

The Janet S. Munt Family Room was founded in 1988 as a program of the VNA and in 2017, through a community led process, became an independent nonprofit. Our mission is to support connection for parents and families, provide education, promote physical, social, emotional, and linguistic development in children, and nurture a vibrant and diverse community.

As part of Burlington's Old North End for over 30 years and one of the state's 15 Parent Child Centers, we have served generations of children ages 0 – 7 and their caregivers. Our programming is free of charge and includes a mix of drop-in playgroups and parent support groups, enrolled parent education classes, a 5 STAR rated preschool, and peer mentoring programs. Through our partnership with The University of Vermont Children's Hospital and VCHIP we also offer well-child visits at our Building Strong Families Clinic for New American children and have child psychiatrists on-site weekly for consults.



Our Families

In 2021 there are

24 languages spoken

By the 367 parents & children served

Who live in 18 cities and towns

Since 2017 we have served

2630 parents & children in 654 households



Our Journey

Thanks to tremendous support from our community, we have grown from a staff of 5 FTEs and a \$400,000 budget in 2017-2018 to a staff of over 13 FTEs and a budget of just under 1 million dollars for 2021-2022. In that time we have increased our case management capacity and programming with our own staff, and built partnerships that allow us to access the expertise of other agencies instead of duplicating the services they already provide. We have built systems to promote mental health and treatment for substance use disorders, and pioneered new programs like Healthy Families From the Start that employs a trauma-informed doula to support new parents before, during, and after birth through 12 weeks. When the pandemic struck we pivoted to supporting basic needs and delivered over a hundred thousand dollars' worth of food and supplies to families' homes. We began offering computer literacy classes and gave out chromebooks to parents without online access. As we are able to safely welcome families back on-site, we will continue to offer virtual options for those who can't make it to the Family Room. Our goal is always to meet families where they are, both physically and emotionally.



Our Future

As we look forward, we know the need for family support that is culturally appropriate and judgement-free is greater than ever. In the next year we plan to open a satellite location at the O'Brien Community Center in Winooski and increase our fatherhood programming. And, as we know, we always have to be ready to meet the challenges that we haven't even imagined yet.

Please consider supporting us as we make sure that families have what they need to be healthy and resilient.

To make a gift or learn more about opportunities to support the Family Room, please contact Executive Director Josh Miller at 802-862-2121 or at Josh@TheFamilyRoomVT.org. We also welcome you to give online through our website at TheFamilyRoomVT.org.

