



Lamoille Regional Action Plan 2023-2024

Building Bright Futures’ Regional Councils bring together early childhood stakeholders to identify gaps, share expertise and resources, elevate regional and family voices, and implement strategies in each respective region. These strategies include identifying gaps for children and families and aiming to improve access to services and supports across early care, health, and education for young children and families in their communities. Regional Council members are crucial to each stage of this process, both in official convenings of the Regional Councils and within the early childhood system more broadly.

The 12 Regional Councils are mandated to support an integrated system of early care, health, and education at the local level under Vermont Statute Title 33 § Chapter 46. In alignment with, and with support from, the State Advisory Council, Regional Councils are tasked with coordinating and implementing services in accordance with system and regional priorities. Regular Regional Council meetings are just one way that this mandate is fulfilled.

Early childhood stakeholders from across Vermont bring their perspectives together through Regional Councils 8-10 times a year. Participants at regional tables include professionals in physical and mental health, social services, basic needs, early childhood care and education, and pre-K-12 education; families of children under 9; and community members invested in the well-being of young children.

Annually, each Regional Council sets two regional priorities to guide their work. The map at right illustrates the top two priorities of each region, showcasing the similarities and differences among the 12 regions in Vermont.





Lamoille Valley Regional Council 2023-2024 Plan

Below you will find a plan outlining work to make progress for each priority as well as additional strategies and actions of the Lamoille Valley Regional Council.

Activity/Function	Council Time	VECF/ Council Funds	Strategic Partner- ships	BBF Staff Time	BBF Network	Notes/Status
Regional-State Coordination via BBF Network						
Share information across early childhood partners	X		X	X	X	
Identify opportunities for partnership and resource alignment	X	X	X	X	X	
Acknowledge and address regional concerns through emerging issues doc, committees, SAC, etc.	X	X		X		
Increase alignment between regional and statewide work	X			X	X	
Convene regular Regional Council meetings	X			X		
Priority Issue: Building an accessible, equitable, and seamless system of services - Create a system where families know where to get help when they need it. Support coordination across those early childhood systems with particular attention to children with disabilities and special health care needs, BIPOC, and children impacted by substance use and houselessness.						
Identify key partners, including families to engage in council meetings and help identify needs	X	X	X	X	X	Outreach; offer incentives for families to participate
Develop a localized survey to find out where families currently access information and resources		X	X	X	X	Ask Families and Communities Committee for support, coordinate with BBF data team
Sponsor free family friendly events—Dabble Days	X	X	X	X		
Develop strategies to reach underserved areas	X	X	X		X	
Develop small postcard with QR codes linking to key resources to include in Welcome Baby bags and other distribution		X	X	X		



Lamoille Valley Regional Council 2023-2024 Plan

Priority Issue: Child and Family Mental Health - Support early childhood and family mental health at home, at school/child care, and in the community. Promote strategies that build a child’s social-emotional development, support a caregiver’s emotional regulation, respond to the mental health workforce crisis, improve access to consultation and crisis services, and prevent the use of exclusionary discipline.						
Discussion about gaps in mental health services (such as waitlist for children and families; workforce shortage)	X		X	X	X	Invite key partners from Lamoille Health Partners, Lamoille County Mental Health, Children’s Integrated Services (CIS)
Support trainings for home- and center-based early childhood providers as well as families—Touch Points, Early Multi-Tiered System of Supports (EMTSS), Vermont Association for the Education of Young Children (VTAEYC), etc.	X	X	X	X	X	Offer scholarships, stipends, or paid training
Identify initiatives that need funding and connect them to Vermont Early Childhood Fund (VECF)	X	X	X	X		
Understanding the Child Development Division programs and where we can be supportive	X		X	X		System for Program Access to Resources for Quality Supports (SPARQS), STep Ahead Recognition System (STARS), First Children’s Finance

Definitions:

Council Time - Partners dedicating time to attend the council meeting, how the council time is used to build relationships, information sharing, and collaboration sharing accomplished together

Resources - Funds allocated to support council priorities by BBF, or awarded through other sources like the Vermont Early Childhood Fund or outside grants/sponsorships



Lamoille Valley Regional Council 2023-2024 Plan

Strategic Partnerships - Establishing or developing connections between the Council (Regional Manager or Council members) and other regional partners. This can be 1:1, attending other coalition meetings, or convening small working groups.

BBF Staff Time - Time dedicated by the Regional Manager or other BBF staff to support a council effort (communication, data, planning, etc.)

BBF Network - Elevating a regional gap or need through the BBF Network to inform decision-making. This could be submitting an issue to the 'emerging priorities' document, bringing an issue to a VECAP committee for further discussion, identifying data gaps, or informing BBF SAC policy recommendations.