

**For More Information**  
Meredith Elkins  
Senior Vice-President  
Marketing & Communications  
603.621.3551  
melkins@eastersealsnh.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Easterseals delivers financial assistance to Vermont women in foster care through a generous grant from the Vermont Women's Fund**

Easterseals VT recently received a \$3,000 grant from the Vermont Women's Fund at the Vermont Community Foundation. The gift will help further Easterseals efforts to provide emergency financial assistance to cover expenses for young women transitioning from foster care to adult living in the community. These expenditures for such things as college books, tools for a trade, housing assistance, transportation and much more, make all the difference for young women stepping into their adult life without the parental support that others may enjoy.

Maureen Beauregard, President & CEO for Easterseals NH, ME & VT and Farnum, noted, "With over 1,100 foster children in Vermont, we must continue to develop programming and provide assistance to them as they transition to adulthood. Our mission is to ensure that former foster youth enter adulthood with the necessary support to build productive and fulfilling lives. We are proud to partner with the Vermont Women's Fund and appreciate their commitment to the long-term success of our foster children."

The Vermont Women's Fund is a statewide organization committed to supporting the advancement, self-sufficiency, and economic and social equality of women and girls ages 15-25. Learn more at [vermontwomensfund.org](http://vermontwomensfund.org).

**About Easterseals Vermont**

Easterseals VT empowers and assists parents and children to improve their lives. At the heart of all we do is our belief that families can, with sufficient assistance, address their problems and be safe and healthy within their communities. Easterseals VT has earned a reputation for being the lead agency in the state in promoting family-centered practices for social services.

Easterseals Youth Development Program (YDP) is an ongoing voluntary program for at-risk youth ages 14 to 22 who have spent time in the care of Vermont's Department for Children and Families (DCF) and have suffered early complex trauma. Since 2008, our YDP has grown to serving approximately 150 youth per year, including 66 girls and young women. Our YDP Coordinators create service plans with transition-age youth that address their goals in education, employment, transportation, community engagement, housing, money management, access to health care, risk reduction, permanency, and social and emotional well-being.

For more information about Easterseals VT programs and services visit, [easterseals.com/vt/](http://easterseals.com/vt/)

**About the Vermont Community Foundation**

The Vermont Community Foundation inspires giving and brings people and resources together to make a difference in Vermont. A family of hundreds of funds and foundations, we provide the advice, investment vehicles, and back-office expertise that make it easy for the people who care about Vermont to find and fund the causes they love.

The heart of the Community Foundation's work is closing the opportunity gap—the divide that leaves too many Vermonters struggling to get ahead, no matter how hard they work. We are aligning our time, energy, and discretionary resources on efforts that provide access to early care and learning, pathways to college and career training, support for youth and families, and community and economic vitality. We envision Vermont at its best—where everyone has the opportunity to build a bright, secure future.

Visit [vermontcf.org](http://vermontcf.org) or call (802) 388-3355 for more information.

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