



# Vermont Children's Trust Foundation

BUILDING RESILIENCE • CREATING OPPORTUNITY

FALL 2018



DONATE ONLINE: [www.vtchildrenstrust.org](http://www.vtchildrenstrust.org) 888-475-KIDS (5437)

## Creative Lives "Summer of Discovery"

CREATIVE LIVES is all about helping children flourish, appreciate themselves, and contribute their gifts to the world. Last summer, VCTF helped Creative Lives launch a summer camp for pre K-5 students to mitigate summer learning loss and to develop creativity and focus skills by exploring interests and providing new experiences.

The four week summer camp at White River School included programs focused on creativity and nature with

"We all have  
different gifts, so  
we all have different  
ways of saying  
to the world  
who we are."

—Fred Rogers

an eye toward building practical skills in literacy, physics, math and calculating, as well as promoting confidence and collaboration. The children developed and performed in original theater productions; built a stone labyrinth behind the school; explored restorative ecology through field trips to local rivers and ponds; and created nature-based art and films.

Putting on plays engaged children's story telling muscles, their discernment and their creativity; while teaching perseverance and teamwork, and, of course, the skill of writing.

The concept of a labyrinth was brand new to these kids, but they quickly understood its contemplative value... "Meditating and walking in the labyrinth makes me feel very peaceful. I like it." shared one 2nd grader.

Creative Lives holistic approach to education, "A Framework for Wise Education," is based on the philosophy of educator, Ellen Tadd. One of the frameworks involves focus and



"Mandala" student nature photo

wisdom, helping children discover the mechanics of concentration and good decision-making. What better way to address focus than through the lens of a camera? Outdoor sessions with the camera helped guide children naturally into what Creative Lives calls their "wise view," a state of focus where wisdom ensues, and fears fall away.

Through your generosity, VCTF is able to support the important work of Creative Lives. With meaningful programs, this vital community resource is helping children realize their promise and share it with the world around them.

*See Polar Express info inside*

### OUR MISSION

The Vermont Children's Trust Foundation promotes the well-being of children and families in Vermont by raising funds for community-based prevention programs.



"Above all, I like to imagine the hundreds of Vermont kids whose lives will be improved by programs funded through the Polar Express event.

—Stephen Kiernan

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## Why I Volunteer at the Polar Express

When my sons were small, I loved reading them bedtime stories: the quiet, close time, watching their imaginations work. That's why each December the Polar Express event is so much fun for me. I get to read to hundreds of kids. The book tells a touching story about the importance of imagination. As I'm reading, I like to picture all those children going home with a warm memory of hearing the story and meeting Santa. Above all, I like to imagine the hundreds of Vermont kids whose lives will be improved by programs funded through the Polar Express event.—Stephen Kiernan

Sponsor the Polar Express to help support Vermont kids and for tickets to ride!

There is still time to sponsor the event as a Bell Ringer. Families who sponsor at \$150.00 are entitled to purchase up to five tickets, and your name will be listed in our song book. The money we raise at the event helps to fund important programs for children throughout Vermont. For more information, visit [www.vtchildrenstrust.org](http://www.vtchildrenstrust.org)

### Thank you 2018 Sponsors!





# DONORS

## BIG THANKS TO OUR 2018 DONORS

### What a banner year we've had.

Over 800 donors gave generously to support the work VCTF does on behalf of Vermont children. So many donors, in fact, we've dedicated a page on our website to list names and show our gratitude. Check out our list of big-hearted donors at [www.vtchildrenstrust.org](http://www.vtchildrenstrust.org).

Through the generosity of our donors, we were able to fund 53 programs. These programs are keeping children connected to their community, creating opportunity for growth, building resilience and character, and broadening experience. They offer a breadth of activities and services, many focused on art, literature and nature. We believe that healthy, educated and nurtured children who have consistent involvement with caring adults are more likely to realize their promise as they mature. We are grateful for your partnership in this work.

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## 2018 Grantees (By County)

### Addison

Addison Central Teens & Friends (2)  
Boys and Girls Club of  
Greater Vergennes

Mary Johnson Children's Center  
Otter Creek Child Center

### Bennington

Project Against Violent Encounters  
Sunrise Family Resource Center, Inc.

### Caledonia

St. Johnsbury School District

### Chittenden

Big Brothers Big Sisters  
Burlington Children's Space  
Committee on Temporary Shelter  
(COTS)

Community Health Centers  
of Burlington

Chittenden South Supervisory  
Union

DREAM Program, Inc. (2)  
Greater Burlington YMCA (2)  
Lund

Outright Vermont  
Steps to End Domestic Violence,  
Inc.

UVM PROSPER

Camel's Hump Middle School  
Vermont Family Network

Very Merry Theatre

VSA Vermont

VT Association for Blind & Visually  
Impaired

Winooski Coalition for a Safe and  
Peaceful Community

Winooski Family Center

### Orange

Changing Perspectives  
Orange County Parent Child Center

### Rutland

The Mentor Connector

### Statewide

Everybody Wins!

### Washington

Camp Daybreak  
Everybody Wins!

Family Center of Washington  
County (2)

Good Beginnings

Prevent Child Abuse Vermont (2)

Twinfield Together Mentoring  
Program (2)

Vermont Humanities Council

Washington County Youth

Service Bureau

### Windham

Brattleboro Enrichment Activities  
for Middle Schoolers

In-sight Photography Project

New England Youth Theatre (2)

The Winston Prouty Center

### Windsor

Creative Lives, Inc. WRJ

One Planet Program

Riverside Middle School

Springfield Area Parent Child Center

Springfield School District

All-4-One

Two Rivers Supervisory Union

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## Special Awards

### Sally Fox Award

—Lamoille Family Center DULCE



*Lamoille Family  
Center*

*Encouraging, Educating and Celebrating Families*

### Lynne von Trapp Award

—Pam Quinn, Twinfield Together Mentoring

Tt

**Twinfield Together  
Mentoring Program**

## VCTF 2018 Financial Snapshot

### Income Sources for Programs

Public Grants	\$240,055	35%
Donations from 29D on Tax Returns	\$50,000	7%
VCTF Events Income	\$167,076	24%
VCTF Cash Donations	\$238,635	34%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$695,766</b>	<b>100%</b>

### Expenses

Programs Funded	\$472,204	70%
Program Service Expense	\$99,717	15%
Administration Expense	\$104,017	15%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$675,938</b>	<b>100%</b>

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### Staff

Linda Allen, Co-executive Director  
Fagan Hart, Co-executive Director  
Theo Clark, Program Manager

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