



**House Judiciary Committee
Tuesday, January 19, 2016 - 2:30pm**

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▪ **VT Parent Child Center Network Overview**

- **8 Core Services:** home visiting, early childhood services, parent education, parent support, on site services, playgroups, information and referral, and community development.
- **Focused on Prevention:** helping all families get off to a healthy start; promote well-being; build on family strengths, keep children safe; and preventing problems, i.e. illiteracy, poor health, welfare dependency, family violence, sexual, physical and emotional abuse, that have proved to be so costly to our society in both human and financial terms.
- **Strengthening Families Protective Factors:** promoting parental resiliency, social connections, knowledge of parenting and child development, concrete supports and the social/emotional competence of children.

▪ **Legislative Platform**

- **Core Base Grant funding:** PCCs were awarded state funding in 1988, a base level was provided as a way to ensure that every Vermont community would have access to the services provided by the PCCs. Base funding has not been stagnant and not increased since 1995 -> 20 years ago.
 - **Adverse Childhood Experiences:** Parent Child Centers achieve better outcomes for families at lower costs overall by preventing adverse childhood experiences that current research shows are social determinants that can lead to disease later in life or premature death.
 - **Parent Child Center Strengthening Families Programs:** Rutland, St Albans and Barre/Montpelier are providing intensive family services to families who have open family support cases with the Family Services Division of the Department for Children and Families to keep children safe and families resilient.
- **Parent Child Center's intersections with the judicial system:** Partner with parents involved in the court system, Corrections and DCF - Family Services; Supervised Visitation; and Child Advocacy Center.

The Vermont Parent/Child Center Network is a coalition of fifteen legislatively designated centers that provide children, youth and families with strength based, holistic and collaborative services across Vermont with a focus on early childhood education and prevention services. The VPCCN provides leadership, support and advocacy on behalf of its membership and in collaboration with key partners in order to achieve the best outcomes for families.