The Janet S. Munt Family Room
A Parent-Child Center of Vermont

The Janet S. Munt Family Room nurtures healthy and strong communities by providing research-based, wraparound services and programs designed to help families with young children thrive.

As a Parent-Child Center, we provide education, support, and connection for parents, and promote physical, social, emotional, and linguistic development in children. A caring and trusted staff connects with each family and individual to help them celebrate their strengths and address their challenges.

The Family Room offers programming that is accessible to all, and flexible enough to meet the changing needs of our community. The Family Room is a place of connection that helps parents grow their support networks and creates a vibrant and diverse community. It is a place where differences of class, race, language, and religion are celebrated and honored, and cultural awareness grows.

Our Numbers

426 families served annually

40% of families served are refugee & immigrant

65 volunteers regularly assisting with programs

40+ community partners for better family outcomes

The Family Room provides the following services and programs:

- a 5 STAR preschool
- home visiting
- case management
- drop-in playgroups
- a support group for fathers
- a summer garden program for families
- parenting education & classes
- literacy & school readiness
- cooking classes, nutrition education & meals
- community resource & referral
- crisis support & visitation
- a natural setting for service providers to meet with families

Photos by Dana Bishop
Moving Forward

Since 1988 the Janet S. Munt Family Room has provided critical support to families in the greater Burlington area, helping families gain the skills, resources, and networks they need to raise healthy children who can grow and thrive. In its 29th year of operation, the Family Room became a freestanding organization with a mission to continue our dynamic programming and collaborate with others to meet the changing needs of the community.

As we embark on our 30th year, we seek the twin goals of expanding to meet the increasing need for our services in the community, while maintaining financial sustainability. Our vision includes more support groups for parents, greater resources and programming specifically for dads, and the return of a second day of Family Play, the beloved drop-in program that anchors all that we do. We also seek to retain and support our phenomenal staff by offering them increased hours and a competitive benefits package.

In our first independent year we have met our initial goal of minimizing disruption of services to families, but to maintain and grow those services adequately to meet the demand, we will need continued support from the community.

Financial Update

Over the last decade, community need for Family Room services and programming has grown, while resources have dwindled. In 2006-2007, the Family Room served 200 families with a staff of 13 full-time equivalent employees (FTEs). In 2016-2017, the Family Room served 426 families with 7.5 FTEs. Based on a $400,000 budget for FY18, we are able to serve 400 families with 5 FTEs, meaning more families are receiving services with fewer resources.

The Family Room met the transition to an independent organization with great success, continuing to provide essential services and programs and securing funding to maintain these programs throughout the year. Today, the Family Room seeks support that positions the Family Room to grow critical services and develop a sustainable business model moving forward.

To make a gift in support of the Family Room, visit www.thefamilyroomvt.org today.