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February 20, 2025

My name is Carol Lang-Godin. I am the Executive Director at Lamoille Family Center in Morrisville and the Chair of the Vermont Parent Child Center Network (VPCCN). Thank you for allowing me this opportunity and thank you for your commitment to making Vermont a place we can all be proud of.

We respectfully request that you *support the Vermont Parent Child Center Network's request* to secure \$500k from the Tobacco Settlement Fund for the base funding of our Integrated Grant. This funding will allow PCCs to consistently and comprehensively provide tobacco cessation referrals and support for pregnant people and families with young children, as well as education and support to ensure infants and young children are not exposed to secondhand smoke.

Smoking cessation, prevention and education activities will be embedded in the Eight Core Services offered by all 15 Centers. Last year PCCs served over 18,000 children and 17,000 parents statewide.

PCC staff commonly see families in their homes or other comfortable settings and can develop trusting relationships, putting them in a unique position to provide referrals to cessation programs, education around secondhand smoke, and resources for coping without tobacco. Success in quitting and remaining smoke free is more likely among people who have consistent social support and encouragement which PCC's can provide.

Again, we ask that you support the Parent Child Center Network's request to secure \$500k from the Tobacco Settlement Fund for the base funding of the Integrated Grant. This funding will allow PCCs to consistently and comprehensively provide tobacco cessation referrals and support for pregnant people and families with young children, as well as education and support to ensure infants and young children are not exposed to second-hand smoke.

Encouraging, Educating and Celebrating Families Since 1976

Thank you again for your time today and for your ongoing dedication and service.

Carol Lang-Godin