education Collaborative, and 36 professionals participating in Let's Grow Kids' Early Childhood Educator Leadership Circle, which develops advocacy skills and supports leadership.



Having access to high-quality child care is essential to keep parents in the workforce and offers our children opportunities to grow and thrive. **We must support families in their ability to afford care and support the employees caring for our children, who need to make a livable wage to ensure this balance continues.**

OLIVIA THOMPSON | Child Care Champion & Volunteer Advocate



We are the workforce behind the workforce. An investment in early childhood education and child care is the foundational system our country needs to both provide children with a strong start and get parents back to work.

JESSE COUTRAYER | Let's Grow Kids ECE Leadership Circle, Assistant Director/Pre-School Teacher, Robin's Nest Children's Center

Your Support Makes A Difference!

THERE ARE MULTIPLE WAYS FOR YOU TO TAKE ACTION:

1. **Contact your candidates** and check back often to see where they stand on investing in child care at:

LetsGrowKidsActionNetwork.org/action-center



2. **Give a gift** by scanning these QR codes with your camera app.