

Parent Child Centers are the Answer Legislative Platform 2020



Please Support the Parent Child Center Bill

Parent Child Centers (PCCs) are a network of 15 community-based non-profit organizations, serving all of Vermont.

PCCs were created through Vermont Statute, and the purpose of each PCC is to provide "prevention and early intervention services such as parenting, education, support training, referral and related services to prospective parents and families with young children, including those whose children are medically, socially, or educationally at risk."

PCCs are the hub of services for families with young children – an actual place in the local community where families are always welcome and can always get the support they need, regardless of economic status or family status.

- ⊕ ***The PCC bill would strengthen the PCC statute, create a funding formula and create an accountability structure for quality at PCCs across the state.***

Budget Request:

Increase state funding for Parent Child Centers providing essential state services

All PCCs deliver critical & essential state services to families with young children, through a grants and contracts with the Department for Children and Families. The PCCs are the front line of services for families with young children – especially primary prevention services, which help to get children off to a good start, even if the family has challenges. However, the PCC line in the budget *does not adequately fund* the state services that PCCs are delivering to families across the state. PCCs are designed to serve every family that walks through their door – and to make sure that parents have the support and resources they need to nurture their children and get them off to a great start in life. In order to provide these essential services for families with young children, PCCs must be adequately funded – this human service is human resource intensive – workers are needed to deliver the services, and the market demands a higher rate than PCCs can pay for this difficult and essential work.

Parent Child Centers Core Services

Home Visits
Early Childhood Services
Parent Education
Playgroups
Parent Support Groups
Concrete Supports
Community Development
Information & Referral

Master Grant funding must increase by \$6,700,000 to close funding gap. Total PCC Master Grant funding must be \$10,000,000. PCCs are requesting a 3-year phased approach to get to the goal of \$10million/year for the PCC Master Grant.

- ⊕ ***Our request for FY2021 is to increase the Master Grant base by \$4million***
- ⊕ ***We also request \$1.5million in one-time funding to continue to "catch up" on deferred administrative and maintenance expenses that have been delayed as we have dealt with continued under-funding for decades. \$1million in one-time funding was allocated in FY2020, and this money is being directed to critical projects at PCCs.***



Research has proven that prevention services targeted at reducing and treating ACEs can dramatically reduce long term health care costs. The PCCs use a family-centered, multi-generational, strength-based approach that both treats and prevents ACEs in families.

Parent Child Centers also support the following Legislative Agendas:

- FaMLI Coalition
- Vermont Early Childhood Advocacy Alliance
- Reach Up Coalition
- Let's Grow Kids

PCC Contact Information:

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