



KIDS ARE THE CAUSE

“The Power of One”

by Amy Feeney, Past President of the Vermont Children’s Trust Foundation

The Power of One – \$1 that is!

Everyone filing a state income tax return has the power to positively impact children in Vermont by giving as little as \$1. Line 29b on the State Income Tax Form allows taxpayers to donate any amount directly to the Vermont Children’s Trust Fund (the “Fund”). 100% of these donations will be funneled to community based prevention programs for kids and families throughout the State. This is one of the most direct methods of supporting kids and families in Vermont, and one of the largest sources of prevention money available in the State.

Programs and organizations that receive grants from the Fund are pro-active rather than re-active. That is, they seek to prevent problems from happening rather than treating problems when they occur. These programs aim to stem the pitfalls of childhood and stop the cycles of abuse, neglect, teen pregnancy and school failure. Needs in each Vermont community vary greatly. Based on specific situations, funds may be used to pilot or sustain early education initiatives, parenting classes, after school programming, literacy programs, mentoring programs, or summer camps, just to name a few. Eligible programs must be open to all Vermonters and support State-mandated outcomes: *infants and children thrive, children are ready for and succeed in school, children live in stable and supported families, and youth choose healthy behaviors.*

Over the past five years the Fund has granted in excess of \$1,500,000 – roughly \$300,000 annually – to programs in every county of Vermont. Healthy, stable family environments today will pay dividends for years to come, creating successful children and making Vermont a stronger community. And all it takes is the Power of One. Please make a donation to the Vermont Children’s Trust Fund on Line 29B when you complete your state tax return this year, and know that you’ve made a difference.

The Vermont Children’s Trust Foundation (“VCTF”) is a volunteer non-profit that raises money and awareness for the Vermont Children’s Trust Fund. For more information visit www.vtchildrenstrust.org or call 888-475-kids.