

Autism Workgroup Members

Updated April 2022

Name and Role	Affiliation	Contact Information	Areas of Knowledge
CORE TEAM MEMBERS			
1. Adam Poulin	Children with Special Health Needs, Director	Adam.Poulin@vermont.gov	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children’s Personal Care Services • Neurodiversity perspectives • Knowledge of system of care; multiple AHS depts; coordinating services
2. Brian Marrier	AAI	Brian@autismai.com	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applied Behavior Analysis • Early/Adolescent Intervention • Functional Communication • Self-Advocacy and Adaptive Skills • Learning-to-Learn Skills • School Readiness • Contractual Agreements with Head Start and Public/Private Schools • Staff Training
3. Cammie Naylor	Vermont Legal Aid	cnaylor@vtlegalaid.org	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knowledge of IDEA and Vermont Special Education Rule • Familiarity with application of Medicaid Rules • Expertise in advocating for and assisting families in advocating for their child’s needs
4. Cheryle Wilcox	Department of Mental Health	Cheryle.Wilcox@vermont.gov	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knowledge of multiple depts. at AHS and how to coordinate services. • Licensed Independent Clinical Social Worker
5. Danielle Kent	Speech-Language Pathologist; Piece of Mind Therapy and Consulting, LLC	Danielle@daniellekent.com	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Executive Functioning/Self-Regulation; Neurodiversity Affirming Practices & Inclusion
6. Cortney Keene	Keene Perspectives	cortneykeene@keeneperspectives.com	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Autism and low incidence disabilities • special education, inclusion, collaborative teaming, staff training, PBIS/MTSS
7. Danielle Howes	Department of Vermont Health Access	Danielle.Howes@vermont.gov	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expertise in Vermont’s system of payments for services provided to clients and data-driven decision-making.
8. Danielle Brier	DVHA	Danielle.brier@vermont.gov	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Subject Matter Expert on DVHA ABA Benefit • SOV point of contact for ABA related information • Licensed Psychologist-Master

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9. Dr. Elizabeth Forbes	UVM	Elizabeth.forbes@uvmhealth.org	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Developmental delay, intellectual disability and autism spectrum disorder
10. Erika Rojas	DMH	Erika.rojas@vermont.gov	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> LICSW Children’s Mental Health Care Manager provides consultation, education and technical assistance to local designated agencies. Provides care management for children and youth with access and transition to appropriate level of services including crisis beds, inpatient psychiatric treatment and residential care.
11. Erin Russell	Green Mountain Behavioral Consulting	rachel@seedsofchangevt.com	
12. Hanna Wagner	Howard Center	hannaw@howardcenter.org	
13. Hillary Hill	DVHA	Hillary.hill@vermont.gov	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Medicaid policy analyst for DVHA Autism/ABA specialist Medicaid representative on the VT Developmental Disabilities Council
14. Jamie Deacon	Counseling Service of Addison County	jdeacon@csac-vt.org	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> BCBA, LBA-Vermont Experience with implementation of ABA programming in school, home and community settings with children and their caregivers (i.e. parents, childcare staff, other service providers)
15. Jamie Rainville	VFN	Jamie.rainville@vtfn.org	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As co-director of VFN’s Family Support program (F2F, P2P, Family Voices, and PTI), hears a lot of concerns from families related to autism services throughout the state and nationally. Families inform us of the struggles, challenges and gaps they are experiencing, and offer family perspective to decision-makers on what could improve the system of care. Worked in Chittenden County’s Early Intervention autism program for six years serving children birth to three who were suspected or diagnosed with autism. Established the Early Start Denver Model in Chittenden County to support the youngest children with ASD in 2014-2016.
16. Janet Kilburn	HMG	Janet.Kilburn@vermont.gov	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expertise in early childhood cross-sector systems development and Help Me Grow (HMG)

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CDC’s Learn the Signs. Act Early. Program Ambassador working to improve early identification of ASD and other developmental concerns and timely referral and/or follow up evaluation • Worked on CIS Early Intervention Teams for fifteen years as a CSHN Medical Social Worker serving children birth to three who were suspected or diagnosed with autism • HMG State Lead and VDH Early Childhood Director • Licensed Independent Clinical Social Worker
17. Jenn Johnson	SD Assoc	Jen.johnson@sdplus.org	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BCBA, LBA-Vermont • Experience with implementing ABA programming in school, home and community based settings
18. Jeremiah Dickerson, MD	UVMCC	Jeremiah.Dickerson@uvmhealth.org	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child & Adolescent Psychiatrist – Autism Assessment Clinic at UVMCC • Interest in neurodiversity, gender diversity and ASD, education and training of medical learners about ASD, promoting evidence-based practice
19. Julie Smith	Howard Center	julies@howardcenter.org	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BCBA, LBA in VT • Experience in implementation of intensive, specialized instructional and behavior treatment services to individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorders • Experience in Consultation and coaching services related to assessments and interventions used with individuals with ASD • Experience in Training services related to ASD and Applied Behavior Analysis
20. Karen Newman	Parent	kslnewman@gmail.com	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parent • Parent support volunteer • Classroom teacher, Shelburne Community School
21. Kathy Workman, Ph.D.	VDH-CSHN	Kathryn.workman@vermont.gov	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ASD assessments • Neurodevelopmental evaluations/resources
22. Kelsey Naro	VDH-CSHN	Kelsey.naro@vermont.gov	
23. Krystal Lirakis	BCI	Krystal.Lirakis@bciaba.com	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • M.A., BCBA, LBA • Managing Behavior Analyst

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supporting the growth of ABA services in VT with BCI/LEARN, who took over Benchmark about 2 years ago in S. Vermont • Expanding services / taking referrals in Central Vermont (Randolph-Montpelier area).
24. Lana Metayer	Parent	lane_matt@comcast.net	
27. Laura Bonazinga Bouyea, M.S., CCC-SLP	Vermont Speech Language Pathology Mansfield Hall	Laurabonazinga@vtslp.com	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experience across a broad range of clinical, academic, educational and community-based settings • Assessment • Individualized supports, instruction and intervention for learners across the lifespan • Implementation of social communication groups • Providing parent training and consultation • Collaboration for planning and programming between SLPs & BCBA's • Development and implementation of professional development • Supporting transitions to vocational settings • Effective communication across home, school, community and vocational settings • Social emotional Learning (SEL) & Regulation
25. Lauren Smith	HMG	Lauren.Smith@vermont.gov	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Statewide Help Me Grow Coordinator • Certified Trainer on ASQ-3 and ASQ:SE2 tools, implementation and quality improvement methodology • Expertise in public health approaches and prevention strategies in early childhood systems • MCH Co-lead on Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems grant for MCH and early childhood system integration and alignment • Mental Health Counselor (currently not licensed) with health psychology concentration

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26. Liliane Savard	Autism Collaborative	zippy@comcast.net	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Physical therapy, pediatric PT education • Motor development/motor control assessment and intervention • Autism and developmental disabilities • Research collaborations, including autistic research partners • Research interest: motor learning supports for autistic individuals
27. Lyn Ujlaky	Parent	lujlaky@gmail.com	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •
28. Matt Habedank	NCSS	mhabedank@ncssinc.org	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Systems knowledge and navigation from a provider/DA lens • Service provision including FBAs and Behavior Plans • Program design and oversight • Helping design systems to facilitate access • Coordination and collaboration with schools • BCBA training and supervision • Useless trivia knowledge, especially related to music
29. Mary-Graham McDowell	Rutland Mental Health	mgmcdowell@rmhscn.org	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Former Co-chair of Autism workgroup • BCBA LBA Vermont • Ran insurance based Autism services in Vermont (the program supported 45 children) • Experience overseeing school-based behavior interventionist program • Currently directs developmental services for Community Care Network in Rutland
30. Melanie Hall	VDH, Children with Special Health Needs	Melanie.Hall@vermont.gov	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has direct practice experience working with families with children/youth with autism accessing services within the system of care. • Clinically licensed Social Worker
31. Melissa Houser, M.D.	All Brains Belong VT	melissa.houser@allbrainsbelong.org	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Primary care physician - neuroinclusive healthcare for kids & adults • Neurodiversity-affirming social connection, executive functioning & sensory accommodations • Neurodivergent family dynamics & co-regulation • Brain science of mental health

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32. Michael Hoffnung	UVMHC	Michael.hoffnung@uvmhealth.org	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child and Adolescent Psychiatrist • Autism Assessment Clinic at UVMHC • Interest and experience in collaborative care with pediatricians
33. Molly Bumpas CCC-SLP BCBA	UVM	Molly.Bumpas@uvmhealth.org	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Autism Assessment Clinic at UVMHC • Faculty in Communication Sciences and Disorders • Run Hanen More Than Words parent training program
34. Philip Eller	VT Autism Task Force	philipeller1944@gmail.com	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Autism education and advocacy • Public education and Political advocacy
35. Rachel Wassel	Department of Disabilities, Aging and Independent Living, Developmental Disabilities Division	Rachel.Wassel@vermont.gov	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children's Services Specialist, DDS/DAIL, connected with programs that serve youth with Developmental Disabilities – respite, care coordination, HCBS
36. Robyn Suarez	CIS Coordinator	coordinator@chittendencis.org	
37. Sara Stowell	ARCh	SStowell@howardcenter.org	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ARCh Clinical Supervisor, LCMHC • Experience working with children/adolescents/young adults with ASD, helping access resources, transitions services, and school support
38. Valerie Wood	Parent	Valerie.F.Wood@gmail.com	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parent Advocate • Social Psychologist • Research & Evaluation Specialist with an emphasis on Disability Rights and Advocacy
Ad Hoc Members			
1. Ali Mitchell	GRCSU	Ali.mitchell@grcsu.org	
2. April Wright	NCSS	April.Wright@ncssinc.org	
3. Chris Keene	Keene Perspectives	chris@keeneperspectives.com	
4. Courtney Daffinrud	Kingdom ABH	cdaffinrud@kingdomabh.org	
5. Damien Owcazski	WCMH	damineo@wcmhs.org	
6. David Powsner	SD Assoc	David.powsner@sdplus.org	
7. Jim Calhoun	Lamoille Supervisory Union	jim.calhoun@lssuvt.org	
8. Joy Wilcox	VT-HEC	joy.wilcox@vthec.org	

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9. Kerri McGilvrey	Autism Bridges	kmcgilvrey@autismbridges.com	
10. Nora Sabo	CDC/UVM	Nora.sabo@vermont.gov	
11. Paula Reynolds	LCMHS	Paula.reynolds@lamoille.org	
12. Susan Meyer	UVMHC	Susan.meyer@uvmhealth.org	