

Theresa Utton-Jerman

Subject: Child Care Letter

Hello. My name is Zara Bode, I live in Brattleboro with my husband and two children (2&5). My husband and I are both self-employed musicians and though COVID-19 has made us unemployed, our struggles with child care existed before the pandemic. Because we are self-employed our income looks different than if we were hourly workers and this caused us to not qualify for the subsidy assistance we really needed. It was determined that we needed 4 more work hours to qualify. The trouble is we don't work hourly. We eventually decided to have one parent just stay home because we couldn't afford child care. Now we are struggling to get by and ensuring our kids have the social-emotional environment they need. Please support the Governor's proposed investments in child care so that families like mine can afford the care they need to get to work.

Sincerely,

Zara Bodē

Stefan Amidon

Of Brattleboro, VT