



— VERMONT —  
**CHILDREN'S  
 TRUST**  
 — FOUNDATION —



Spring 2008

## Community Creates Good Kids

### Rosie's Girls



"[Rosie's Girls] has been incredibly positive and powerful in my daughter's life. This is about growing into community, helping my daughter develop her wings and developing personal pride. Thank you."  
 — Parent of Rosie's Girls participant

Nicola Suren is an electrical engineering student at Norwich

University. She believes her experience with Rosie's Girls, a summer program for young teen girls which introduces them to building and other trades, has prepared her for the challenge. "I feel as though Rosie's Girls helped me gain some extremely valuable skills which have helped me getting into college and continuing my career," says Nicola, who later became a counselor in training for the program. "I was able to identify how important it is that women are not intimidated by male-dominated career fields."

Rosie's Girls provides middle school-aged girls with exposure to the skilled trades through supervised hands-on learning. Carpentry, tiling, electrical work, and welding are taught, along with opportunities to learn about careers in law enforcement, fire fighting and auto mechanics. Through these nontraditional activities girls are challenged to develop a broader sense of their capabilities, learn self-reliance, and expand their math and science skills through concrete applications.

Rosie's Girls, a program of Vermont Works for Women, has received funding from the Vermont Children's Trust Fund over several years for programs in Barre, Vergennes, and Brattleboro. It has served almost three hundred girls in these sites, as well as in Essex Junction, since the program's inception in 2000.

### Investments that paid dividends ...

The following programs were funded by VCTF in 1992, our first year of operation. We're pleased to report that they are going strong today.

- ◆ St. Johnsbury Childcare Afterschool Program
- ◆ Hyde Park Elementary School Afterschool Program
- ◆ Women's Rape Crisis Center, Brattleboro, Personal Safety Program
- ◆ Kids on the Block Vermont, Personal Safety Program
- ◆ Washington County Parent Child Center
- ◆ Hinesburg Friends of Families
- ◆ Champlain Islands Parent Child Center
- ◆ Sunrise Family Resource Center
- ◆ Lamoille Family Center
- ◆ The Children's Room, Waterbury
- ◆ Springfield Area Parent Child Center, Parent Education and Support
- ◆ Good Beginnings
- ◆ Nurturing Parent Program
- ◆ The Family Center of Northwestern Vermont, Parent Education
- ◆ Orange County Parent Child Center
- ◆ Outright Vermont Children's Trust Foundation
- ◆ Basement Teen Center, Montpelier
- ◆ Green Mountain Peer Projects
- ◆ Children's Grief Services, Hospice and Palliative Care Council of Vermont

### Summer 2008 Grantees

We are proud to support the following programs this summer, in addition to twelve programs in their second and third year of funding.

- ◆ New England Youth Theatre, Brattleboro
- ◆ Tunbridge One Planet
- ◆ River Arts of Morrisville
- ◆ Vermont Center for Independent Living



# The Polar Express 2008



Thanks to last year's sponsors for helping make 2007's event a big success...



We're looking forward to another magical event when the Polar Express heads back to Union Station December 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup>. **THE POLAR EXPRESS** is an extremely popular event. We've sold out every year and expect that demand will exceed the number of tickets available this year, too. Therefore, in the spirit of fairness, we will once again offer tickets to the general public via lottery.

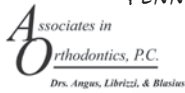


Our Host Sponsor



PENNY CLUSE CAFÉ

There's still time to make a donation to the Vermont Children's Trust Foundation and get on **THE POLAR EXPRESS** advance ticket sale list. If you make a donation to VCTF before June 30, you will automatically receive an opportunity to purchase tickets via mail in September. Please use the enclosed donor envelope and get your donations to us **before June 30**. To qualify, donations must be in the amount of \$100 or more.



Another way for you to participate in this year's event is to become a **BELL RINGER SPONSOR**. If you sponsor at the \$150, \$250, \$500 or \$1000 level, we will list your name in the event songbook, and you'll have the opportunity to purchase up to five tickets. Just use the enclosed envelope and state that your donation is for bell ringer sponsorship.



If you're interested in volunteering at **THE POLAR EXPRESS**, check our website after Labor Day for elf sign up instructions. [www.vtchildrenstrust.org](http://www.vtchildrenstrust.org)



## KEEPING VERMONT A GREAT PLACE FOR KIDS!

We are on track to meet our fundraising goal. The Vermont Children's Trust Foundation needs your help to raise \$25,000 before June 30 in order to make our annual goal. If you have donated to our cause, thank you for supporting our efforts.

**Please consider making an additional contribution today to ensure Vermont continues to be a great place to raise children.**

Each year, we receive applications for funding requests totaling about \$750,000. On average, we are able to fund approximately \$450,000 of these requests. Over the next few years, our goal at VCTF is to fund 100% of worthy programs. Please help us close the gap and reach this year's goal. Bring us closer to 100% funding to support the community organizations that serve children and families all over the state. We believe prevention is the most **COST EFFECTIVE SOLUTION** to many of the issues that challenge today's kids. Thank you for your generous support.



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