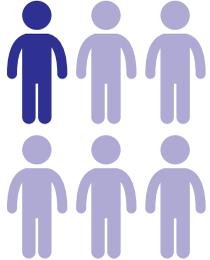
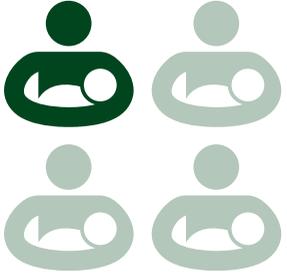


What are “Early Childhood” Public Policies?

Vermonters age 0-8 and their families face many issues...

HEALTH & SAFETY	FOOD SECURITY	ECONOMIC SECURITY	EARLY CARE & EDUCATION
 <p>Every state in New England except Vermont has an Office of Child Advocate.</p>	 <p>Vermonters Feeding Vermonters provides access to healthy, local food at a time when nearly 1 in 6 Vermont children are food insecure (that's 18,700 children across the state).</p>	 <p>Vermont lacks a statewide paid family and medical leave insurance program, so 1 in 4 new mothers go back to work 10 days after childbirth.</p>	 <p>Families eligible for Vermont's Child Care Financial Assistance Program are spending nearly 30% of their income on child care, even with financial assistance from the program, due to the current funding gap.</p>
 <p>This difference represents an annual underpayment of \$2.4 million to the nonprofit agencies providing Children's Integrated Services.</p>	 <p>Universal school meals improve math test scores, an increase equivalent to up to 10 extra weeks of learning.</p>	 <p>52 days is the average length of stay in Vermont's homeless shelters – the highest level in 18 years for the second year in a row.</p>	 <p>Strengthening Vermont's early childhood education workforce through scholarship opportunities, loan repayment support, and a wage supplement program will help fill the need for qualified early educators.</p>

VERMONT EARLY CHILDHOOD ADVOCACY ALLIANCE

Supporting Early Childhood Partners in Advocacy
Improving Policies for Young Children & Families

Our Mission

The Vermont Early Childhood Advocacy Alliance is a **statewide coalition** of early childhood professionals and providers, parents, organizations, and businesses working together to improve **public policies** that impact children from birth to age eight and families in the areas of **health, safety, food security, economic security, and early care and education**.

The Alliance provides year-round **advocacy support** and **facilitates meaningful interactions with policymakers** at key times during the decision-making process.

Our Partners

In partnership with early childhood organizations, the Alliance crafts an **annual Legislative Agenda** that includes priority issues for the coalition's diverse voices from around the state.

In 2020, the **Alliance supported its members leading advocacy initiatives** on the Alliance's Legislative Agenda. These organizations include:

**Hunger Free VT • Let's Grow Kids • Main Street Alliance-VT
Voices for VT's Children • VT Affordable Housing Coalition
VT Family Network • VT Farm to School Network • VT FEED
Winston Prouty Center for Child and Family Development
VT Association for the Education of Young Children
VT Foodbank • VT Parent Child Center Network**

vecaa.org

The Alliance is a program of the Vermont Community Loan Fund.