

Hi Everyone,

Hope you're all doing well, getting through...*holding on!* Things here at CCS continue to be very challenging with staff vacancies. We thought the pandemic was hard, then the REALLLL hard work started! Rest assured – we are doing everything we can to get staff to CCS *and keep them here*. This means intensive advocacy about our funding so we can pay competitive wages – and making sure that the community understands how important our work is. I know that many of you have been frustrated with our inability to deliver regular, needed or robust services. We hear you! Every staff at CCS is redeployed to keep people safe, housed and healthy and we're working day and night to be creative about service delivery and working with partners to see how we can collaborate, too.

In the meantime – some good updates...

October is Down's Syndrome Awareness Month!

Here's some cool information/tools: <https://mailchi.mp/89faed93eb51/down-syndrome-awareness-month?e=4ee5f8e23a>

Reminder about Payment Reform Town Hall

CCS and Howard Center are hosting two opportunities for people to get updates on the DS Payment Reform process – with a focus on what's happened so far, what's been decided and what decision still need to be made. More on this soon but please reserve on of these times, below. I'll be sending our Zoom links, soon.

- Monday the Nov 8th from 12-2pm
- Tuesday November 10th from 5:30 to 7:30pm

In response to popular demand, Howard Center hosting a **HOUSING OPTIONS** webinar.

Please join us on **November 16 from 5:00 – 6:30 p.m.** for a virtual community conversation about housing options for adult Vermonters with developmental disabilities. Come hear from our panelists about their perspectives on developing supportive housing options that better meet the needs of individuals living in our community.

Our featured panelists include: Jim Caffry, attorney and parent; Elizabeth Campbell, psychoanalyst and parent; Ashleigh Cota, SUCCEED Alumna; Delaina Norton, Director of Long-Term Supports and Services, Howard Center; Amy Roth, Assistant Director, Vermont Department of Disabilities, Aging, and Independent Living; Hannah Schwartz, Co-founder of Heartbeet Lifesharing; and Monica White, Commissioner of Vermont Department of Disabilities, Aging, and Independent Living.

The panel discussion will be followed by a Q&A. This event is free and open to the public but advance registration is required at howardcenter.org. For questions please call, 802-488-6912.

Update from CCS Development Coordinator, Mike Reilly

1. **American Flatbread Benefit Bake** is on! Tues. October 26th. Bar and take-out orders start at 4, food service at 5. ALL flatbreads sold till 10 earn donation to CCS. Still waiting to hear if the weekend I set up we can offer our raffle (I have some prizes if we can - stay tuned).
2. **Shelburne Vineyard** - CCS will be the featured nonprofit for the Vineyard's "First Thursday Benefit Concert" series that they've just restarted. Our night is Thurs. Nov. 4th. FREE but we get to have literature and a donation jar and a portion of all sales at the wine bar and store goes to us. I know Luiza's Homemade with Love (think best pierogi you've ever had!) is the food vendor and I'll confirm the musical act and announce.
3. I submitted a proposal to United Way and UVM Medical Center to once again participate in the **UVMHC Public Health Partnership** (Spring Semester 2022). Thanks Nurse Laurie for the project idea (Undertreated Pain and Anxiety in Non-Verbal Patients)

State Updates:

After many years of service and dedication to developmental services and the State of Vermont,

Clare McFadden is retiring!

Please join us for a virtual farewell event for Clare
Wednesday, November 17, 2021
12:00 – 1:00

The event will be held on Microsoft Teams

To join the event on your computer or mobile app [Click here to join the meeting](#)
Or call in (audio only) +1 802-552-8456, 889185120#

There will be some time at the event for individuals to say a few words. A virtual Kudo board has also been created for Clare. If you would like to write a note to Clare, go to <https://www.kudoboard.com/boards/PMig5zSB>

And...

Join us in a virtual celebration as we appreciate

Amy Roth

In her retirement from State service and as she begins a new journey

Wednesday, November 10, 2021

12:00 – 1:00

Microsoft Teams

Join the event on your computer or mobile app, [Click here to join the meeting](#)

Or call in (audio only) +1 802-552-8456, 63676265#

There will be some time at the event for some individuals to say a few words.
A virtual Kudo board has also been created for Amy. If you would like to write a note to Amy, go to <https://www.kudoboard.com/boards/utZSxhFP>

Thanks everyone,

Beth

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Pronouns: She/Her/Hers