

NEWS FROM:



For Immediate Release

**Contact: Susan Kamp
888.475.5437**

PREPARE YOUR TAXES, HELP A CHILD

The Tax Check-off in Section 6, Line 29B of the Vermont Tax Return Helps Build the Vermont Children's Trust Fund

(South Burlington, VT March 11, 2004).....The Vermont Children's Trust Foundation wants to remind Vermonters that the money donated through the VCTF Fund tax check-off on Section 6, Line 29B goes directly to programs that support Vermont children and their families throughout the state.

These funds support such prevention-based activities as after-school programs, literacy programs, and mentoring programs. Last year, the VCT Fund awarded over \$400,000 to organizations including:

- **The Winooski Family Center's** kindergarten transition received \$7,052 to provide a preschool enrichment program and coordination with early childhood providers and kindergarten teachers to address school readiness.

- **Everybody Wins! Vermont**, a program that is available in ten schools throughout the state, is funded for \$8,500 for a children's literacy and mentoring program that invites mentors into schools to read with children during the lunch hour.

- **The Family Center of Washington County's** infant and toddler child care program received \$10,864. The program offers intensive parenting support, modeling and parent education for families enrolled in the childcare program.

- **Sunrise Family Resource Center** received \$7,232 for pregnant and parenting teen outreach. Case managers provide information and support to pregnant and parenting teens in Bennington County in order to improve health and education outcomes.

· **North Country Union Jr. High School** has a comprehensive student assistance program that received \$5,780. The program helps individuals and small groups through support and intervention on campus and through community outreach.

There are numerous other programs supported by the VCTF fund, all with an eye toward helping Vermont children learn and grow in healthy, supportive situations.

Studies show that focusing on supporting kids BEFORE they get into trouble saves families . . . and in the long run saves money: once kids are already in trouble and acting out, the costs to society are enormous.

So take a moment to fill out Section 6, Line 29b. It's a simple way to save a child. For more information about the Vermont Children's Trust Fund, visit our website at www.vtchildrenstrust.org or call (888) 475-5437.

#####