Helping young families get the right start
After closing our doors for the first time in 40 years in March 2020 due to a global pandemic, we provided summer playtimes, helping us stay connected to our families. By September, we had fully opened, but with fewer participants to ensure we fell within the health and state guidelines. The staff adapted to the new rules and regulations and have been able to spend time working on new and adaptive programming, including a nature-based therapeutic program.

The pandemic allowed us the opportunity to identify and focus on two crucial areas: food insecurity and racial justice.

- We provided food and supplies to families each month during spring and summer, delivering between 90 and 120 boxes every month for six months. These included food, essential supplies, books, and craft, gardening, and kid-focused activities.

- We spent time reflecting and learning about racial justice and equity. The work involved staff, families, parents, and our board committee. The parallel learning by participants and staff included the decision of raising a Black Lives Matter flag in our community. This is not a simple story, but it is an ongoing journey, and one that the PCC team is committed to.
Outreach services continued non-stop last year even during the earlier part of the year when everything was closed down. Our outreach team have found creative and effective ways to connect with their families. We are all looking forward to a time when it is easier to meet together in person.

Our Elm Steet property is “green-powered” with energy credits donated by the Interfaith Action Committee (ICAN), ensuring that we are able to do our bit for the environment. We are very grateful to ICAN for their care and generosity.

The ACPCC held two drive-in movie nights over the summer. The car park at Woodchuck Cider in Middlebury was a perfect backdrop to screen fun family focused movies, including A Night at the Museum and Ghostbusters. Marquis Theater donated candy and popcorn, ensuring a fun (and safe) family night out.

The support of our local community partners has been remarkable, and is a testament to the power of strong connections and healthy relationships. Their care and guidance have made such a difference to us, and we are eternally grateful that we live in a place where our connections run deep.

### Serviced by Town in Addison County

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Town</th>
<th>Residents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Middlebury</td>
<td>376</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bristol</td>
<td>246</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vergennes</td>
<td>243</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ferrisburgh</td>
<td>77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Haven</td>
<td>77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Starksboro</td>
<td>68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orwell</td>
<td>67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bridport</td>
<td>63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other (&lt;60 each)</td>
<td>222</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,636</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Our Participants

A mom’s reflections on being in the Learning Together program at the PCC:

I first came to know the PCC by working with my outreach worker, Clara. The biggest thing I can say about Clara is that she believed in me when many people didn’t. The first time we met, we sat and talked for 2 hours. I told her that I wanted to enroll my daughter into childcare and not too long after that I started coming to the PCC.

I’ve spent a lot of time in childcare this year learning patience. I love spending time with my daughter in the PCC childcare. I love watching my daughter play with her friends. One of my favorite things to do with her is play “Balls.” She says, “Ready, Set, Go,” then I watch her big smile come over her face as we toss the balls back and forth. I love to play with her but I’m also learning to give her time when she wants to be left alone. I’m working on taking care of my emotions so my daughter doesn’t feel my upset feelings.

I honestly learn so much from every staff member at the PCC. It’s a healthy family to me. When I walk in the PCC, I feel consistently happy and supported. I also love laughing with staff, children and other participants each day. But don’t get me wrong, there are hard days and times I want to give up but the PCC helps me keep pushing forward toward a healthy life for me and my daughters.
Learning Together

Now, more than ever, we are finding healthy and enjoyable ways to engage our participants outside during the time of COVID. We received quality winter gear for in-house use and our outreach families in collaboration with Junebug and United Way. Our weekly outdoor group was nourished by physically distanced bike rides, walks and hikes, and this winter have managed to get to the Snow Bowl a couple of times for some fun in the snow.

- Our Learning Together program has continued as planned, where parents attend the Center daily, participating in childcare, office assistance, culinary skills, and working on their personal development plans.
- During the summer, the garden was reclaimed by two participants who re-established beauty and calm within this special space.
- Learning Together participants have enjoyed learning new practical skills, including bookcase building with Steve, one of our outreach workers.
- Our participants wrote powerful memoirs, which have been shared during our weekly staff meetings, and will be published in the future.
- We have had three participants graduate from high school and six participants completed their driver’s education so far this calendar year.
Financial Statements

Funding

- Fundraising: 6%
- Federal: 10%
- State: 69%
- School Districts: 2%
- Towns: 2%
- Grants: 2%
- Residential: 2%
- Other: 2%

Total FY20: $2,162,310

Expenses

- Community Development: 32%
- Child Care: 5%
- Home Visits: 19%
- Family Support: 17%
- Prevention: 3%
- Training/Education: 2%
- Residential: 13%
- Admin/Fundraising: 9%

Total FY20: $2,067,747
Core Services

Center Based Programs

The Learning Together program provides our participants with vocational training, parent education, group counseling, drivers education and a variety of workshops. The Center also meets the academic needs of its participants who have not completed their secondary education. We provide a full child nutrition program for the children in our care as well as health checks and screenings, physical and language therapy and transportation to and from the Center. For many, the Center serves as a home. It is a place where people feel safe and respected.

Reaching Out

Home visitation is the most effective way of reaching isolated individuals and helping parents develop a sense of trust in the community. The Center’s nurse and outreach workers provide comprehensive services to pregnant and parenting teens and young adults. Outreach workers conduct support groups in area high schools to encourage students to complete their schooling and delay parenthood. Our early intervention specialists visit families of children with special needs to conduct assessments and coordinate services. Our staff is leading playgroups in the county to provide parents and children a time to socialize, learn about child development, and strengthen their sense of community.
Our Mission

The mission of the Addison County Parent/Child Center is to provide support and education to families and assure that our community is one in which all young children get off to the right start with the opportunity to grow up healthy, happy, and productive.

Toward this end, programs and activities of the Parent/Child Center aim to meet the following goals:

- Strengthen families.
- Help young families achieve self-sufficiency.
- Prevent or alleviate major stresses on families.
- Ensure that all children get the love and positive attention that they need.
- Help teenagers make responsible decisions about family life.
- Encourage prevention activities in our community.
- Work cooperatively with other agencies in providing services.
- Help other community groups establish similar programs.
Thank You!

Donors who gave their time
or at least $100 in 2020

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Lincoln General Store
Lincoln Peak Vineyard
Louise May Foundation Inc.
Marjorie MacNeill
Jill Madden
Maple Run
Marquis Theater
Pam Marsh and Lawrence Maier
Marsh & Wagner, PC
Sara and Richard Marshall
Caroline and Gregg Marston
Margaret Martin
Masks for Missions
Amy and Brian Mason
Karen and Ronald McEachen
John and Mireille McWilliams
James and Anna Michael
Middlebury Dental Group
Middlebury Eye Associates, Inc.
Middlebury Friends Meeting
Middlebury Natural Foods Co-op
Middlebury Pediatric Dentistry PLLC
Middlebury Snow Bowl
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Cheryl and Don Mitchell
Rob Moeller and Joey Siesholtz
Molly Smith & Mary Lynn O'Shea
Studios
Parker Montgomery
Virginia Moser
Kristen Mullins
Thomas Munschauer
National Bank of Middlebury
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Dottie Neuberger
C. Ryan Nevis
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Contact Us

Addison County Parent/Child Center
126 Monroe Street, PO Box 646
Middlebury, VT 05753
Phone: (802) 388-3171
Email: info@addisoncountypcc.org
Web: www.addisoncountypcc.org