



March 2022 State Advisory Council Agenda
Monday, March 28, 2022 | 1:30-2:15pm
[Link to Register](#)

Desired Outcomes:

- Introduce new at-large members nominated for State Advisory Council membership and changes in agency and legislative representation
- Acknowledge outgoing State Advisory Council members

Time	Topic
1:30 – 1:50	<p>Welcome</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Welcome ● Mindful moment ● Introductions: Name, affiliation, and respond to this question: <p align="center"><i>What part of the early childhood system are you most passionate about improving through your role on the SAC?</i></p> <p>SAC members introduce themselves and respond verbally, meeting attendees respond in the chat bar.</p>
1:50 – 2:15	<p>SAC Business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Vote on February 2022 SAC Meeting Minutes ● Vote on Executive Committee Nominations and re-nominations: Vote Language: <i>The Building Bright Futures State Advisory Council, at the recommendation of the Executive Committee, moves to elect the following slate of officers for the Executive Committee:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Re-nomination of Cheryle Wilcox as SAC Co-chair for a 1-yr term to complete her time on the Executive Committee March 31, 2023 ○ Flor Diaz Smith nominated as SAC Co-chair for a 2-yr term ending March 31, 2024. ○ Becca Webb is nominated for a 2 year term as the Treasurer ending March 31, 2024. ● Vote on slate of candidates for at-large State Advisory Council membership. <i>Voting language: The Building Bright Futures State Advisory Council, at the recommendation of the Executive Committee, moves to elect the following at large members to the Advisory Council for a term of three years ending March 31, 2025:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Janet McLaughlin, VT Association of the Education of Young Children ○ Dimitri Garder, Small Business Representative

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Heather Wilcoxon, Health Care and Rehabilitation Services● Agency Leadership Transitions on the SAC<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Sarah Truckle● Senate Leadership Transitions on the SAC<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Senator Ruth Hardy● Appreciations and acknowledgement of outgoing members:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Emily Merrill○ Aly Richards○ Wendy Trafton○ Chloe Learey
2:15	Adjourn

SAC At-Large Members for Nomination:

Janet McLaughlin

Janet McLaughlin has been the Executive Director for the Vermont Association of Education of Young Children (VTAEYC) since April 2021. Janet's passion for a more equitable society has driven her two decades in nonprofit leadership. Prior to VTAEYC, Janet worked at the intersection of programs and policy in Vermont's early childhood education system while serving as Chief Programs Officer, interim CEO, and Chief Operating Officer at Let's Grow Kids. Prior to that, she headed the Vermont Community Foundation's Food and Farm Initiative, a collaborative effort to fight hunger in Vermont while strengthening its local food system. From 2004 to 2013, Janet oversaw the growth of Cooking Matters, a food skills education program for low-income families, while at DC-based nonprofit Share Our Strength. She has a Masters of Public Administration with a specialization in Nonprofit Management from Syracuse University and her undergraduate degree from Harvard University. Janet lives in Burlington and is an enthusiastic eater, dedicated "all levels" yogi, wife of a "real" Vermonter, and mom of two energetic elementary-aged boys.

Dimitri Garder

Dimitri Garder is co-founder and CEO of Global-Z International, a data management company serving global brands for the past 30 years. In his work, he has developed and implemented complex global data quality assessment and improvement solutions for many Global-Z clients, ranging from small companies to Fortune 100s. His 30 years of experience with complex global data makes him one of the leading experts in the data management industry. His approach to data quality is pragmatic, statistically focused, and metrics driven. He believes in solving complex problems through simple, clear, analytical thinking.

Dimitri is active in community development in Southwestern Vermont. He is co-chair of the Vermont Business Roundtable's Early Care and Learning Taskforce and is a vocal advocate for the development and funding of Vermont's pre-K system. His board positions include Southwestern Vermont Health Care, Vermont Community Foundation, Vermont Business Roundtable, Bennington County Industrial Corporation, and the Bennington Early Childhood Center. He was a co-founder of The Lightning Jar, a co-working space and business incubator located in Bennington, and he founded The Bennington Idea Fund, a micro-grant fund focused on economic advancement and poverty alleviation projects. He is also an investor in the Bennington Redevelopment Group, a team of local investors who are revitalizing the downtown Bennington economy. Dimitri holds a BA in Music Theory from the University of Vermont, and an MBA from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute.

Heather Wilcoxon

Heather Wilcoxon, LCMHC is the Assistant Children's Division Director for Healthcare & Rehabilitation Services, serving Windsor and Windham counties as the designated mental health agency. Heather earned her Bachelor's degree from Palm Beach Atlantic University and double-majored in Psychology and Communications. She earned her Master's degree in Mental Health Counseling from Nova Southeastern University. Heather has worked in non-profits for over 15 years and has been dedicated to supporting some of our most vulnerable populations

throughout the lifespan. She has worked with individuals and families in Hospice care, Crisis intervention and Children's mental health supporting children as young as 2 and their caregivers utilizing Child Parent Psychotherapy and other evidence-based practices. Heather has been a champion for early childhood work and has been able to better advocate and support young children and families in Vermont through her current leadership role where she oversees the Early Childhood and Family Mental Health programming at HCRS and provides clinical supervision and consultation.

Heather has partnered with the Dartmouth Trauma Interventions Research Center (DTIRC) on various SAMHSA grant projects that bring training and consultation on early childhood trauma to community providers including childcare centers, DCF, schools, local shelters and private practitioners. She has also partnered with DTIRC to support a local hospital and health center in their transformation to becoming trauma-informed and better understanding and responding to trauma in individuals of all ages to help foster resiliency and healing in our local community. Heather strives to utilize her leadership to promote excellence and inspire others to promote positive growth and change in both themselves and those we serve.