



Notes | VECAP Data and Evaluation Committee
September 21, 2023 | 1:00 - 2:00 pm
[Full recording](#)

The Data and Evaluation Committee held its September quarterly meeting to focus on building out the [Child Hunger and Nutrition Security section of the unified Early Childhood Data Development Agenda](#). The purpose of the agenda is to centralize information about available data, data gaps and challenges in Vermont's early childhood system and create a living document that is publicly available. Over the next few years the committee plans to have subcommittees come together to do a deep dive into multiple topic areas and bring in additional expertise, as needed, to inform the agenda.

In this meeting, participants discussed the current landscape of early childhood nutrition and food security, highlighting the lack of comprehensive data to illustrate the true need along with the ability to fully understand how discrete and separate programs impact the underlying need. More specifically, the committee discussed data gaps and opportunities for eligibility and enrollment in various programs.

The group also discussed promising practices and potential creative solutions for data sharing in Vermont. They explored the possibility of creating a Vermont data lake or a "Data Switzerland". They also discussed the need for legislative support to make this happen. The group is excited about the possibility of obtaining this data and working together to make it happen.

The meeting concluded with participants providing updates on various data projects, programs and upcoming reports.

- LGK is starting to develop the process for analyzing the Stalled at the Start report. (Supply and Demand of Childcare in VT)
- WIC going through revamping the annual WIC participant survey.
- The Office for Racial Equity has launched its Division of Racial Justice Statistics, and we look forward to close collaboration. (Initial issues of criminal and juvenile justice) (Highlighted the impact of childhood interventions and upstream impacts on racial equity)
- Friday September 29th there is an upcoming conversation about modernization of poverty measures.
- Valerie Wood at BBF is in the process of meeting with teams regarding work plans for the VIP-B5 to check in about process and outcome measures. Expect to hear from her if you have not already and have a work plan as a part of the VIP-B5 grant.
- Data system for family services - CCWIS (Vermont has the oldest data collection system.) Final draft for RFP will be going out to vendors by the end of the year (will be reviewed by federal teams and internal team)
 - Carry forward funds were able to be kept (vacancy saving money). Current funding available is \$10M including a federal match (which is not enough)
 - Financial advocacy is a big focus at this time to support the funding needs to upgrade their system.
 - SAC policy recommendations include support for expanded funding support for this specific data upgrade as well as a module for Children's Integrated Services.

Next meeting: December 21, 2023 1:00 - 2:30