

Greetings from Vermont Family Network!

We are excited to report that with a new decade our conference is getting a facelift! Our 2020 conference is changing to a half-day workshop format, held in 4 different locations throughout the state. Our goal is to bring practical information to families and professionals all over the state by bringing the workshop to them. We are excited about these changes and know that as a sponsor your benefits will go even further than before, reaching multiple points throughout the state.

This year's workshops will feature Sarah Forward who has worked with children and families as a mental health consultant, clinician, classroom teacher, and professional coach and trainer. Her interests include supporting families in transforming challenging dynamics through self-reflection and mindfulness training.

Through this workshop we will explore the experience of parenting in our communities big and small, rural and urban and will offer parents strategies for seeking out and expanding the circles of support for their children and families through identifying open doors and entry points. Through the lens of play and gentle humor, we will re-imagine relationships based in mutual enjoyment. After an introduction to brain development and regulation patterns, we will explore how bodies, brains, and life experience work together to shape a child and family's capacity for behavior change and healthy growth.

Our schedule of workshops is as follows, and the benefits of being a sponsor reaches all 4 locations!

- Saturday, March 21 from 10 am - 2 pm at a location to be determined in Springfield area
- Date to be determined from 4 pm - 8 pm at the Eastside Restaurant in Newport
- Thursday, April 2 from 8:30 am - 1 pm at the Delta Hotel (formerly Trader Duke's) in South Burlington
- Saturday, April 4 from 9 am - 12 noon at the JMS Family Room in Burlington. The focus audience will be parents from New American communities; however, as with all our other conference dates, everyone is welcome to participate!

We are reaching out in hopes you will consider becoming a sponsor! This great way to support our efforts for families of children with special needs, and the professionals who serve them while getting information about your goods or services out to people

all around the state. Together we can ensure that all families who wish to participate can do so without barriers. Last year, sponsors' contributions helped us to give participants 63 scholarships, reduce registration and meal costs, and market the conference more widely to families. We were also able to engage a dynamic and thought-provoking speaker without passing the cost along to those in attendance.

I am attaching our Sponsor Benefits Sheet, and below is the link to register as a sponsor and pay right online:

<http://events.constantcontact.com/register/event?llr=ktjlvidab&oeidk=a07egy18t9xf5776906>

I want to personally thank you for your ongoing commitment to Vermont's children, youth, and families, and hope that we can count on your sponsorship. We could not make this important annual event happen without supporters like you, and we are grateful for your consideration.

All my best, Pam McCarthy