

# THE SEVENTH GENERATION FOUNDATION IS PUTTING TOXIC NAP MATS TO BED



## INVEST: SMALL CHANGE, BIG IMPACT

*“As a company that cares about the next seven generations, we’re always considering the wellbeing of our children. We know that many children in child care are sleeping on nap mats made with toxic chemicals. We have made a commitment to remove all toxic nap mats from child care programs in Vermont and replace them with high-quality, nontoxic mats. This small change has a huge impact—it supports a healthier learning environment for both the children and their teachers. It is an investment in our future.”*

— Ashley Orgain  
Executive Director  
Seventh Generation Foundation

## SUCCESS STORY: MAGIC IN THE MATS

*“Nap time is so important for child development, and it is equally important that children sleep in healthy environments. We are so grateful to the Seventh Generation Foundation for making this investment in our program and the wellbeing of our children. Upon receiving the new mats, one of our children exclaimed that there is ‘magic in the mats’ that would help them sleep well, and I couldn’t agree more.”*

— Danielle Harris  
Director of Early Childhood Programs  
Greater Burlington YMCA

## VT COMMUNITY GRANTS

### Nap Mat Exchange Program

Conventional nap mats can be one of the most toxic items that children use in child care settings. These mats contain flame retardants and other hazardous chemicals that are linked to cancer, obesity, and nervous system harm. While child care providers want to create healthy and safe environments, often it’s difficult to allocate funding to replace still-functional items. Seventh Generation Foundation has committed to change that by replacing every toxic nap mat in Vermont child care programs by 2025 at no cost to child care providers.

### IMPACT: THE NUMBERS

- > **15,000** estimated kids in VT sleeping on nap mats
- > **2,237** nap mats replaced in 2019
- > **4,000** more to be replaced in 2020



**READY TO INVEST IN THE FUTURE OF VERMONT?**

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