Building Secure Futures for Childcare Workers

*Where do you see yourself in five years?* This question can be overwhelming for someone living with limited resources. You don’t need to look too hard to find someone with limited resources in their life - and many times it is even the person caring for your child while you are at work.

Quality childcare is central to workplace stability. Business communities rely heavily on individuals who can provide care for young children, as a community we need to take steps to ensure their workplace stability. Our Work United initiative, with the generous support of the Couch Foundation, brought their service to childcare centers in the Upper Valley. This new program, Getting Ahead in the Workplace, is a training program that directly complements the Work United initiative. It is a 45-hour curriculum that helps individuals in instability build their resources for a more prosperous life for themselves, their families, and their communities.

Getting Ahead works in tandem with Work United to provide childcare providers with the support they need to assess their own resources and move towards self-sufficiency. Work United provides immediate resources while Getting Ahead builds lifelong resources. Together, the impacts of each program are deepened.

Six early childhood teachers from Upper Valley centers worked together with their Getting Ahead facilitator, Faith Dubois, over four months. But their work didn’t stop there. The group found their time together so valuable that they have opted to meet monthly to catch up and continue to refine their goals.

*Getting Ahead touched on so many areas of my life and what's going on in our world,* said one of this year’s participants. *The Work United team did an amazing job making connections between the participants and the materials we discussed.*

A GIFT TO GRANITE UNITED WAY HELPS OUR UPPER VALLEY NEIGHBORS

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