

January 16, 2023

Dear Legislative Leaders,

Last week Seven Days covered Vermont's child care crisis in a piece entitled, "[Vermont's Childcare System Isn't Working for Providers or Parents. They Hope Help Is on the Way.](#)"

Please accept this letter as affirmation that *Vermont's child care system isn't working for employers either*. In fact, Vermont's workforce crisis is explicitly linked to the child care crisis, which has imperiled our economy in every way.

The employers listed below represent businesses large and small, from diverse industries and sectors, and from every corner of Vermont. **Every coalition member listed below has affirmed their support of a public financing mechanism that will fund a statewide system of child care that caps family costs at no more than 10% of annual income and ensures fair compensation for early childhood educators.**

Operating and growing sustainable businesses in Vermont revolves around recruiting and retaining talented people. The severe lack of affordable, quality child care is an extreme obstacle to hiring and retaining employees AND attracting outside talent to the state. Fixing child care – essential and required infrastructure – is the key to securing Vermont's economic viability at all levels.

From the Governor and the General Assembly, we are looking for leadership on child care.

From state lawmakers, we are looking for a comprehensive bill this legislative session to end Vermont's child care crisis.

From you as Speaker of the House and Senate President Pro Tempore, we ask you to ensure that state lawmakers prioritize the child care bill and we ask you to stand by your commitment to Vermonters to pass and fund child care legislation this session.

Anything less risks swift economic deterioration for every Vermonter.

As you navigate priorities and establish your agenda, we are compelled to remind you that solving the child care crisis is non-partisan and that solving the child care crisis is not a "want" or a "wish" but rather *essential* for our workforce.

Thank you for prioritizing investments in Vermont's birth to five child care system this legislative session.

Sincerely,

Michele Asch, Twincraft Skincare & Christine Dodson, Mamava

Child Care Campaign Endorsers

Jim Holway	1205 Business Center, LLC
Jennifer Jacobs	Adaptiva HR
Rob Carter	Addison County Chamber of Commerce
Elise Shanbacker	Addison County Community Trust

Fred Kenney	Addison County Economic Development Corporation
Matthew LeFluer	Alburgh Family Clubhouse
Ferene Paris Meyer	All Heart Inspirations, LLC
Rebecca Bell	American Academy of Pediatrics (Vermont Chapter)
Ethan Platt	American Meadows, Inc
Julie Buechler	Ascension Childcare, Inc
Sarah Morris	Basin Harbor
Brendan Taylor	Bee's Wrap
Chris Miller	Ben & Jerry's
Julia Fields	Birnn Chocolates
Carina Hamel	Bivo
Adam DesLauriers	Blooming Minds Enrichment Center
Alicia Grangent	Boys and Girls Club of Greater Vergennes
Daniel Yates	Brattleboro Savings & Loan
Brian Moegelin	Brian's North End Auto
Amie Whitcomb	Bristol Family Center
Jutta Miska	Buy Again Alley/ Young Fashion, Inc.
Maria Lara Bregatta	Cafe Mamajuana
Janice Shade	Capital Innovation Lab
Gwen Pokalo Hart	Center for Women & Enterprise
John Mandeville	Central Vermont Council on Aging
Michael Monte	Champlain Housing Trust
Chance Koenig	Channel 802, INC
Kelly Bouteiller	Charlotte Children's Center
Trish Scharf	Children Unlimited
Kara Alnasrawi	City of Burlington
Molly Betournay	Clean Yield Asset Management
Katie Titterton	Clear Spot
Sarah Beal	Common Deer
Joyce Judy	Community College of Vermont
Judy Geer	Concept2, Inc
Katie Nichols	Cork Restaurant & Natural Wine Shop
Bram Kleppner	Danforth Pewter
Teresa Davis	Davis Studio, LLC
Denise Hunter	Denise E. Photography
Sam Beall	Duncan Wisniewski Architecture
Julie Brigante	Early Years Child Development Center, LLC
Molly Yanus	Echo Consulting
Debra Sachs	EcoStrategies, LLC
Ceilidh Galloway Kane	Ecotone Landscapes
Peter Lenex	ELEV802
Emily Eley	Emily Eley Coaching
Julia Rogers	EnRoute Consulting

Ashley Bessette	Evergreen Preschool
Amit Sharma	FinClusive
Mike Lane	Fluency
Dani Casey	Foam Brewers LLC
Mark K. Jr Foley	Foley Services/MKF Properties
Meg Hammond	Generator
SARA LEBLANC	Georgia's Next Generation
Patrick Shattuck	Gilman Housing Trust, Inc. DBA RuralEdge
Dimitri Garder	Global-Z
Tesha Buss	Good Commons
Sue Clark	Good Shepherd's Little Lambs
Erika Hoffman-Kiess	Green Mountain Economic Development Corporation
Tawnya Kristen	Green Mountain United Way
Richard Klein	Groennfell Meadery
Dawn Irwin	Growing With Wonder, L3C
Jenna Sereni	HandsDown
Eli Lesser-Goldsmith	Healthy Living
Cara Tobin	Honey Road Restaurant
Bob Bick	Howard Center, Inc
Robert Lair	Hula
Amanda Olney	Hunger Mountain Children's Center
Brian Maggiotto	Inn at Manchester
Brian T Leffler	Instrumart
Marikje Shelmandine	It's Arthur's Fault!
Allison Maino	JHCapital
Elena Taylor	JUEL MODERN APOTHECARY
Crystal Thompson-Pollard	Kid Logic Learning Programs
Marikje Shelmandine	Lady Boss Sauce
Sara Shea	Lake Point Property Management
Kenneth Blaisdell	Landscape
Kurt Lessard	Lessard Management Services LLC
Natalie Beckwith	Lewis Creek Builders
Amy TM Litchfield	Litchfield Consulting & Recruiting
Danielle Wilder	Little Angels Early Education Center
Danielle Wilder	Little Angels Nursery & Preschool
Akshata Nayak	Little Patakha
Jim Holway	Living Well Group, Inc
Christopher Joseph Loso	Loso's Professional Janitorial Services, Inc.
Nora Ganley-Roper	Lost Lantern Spirits LLC
Maggie Burnett	Mae
Chanda Causer	Main Street Alliance of Vermont
Mark Ray	Mark Ray & Associates, LLC
Kristen Dunne	Mary Johnson Children's Center

Melissa Jackman	Melissa Jackman aka MEL'S
Chad Butt	MENTOR Vermont
Ann Straub	Middlebury Branch of The American Association of University Women
David J. Provost	Middlebury College
Rosamaria Fay	Milton's Elite
Erin Malone	Momo's Market
Tom Moody	Moody Advisors PLLC
DJ Jesser	MoonRise Therapeutics Inc
Christina Nelson	Mountain View Child Care
William Calfee	Myti
G. Kenneth Perine	National Bank of Middlebury
Michael Hassenberg	Natural Mattress Company
Doug C. Nedde	Nedde Real Estate
Brenan Riehl	Nolato GW
Naomi Heindel	North Branch Nature Center
Elizabeth Emmett	Northeast Kingdom Community Action Head Start
Grace Oedel	Northeast Organic Farming Association of Vermont
Laurie Metcalfe	Northshire Day School
Aisha Bassett	Offbeat Creemee
Sean Larkin	OnLogic
Lisa Pitcher	Our Place Drop-In Center
Jim Holway	Parents A Second Time Around, LLC
Mike Seaver	People's United Bank
Christina Goodwin	Pine Forest Children's Center
Meg Seely	Pivotal Steps
Erin Gilmer	Place Creative Company
Lucy Leriche	Planned Parenthood
Steve Hadeka	Pleasant Ranch
Ernie Pomerleau	Pomerleau Real Estate
Kathryn Flagg	Press Forward
Su White	Quarry Hill School
Bobbisue Farrington	R & B Tiny Tykes Daycare
Emily Pryer	Rabbit Track Day Care
Lori Henry	Reach for the Stars Childcare & Preschool
John Illick	ReArch Company, INC.
Randy George	Red Hen Baking
Larry Williams	Redstone
Elizabeth Karle	Reinbow Riding Center
Ted Castle	Rhino Foods
Diane Abruzzini	Rigorous
Beth Workman	Robin's Nest Children's Center, Inc.
Ryan Tetrault	RT Construction
Eric Sorkin	Runamok Maple LLC

Alyssa Campbell	Seed & Sew
Charles Shackleton	Shackleton Thomas
David Dolginow	Shacksbury Cider
Amanda Young	Shanti Mama Wellness
Michelle Raymo	Shellie's Play Place
Jay Benson	Simon Pearce
Erika Schramm	Skylight Consulting
Trina Webster	Sleeping Well, LLC
Kitter Spater	Sloggn Gear Company
Erica Ward	Spring Ahead Childcare, LLC
Mark Ray	Stowe Cider
Abbey Duke	Sugarsnap
James Moore	SunCommon
Anastasia Surmava	Surmava Enterprises
Suzy Coutermarsh	Suzys Little Peanuts Day Schools
Tammie Hazlett	Tammie's Day Care
Jen Kimmich	The Alchemist
Michael Schaal	The Art of Living
Becky Sargis	The Children's Institute at Jericho
Rick Davis	The Davis Company
Mike Foote	The DREAM Program, Inc.
Elizabeth Frascoia	The Governor's Institutes of Vermont
Tom Scull	The Richards Group
Shela Linton	The Root Social Justice Center
Meghan Ksiazek	Turtle Fur
Vicky Senni	Turtle Island Children's Center
Andrew Winter	Twin Pines Housing
Betsy Rathbun-Gunn	United Children's Services/Bennington Co. Head Start & Early Head Start
Helena Van Voorst	United Way of Addison County
James Unsworth	Unsworth Properties
Emily Doyle	URSA MAJOR
John Beal	V/T Commercial
Roxanne Vought	VBSR
Rebecca Bell	Vermont Academy of Family Physicians
Becky Dayton	Vermont Book Shop
Wendy Rice	Vermont Connector
Adeline Druart	Vermont Creamery
Kaittie Murray	Vermont Evolving Leaders
John Sayles	Vermont Foodbank
Sam Hooper	Vermont Glove
Jim Holway	Vermont Kin as Parents, Inc
Rebecca Bell	Vermont Medical Society
Peter Roscini Colman	Vermont Salumi

Linda Waite-Simpson	Vermont Veterinary Medical Association
Mieko A Ozeki	Vermont Womenpreneurs
Maisie Howard	Vermont Works for Women
Sarah Jackson	Vital Communities
Julie Thom	Von Bargaen's Jewelry
Paul Burns	VPIRG
Robert Miller	VSECU
Julie Medose	VT Higher Education Collaborative
Janet K. McLaughlin	VT Association for the Education of Young Children
Lisa Hagerty	Well Heeled
Kristin Cantu	Well Told Films
Logan Paluch	Wild Kind Toys
Elizabeth Bridgewater	Windham & Windsor Housing Trust
Matt Carrell	Woodland Baking & Coffee
Amelia Rappaport	Woodstock Farmers' Market
Charlie Degener	Woodstock Town Clerk's Office
Eli Toohey	Working Communities Challenge - Greater Barre Area
Chelsea Bardot Lewis	Working Fields
Kurt Lessard	Worthy Burger & Worthy Kitchen LLC