

About the Regions

BBF's regional infrastructure has a presence in every corner of the state and in all communities. These 12 Regional Councils bring together early childhood stakeholders to identify gaps; share expertise and resources to break down silos; elevate regional and family voice; and implement strategies to respond to the needs of each and every child and family in their respective area.

Statewide, nearly 250 people bring their perspectives together on Regional Councils on a monthly basis. Early childhood stakeholders across regional tables include professionals in physical and mental health, social services, basic needs, early childhood education, PreK-12 education, families of children under 9, and community members invested in the well-being of young children.

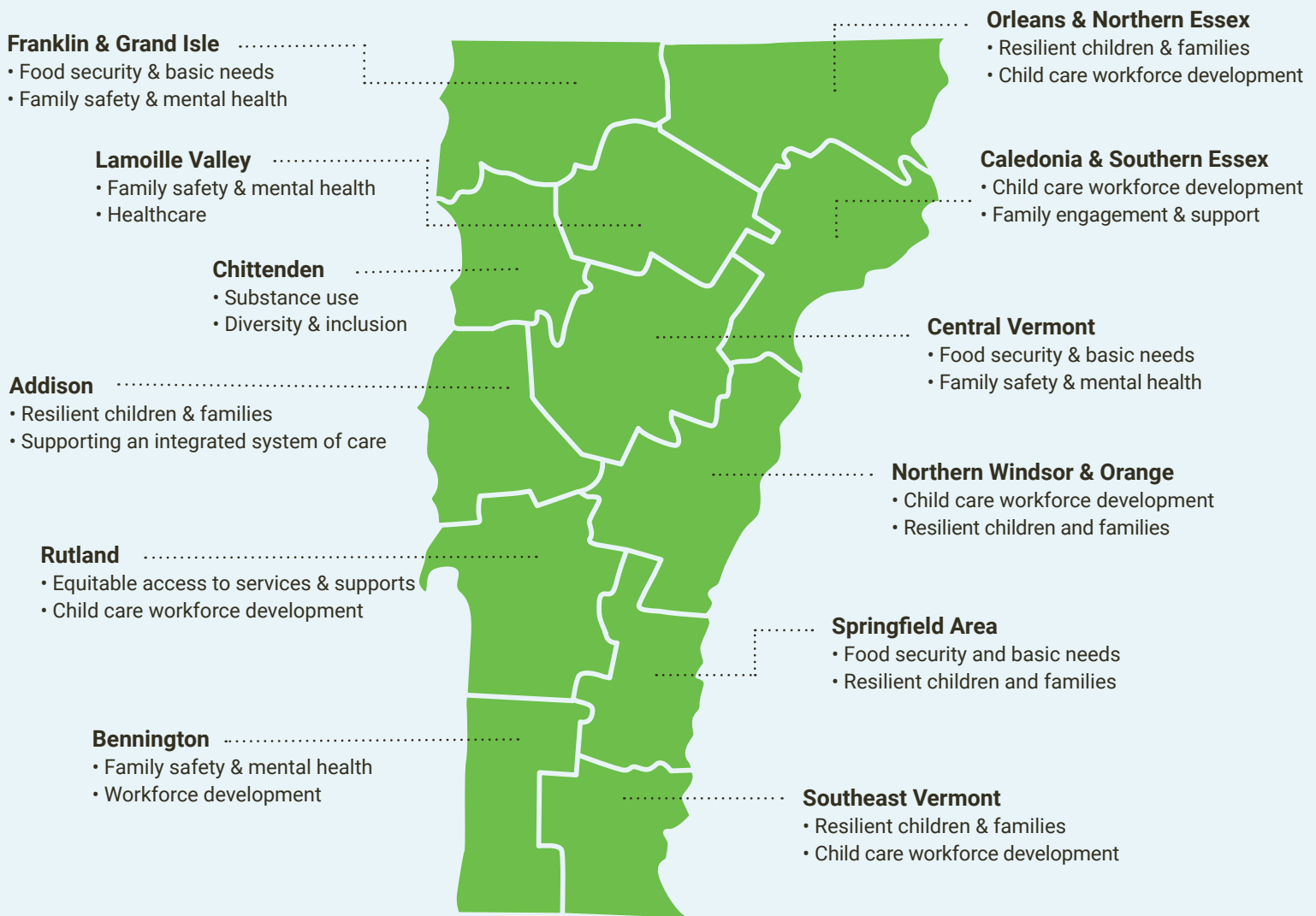
Regional councils serve as critical mechanisms to elevate regional innovations, successes, and barriers to state partners and to implement state policies and best practices at the regional level.



BBF REGIONAL PRIORITIES 2020

The following pages offer a snapshot of each region with a highlighted project and selected indicators of child and family well-being.

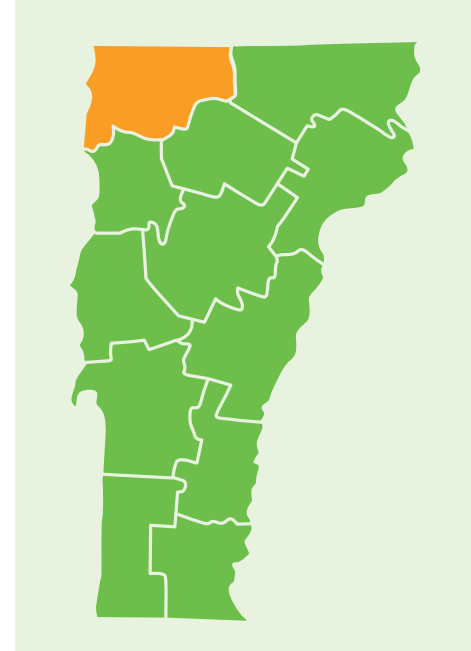
Each Regional Council has an action plan to guide decisions and activities. While each plan covers the different parts of the Early Childhood system, two priorities are identified to share across the state. The map below shows the strengths of the regional council infrastructure in allowing for local priority setting as well as the connections between regions across Vermont.



More information about each region including monthly council meetings and updates can be found at buildingbrightfutures.org/what-we-do/regional-councils/

Franklin & Grand Isle

The Franklin and Grand Isle Regional Council continues to prioritize concrete supports for children and families, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic. As the Council continued to meet virtually, one of the largest focal points at the onset of the pandemic was to ensure that children had access to appropriately-sized masks. Thus, in collaboration with a local volunteer, the Council was able to purchase 500 masks to be distributed throughout the region! The Council continued its commitment to help families access basic needs such as food, toiletries and winter clothing. This year the Council collaborated with Community Action, the Parent Child Center’s early childhood programming, local food shelves to distribute masks throughout the regions. With children slowly phasing into more and more in-person time in schools and the community, these efforts have been a huge success in filling a gap for our children. This work is in line with **VECAP Goal 1: All Children Have a Healthy Start** and several regional council members attend the VECAP Child Outcomes Accountability Team to help inform activities at both the region and state level.



Current Status

CHILD POPULATION (2018)

5,945 children under 9

Consistent with (5,962 in 2013)

CHILDREN LIVING IN POVERTY (2018)

52% children under 6 (824)

Decreased by 52% from (45.9% - 1,766 in 2013)

CHILDREN IN OUT OF HOME CUSTODY (2019)

84 children under 9

Increased by 17% from (72 in 2014)

Educational Assessments

SUPERVISORY UNION / SCHOOL DISTRICT

Franklin Northeast SU
 Franklin Northwest SU
 Franklin West SU
 Grand Isle SU
 Maple Run SD

KINDERGARTEN READINESS (FALL 2019)

87.0%
84.4%
90.0%
88.9%
82.2%

3RD GRD READING PROFICIENCY (SPRING 2019)

42.9%
60.9%
54.1%
52.7%
37.8%



With children slowly phasing into more and more physical time in schools and out in the community, this effort has been a huge success in filling a gap for our children.