

Will Gormly – Board Member of Rutland County Parent Child Center

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1. Asking for \$8 million INCREASE in funding for the Parent Child Center Network ( \$1.5 million for master grant and \$1.5 million for capital projects this year)
  - a. Need to be able to competitively retain staff who are funded at 30% lower wages than similar positions
2. Don't follow through with the proposed cuts to Reach up and VCFCR
  - a. Reach Up is the gateway to a host of wraparound services that the PCC performs. This would affect 120 families in the Rutland area alone
  - b. Eliminating VCFCR funding would reduce our budget by \$116,000 and we'd lose two staff
  - c. Eliminating Reach Up funding would cut our budget by \$167,000 and we'd lose another two staff

PCC's offer a suite of services to help new parents, especially those who are at risk, those closest to falling through the cracks.

I'm as fiscally conservative as the next guy, but I firmly believe that an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure. Earlier intervention from the Parent Child Centers will save money down the road on primary education, healthcare, and corrections.

Thank you