



February 25, 2010

The Vermont Family Network (VFN) is pleased to invite you to participate again in our 18th annual conference, *Access the Future Today!*, scheduled for **May 13, 2010**. This exciting event will be held at Vermont's largest hotel and conference center, the Sheraton Burlington Hotel & Conference Center, which is perfectly situated just minutes from downtown businesses, restaurants, Lake Champlain, and the Burlington International Airport. You can get information and the latest updates on the conference on our website pages: www.vtfn.org/Conf2010.html and vtfn.org/ConfSponExhib.html.

Sponsorship & Exhibitor Opportunities: On behalf of your organization, please consider being a sponsor or exhibitor at the conference. This is a valuable way to reach families and professionals, to inform them of your programs and services. As you will read in the attached list of benefits, we have made every effort to ensure maximum exposure for your organization among the decision-makers and consumers who will attend this year's conference.

Our Background: In July 2008, the *Vermont Parent information Center* (founded in 1992) and *Parent To Parent of Vermont* (founded in 1984) merged to create **Vermont Family Network**. VFN works to empower parents, families, children, and adults, who have or are at risk for special needs, so that they can be effective advocates for their health, education, and well-being. It is part of our mission to provide information, support, advocacy, and promote family-centered policies and practices. In the last year we have collectively served over 6,000 families, statewide. Additionally, over 2,000 professionals, representing the fields of healthcare, education, social services, government, and the arts, utilize our organization as a resource.

Audience & Format: Our annual conference brings together a community of over 300 parents, social-services professionals, policymakers, educators, and healthcare providers from around the state and New England. Through informative workshops and exhibits, we not only stimulate ideas, but also provide important resources and networking opportunities for families with children of all ages, young adults transitioning into adulthood, and adults living with disabilities or special needs. With broad participation from business, healthcare, state, and non-profit sectors, we are one of the largest, statewide organizations that join these various support elements, in order to form a caring, family-centered community.

Your decision to become a sponsor of or exhibitor at our conference will strengthen the ability of Vermont Family Network to fulfill our mission, which includes providing high-quality educational experiences for families and professionals. If you have questions or suggestions related to the conference, please do not hesitate to contact me. We appreciate your consideration of this request and hope you are excited about this opportunity to support families and professionals in this field.

Warmly,

Linda Cruise
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