



**Building Bright Futures State Advisory Council (BBF SAC)  
Meeting Minutes  
April 27, 2020 (via Zoom)**

**SAC Members Present:** Cheryle Wilcox, Emily Merrill, Chloe Leary, Aly Richards, Renee Kelly, Christy Swenson, Auburn Watersong, Steven Berbeco, Kate Rogers, Representative Jessica Brumsted, Julie Cadwallader Staub, Amy Johnson, Flor Diaz Smith, Kim Keiser, Nicole Grenier, Janet Kilburn (standing in for Breena Holmes)

**Absent:** Ken Jones, Breena Holmes

**Community Partners/Guests:**

Matt Levin, VT Early Childhood Advocacy Alliance

Lisa Kuehn with Vermont Child Care Industry and Careers Council (VCCICC)

Karen Bielawski-Branch from CDD - CIS Strong Families VT Home Visiting Administrator

Jen Olson, Intern with BBF, Mentor Teacher at UVM Campus Children's School

Ric Reardon, Director of Education at Castleton

Ann Dillenbeck, STARS Assessor

Becky Millard, Director of Northern Lights at CCV

Eddie Gale- AD Henderson Foundation

Amy Brooks - Early Care and Education Association (Upper Valley region)

Morgan Cole, Director of Children's Integrated Services at DCF-CDD

Sharon Halnon, Chittenden CIS Specialized Child Care Coordinator @ Child Care Resource

Sara Leblanc- Owner Next generation, VT (Georgia's Next Generation and Next Generation Northern Campus)

Stacy Garcidealba, Vermont 211, Southeast Vermont AND Family Services, DCF, Springfield District Office

Kheya Ganguly, Assistant Director of Youth and Family Services, United Counseling Service, Bennington

Noreen Shapiro-Berry, School Department Director at Northeast Kingdom Human Services

Gretchen Elias, Good Beginnings of Central Vermont

Chelsea Cordner - VCHIP Project Director

George Karabakakis CEO from HCRS the designated community MH agency in Windham and Windsor Counties

**Staff present:** Morgan Crossman, Beth Truzansky, Katie Mobbs, Julia Andrews, Jay Austin, Amanda Biggs, Linda Michniewicz, Robin Stromgren, Dora Levinson, Ellen Taetzsch, Liz Fleury, Anne Latulippe

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**Welcome & Introductions**

**Welcome all in attendance, review agenda**

**1. Key Agency Updates and Responses to COVID-19 Emergency**

- Morgan Cole, Children's Integrated Services, Child Development Division
- Cheryle Wilcox, Department of Mental Health
- Breena Holmes/Janet Kilburn, Department of Health
- Additional SAC members

## **2. Roundtable Discussion on Family Safety and Mental Health**

Information sharing and discussion

Morgan welcomed the group and reiterated that BBF's role under Act 104 is still the same as we navigate COVID-19: to support communities by identifying their needs and gaps within the early childhood service system, and bringing people together to strategize and take action within regions and at the state level. BBF ensures that all of our different early childhood partners are working together and coordinating to meet the needs of families. Just as important, we've been directly connecting with our agency partners and other decision-makers to make sure they understand the questions, concerns and needs of those on the ground. We are also disseminating guidance for EC practitioners and families from our agency partners.

BBF has been monitoring the system and elevating the needs of families and providers as they emerge.

## **3. Next Steps**

## **4. Adjourn**

1:30pm meeting adjourned

**Next Meeting- Monday May 18, 2020 | 1:30-3pm  
Via Zoom**