

From: Rosemary Moser [woodspryart@vermontel.net]
Sent: Tuesday, February 13, 2018 8:16 PM
To: Theresa Utton; Peter Fagan
CC: 'Robin Chesnut-Tangerman'; kjmbjm@aol.com; Brian Collamore; Peg Flory
Subject: RE: Testimony in Support of Increased Funding for Child Care Financial Assistance Program

Dear legislators,

We all know what a huge problem the opioid abuse epidemic has been in Vermont. I had intended to include in my testimony how investments in Early Childhood have also been shown to mitigate substance abuse issues later in life.

<http://www.epi.org/publication/its-time-for-an-ambitious-national-investment-in-americas-children/>

“There are a host of other benefits associated with exposure to early childhood education. The largest benefits are associated with reductions in criminal activity, but a range of other benefits are also identified.

“Both “model” programs (the Perry Preschool Project and the Chicago Child-Parent Center) as well as the very large-scale Head Start program are associated with significant reductions in the odds of pre-kindergarten program participants’ eventual criminal activity/involvement in the criminal justice system as adults, when compared with their non-participating peers. At age 40, Perry preschoolers had considerably lower rates of lifetime criminal activity than nonparticipants, including felonies for violent assault, drug sales, or property theft (Nores et al. 2005).⁸ At age 26, CCPC participants’ rates of felony arrests and substance abuse were 25 percent and 24 percent lower, respectively, than those of nonparticipating children (Reynolds et al. 2011).⁹ At age 18, the juvenile arrest rate differences were even more significant for CCPC participants: The number of juvenile court petitions was 42 percent lower in the treatment group versus the comparison group.

“Improved health outcomes are additional benefits that accrue both to individual graduates of various pre-kindergarten programs and to society. At age 40, when compared with their nonparticipating peers, the shares of Perry participants who reported health problems or having been treated for substance abuse were 9 percentage points and 12 percentage points lower, respectively (Nores et al. 2005). At age 26, when compared with their nonparticipating peers, CCPC participants had a 26 percent lower rate of reported depression symptoms, a 24 percent lower substance use rate, and higher health insurance rates (Reynolds et al. 2011).”

PRINCIPLES OF SUBSTANCE ABUSE PREVENTION FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD

https://d14rmgtrwzf5a.cloudfront.net/sites/default/files/early_childhood_prevention_march_2016.pdf

A Bipartisan Case for Early Childhood Development

<https://bipartisanpolicy.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/10/BPC-A-Bipartisan-Case-For-Early-Childhood-Development.pdf>

I realize that you are all very busy people, and I expect it is unlikely that you will avail yourselves of all of the resources that I have shared, but I hope that you will take the time to review some of the material, which is all science-based research that supports the positive outcomes which result from investing in our youngest citizens, and which extend throughout their lives, resulting in economic, health, and societal benefits for all.

Thank you again for taking the time to consider hear this important investment in our youth and our future. I once again ask, please add \$9.2 to the Child Care Family Assistance Program, that we may build resiliency in the most at-need children & families in Vermont.

Sincerely,
Rosemary Moser
Middletown Springs, VT

From: Rosemary Moser [mailto:woodsprytearts@vermontel.net]
Sent: Monday, February 12, 2018 9:41 PM
To: 'tutton@leg.state.vt.us' <tutton@leg.state.vt.us>; 'pfagan@leg.state.vt.us' <pfagan@leg.state.vt.us>
Cc: 'Robin Chesnut-Tangerman' <Talisman@vermontel.net>; 'kjmbjm@aol.com' <kjmbjm@aol.com>; 'bcollamore@leg.state.vt.us' <bcollamore@leg.state.vt.us>; 'pflory@leg.state.vt.us' <pflory@leg.state.vt.us>
Subject: Testimony in Support of Increased Funding for Child Care Financial Assistance Program

Thank you again to the legislators who heard the testimony of concerned Vermonters in the Rutland Region this evening. A copy of my testimony is attached. High-quality early childhood investments provide both short- and long-term economic benefits. **They have been found to be the most effective investments the government can make, even during difficult fiscal times.**

Sincerely,
Rosemary Moser
Middletown Springs, VT

"Every child is an artist. The problem is how to remain an artist once he grows up."--Pablo Picasso