

Vermont Citizen's Advisory Board

Sunset Advisory Commission Board and Commission Review

The Commission reviews every State board and commission and takes testimony regarding whether each board or commission should continue to operate or be eliminated and whether the powers and duties of any board or commission should be revised. Each board and commission has the burden of justifying its continued operation.

The Commission also reviews whether members of a board or commission should be entitled to a per diem and, if so, the amount of that per diem.

In testifying before the Commission, you should be able to provide the following information:

1. In general, how often does the board and commission meet? Provide specific information on how often the board or commission has met in the past two fiscal years. Provide information on where agendas and minutes of meetings can be found.
 - a. The Board meets quarterly but can meet more if needed.
 - b. Agendas and minutes are distributed internally to members and are maintained by the Board's co-chairs. These minutes are reported federally every June.
2. Provide the names of members of the board or commission, their term length and expiration, their appointing authority, and the amount of any per diem they receive.
 - a. Terms are two-years but there is no term limit; there is no per diem. The appointing authority is the DCF Commissioner.
 - b. Members: See attached.
3. Provide an overview of the board or commission's purpose.
 - a. The Vermont Citizen's Advisory Board (VCAB) is a citizen review panel which must be in existence in order for the state to receive federal Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA) funds. This board is empaneled as a child protection team pursuant to 33 VSA Chpt 49.
 - b. VCAB examines policies, practices and procedures of the state's child protection agency and where appropriate, reviews specific cases to evaluate the extent to which the agency is discharging its responsibilities. The board fosters communication and cooperation among professionals and organizations throughout Vermont and provides public informational and educational services about the identification, treatment and prevention of child abuse and neglect.
4. Is that purpose still needed? What would happen if the board or commission no longer fulfilled that purpose?
 - a. Yes, this is still needed. It is a requirement of the federal CAPTA act.

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- b. Without this Board, the state may face severe negative fiscal implications/sanctions from the federal government.
5. How well is the board or commission performing in executing that purpose? What evidence can you provide to substantiate that performance?
 - a. Yes, the board is executing its purpose through their quarterly meetings and federal report. They also helped establish the current Mandated Reporter online training, they review cases regularly and examine policy.
6. If the purpose is still needed, can State government be more effective and efficient if the purpose was executed in a different manner?
 - a. We do not believe there is another way to execute the functions of this board in line with the federal level mandate for it to exist.
7. If the purpose is still needed, do any of your board or commission's functions overlap or duplicate those of another State board or commission or federal or State agency? If so, is your board or commission still the best entity to fulfill the purpose?
 - a. This board serves a particular purpose that fulfills a federal mandate. The Child Fatality Review Board reviews similar cases but with a different lens and they monitor all fatalities, not just those derived from abuse and neglect. The VCAB monitors these events with a child welfare system lens.
8. Does the board or commission's enabling law continue to correctly reflect the purpose and activities of the board or commission?
 - a. Yes
9. Provide a list of the board and commission's last fiscal year expenditures including staffing costs. How are these funded?
 - a. \$40.75 for FY19 – coffee expense for the year. The DCF Commissioner's Office budget pays for this.
10. Is the board or commission required by law to prepare any reports or studies for the Legislature, the Governor, or any State agency or officer? If so, have those reports or studies been produced? Does the board or commission have ongoing reporting obligations?
 - a. The Board provides their quarterly minutes for the Family Services Division annual federal report.
 - b. Governor Shumlin also requested a special review and report following the toddler fatalities in 2014.
11. How would you measure the performance of the board or commission?
 - a. Their success is measured by their mandate to meet quarterly, examine Family Services policies, and review cases of child abuse and neglect.

Vermont Citizens Advisory Board 33VSA4917 EMPANELMENT LIST 10/1/2016 - 9/30/2017								TERMS				
First Name	Last Name	Title	Organization	Address		Phone	alt # or email	Email	/renewed			
Elizabeth	Barker	Director of Special Education	Hartford School District	64 Hebard St.	White River Junction, VT 05001	802-598-7590	802-291-2577	barkerL@hartfordschools.net		2015-2017; 2017-2019	2019	
Stephen G.	Berry	Pastor	The Ridge Assembly of God	2252 Ridge Road	Brookfield, VT 05036	802-276-3370		pastorstephen@aol.com		2016 - 2018	2018	
Sally	Borden	Executive Director	KidSafe Collaborative	45 Kilburn St.	Burlington VT 05401	802-863-9626	802-373-5593	sallyb@kidsafevt.org		2015-2017; 2017-2019	2019	
Lance	Burnham	Vermont State Police	Vermont Dept. of Public Safety		Williston, VT	802-888-2031		Lance.Burnham@vermont.gov	Hango's vacancy	2016 - 2018	2018	
Shirley	Carlson	Director of Special Programs	Franklin Northeast Supervisory Union	P.O. Box 130	Richford, VT 05476	802-848-78661		scarlson@fnesu.net	alt	2015-2017; 2017-2019	2019	
Joan	Carson	Forensic Nursing	UVM Medical Center/VT Network Against Domestic and Sexual Violence	PO Box 405	Montpelier, VT 05601			joan.carson@uvmhealth.org		Joined Dec 2016	2017-2019	2019
Edward	Cashman	Judge, Retired	Judiciary, Vermont Superior Court	29 Lamoille St.	Essex Junction, VT 05452	802-872-0615		edwardcashman@hotmail.com			2016 - 2018	2018
Kim	Coe	Foster/Adoptive Parent, and VT-Parent Child-Centers	Lund					kimc@lundvt.org		Joined June 2017	2017-2019	2019
Lucianna	DiRuocco	Exec. Staff Asst., Records Officer, Media Liaison	VT Department for Children and Families					Luciana.DiRuocco@vermont.gov				
Tom	Fontana	LCMHC, LADC, Living Well Center	University of Vermont, Center for Health and Wellbeing	Center, 590 Main St, Rm 112	Burlington, VT 05405-1755	802-656-0441		thomasjkfontana@hotmail.com; Thomas.Fontana@uvm.edu		2016	2016 - 2018	2018
Lynn	Granger	Kinship caregiver, Volunteer	Community Member	16 Jackson Lane	Milton, VT 05468	802-893-1611	802-373-4098	lynngrandma@comcast.net			2016 - 2018	2018
Joseph F.	Hagan	MD FAAP, Pediatrician	Hagan, Rinehart, Connolly Pediatricians	128 Lakeside Ave., Ste 115	Burlington, VT 05401	802-860-1928	802-578-9453	jhagan@aap.org; jhagan@burlingtontelecom.net		2015-2017; 2017-2019	2019	
Sally	Kerschner	RN, MSN, Coord. MCH Planning and Programming	VT Dept. of Health	108 Cherry St.	Burlington VT 05401	802-652-4179		sally.kerschner@vermont.gov	Holme's vacancy	2015-2017; 2017-2019	2019	
Linda E.	Johnson	Executive Director	Prevent Child Abuse Vermont	P.O. Box 829	Montpelier, VT 05601	802-229-5724	802-249-1983	ljohnson@pcavt.org			2016 - 2018	2018
Patiance	Johnson	Community Member	Community Member					pay.johnson@aol.com;			2016 - 2018	2018
Renatta	Liberty	Forensic Nursing	UVM Medical Center					Rliberty21@gmail.com		Joined June 2016	2017-2019	2019
Robin	Lockerby	Planning and Reporting Support	University of Vermont Extension	23 Mansfield Ave	Burlington, VT 05401-3323	802-656-0873		Robin.Lockerby@uvm.edu				
Sarah	Lowell	Community Member	Community Member	75 Faith St.	Burlington Vt 05408	802-825-1931		skingsesi@aol.com			2016 - 2018	2018
Patrick	Malone	Coord., Child Fatality Review Team; Director	Initiative for Rural Emergency Medical Services (IREMS), UVM Department of Surgery	665 Spear St.	Burlington, VT 05405	802-656-3489		patrick.malone@uvm.edu		2015-2017; 2017-2019	2019	
Michele	Olvera	JD, Supervising Attorney	Vermont Network Against Domestic and Sexual Violence	PO Box 405	Montpelier, VT 05601	802-223-1302		michele@vtnetwork.org		2015-2017; 2017-2019	2019	
Karyn	Patno	Board Certified Child Abuse Pediatrician	Saint Johnsbury Pediatrics, NVRH	97 Sherman Dr Ste 1	St. Johnsbury, VT 05819	802-748-5131		karyn.patno@vtmednet.org; karyn.m.patno@hitcock.org			2016 - 2018	2018
Jennifer	Poehlmann	JD, Executive Director	Vermont Children's Alliance	PO Box 254	Richmond, VT 05477	802-735-7984		jenn@vtchildrensalliance.org				
Ken	Schatz	Commissioner	VT Department for Children and Families	280 State Dr.	Waterbury, VT 05671-2401	802-871-3385		Ken.Schatz@vermont.gov				
Karen	Shea	MSW, Deputy Commissioner, Family Services Division	VT Department for Children and Families	280 State Dr.	Waterbury, VT 05671-2401	802-769-2053		Karen.Shea@vermont.gov				
Edward	Soychak	Sergeant, Prevention Services Division	South Burlington Police Department	19 Gregory Dr.	South Burlington, VT 05403	802-846-4180		esoychak@sbpdvt.org		Joined 2016	2016 - 2018	2018
Debra	Taylor	Superintendent of Schools	Rutland Central Supervisory Union	16 Evelyn St.	Rutland, VT 05701	802-775-4342 x103		debra.taylor@rcsu.org			2015-2017; 2017-2019	2019
Priscilla	White	Child Victim Treatment Director, Co-Chair VCPTSA	VT Department for Children and Families	208 State Dr.	Waterbury, VT 05671-2401	802-769-6329	802-760-8574	Priscilla.White@vermont.gov				

New members joining in 2015 will serve term until 2017

New members joining in 2016 will serve until 2018, etc.