

Dear Senator Lyons ,

I have learned of the consideration by your Committee of approving funding for the superior programs of Prevent Child Abuse Vermont.

I was born in Burlington, graduated from BHS and UVM. I left VT for graduate schools and returned to live in Rutland for 40 years.

I worked in private practice for 40 years as a Child and Adolescent Psychologist. Most of my clients were victims of sexual abuse and many of these youth had also harmed other children prior to beginning their treatment. I had extensive experience with PCAV for about 25 years. I was privileged to serve on the PCAV board of directors. The prevention programs are unique in the field of child abuse prevention by measuring the efficacy of their programs.

Additionally, their programs are designed to be developmentally appropriate and research based.

I retired from my practice 2 years ago and I moved out of state.

As I observe the prevention efforts in other states, I am impressed with the abuse prevention programs available in VT.... clearly way ahead of any other state. Please give this program as much support that the budget will allow.. A child's abuse can be prevented and prevent abused children from becoming harmers of other children. I am very grateful for the opportunity to help thousands of VT children. I hope that you can help VT children with support of PCAV programs.

Best regards,

Dr. Bill Cunningham, PhD