

Grand Isle County

THE CHALLENGE

In Grand Isle County, **78% OF INFANTS** (BIRTH TO 2 YEARS OLD) likely to need care don't have access to any regulated child care.

And **57% OF TODDLERS** (2-3 YEARS OLD) likely to need care don't have access to a high-quality program.

OUR PROGRESS

Thanks to generous supporters like you, Let's Grow Kids has partnered with Vermonters to create **64 new child care spaces**. And **263 people** in Grand Isle County from all walks of life have joined together to support our shared movement.

Since 2018, you've helped Let's Grow Kids invest **\$197,205** in Grand Isle County to build a child care system that works for children and families, early educators, and communities.

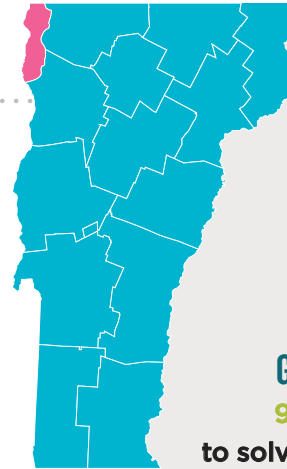
But there's more work to do.

Through 2025, we'll invest another **\$293,879** to solve the child care crisis for all Grand Isle County children, forever.

AND YOU CAN HELP! Join the movement by adding your name, making a gift, or volunteering at www.letsgrowkids.org.



PHOTOS: GEORGIA'S NEXT GENERATION, GEORGIA, VT



GRAND ISLE COUNTY

has 98 child care spaces for children under 5, in 7 child care programs that offer full-time, full-year child care (as of 2019).

GRAND ISLE COUNTY NEEDS

91 more child care spaces to solve the child care crisis for children birth to 5 years old.



WHAT IS A CHILD CARE SPACE?

A child care "space" refers to a place for a child in a child care program. Let's Grow Kids uses "spaces" to track the availability of child care.

Not every family needs child care for a full week, so some spaces are shared between families who use part-time child care.

READ FULL REPORTS ON THE SUPPLY OF AND DEMAND FOR CHILD CARE IN VERMONT AT:

letsgrowkids.org/resources-publications#SAS

THANKS TO SUPPORTERS LIKE YOU...

SPOTLIGHT ON SUCCESS

Alburgh Family Clubhouse

ALBURGH, VT

A committed group of volunteers in Alburgh has been working since 2016 to bring high-quality child care to their rural community.

Organizers learned that 73% of parents in Alburgh found the supply of child care in their region inadequate. At the same time, given high poverty rates and a majority of families making less than a living wage, child care is too expensive for many.

The Alburgh Family Clubhouse will help ease these challenges.

Volunteers have partnered with strong local organizations to make plans and raise funds. They've formed a coalition of experts, including Let's Grow Kids staff, to envision everything from the learning environment, to community partnerships, to operating budgets, to attracting talented early educators.

As of September 2020, they've secured 75% of the planning, design, and construction costs through federal grants.

Let's Grow Kids is providing ongoing technical support and a \$50,000 grant made possible by Let's Grow Kids supporters.

Formed as a non-profit, the child care center will be on the local public school campus, and will offer publicly funded prekindergarten in addition to care for infants and toddlers. Families will be able to receive financial assistance from the State of Vermont to pay for child care, as well as subsidized meals.

As organizers put it, "The Alburgh Family Clubhouse is committed to providing integrated community services," including support for parents and developmental assessments for children. **This inspiring collaborative is bringing an effective, vibrant, and holistic child care program to one of Vermont's northernmost communities.**



PHOTOS: GEORGIA'S NEXT GENERATION, GEORGIA, VT

CHILD CARE IS ESSENTIAL

With decreased enrollment, high health risks, and increased safety costs caused by COVID-19, early educators wondered how they would make ends meet during the pandemic.

Thanks to supporters calling for help, Vermont's legislators secured funds to keep the industry afloat.

"There have been many moments over several weeks when I have feared the end of our program, but the support and consideration of our legislators provide hope for the future of our work in Grand Isle."

ELAINE CHASSE

Learning Adventure | Grand Isle, VT



On the Islands, families often lack a place to grow with their children. It is my hope that my center will become a hub for early care and learning, providing nurturing and compassionate care for the whole child and family.

CAROL EGAN

Turn To Joy | South Hero, VT



The Whole Picture

THE CURRENT STATUS OF CHILD CARE ACCESS FOR:

INFANTS (BIRTH TO 2 YEARS OLD)

- » **78% of infants likely to need care** don't have access to any regulated programs.
- » **85% of infants likely to need care** don't have access to high-quality (4- or 5-star) programs.

TODDLERS (2-3 YEARS OLD)

- » **38% of toddlers likely to need care** don't have access to any regulated programs.
- » **57% of toddlers likely to need care** don't have access to high-quality (4- or 5-star) programs.

PRESCHOOLERS (3-4 YEARS OLD)

- » **28% of preschoolers likely to need care** don't have access to any regulated programs.*
- » **32% of preschoolers likely to need care** don't have access to high-quality (4- or 5-star) programs.*

*Preschool child care data does not include universal pre-K.

GRAND ISLE COUNTY CHILDREN LIKELY TO NEED CHILD CARE:

- 68 Infants
- 42 Toddlers
- 79 Preschoolers

THE NUMBERS GAP

Child care spaces needed to solve the child care crisis:

- 53 for Infants
- 16 for Toddlers
- 22 for Preschoolers

Program hours of operation:

- First program opens: 6:30 AM
- Most programs open: 7:00 AM
- Most programs close: 5:30 PM
- Last program closes: 5:30 PM



PHOTOS: GEORGIA'S NEXT GENERATION, GEORGIA, VT



READ FULL REPORTS ON CHILD CARE ACCESS AND AVAILABILITY, PLUS WORKFORCE DEMAND, AT:

letsgrowkids.org/resources-publications#SAS

JOIN THE MOVEMENT!

Share your story, make a donation, sign our Petition, become a volunteer, and get involved at www.letsgrowkids.org