



To: Budget Hearing Committee
From: Donna Bailey, dbailey@addisoncountypcc.org
Date: February 20, 2024
Re: Support for the Vermont Parent Child Center Network request

My name is Donna Bailey, I live in Bristol, Vermont and I am the Director of the Addison County Parent Child Center. I am also a proud member of the Parent Child Center Network.

I want to thank this committee for your hard work and your commitment to listening to the varied needs of Vermonters and responding to the needs presented.

Listening to the testimony tonight reminds me of how we are all connected and how we are all a part of creating the Vermont we want to live in. Many of the funds talked about tonight are braided together in our communities to meet people's needs in their communities.

I am here tonight to request your support to increase funding for the Parent Child Center Integrated Grant in the amount of \$721,945. This will help to cover health insurance cost increases and support the PCCN in becoming a stand-alone non-profit that will have the infrastructure needed to streamline the granting and reporting processes for the state.

Your support for the Parent Child Center Network (PCCN) is important to young Vermonters and their families. Vermont is lucky to have this unique resource in our state and every family, in every town has access to Parent Child Center services. We welcome new babies, provide playgroups for all families and we provide home visiting and center-based services, such as childcare, parenting classes, high school programming, housing, food access and other supports for young families in need. We work with at least two generations at one time, which makes a difference in a short time. Parent Child Centers make sure that young families are supported and healthy and this helps our Vermont economy and culture in many ways. We help to make, and keep, Vermont a great place to raise a family.

Again, please support the increase of base funding for the Parent Child Center Integrated Grant by \$721,945 to cover health insurance cost increases and support the PCCN infrastructure.