



STATE OF VERMONT
JOINT FISCAL OFFICE

MEMORANDUM

To: James Reardon, Commissioner of Finance & Management
From: Nathan Lavery, Fiscal Analyst
Date: October 25, 2010
Subject: JFO #2459, #2460, #2461, #2462

No Joint Fiscal Committee member has requested that the following items be held for review:

JFO #2459 — \$17,899 grant from the University of Delaware Research Office to the Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets. Funding will be used to improve the human resource management skills of managers at Vermont dairy farms through a series of regional workshops.

[JFO received 9/16/10]

JFO #2460 — \$506,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Justice to the Department of Public Safety. Funding will be used upgrade communications equipment and technology, including the purchase of narrow band capable mobile and portable radios for law enforcement officers, related to the interoperable communications platform.

[JFO received 9/16/10]

JFO #2461 — \$6,000 grant from the Brookdale Foundation to the Department of Children and Families – Family Services Division. Funding will be used to increase awareness of relatives who are serving as caregivers and to support the expansion of support groups and training opportunities by implementing a statewide interagency task force.

[JFO received 9/21/10]

JFO #2462 — \$81,459 grant from the University of Southern Maine – Office of Sponsored Research to the Department of Vermont Health Access. Funding will be used to expand the Blueprint for Health, including the use of Health Information Technology infrastructure, to evaluate and improve the quality of health care delivered to children as part of rolling out the Pediatric Blueprint. **The establishment of one (1) limited service position is associated with this request.**

[JFO received 9/21/10]

The Governor's approval may now be considered final. We ask that you inform the Secretary of Administration and your staff of this action.

cc: Roger Allbee, Secretary
Thomas Tremblay, Commissioner
Stephen Dale, Commissioner
Susan Besio, Commissioner



STATE OF VERMONT
JOINT FISCAL OFFICE

MEMORANDUM

To: Joint Fiscal Committee Members
From: Nathan Lavery, Fiscal Analyst
Date: September 22, 2010
Subject: Grant Requests

Enclosed please find five (5) requests that the Joint Fiscal Office has received from the administration. These requests include the establishment of two (2) limited service positions.

JFO #2458 — Request from the Department of Public Service to establish one limited service position. This position will assist with reporting and monitoring requirements associated with ARRA energy initiatives; specifically including the administration of grants from the Clean Energy Development Fund. Funding for this position is available through an award from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act that was included in the FY10 budget. Only the position requires JFC approval. **Expedited review of this item has been request by the Department. Joint Fiscal Committee members will be contacted by September 30 with a request to waive the statutory review period and accept this item.**

[JFO received 9/16/10]

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the quality of health care delivered to children as part of rolling out the Pediatric Blueprint. **The establishment of one (1) limited service position is associated with this request.**

[JFO received 9/21/10]

In accordance with the procedures for processing such requests, we ask you to review the enclosed and notify the Joint Fiscal Office (Nathan Lavery at (802) 828-1488; nlavery@leg.state.vt.us) if you have questions or would like an item held for Joint Fiscal Committee review. Unless we hear from you to the contrary by October 6 we will assume that you agree to consider as final the Governor's acceptance of these requests.

cc: James Reardon, Commissioner
David O'Brien, Commissioner
Roger Allbee, Secretary
Thomas Tremblay, Commissioner
Stephen Dale, Commissioner
Susan Besio, Commissioner

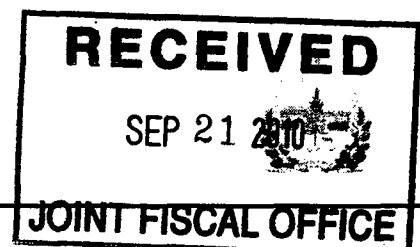
State of Vermont
 Department of Finance & Management
 109 State Street, Pavilion Building
 Montpelier, VT 05620-0401

[phone] 802-828-2376
 [fax] 802-828-2428

Agency of Administration

STATE OF VERMONT
FINANCE & MANAGEMENT GRANT REVIEW FORM

Grant Summary:		This grant is to implement a statewide interagency task force to increase awareness of relatives doing caregiving of children, support expansion of support groups and training for these caregivers.			
Date:		9/1/2010			
Department:		Agency of Human Services: DCF-Family Services Division			
Legal Title of Grant:		Relatives as Parents Program			
Federal Catalog #:		N/A			
Grant/Donor Name and Address:		Brookdale Foundation, 950 Third Avenue, 19 th Floor, New York, NY 10022			
Grant Period:		From:	To:		
		5/1/2010	8/31/2011		
Grant/Donation		\$6,000			
	SFY 1	SFY 2	SFY 3	Total	Comments
Grant Amount:	\$6,000	\$	\$	\$6,000	
Position Information:		# Positions	Explanation/Comments		
		0			
Additional Comments:					
Department of Finance & Management		[Signature]		(Initial)	
Secretary of Administration		[Signature]		(Initial)	
Sent To Joint Fiscal Office		9/14/10		Date 9/14/10	



STATE OF VERMONT REQUEST FOR GRANT ACCEPTANCE (Form AA-1)

BASIC GRANT INFORMATION				
1. Agency:	Agency of Human Services			
2. Department:	Department for Children and Families/Family Services Division			
3. Program:	Kin as Parents			
4. Legal Title of Grant:	Relatives as parents program			
5. Federal Catalog #:	N/A			
6. Grant/Donor Name and Address: Brookdale Foundation 950 Third Avenue, 19 th Floor New York, NY 10022				
7. Grant Period:	From:	5/1/2010	To:	8/31/2011
8. Purpose of Grant: Implement statewide interagency task force to increase public awareness of relatives who are serving as caregivers and to support the expansion of support groups and training opportunities available to those who are parenting relative children. This grant will operate in tandem with an existing program operated by Vermont Kin as Parents (VKAP) which is also funded by the Brookdale Foundation. \$4,000 additional grant money will become available in year two contingent on successful first year.				
9. Impact on existing program if grant is not Accepted: Public awareness campaign will not be developed and existing support groups will be limited to the 3 currently operating.				
10. BUDGET INFORMATION				
	SFY 1	SFY 2	SFY 3	Comments
Expenditures:	FY 2011	FY	FY	
Personal Services	\$4,465	\$	\$	
Operating Expenses	\$7,500	\$	\$	
Grants	\$1,000	\$	\$	
Total	\$12,965	\$	\$	
Revenues:				
State Funds:	\$	\$	\$	
Cash	\$	\$	\$	
In-Kind	\$6,965	\$	\$	
Federal Funds:	\$	\$	\$	
(Direct Costs)	\$	\$	\$	
(Statewide Indirect)	\$	\$	\$	
(Departmental Indirect)	\$	\$	\$	
Other Funds:	\$	\$	\$	
Grant (source Brookdale Foundation)	\$6,000	\$	\$	
Total	\$12,965	\$	\$	
Appropriation No:		Amount:	\$	

STATE OF VERMONT REQUEST FOR GRANT ACCEPTANCE (Form AA-1)

			\$
			\$
			\$
			\$
			\$
			\$
		Total	\$

PERSONAL SERVICE INFORMATION

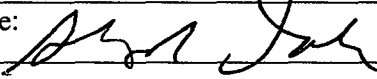
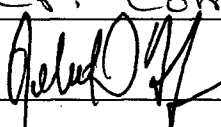
11. Will monies from this grant be used to fund one or more Personal Service Contracts? Yes No
 If "Yes", appointing authority must initial here to indicate intent to follow current competitive bidding process/policy.

Appointing Authority Name: _____ Agreed by: _____ (initial)

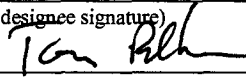
12. Limited Service Position Information:	# Positions	Title
	0	N/A
Total Positions		

12a. Equipment and space for these positions: Is presently available. Can be obtained with available funds.

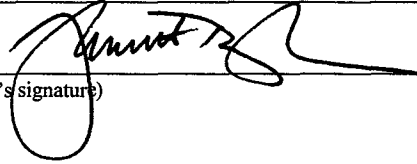
13. AUTHORIZATION AGENCY/DEPARTMENT

I/we certify that no funds beyond basic application preparation and filing costs have been expended or committed in anticipation of Joint Fiscal Committee approval of this grant, unless previous notification was made on Form AA-1PN (if applicable):	Signature: 	Date: 8/5/10
	Title: DCF, Commissioner	
	Signature: 	Date: 8/11/10
	Title: AHS Secretary	

14. SECRETARY OF ADMINISTRATION

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Approved:	(Secretary or designee signature) 	Date: 9/10/10
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15. ACTION BY GOVERNOR

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accepted	(Governor's signature) 	Date: 9/13/10
<input type="checkbox"/> Rejected		

16. DOCUMENTATION REQUIRED

Required GRANT Documentation

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Request Memo <input type="checkbox"/> Dept. project approval (if applicable) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Award <input type="checkbox"/> Grant Agreement <input type="checkbox"/> Grant Budget	<input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Donation (if any) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grant (Project) Timeline (if applicable) <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Extension (if applicable) <input type="checkbox"/> Form AA-1PN attached (if applicable)
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End Form AA-1

REC'D AUG 13 2010



AGENCY OF HUMAN SERVICES

Department for Children and Families
Commissioner's Office 5 North
103 South Main Street
Waterbury, VT 05671-5920
(802) 241-1942 Fax (802) 241-2980
www.dcf.state.vt.us

To: Rob Hofmann, AHS Secretary

For: Governor Douglas

Members of the Joint Fiscal Committee:

Representative Michael Obuchowski, Chair

Senator Ann Cummings, Vice Chair

Senator Diane Snelling, Clerk

Representative Janet Ancel

Senator Susan Bartlett

Representative Carolyn Branagan

Representative Martha Heath

Representative Mark Larson

Senator Peter Shumlin

Senator Richard Sears

From: Stephen Dale, Commissioner for Department for Children and Families

Date: August 5, 2010

Re: Request for approval pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 5 for acceptance of donated funds provided from the Brookdale Foundation to support the parenting of relative children.

This packet of materials forms a request for the Governor's approval and, subject to his approval, a request for approval from the Joint Fiscal Committee to allow the Department for Children and Families to accept funds from the Brookdale Foundation. These funds will support the implementation of a statewide interagency task force to increase public awareness and the expansion of support groups and training opportunities for those who are parenting relative children. This packet consists of the following:

1. AA-1.
2. Grant Award letter
3. Grant Proposal

REC'D AUG 13 2010

Name of Public State Agency: _____

**THE BROOKDALE RELATIVES AS PARENTS PROGRAM (RAPP)
REQUEST FOR STATE PROPOSALS (RFP) – YEAR 2010**

Due Date: Thursday, January 7, 2010

Name of State Public Agency: Department for Children and Families Family Services Division

Address: 103 South Main Street Osgood Three

City: Waterbury **State:** Vermont **Zip:** 05671

Director (Name and Title) Steve Dale, Commissioner

Phone Number: (802) 241-2126 **Fax Number:** (802) 241-2407

Email address steve.dale@ahs.state.vt.us

Name, title and current responsibilities of the State Agency staff person who will have overall administrative and supervisory responsibility for the RAPP Initiative:

Shaun F. Donahue, System of Care Manager. Mr. Donahue is responsible for overall management of out of home care for all children in the custody of the Department for Children and Families, including foster care, kinship care, and residential care. Additional responsibilities include oversight of all grants and contracts in the Family Services Division.

Phone Number: (802) 241-2259 **Fax Number:** (802) 241-2407

Email address: shaun.donahue@ahs.state.vt.us

Name, title and role of the person who will serve as the RAPP Coordinator:

Leslie Williams, Foster Care Liaison Responsibilities include fostering the relationship between the Department for Children and Families and foster parent groups, as well as projects to improve the foster care system.

Phone Number (802) 241-2231

Fax Number: (802) 241-2407

Email address: leslie.williams@ahs.state.vt.us

Section I: The Proposed Program

- a. Describe your proposed program and indicate how you plan to address the three areas of activities required in the Guidelines. Be sure to state how you intend to recruit the local agencies that will sponsor new support groups and services for relative caregiving families. In addition, include any other activities you plan to undertake.

There are 4,067 children living in grandparent-headed households (2.8% of all children in the state). There are another 966 children living in households headed by other relatives (0.7%) of all children in the state. Of the children living in households headed by grandparents or other relatives in Vermont, 1,838 are living there without either parent present. Only a small percent of these children are in the custody of the Department for Children and Families. Many children are living with relatives who have guardianship through Probate Court, and many others have only an informal arrangement. We propose building a statewide Inter-System Task Force, which in the short term, will provide leadership in the implementation of our goals for the grant, and in the long term, will serve as the statewide network, functioning as an umbrella and coordinator for the development of services for kinship providers, as well as the clearing house for information.

We have been greeted with a positive response to our request from each member of the task force, underlining the fact that the Vermont community understands the need for developing services for kinship providers. The timing of this RFP coincides with the recognition by members of the judicial branch, staff within the Department for Children and Families, and the non profit community, that there are literally thousands of kinship providers, raising their relative children, without the knowledge of available services, and without a statewide structure for support and education. Our task force includes representatives from a diverse group of public and private agencies.

The Inter-System Task Force will serve in the short term, to consider and approve of all

Richard LeVitre	UVM Extension	(802) 656-2990	Richard.levitre@uvm.edu
Davie Reville	AARP	(802) 951-1303	dreville@aarp.org
Becky Strader	PINS	(802) 454-8304	Rebecca.strader@ahs.state.vt.us
George Belcher	Probate Judge	(802) 828-3405	wvjmpr@aol.com
Melissa Bailey	Dept of Mental Health	(802) 652-2039	mbailey@vdh.state.vt.us
Deb Quackenbush	Dept of Education	(802) 828-5877	Deb.quackenbush@state.vt.us
Sarah Gallager	CWTP	(802) 656-3354	Sarah.gallager@uvm.edu
Reeva Murphy	DCF Child Care		Reeva.murphy@ahs.state.vt.us
Joe Patrissi	DCF Economic Services	(802) 241-2808	Joe.patrissi@ahs.state.vt.us
Lynn Granger	VKAP	(802) 338-4725	kinlmg@comcast.net
Judge Davenport	Family Court Judge	(802) 828-4908	Amy.davenport@state.vt.us
Brian Southworth	Casey Family Services	(802) 655-6688	bsouthworth@caseyfamilyservices.org
Maria Mireault	DDAIL	(802) 241-3738	Maria.mireault@ahs.state.vt.us
Shari Young	Juvenile Court Improvement	(802) 828-5625	Shari.young@state.vt.us
Mary Ellen Mendl	Director 2-1-1	(802)	Maryellen@unitedwaysvt.org
Mary Ellen Otis	Parent Child Centers	(802) 685-2264	maryellen@orangecountypcc.org

activities that are initiated. Additionally, members of the Task Force will support the grant with staff time, and input in their specific area of expertise. In the long term, the Task Force will become a statewide network, positioned to continue the work that is initiated under the two year grant.

The four goals of the proposal are:

1. Identify kinship providers who are outside the Department for Children and Families system. We will accomplish this by working with both probate and family court, implementing a

system for collecting data, and demographic information on kinship providers, at the time they are in court

2. Communicate with kinship providers about the services for which they may qualify that may be currently in place, as well as new services including new education, training, and support services that are developed through the grant. A member of our task force, AARP has offered assistance in designing and developing our message. We will develop a packet of information that includes services that kinship providers may qualify for, including something like a refrigerator magnet, with key telephone numbers to call to find out about services. With support of representatives from the judicial branch, we will implement a process that ensures that each kinship provider receives the packet of information when they go to court. Once we have the court process in place we will initiate a statewide media campaign, to communicate with kinship providers, giving the same message that is included in the packet of information. AARP-VT, the University of Vermont Extension Service, as well as state agencies have offered in-kind assistance in creating our message, and reaching out to as many kinship providers as possible.
3. Develop support groups throughout the state, using host organizations (represented on the Task Force), partnering with private non profit organizations and with kinship providers in each local area. The statewide network of parent child centers, and the private non profit organizations that hold family services support contracts, are under consideration as umbrella organizations for developing support groups. It is our belief that support groups will be more successful, and sustainable, if an existing organization provides space, and in-kind administrative support. The statewide network of parent child centers has space, as well as in-kind administrative assistance. If we are a successful bidder, we will target two communities in the first year, Rutland and Bennington. We have chosen these areas, knowing that there are organizations that will facilitate the development of a support group, as well as helping to identify kinship providers within the community. In year two of the grant, we will establish support groups in at least three new communities. At this time, St. Johnsbury, Brattleboro, and the White River Junction area are under consideration. We have identified non profit organizations in all communities that will work with our Inter-System Task Force to develop these support groups.
4. Education and Training. There will be two components to education and training. The first will be education for kinship providers. The University of Vermont Child Welfare Training Partnership has developed a curriculum for kinship providers. With their assistance, we will make the curriculum available to all kinship providers, not just families within the DCF Family Services Division. This component will be available via teleconferencing, increasing access for kinship providers, who may live in rural areas and may not be able to travel distances for training and education.

b. List other agencies in your State that provide services to relative caregivers and could facilitate the development of your proposed program. Describe how you plan to involve them in your RAPP Statewide Initiative.

Many of the members of the Inter-System Task Force serve in leadership roles in non profits and state agencies that provide services to kinship providers. Representatives from these organizations will be crucial to ensuring the success of our activities.

1. Vermont Kin as Parents, known as VKAP, is a nonprofit organization committed to supporting kin who are raising relative children. VKAP facilitates support groups, organizes an annual kinship conference, offers resources and referral services and educates public and private agencies about the issues faced by caregivers and their families.
2. The Vermont Department for Children and Families (DCF) Economic Services division. This division oversees many of the financial services that kinship providers outside of the child welfare system may qualify for. Benefits include: cash assistance for families with children under 18 years old (Reach Up); Fuel Assistance; Health Care (Medicaid); 3 Squares VT (Food Stamps); and general assistance. Representatives from Economic Services will participate on the task force, and will also provide staff support in developing a communication system that will increase access to services for kinship providers.
3. The Vermont Department of Disabilities, Aging and Independent Living provides statewide oversight of the Administration on Aging's National Family Caregiver Support Program (NFCSP) which is managed by Vermont's five regional Area Agencies on Aging. The NFCSP provides funding for a variety of caregiver supports that assist caregivers to continue in their care giving roles. A portion of this funding is designated to provide respite for grandparents or other relative caregivers age 55 and older who are raising children age 18 years or younger. As partners in the development of a statewide RAPP program, the VT Department of Disabilities, Aging and Independent Living and Vermont's Area Agencies on Aging expect to reach a broader group of older kinship providers who may be eligible for respite funding available through the NFCSP. We will establish a statewide referral program and an application process that will facilitate access to respite funds for kinship providers and at the same time, collect data necessary for program evaluation and future program development.
4. The Vermont Department for Children and Families (DCF) Child Development Division (CDD). The CDD administers a continuum of early care and education and school age child care services for Vermont families. These include Child Care Financial Assistance and Children's Integrated Services (CIS) which integrate advancing child health and family support, promoting healthy social and emotional development for children and parents and providing services for infants and toddlers with special needs. CIS focuses on prevention and early intervention as well as treatment. Kinship providers may qualify for help paying for child care or for other early childhood services. CDD will

Name of Public State Agency: _____

participate in the development of a packet of information about what is available and how to access services. CDD staff will ensure that kinship providers are connected with the network of community agencies that provide services as part of CDD programs and that kinship providers are considered primary caretakers. CDD staff will be available as a resource for kinship providers who have questions and concerns about services for young children or child care.

- c. Describe any special problems or obstacles you anticipate in developing your RAPP State Initiative and how you plan to address them.

One of our challenges in Vermont is that historically, we have not had a method to collect demographic information about kinship providers unless they were part of the Department for Children and Families. While we have an idea of the number of families in which there is a kinship provider responsible for raising their relative children, we have no way to identify them or to communicate with them. If we are a successful bidder, we will work collaboratively with members of our task force, especially members of the probate court system, as well as the family court system, to implement a way to collect demographic information, and to be sure that each kinship provider receives a packet of information when they arrive at court. The packet of information will be developed with the help of other members of the task force, primarily those state agencies that have programs and services for which kinship providers may qualify.

Our second challenge, related to the first, is that Vermont is a rural state, and many kinship providers are not currently connected to services and programs. We have the support and participation of Vermont AARP, as well as the University of Vermont Extension Service, for assistance in this area. Additionally, once we have our message defined, Vermont 2-1-1, the network of Parent Child Centers, the Partners in Service (a program that brings together faith communities and human service agency staff) will work collaboratively to build a communication system, designed to reach as many kinship providers as possible.

Our Inter-System Task Force includes representatives from many different sectors, and each person, representing their program or agency has expressed full support for this project.

- d. Indicate your plans for continuity of your RAPP Statewide Initiative beyond the two-year seed grant.

The Inter-System Task Force will serve as the short term convening group to implement the different components of the grant. As we move forward, representatives from the task force, along with others will become members of the statewide network. Our intention is to continue to build programs and services for this population. The Inter-System Task Force is a public private partnership as will be the statewide network. Our private sector

partners bring knowledge, perspective, and the ability to reach out to kinship providers across the state.

- e. Describe the collaborative activities that you plan to undertake. If you are going to establish any formal partnerships with another State agency or statewide organization, please indicate what role each agency will play and attach letters of support that identify their contributions.

The collaboration has already begun! In preparation for the submission of the grant proposal we have had tremendous support and offers to participate both with time, expertise, and in-kind administrative support, as well as the offer to host meetings, support groups, and educational events. The Child Development Division intends to initiate a partnership with the Economic Services Division to streamline the way families can apply for assistance with subsidized childcare as well as a Reach Up Grant (RUFA). The Department of Corrections' Incarcerated Women's project, is working in partnership with the Vermont Children's Aid Society's Kids Apart Program, and will work collaboratively with the task force, in data collection as well as a statewide communications plan. The Department of Corrections will also team with the Child Welfare Training Partnership around education for incarcerated parents, many of whose children are living with relatives.

- f. Indicate why your agency should be selected to establish the RAPP Statewide Initiative.

Vermont is poised to take action steps, and is "shovel ready" to address the needs of kinship providers. There is language written for the legislature that would create subsidized guardianship, and while it will only serve a small portion of the kinship providers, it is a major step forward, both in providing assistance to a new group of families, and also, and very important, the proposed legislation opens the door for a more in-depth conversation in the legislature about the number of kinship providers raising their relative children. The Department for Children and Families has made changes in practice, and if children must leave their own homes, the emphasis is on placing children with kin, and to grant temporary custody to the kinship providers. This will mean that there are an increasing number of children living with relatives outside of the Department for Children and Families. Additionally, at a recent Juvenile Justice Task Force Conference, there was a focus on the complexities of kinship placement, and a recognition that judges, guardian ad litem, attorneys, as well as social workers, need to understand the complex issues facing kinship providers who are raising their relative children. The family court system is interested in bringing an expert to Vermont to train representatives of the court system, and if we are awarded the grant, we will include this training as part of the grant funding.

Vermont is uniquely situated to implement a statewide Task Force, as well as an ongoing statewide network. There already exists strong collaborative relationships between public

agencies, and private non profit organizations, as well as a philosophy of working collaboratively, in the best interests of Vermonters.

Section II: The Sponsoring Organization

- a. Give a brief description of the services to relative caregivers that your agency currently provides.

The Department for Children and Families, Family Services Division provides services to children and families when children are in custody. Those services include a stipend to the kinship care giver, Medicaid insurance, subsidized childcare, and other services determined by the social worker to be in the best interests of the child and family. Kinship providers outside of the Department for Children and Families may qualify for child only Reach Up grants (RUFA) and Medicaid through the Economic Services Division, and additionally, may qualify for subsidized childcare. Identification of kinship providers is one of the primary focuses of this proposal because currently there is no systematic way to be sure that all families who go through probate court to be awarded legal guardianship are aware of existing services.

- b. Identify current staff resources and services of your State Agency in the programmatic, administrative and fiscal areas that can be made available to the RAPP Initiative.

The System of Care manager in the Family Services Division of DCF will provide leadership, as the agency staff person with overall administrative and supervisory responsibility for the RAPP Initiative. The Coordinator of the grant, the Family Services Foster Care Liaison will spend two hours a week, communicating with members of the Inter-System Task Force, providing coordination of activities, setting up meetings, and ensuring there is steady progress in each of the four proposed goals.

Section III: Fiscal Information**FIRST YEAR EXPENSES:**

PERSONNEL (By Position) (Full-Time Equivalent)	BROOKDALE	SPONSOR	OTHER	SPECIFY SOURCE and if Cash or In-kind
RAPP Supervisor (.006%FTE)	\$	\$463	\$	DCF In-Kind
RAPP Program Coordinator (___%FTE)	\$	\$2,840	\$	DCF In-Kind
Other Staff:	\$	\$		
Parent Child Administrative Staff	\$	\$	\$1,000	In-Kind PCC
Benefits (at 35%)	\$	\$162	\$	
TOTAL PERSONNEL EXPENSES:	\$0	\$3,465	\$1,000	
OTHER THAN PERSONNEL SERVICES (OTPS)	BROOKDALE	SPONSOR	OTHER	SPECIFY SOURCE and if Cash or In-kind
Mini grants - Support group start up	\$1,000	\$	\$	
Printed Materials	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$	DCF in-kind
Kinship Training	\$	\$	\$1,000	UVM Extension Service In-Kind
Media Campaign	\$	\$	\$500	AARP VT In-Kind
Costs related to Court system implementation, mileage, etc.	\$2,000	\$	\$	
Educational Seminars (Court staff, Judges and DCF Staff)	\$2,000			
TOTAL OTPS EXPENSES	\$6,000	\$1,000	\$1,500	
TOTAL PERSONNEL AND OTPS	\$ 6,000	\$ 4,465	\$ 2,500	
GRAND TOTAL (Total of all 3 columns)	\$ 12,965			
GRAND TOTAL (Total of all 3 columns)	\$12,965			

*Grand Total of Expenses should not be more than Grand Total of revenues listed on following page.

Note: The Brookdale grant funds may be used for mini-grants to local agencies ready and able to initiate new support groups in local communities.

Section IV: Fiscal Information**ANTICIPATED REVENUES - First Year**

Source	Cash	In-kind	Currently	Pending
			available	
BROOKDALE	\$6,000			
Sponsor Contributions:		\$3,465	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Personnel:				
OTPS:				
Printed Materials:		\$1,000	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Organizational Contributions [Please list]				
Parent Child Centers	\$	\$1,000		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Media Campaign AARP	\$	\$500		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Kinship Training UVM	\$	\$1,000		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Extension Service	\$	\$		
Donations, Contributions, Grants	\$			
Other:	\$	\$		
	\$	\$		
FIRST YEAR REVENUES	\$6,000	\$6,965		

GRAND TOTAL (Cash and In-kind)*	\$12,965
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Section V: Attachments - All attachments must be securely stapled to the back of each proposal and be labeled Attachment A, B or C as appropriate.

- Attachment A: Resumes of staff persons who will be involved in the RAPP Statewide Initiative.
- Attachment B: Letters of support from collaborating State agencies and others who are willing to provide resources or services to your program. All these must be submitted with your proposal.
- Attachment C: Verification of the sponsoring State Agency's tax-exempt status (see attached sample letter)

Appendix to Brookdale Foundation Grant Proposal

1. Resumes of Shaun Donahue and Leslie Williams
2. Verification of Tax-Exempt status
3. Letters of Support
 - a. Richard A. LeVit
 - b. Mary Ellen Otis
 - c. Joe Patrissi
 - d. John Barbour
 - e. Maria Mireault
 - f. Judge Davenport
 - g. Lynn Granger
 - h. Judge Belcher
 - i. David Reville
 - j. Commissioner S

waiting for letter
from Steve Dale

attach as the
last page

Shaun F. Donahue
464 Mount Gardner Road
Bath, New Hampshire 03740
(603) 747-8194

Professional Experience

State of Vermont: Agency of Human Services; Department of Education
1994-present

2001-present: Department for Children and Families; Family Services Division
Community Resources Unit Manager: Senior Manger responsible for all aspects of the Community Resources Unit including: development and oversight of the substitute care budget totaling more than 43 million dollars; development of contracts and grants to procure services for children and families served by the division; oversight of the state's foster care system; co-chair of the Transforming Family Services steering committee; liaison to the business office for the division's budget.
Serves as the primary liaison with other divisions/departments in state government and community based organizations. Member of the State Interagency Team (SIT), Children's Integrated Services Team (CIS) and numerous other committees.

National Child Welfare involvement includes: serving 8 years as a board member of the National Association of State Foster Care Managers, 4 years as president; 3 years on the ADOPT US KIDS national steering committee; planning member for 2 HHS/Children's Bureau Permanency Forums; participation in 3 national and 1 regional Breakthrough Series Collaborative.

1994-2001: Department of Education

Interagency Coordinator: From 1999-2001, served as the department's Interagency Coordinator with responsibility for ensuring the educational interests of children in state's custody or those being served by DMH or DD were being met. Budgetary responsibility for the "state-placed-student" budget which in fiscal year 2001, exceeded 9 million dollars.

Comprehensive Health Education Specialist: From 1994-1999, served as a member of the Comprehensive Health Education Team. Responsibilities included the development, training and implementation of targeted programs for "at-risk" youth in the areas of alcohol/drug prevention, HIV/AIDS prevention and comprehensive sexuality education. Worked closely with Commissioner Marc Hull, Governor Howard Dean and representatives from the Attorney General's office of Civil Rights, to develop the department's "Safe Schools for all Students", a program designed to ensure the safety of students who identified as gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgendered.

1994-1999: New Hampshire Community Technical College

Adjunct Faculty: Taught courses in Psychology, Community Mental Health and Sociology.

1997-1998: Peacham Elementary School

Guidance Counselor: Served as the part-time Guidance Counselor for a K-6 elementary school district.

1995-1996: Piermont Village School

Guidance Counselor: Served as the part-time Guidance Counselor for a K-8 elementary school district.

1992-1994: SAU #23, Woodsville NH

Health Education Coordinator: Developed and implemented targeted health education programs for the 7 school districts comprising SAU #23. Programs included drug and alcohol prevention, HIV/AIDS prevention and healthy sexuality. Developed and implemented training for school staff and students using a "train the trainer" model.

1989-1992: Adolescent Drug & Alcohol Prevention Tools, Inc. (ADAPT)

Director: Developed and implemented a community based drug and alcohol prevention program serving three towns in northern NH. Starting with \$30,000 of seed money donated to a local church, created a community based organization with the mission of alcohol and drug abuse prevention that continues to this day.

1987-1989: Wreath School, Inc.

Director of Residential Services: Responsible for the day to day operation of a residential facility serving ED/LD adolescents attending a Chapter 766 school in northern Massachusetts. All youth in the program were in the custody of the Massachusetts Child Welfare agency.

1985-1987: Schools for Children

Counselor: Provided counseling services for youth attending a Chapter 766 school in the Boston Massachusetts area. All students enrolled in the school were in state's custody.

Education

Master of Education

Guidance Certification, K-12

Plymouth State College, Plymouth NH 1994

Bachelor of Science cum laude

Psychology; Community Mental Health

Plymouth State College, Plymouth NH 1985

References:

Attached, additional available on request

Leslie D Williams
1630 Dorset Street
South Burlington, VT 05403
802 658-0163
Leslie.williams@ahs.state.vt.us

Foster Care Liaison Department of Children and Families 2008-present

- Work with DCF and the Foster/Adoptive Family Association to increase training opportunities for foster and adoptive families
- Develop and implement a state wide recruitment program to increase the number of resource families

Burlington Schools Foundation 1999-2000

- Provided leadership to a start up foundation, serving as liaison between the Board, donors and grantees and grantees
- Implemented system for communicating with donors
- Managed grants and oversaw allocations process

FAHC External Relations 1995-1998

- Provided staff support to the Board of Trustees in the development of a regional strategy to build strategic alliances.
- Identified services and partnership opportunities with regional Health Systems and initiated, negotiated, and coordinated strategic partnerships and clinical programs
- Developed the organization's presence as a regional referral center, by building physician to physician relationships, strengthening referral patterns, and implementing clinical programs resulting in increased referrals to FAHC
- Directed the Telemedicine Pilot Project, implementing a live video conferencing system in eleven rural hospitals, providing opportunities for physicians in rural settings to work collaboratively with the faculty at FAHC in treating patients.

Manager of Network Development

FAHC Vermont Managed Care 1993-1995

- maintain the physician network for the managed care organization.
- Contracted with 100% of community specialists in Chittenden County, created a strong physician network, and increased options for patients.
- Developed innovative clinical programs in Gynecology and Optometry

FAHC/ University Health Center 1992-1993

- Planned, developed, implemented and evaluated an occupational health program, providing access to employers and employees to multiple physician sites, comprehensive services, and a continuum of care.
- Contracted with employers for Occupational Health services, including pre employment health screenings, and workers compensation diagnosis and treatment.

Contracted Consultant

FAHC Spine Institute of New England

1990-1992

- Provided comprehensive analysis of clinical programs and implemented changes to make programs financially viable
- Produced marketing materials, and promoted clinical programs to insurance companies and large employers.

Managing Director

FAHC Sports and Orthopedic Rehabilitation Center

1987-1990

- Provided leadership for a start up physical therapy center
- Oversight for all operations, including the hiring of staff, implementing of business systems, marketing, contracting.

Clinical Partner

Cornerstone Group for Psychotherapy

1977-1987

- Established psychotherapy practice and implementing business systems
- Provided clinical care for adults, couples, and families

Competencies

- Promote concepts and programs for an organization
- Develop, implement, and evaluate projects and programs
- Create opportunities for collaboration with individuals/groups having divergent positions
- Negotiate agreements with basis in mutually beneficial elements

Community Leadership Roles

Vice Chair

- Lake Champlain Regional Technical Academy Board 2004-2005
- Convened meetings in nine school districts, promoting the concept of a regional technical school
- Increased dialogue between otherwise non communicating school boards
- Led the regional development of a new curriculum with joint representation of Faculty from two technical centers

Chair

South Burlington School Board

2005-2006

- Led the Board in evaluating and taking action on district leadership personnel
- Negotiated three year contract with teachers union as lead negotiator for the school district

Education

- Sarah Lawrence College B.A.
- Masters in Education, Counseling
Antioch College M.Ed.

State of Vermont
Department for Children and Families
Family Services Division
103 South Main Street, Osgood 3
Waterbury, VT 05671-2401
www.dcf.state.vt.us/fsd/

[phone] 802-241-2131
[fax] 802-241-2407

Agency of Human Services

January 4, 2010

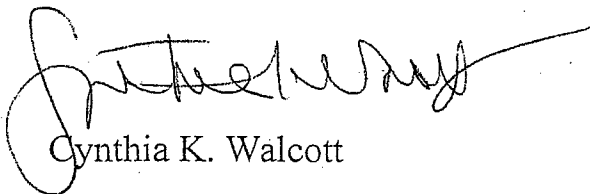
The Brookdale Foundation Group
126 East 56th Street
New York, NY 10022-3668

To Whom It May Concern:

This letter is to inform you that the State of Vermont is a sovereign entity and as such, is tax-exempt. Furthermore, charitable contributions made to the State of Vermont are tax deductible under 26 U.S.C. Section 170 (c) (1).

I understand that the Brookdale Foundation, a private foundation for Federal income tax purposes, is relying on the accuracy of the above statement in making a grant to The Department for Children and Families.

Sincerely,



Cynthia K. Walcott





January 4, 2010

Melinda Perez-Porter, Director
Relatives As Parents Program (RAPP)
The Brookdale Foundation Group
950 Third Avenue, 19th Floor
New York, NY 10022

Dear Ms. Perez-Porter,

As the Associate Dean of Faculty of University of Vermont Extension, I would like to offer my support on behalf of the Department for Children and Families, Family Services Division, for the proposal for the Brookdale Relatives as Parents Program Initiative.

As Vermont's land-grant college, The University of Vermont offers a vast Extension outreach education program for Vermonters across the state. UVM Extension provides timely, research-based information and education for the families, communities and businesses of Vermont. As a community leader who feels strongly about supporting positive lifelong learning. As an administrator within Extension I am pleased to note our concerns and educational objectives are shared. We are presently conducting a search for a faculty member to serve in the foster parenting/kin care educational field.

I agree to serve on the inter system task force, sharing in the development of the implementation plan for the four goals that are part of the proposal. If the grant is approved, our faculty and staff will assist in both the communications phase as well as the educational component of the proposal. Our faculty and staff will assist with curriculum development, and outreach communications to relative care givers. The value of our in-kind contribution will easily reach \$15,000.

The timing of the grant proposal compliments the University's commitment to providing education to kinship providers, using both teleconferencing, and web based applications. In a rural state, it is critical that we offer innovative approaches to sharing information and making education accessible. Our staff throughout the state will participate in the state wide network, that implements education for relative caregivers, as well as training that is incorporated into support groups.

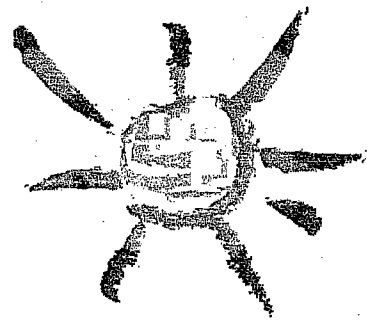
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard A. LeVitre".

Richard A. LeVitre
Associate Dean, Faculty Support and Evaluation
University of Vermont Extension Service

State Office
19 Roosevelt Highway, Suite 305, Colchester, VT 05446-5933
(802) 656-2990 or 1-866-622-2990
Fax: (802) 656-8642
Cultivating Healthy Communities

UVM Extension has offices throughout Vermont.
For more information, contact this office or visit www.uvm.edu/extension.



Orange County Parent Child Center

December 28, 2009

I am writing this letter of support on behalf of the Vermont Parent Child Center Network (VPCCN) for the Brookdale Relatives as Parents proposal. VPCCN consists of fifteen agencies throughout Vermont whose mission is to provide support to families with young children helping them get off to a healthy start. We offer eight core services: home visiting, early childhood services, parent education, parent support, on site programs, playgroups, information and referral, and community involvement.

Vermont's Parent Child Centers provide services to families across a variety of challenge levels. While one of our target populations is pregnant or parenting teens, we provide services to other families with young children around behavioral issues, economic challenges, abuse and neglect concerns, etc. Additionally, we provide services to families who are providing kinship care for the children of relatives. While several mechanisms for outreach exist that help us connect with many families who have young children, it is more challenging to connect with families caring for relatives, particularly if these families are not receiving support or services because the care giving relationship has been formalized through probate or the state Department for Children and Families. Additionally, many of these families take on the responsibility for care and find that the challenges are greater than they thought or were prepared for.

The Vermont Parent Child Center Network is offering its support to this much needed this endeavor. Many of our members are interested in collaborating on this project by hosting support groups, using our network to assist in outreach and referral, serving on the task force, assisting with education and training, and possibly in other ways as the project evolves. This project, and the collaborative network of providers it will involve, offers a unique opportunity to support the many families in Vermont providing kinship care.

Sincerely,

Mary Ellen Otis

Executive Director, Orange County Parent Child Center

Chairperson, Vermont Parent Child Center Network



Department for Children and Families
Economic Services Division
103 South Main Street
Waterbury, VT 05671-1201
www.dcf.state.vt.us

[phone] 802-241-2800
[fax] 802-241-2235

Agency of Human Services

December 22, 2009

Melinda Perez-Porter
Relatives as Parents Program
Brookdale Foundation Group
950 Third Avenue, 19th Floor
New York City, NY 10002

Dear Ms. Perez-Porter,

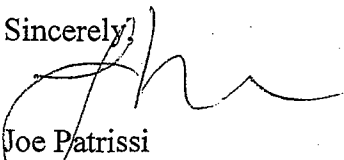
The Economic Services Division in the Department for Children and Families welcomes the opportunity to write a letter of support on behalf of DCF Family Services application for a Brookdale RAAP Grant. The mission of the Economic Services Division is to help Vermonters find a path to a better life. To that end, we administer several state and federal programs that help individuals and families meet their basic needs.

Economic Services provides child only grants (RUFA) and there are many families in which a relative is raising their relative child, and that child qualifies for the assistance. . We know that there are many families who are unaware of the assistance available to them, and we are very happy to work on this project to development awareness and improve access.

If the grant is approved, I will represent Economic Services on the inter system task force, providing leadership in the development and implementation of systems that will meet the four outlined goals. In addition, Ann McBee, from Economic Services, will coordinate the efforts to communicate the available services to relative care givers. She will train the staff in the centralized call in center, to ensure that when relative care givers call in, our staff has the information they need, and communicate it clearly. Additionally, she will assist in the state wide media campaign, using channels available to economic services to spread the word about services, both current, and new services that are made available through the grant.

We recognize that there are thousands of children, living with relatives for a variety of reasons, and that we don't have a good method of identifying them, and providing them with information about services and programs. DCF Economic Services Division is committed to this project, and will lend support, staff time, and office space around the state.

Sincerely,


Joe Patrisi
Deputy Commissioner
DCF-Economic Services Division





December 28, 2009

Ms. Melinda Perez-Porter
The Brookdale Foundation
Relatives as Parents Program (RAPP)
950 Third Avenue, 19th Floor
New York, New York 10022

Dear Ms. Perez-Porter:

I hope that you will look favorably on an application for a RAPP grant submitted by the Vermont Department of Children and Families.

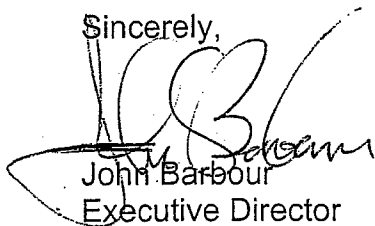
The proposed project would reach out to more than 4,000 children who are living in grandparent –headed households. Vermont DCF will work closely with probate courts to identify situations where non-parent relatives are seeking custody for children and make sure that relatives are fully aware of services that are available to them as relative caregivers and to the children themselves.

DCF has developed a network of providers of service to children and caregivers – child care providers, the University of Vermont, the Department of Education, Probate and Family Courts, and private non-profit agencies such as Casey Family Services, Vermont Kin as Parents, and Vermont Children's Aid Society. In addition to developing strong local programs, this network has the ability to initiate programs around the state.

CVAA has supported existing Grandparents as Parents support groups in northwestern Vermont, we have sponsored an annual conference and are now providing respite grants to relative caregivers identified by Vermont Kin as Parents. We look forward to being involved in this new initiative as well.

Please contact me if you need further information.

Sincerely,



John Barbour
Executive Director

Senior HelpLine: (800) 642-5119 (Voice/TTY)

www.cvaa.org





VERMONT

AGENCY OF HUMAN SERVICES

DEPARTMENT OF DISABILITIES, AGING AND INDEPENDENT LIVING

State Unit on Aging
103 South Main Street, Weeks Building
Waterbury VT 05671-1601
Telephone (802) 241-3738
TTY (802) 241-3557
Fax (802) 241-2629

December 30, 2009

Ms. Melinda Perez-Porter
The Brookdale Foundation
Relatives as Parents Program (RAPP)
950 Third Avenue, 19th Floor
New York, New York 10022

Dear Ms. Perez-Porter,

The Vermont Department of Disabilities, Aging and Independent Living (DDAIL) is pleased to support the Vermont Department of Children and Families in its application for funding through the Brookdale Foundation Relatives as Parents Program (RAPP). The initiative proposed by the Vermont Department of Children and Families will assist the state in developing partnerships between organizations serving relative caregivers, foster the development of new programs and improve coordination of existing services.

The Department of Disabilities, Aging and Independent Living will participate on the proposed Inter-system Task Force to represent older relative caregivers who are the primary, unpaid caregivers of children. The Department of Disabilities, Aging and Independent Living oversees the U.S. Administration on Aging's National Family Caregiver Support Program (NFCSP) in Vermont. The NFCSP provides funding for a variety of supports for caregivers age 55 and older, including information and referral services, counseling and respite for older relative caregivers raising children. The NFCSP is managed at the regional level by Vermont's five Area Agencies on Aging. As a partner in the development of a statewide RAPP program, DDAIL will work with the Department of Children and Families, the AAAs and other kinship caregiver organizations such as Vermont Kin as Parents to establish a statewide kinship caregiver respite program and work to facilitate access to other NFCSP funding for older relative caregivers.

A Brookdale Foundation award to the Vermont Department of Children and Families would provide essential support to develop the infrastructure to improve programs and services for older relative caregivers of children. Thank you for considering Vermont's proposal.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Maria Mireault".

Maria Mireault, M.A.
National Family Caregiver Support Program Coordinator

SUPERIOR COURT OF VERMONT
DISTRICT COURT OF VERMONT
FAMILY COURT OF VERMONT
ENVIRONMENTAL COURT OF VERMONT

MAILING ADDRESS:
255 North Main Street, Suite 4
Barre, VT 05641-4187

AMY M. DAVENPORT
Administrative Judge
for Trial Courts

Telephone: (802) 476-4797

OFFICE OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGE FOR TRIAL COURTS

January 3, 2010

Melinda Perez-Porter, Director
Relatives as Parents Program
The Brookdale Foundation Group
950 Third Avenue, 19th Floor
New York City, NY 10022

Dear Ms. Perez-Porter,

As the Administrative Judge for the Vermont Trial Courts, I would like to offer my support for Vermont's proposal for the Brookdale Relatives as Parents Program Initiative. As a judge with almost twenty years of experience on the trial bench, I strongly support the effort described in this grant application to ensure that kin who take on a custodial role for children have the information they need about services and supports and that judges are adequately trained on the complex issues involved in kinship custody cases.

The Vermont family and probate courts play an increasing role in child custody cases in which a relative assumes either temporary or permanent custody of a child. In the newly enacted Juvenile Judicial Proceedings Act (JJPA), the Vermont Legislature has clearly expressed a preference for keeping children with relatives if parents are unable to care for the children themselves. In addition, the Justice for Children Task Force chaired by our Chief Justice has also focused on kinship placement and custody.

In order to ensure that kin receive appropriate services and support, we need to make sure that we have a way to identify kin who obtain custody or guardianship of a child as a result of a court proceeding. This will require significant collaboration between the Department for Children and Families (DCF) and the courts. It will also require sensitivity to requirements in state law with respect to confidentiality. Fortunately, DCF and the Judiciary have an excellent track record of working collaboratively on issues related to children.

If the Department for Children and Families is a successful bidder for this grant,

I will certainly encourage our court administrator's office to work with DCF, the probate courts and the newly formed Inter System Task Force to develop a data collection system that allows us to both identify and track kinship placement and custodial arrangements. It is my hope that the data collection system should not only help us identify cases where kin are granted custody/guardianship, but also identify ways to measure the success of these arrangements in terms of stability and permanence for the child.

This grant is particularly timely because the Judiciary has just signed a multimillion dollar contract to develop a new case management system for our family court and potentially our probate courts as well. The new system will improve immeasurably our ability to track data regarding families in our system. The sooner we are able to identify the data we want to track regarding kinship custody/guardianship cases, the more likely it is that the new system will be able to generate the data that we want.

Additionally, I strongly support the training component in this grant application. Kinship cases can be extremely complex and it is important to ensure that judges, along with members of the bar, understand the complexities of kinship placements, and are aware of the resources that are available to families. In the wake of the passage of the JJPA, we have already done some training, but much more is needed. The funding from this grant will ensure that judges who sit in either the family or the probate courts will receive training and materials that will assist them in determining an appropriate outcome for the children involved in these cases.

Vermont is a small state and over the years we have consistently demonstrated our ability to take a statewide approach to problem solving and develop effective systems that subsequently serve as national models. Issues related to kinship custody and guardianship are now on the forefront of the national consciousness as a way to provide permanency and stability to a child while at the same time preserving the child's family network. Vermont is a great place to develop solutions that work for both children and families.

Very truly yours,



Amy M. Davenport

cc: Leslie Williams
Robert Greemore, Court Administrator
Hon. George Belcher



Vermont Kin As Parents

P.O. Box 382 , Winooski, VT 05404

(802) 338-4725 • www.vermontkinasparents.org

December 28, 2009

Melinda Perez-Porter, Director
Relatives As Parents Program
The Brookdale Foundation Group
950 Third Avenue, 19th Floor
New York, NY 10022

Dear Melinda:

As the state recognized voice for grandparents and other relatives raising children, Vermont Kin As Parents (VKAP) is very excited and supportive of the Vermont Department for Children and Families (DCF) as they submit a grant application for a state Relatives As Parents Program. If awarded, this grant has the potential to positively impact supports and services available to all kinship families in Vermont, but especially for those not involved in the child welfare system.

VKAP is grassroots nonprofit organization founded in 2005 whose mission statement is:

Vermont Kin As Parents (VKAP) is committed to support relatives who are raising children and to educate the public and community partners about the joys and difficulties these families experience.

We have been collaborating with the Department for Children and Families and other agencies since our inception and are excited about this new level of work.

Vermont as a state is now much more aware of the importance of relatives caring for children. In 2008 the Vermont Legislature revamped the child welfare system. One of the new provisions under the Juvenile Justice Proceeding Act was to give relatives preference for placement when children are removed from their parents' home. With the implementation of the federal Fostering Connections law, and the greater focus on children living with relatives, Vermont is in the process of a major change in attitude and practice. It is in a strong position to stimulate increased development of services, not only for families involved in the child welfare system but also for those outside the formal system, including those under the new Vermont law. Developing a RAPP Task Force will formally bring together partners, including those not previously involved in our work, to help improve the lives of relatives and the children they are caring for.

VKAP has been involved with DCF and the Department for Aging and Independent Living (DAIL) in the preparation of this grant. The collaboration has been important, because it is new collaboration for both state agencies. DCF works with kinship families in many of its divisions including Family Services, Economic Services (TANF grants) and Child Development Divisions. With so many more grandparents, many of them over 55 and

parenting, it was important to bring in DAIL, whose work and resources offer a different perspective in assisting kinship families. The commitment of other public and private agencies as well as the courts we have received to be part of the task force will offer new opportunities to collaborate and be creative in the ways we support kinship families.

One of the issues that Vermont has had is the lack of consistent data and the identification of kinship families. We estimate that 75 to 80% of kinship families in Vermont have either legal guardianship or an informal arrangement with the parents to care for the children. These families are not tracked; most often the caregivers are not aware of benefits and supports available to them and to the children. The courts traditionally have not collected specific information about relative families. Other organizations collect information about the families they serve, but don't break them down to reflect specific information about kinship families. The goals of the grant to set up a data collection system and to prepare information for families that can be given to them as they go through the court proceedings will help to alleviate this issue. Together with the development of the support groups and training opportunities, kinship families will have more access to additional supports for themselves and the children they are raising.

As Coordinator for Vermont Kin As Parents, I have developed relationships with many individuals in the social service and court systems. Using those resources, I will be a part of the planning process to develop the RAPP Task Force, the data collection system, and the materials for caregivers. As a grandparent raising a grandson, I have been a member of a kinship support group for eleven years, and know first hand the value of belonging to a one—it was my lifeline as I began this journey. As Coordinator for VKAP, I have also worked with several communities to begin support groups. My personal and professional experience will be helpful as new support groups are started. If this grant is awarded, I will commit at least 6 hours in kind each month to this grant work, for an estimated value of \$2,000 annually.

In closing, I would like to stress the incredible impact that formalizing a task force focused on kinship families can have in Vermont. The goals set forth by the Department for Children and Families will dramatically move forward the work that needs to be done for kinship families by developing the collaboration with many committed agencies, both public and private.

Please feel free to contact me (802-338-4725) if you would like to talk further. I look forward to working with you and the Brookdale Foundation to continue to support kinship families.

Sincerely,



Lynn Granger, Coordinator
Vermont Kin As Parents

PROBATE COURT
District of Washington



(802) 828-3405

George Kendrick Belcher, Probate Judge
Janice M. Brown, Register
Cora C. Walbridge, Clerk

10 Elm Street, #2
Montpelier, Vermont
05602

January 3, 2010

Melinda Perez-Porter, Director
Relatives As Parents Program
The Brookdale Foundation Group
950 Third Avenue, 19th Floor
New York, NY 10022

Re: Relative as Parents Program State RFP 2010 (Vermont)

Dear Ms. Perez-Porter:

I am writing to you in support of the request coming from Leslie Williams at the Vermont Department of Children and Families.

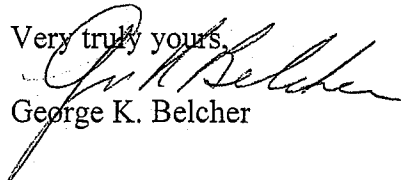
I am a probate judge in central Vermont and have held this position for almost 19 years. The probate courts have jurisdiction over minor guardianships which are requested by family members outside of the state child-protection system. The probate courts approve or deny the petitions for guardianship and, then, the probate courts supervise the guardians. As such, we have regular contact with families who act as surrogate parents. We are familiar with the strengths and problems which private guardians bring to the system.

Because the private guardianship system operates outside of the child-protection system of the state, data about these families has been limited. The Department of Children and Families is seeking to gather more data about these families and to support them in various ways. This proposal would help in this important work. In addition to identifying the families, it is very important that in each private guardianship, families are informed about services and supports which might be available to them. Recently, Vermont citizens have taken forward steps in this area through the formation of Vermont Kin as Parents, a non-profit organization. There are many steps yet to be taken. The proposal would be very helpful in improving the information given to families at a time which, for some, is very difficult.

If the probate courts were asked to organize the collection of data concerning kinship, custodial guardianships, statewide, and to report that data in a useful manner, one could expect approximately 175 hours of clerical time per year (statewide). I would estimate an additional 50 hours of contribution from probate judges for participation in the task force and training on the statewide data collection and organizing the distribution of support information. I estimate the value of this time to be in the rough neighborhood of \$4,500.00.

The importance of kinship care has often been overlooked in the past. With the recent developments within Vermont and nationally, policy makers and service providers are coming to understand the inherent value of these relationships in broad areas of education, child development, and child protection. I strongly support the application for this program and I am willing to assist the group in any way I can.

Very truly yours,


George K. Belcher

Cc. Leslie Williams
Hon. Amy Davenport
Hon. Tobias Balivet
Lynn Granger



AARP Vermont
199 Main St., Ste 225
Burlington, VT 05401

T 1-866-227-7451
F 1-802-651-9805
TTY 1-877-434-7598
www.aarp.org/vt

Melinda Perez-Porter, Director
Relatives As Parents Program (RAPP)
The Brookdale Foundation Group
950 Third Avenue, 19th Floor
New York, NY 10022

January 4, 2010

Dear Ms. Perez-Porter,

With 140,000 members in the state, AARP Vermont is a strong advocacy group, committed to the well being of all older Vermonters. As the Communications Director of AARP Vermont, I enthusiastically support the grant proposal of the Department for Children and Families Family Services Division, to the Brookdale Foundation Relatives as Parents Program (RAPP)

The AARP Foundation has developed the grand parenting Program, recognizing that there are thousands of grandparents across the country raising their grandchildren. In Vermont we understand that the majority of relatives raising their relative children are grandparents. It is a minority of families that are involved with the Department for Children and Families, and therefore, we don't fully understand how many grandparents are raising their grandchildren. AARP Vermont will serve on the inter system task force, offering assistance in the communications goal proposed in the application. We are well positioned to assist in the development of written materials, as well as using both our web site, and our electronic mailing list as a means of communicating to Vermonters over the age of 50, as well as all of the senior centers across the state.

By working together, partnering public and private agencies and organizations, Vermont has an opportunity to lay the ground work to build a process to both identify relative care givers and the children they care for, as well as implementing programs across the state that will offer support and services.

Sincerely,

David P. Reville
Director of Communications
AARP Vermont

Department for Children and Families
Commissioner's Office
2nd Floor, 5 North
103 S. Main Street
Waterbury, VT 05671-5920
www.dcf.vermont.gov

[phone] 802-241-2100
[fax] 802-241-2980

Agency of Human Services

January 4, 2010

Melinda Perez-Porter, Director
Relatives as Parents Program
The Brookdale Foundation Group
950 Third Avenue, 19th Floor
New York, NY 10022

Dr. Ms. Perez-Porter:

I am writing to you in support

As the Commissioner of the Department for Children and Families, I would like to offer my support for the proposal for the Brookdale Relatives as Parents Program Initiative.

The Department for Children and Families is focusing on meeting the needs of families while keeping them intact, and when children can not safely remain with their parents, preference is given to placing children with relatives. As we change our practice, and place an increasing number of children in the custody of extended family members, we recognize the importance of developing a coordinated approach among departments, and on providing supports to families caring for their relative's children.

Outside of the child welfare system, we know that there are more than 4,000 children living with relatives. It is important that, as a state, we address the needs of these children and their families. The partnership that is developing between different departments within the Department for Children and Families, as well as the collaboration with private non profit organizations, and other state agencies will be strengthened if our grant proposal is accepted.

This proposal highlights the public private partnerships that create opportunities for collaboration, and unique solutions to problems facing families in Vermont.

Sincerely,



Stephen R. Dale, Commissioner
Department for Children and Families





STATE OF VERMONT
JOINT FISCAL OFFICE

MEMORANDUM

To: Representative Helen Head
From: Nathan Lavery, Fiscal Analyst
Date: September 22, 2010
Subject: JFO #2461

Representative Michael Obuchowski asked that I forward to you a copy of the enclosed grant materials and cover memo. He requests your observations regarding the enclosed item.

cc: Rep. Michael Obuchowski

State of Vermont
 Department of Finance & Management
 109 State Street, Pavilion Building
 Montpelier, VT 05620-0401

Agency of Administration

[phone] 802-828-2376
 [fax] 802-828-2428

STATE OF VERMONT
FINANCE & MANAGEMENT GRANT REVIEW FORM

Grant Summary:		This grant is to implement a statewide interagency task force to increase awareness of relatives doing caregiving of children, support expansion of support groups and training for these caregivers.			
Date:		9/1/2010			
Department:		Agency of Human Services: DCF-Family Services Division			
Legal Title of Grant:		Relatives as Parents Program			
Federal Catalog #:		N/A			
Grant/Donor Name and Address:		Brookdale Foundation, 950 Third Avenue, 19 th Floor, New York, NY 10022			
Grant Period:		From:	To:		
		5/1/2010	8/31/2011		
Grant/Donation		\$6,000			
	SFY 1	SFY 2	SFY 3	Total	Comments
Grant Amount:	\$6,000	\$	\$	\$6,000	
Position Information:		# Positions	Explanation/Comments		
		0			
Additional Comments:					
Department of Finance & Management		[Signature]		(Initial)	
Secretary of Administration		[Signature]		(Initial)	
Sent To Joint Fiscal Office		9/14/10		Date 9/14/10	



STATE OF VERMONT REQUEST FOR GRANT ACCEPTANCE (Form AA-1)

BASIC GRANT INFORMATION				
1. Agency:		Agency of Human Services		
2. Department:		Department for Children and Families/Family Services Division		
3. Program:		Kin as Parents		
4. Legal Title of Grant:		Relatives as parents program		
5. Federal Catalog #:		N/A		
6. Grant/Donor Name and Address: Brookdale Foundation 950 Third Avenue, 19 th Floor New York, NY 10022				
7. Grant Period:		From: 5/1/2010	To: 8/31/2011	
8. Purpose of Grant: Implement statewide interagency task force to increase public awareness of relatives who are serving as caregivers and to support the expansion of support groups and training opportunities available to those who are parenting relative children. This grant will operate in tandem with an existing program operated by Vermont Kin as Parents (VKAP) which is also funded by the Brookdale Foundation. \$4,000 additional grant money will become available in year two contingent on successful first year.				
9. Impact on existing program if grant is not Accepted: Public awareness campaign will not be developed and existing support groups will be limited to the 3 currently operating.				
10. BUDGET INFORMATION				
	SFY 1	SFY 2	SFY 3	Comments
Expenditures:	FY 2011	FY	FY	
Personal Services	\$4,465	\$	\$	
Operating Expenses	\$7,500	\$	\$	
Grants	\$1,000	\$	\$	
Total	\$12,965	\$	\$	
Revenues:				
State Funds:	\$	\$	\$	
Cash	\$	\$	\$	
In-Kind	\$6,965	\$	\$	
Federal Funds:	\$	\$	\$	
(Direct Costs)	\$	\$	\$	
(Statewide Indirect)	\$	\$	\$	
(Departmental Indirect)	\$	\$	\$	
Other Funds:	\$	\$	\$	
Grant (source Brookdale Foundation)	\$6,000	\$	\$	
Total	\$12,965	\$	\$	
Appropriation No:		Amount:		\$

STATE OF VERMONT REQUEST FOR GRANT ACCEPTANCE (Form AA-1)

			\$
			\$
			\$
			\$
			\$
		Total	\$

PERSONAL SERVICE INFORMATION

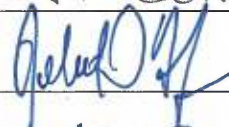
11. Will monies from this grant be used to fund one or more Personal Service Contracts? Yes No
 If "Yes", appointing authority must initial here to indicate intent to follow current competitive bidding process/policy.

Appointing Authority Name: _____ Agreed by: _____ (initial)

12. Limited Service Position Information:	# Positions	Title
	0	N/A
Total Positions		

12a. Equipment and space for these positions: Is presently available. Can be obtained with available funds.

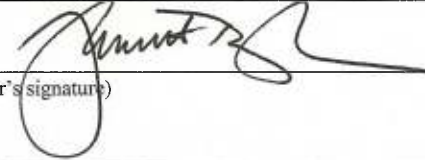
13. AUTHORIZATION AGENCY/DEPARTMENT

I/we certify that no funds beyond basic application preparation and filing costs have been expended or committed in anticipation of Joint Fiscal Committee approval of this grant, unless previous notification was made on Form AA-1PN (if applicable):	Signature: 	Date: 8/5/10
	Title: DCF, Commissioner	
	Signature: 	Date: 8/11/10
	Title: AHS Secretary	

14. SECRETARY OF ADMINISTRATION

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Approved:	(Secretary or designee signature) 	Date: 9/10/10
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15. ACTION BY GOVERNOR

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Check One Box: Accepted	(Governor's signature) 	Date: 9/13/10
<input type="checkbox"/>	Rejected		

16. DOCUMENTATION REQUIRED

Required GRANT Documentation

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Request Memo <input type="checkbox"/> Dept. project approval (if applicable) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Award <input type="checkbox"/> Grant Agreement <input type="checkbox"/> Grant Budget	<input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Donation (if any) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grant (Project) Timeline (if applicable) <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Extension (if applicable) <input type="checkbox"/> Form AA-1PN attached (if applicable)
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End Form AA-1

REC'D AUG 13 2010

To: Rob Hofmann, AHS Secretary

For: Governor Douglas
Members of the Joint Fiscal Committee:
Representative Michael Obuchowski, Chair
Senator Ann Cummings, Vice Chair
Senator Diane Snelling, Clerk
Representative Janet Ancel
Senator Susan Bartlett
Representative Carolyn Branagan
Representative Martha Heath
Representative Mark Larson
Senator Peter Shumlin
Senator Richard Sears

From: Stephen R. Dale, Commissioner for Department for Children and Families

Date: August 5, 2010

Re: Request for approval pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 5 for acceptance of donated funds provided from the Brookdale Foundation to support the parenting of relative children.

This packet of materials forms a request for the Governor's approval and, subject to his approval, a request for approval from the Joint Fiscal Committee to allow the Department for Children and Families to accept funds from the Brookdale Foundation. These funds will support the implementation of a statewide interagency task force to increase public awareness and the expansion of support groups and training opportunities for those who are parenting relative children. This packet consists of the following:

1. AA-1.
2. Grant Award letter
3. Grant Proposal

REC'D AUG 13 2010

The Brookdale Foundation Group
Brookdale Foundation Glendale Foundation Ramapo Trust
GRANT # 3247A-VT-10S

GRANTEE

This agreement is made as of the ____ day of _____, 2010 by and between:

Brookdale Foundation ("we" or "us")
with offices at 950 Third Avenue, New York, NY 10022

and the agency State of Vermont, Department for Children & Families Family
Services Division("you")
with offices at 103 South Main Street Osgood Three, Waterbury, VT 05671

We will provide you with a grant in the amount of \$6,000 (the "Grant") subject to your agreement to the following terms and conditions:

1. Use of Grant. You will use the Grant solely for the purpose of providing a Relatives as Parents Program (the "Project") as described in the Proposal (Exhibit A). You will perform all other related activities within the time frame and budget described in your Proposal. Any portion of the Grant which is not expended for such purposes, or within the time frame, will be promptly returned to us. In no event will the Grant be used by you: to carry on propaganda or voter registration drives; to influence legislation or public elections; for the benefit of any government official; to make grants to individuals; or for any purposes other than charitable or educational purposes.

2. Reports. You will submit bi-monthly narrative reports to us detailing the scope, nature and extent of activities related to your Project. You will also submit to us annual fiscal reports detailing the specific use of all Grant funds and all other income and expenses associated with the Project. These reports shall be certified as correct by one of your officers, and shall be delivered to us by September 30, 2011 for the period ending August 31, 2011.

You will provide any other financial or program reports as we shall deem reasonably necessary or appropriate in order to report to our Board of Trustees or to any governmental authorities. Your books and records are to be made available for our inspection at reasonable times, if we so request.

3. Site Visit. We shall be entitled to conduct periodic site visits, and to discuss the Project with your personnel, until the Project is completed and all reports are submitted and accepted.

4. Publicity. You shall make reasonable efforts to inform us of any publicity to be released concerning our funding of the Project. Any publicity shall indicate that the Project was made possible by an award from The Brookdale Foundation Group. We may include information on this Grant and Project in our periodic public reports.

5. No Other Obligations. You acknowledge that, except for the Grant described above, we have no obligation whatsoever to provide, and we have not led you to believe in any way (whether expressly or by implication) that we will provide, any additional or future assistance, financial or otherwise, either to you or for the Project.

950 Third Avenue New York, New York 10022

Phone: 212-308-7355 Fax: 212-750-0132

www.brookdalefoundation.org

to believe in any way (whether expressly or by implication) that we will provide, any additional or future assistance, financial or otherwise, either to you or for the Project.

6. Representations. You represent that

(a) You are a state, a possession of the United States or a political subdivision of a state or the United States, or you are otherwise a governmental unit referred to in Section 170(c)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended:

(b) You have full power and authority, and have obtained all necessary licenses and approvals, to accept the Grant, to carry out the terms of the Proposal and this letter, and to conduct the Project, without violation of law or rights of others; and

(c) The execution of this agreement was duly authorized by representative bodies and officials and is binding on you in accordance with the terms.

7. Miscellaneous. This letter contains our complete agreement. It

may not be modified or assigned, nor may any of our rights be waived, except in writing signed by us. We may specifically enforce, or enjoin a breach of, its provisions.

8. Payment. Payment of this grant shall be made within 60 days

following Brookdale Foundation's receipt of the signed agreement and verification of your tax exempt status.

CONSENTED AND AGREED TO:

STATE OF VERMONT DEPT FOR CHILDREN & FAMILIES FAMILY SERVICES DIVISION

BY: Stephen R. Dale

PRINT NAME: Stephen R. Dale

PRINT TITLE: Commissioner

BROOKDALE FOUNDATION

BY: _____

PRINT NAME: _____ Vice President