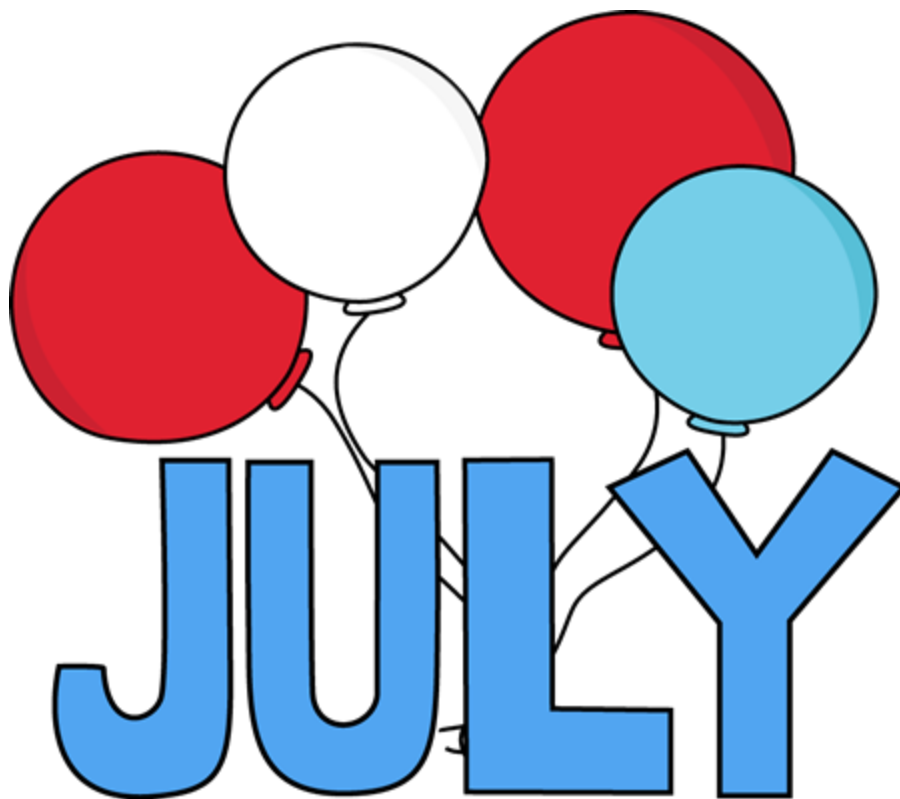




SPRINGFIELD FAMILY CENTER

July 2026 Newsletter



Celebrating Trisha's Impact and Our Path Forward

For those in the community who have any questions, here is a note from SFC's Board of Directors:

Family Center Leadership Transition ~

The Family Center Board of Directors would like to express our sincere gratitude to Trish Paradis for her dedication, leadership, and commitment to the Family Center. Her

contributions have helped strengthen our organization and advance our mission of serving children, families, and community members throughout our region. We thank her for her service and wish her the very best in her future endeavors.

The Board of Directors recognizes that our clients, partners, and community members may have questions about how the Family Center will operate during this transition. We want to assure you that our programs and services will continue without interruption.

During the interim period:

- **Steffanie Baker, Kitchen & Operations Manager** (programsatsfc@gmail.com), will continue overseeing the day-to-day operations of the Family Center and ensuring that services remain responsive to the needs of our clients and community.
- **Paul Cioffi, Board Treasurer** (pfcioffi3@gmail.com), will handle administrative and governance-related responsibilities as needed and will serve as the primary point of contact for matters requiring board attention.

The Board has begun the process to search for the Family Center's next Executive Director. We remain committed to our mission and to the partnerships that make our work possible.

Celebrating Community at the 2026 Alumni Parade

Springfield Family Center was honored to participate in the *2026 Alumni Parade* as the recipient of the *2025 Organization of the Year award*. The event provided a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the spirit, pride, and generosity that make our community so special.

We extend our *sincere gratitude to the Springfield School District Alumni Association* for organizing another outstanding parade. The amount of planning, coordination, and volunteer effort required to produce such a successful event is truly remarkable, and their dedication was evident throughout the weekend.

Participating in the parade offered a unique perspective on the celebration. Seeing families, friends, and neighbors gathered along the route, sharing smiles and enthusiasm, was a powerful reminder of the strong sense of community that exists in Springfield. We were also impressed by the creativity and craftsmanship displayed in the many alumni floats, which added color and excitement to the festivities.

We would like to *thank the Springfield Chamber of Commerce and everyone who voted for Springfield Family Center as the 2025 Organization of the Year*. This recognition reflects the collective efforts of our staff, volunteers, supporters, and community partners who work every day to ensure our neighbors have access to the food and resources they need to thrive.

A special thank you goes to Eric, who generously provided and drove the beautiful blue Bronco that carried our team through the parade. It made the day even more memorable.

We are grateful to be part of such a caring and engaged community and look forward to continuing our mission of serving our neighbors together.



Free Vermont State Parks Access for Eligible Vermonters

Great news! Eligible Vermonters can enjoy free day-use entry to Vermont State Parks from May through October

Who is eligible?

Residents enrolled in any of the following programs:

- 3SquaresVT
- Essential Person Program
- Fuel Assistance
- General Assistance
- Reach Up
- Summer EBT
- WIC

How it works:

If you have an active EBT or WIC card, simply present it at a participating Vermont State Park to receive free day-use admission for you and your household.

Please note: Camping and equipment rentals are not included.

If you're enrolled in an eligible program but don't have an EBT card, information is available on the attached flyer about how to obtain an ESD card that can be used for park entry.

Take advantage of this opportunity to get outside, explore Vermont's natural beauty, and make lasting memories with family and friends.



Free Day-Use Entry to Vermont State Parks for Eligible Vermonters Again in 2026!

Available May to October

Eligibility

Eligible Vermonters include those enrolled in:

- 3SquaresVT
- Essential Person Program
- Fuel Assistance
- General Assistance
- Reach Up
- Summer EBT
- WIC

Using the Benefit

If you have an EBT or WIC card with active benefits: Bring this card to a state park and you and your household will get in free for the day.
Camping and equipment rentals not included.

Enrolled but don't have an EBT card?

Visit your local Economic Services District Office to receive an ESD card that can be used for state park entrance this year or call 1-800-479-6151 to request one be mailed to you.



Scan now!
Learn more
about this
privately funded
program.

VermontParksForever.org/paf-pilot



FREE Summer Meals for Children & Teens

With the heat arriving, summer is officially here! As families make plans for fun in the sun, we'd like to share information about **free summer meal programs** available for children and teens **18 years of age and under** throughout Springfield and neighboring communities.

Chester, VT

Green Mountain Union High School

Pickup Dates: Thursdays - July 9, 16, 23, 30 and August 6, 13, 20

Time: 3:00-5:00 PM

Location: Tent at the south entrance of the building

Meals: Each bag contains 7 breakfasts and 7 lunches (one week's worth of meals).

Ludlow, VT

Ludlow Elementary School
45 Main Street

Pickup Dates: Wednesdays - July 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 and August 5

Time: 1:00-3:00 PM

Location: Under the tent outside the school's front entrance

Meals: Each bag contains 7 breakfasts and 7 lunches for one child (ages 18 and under).

Parents or guardians may pick up meals on behalf of children without the children being present.

Springfield, VT

Springfield Town Library

Dates: Monday-Friday, June 22-August 7, 2026

Time: 11:00 AM-12:00 PM

Meals: This is a congregate meal site where meals are served and eaten on-site.

Weathersfield, VT

Weathersfield School
135 Schoolhouse Road

Pickup Dates: Thursdays, June 25-August 13, 2026

Time: 12:00-2:00 PM

Location: Front school turnaround

Meals: Each meal kit includes 7 breakfasts and 7 lunches.

Parents or guardians may pick up meals on behalf of children without the children being present.

Windsor, VT

Windsor School
127 State Street

Pickup Dates: Thursdays, June 25-August 13, 2026

Time: 12:00-2:00 PM

Location: Front school turnaround

Meals: Each meal kit includes 7 breakfasts and 7 lunches.

Parents or guardians may pick up meals on behalf of children without the children being present.

Help Spread the Word!

Please share this information with friends, family, neighbors, and anyone who may benefit. Together, we can help ensure every child has access to nutritious meals throughout the summer.



Summer
Lunches
Mon-Fri 11:00 - 12:00
6/22 - 8/7

Free Summer lunch for youth up to and including 18 years old.
Lunches have to be eaten inside at the Third Space next door to the Library.
Springfield Town Library (802) 885 3108

Free Teen Night at Edgar May Health & Recreation Center

Youth ages 11-14 are invited to attend a **FREE Teen Night** sponsored by the Edgar May Health & Recreation Center and Springfield Project ACTION.

The event will feature fun activities, opportunities to meet new friends, and positive community connections in a safe and welcoming environment.

Date: Saturday, July 18

Time: 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Location: Edgar May Health & Recreation Center

Registration is required.

To register or learn more, please contact Zoe Lirakis at zlirakis@edgarmay.org.

Families are encouraged to save the date and review the event flyer for additional details. This promises to be a fun evening for local youth and a great opportunity to connect with peers and community resources.



Heartfelt Thanks to Our June Donors

To everyone who donated food, contributed financially, or gave their time to support Springfield Family Center's food programs in June, we are deeply grateful.

Because of your generosity:

Families in our community have nourishing meals.

Seniors can access healthy food.

Neighbors facing challenges feel seen, supported, and cared for.

You are the heart of this work. Your kindness strengthens our community, making it healthier, more compassionate, and full of hope.

From all of us at Springfield Family Center, thank you for standing with us and with your neighbors.

June Food Donors:

Rita Fletcher

WIC

Karen Shepard

Plains Brook Farm

Willing Hands

American Legion Post 18

Daryl

Andrea & August Murray

Donna Builder

Linda Richey

Boris

April Coen

UU Church

Jackie Corliss

Judy Sterns

VFW Post 771 Auxiliary

Tony Lister

Pat

Elizabeth Willia

Kathy Reickert

Bill Snide

North Springfield Baptist Church

Springfield Moose Lodge

St. Mary's Church

Springfield Housing Authority

Ginny Thulen

Southeast

Ling Wang

Springfield Chamber of Commerce

Patricia Schmidt

Patricia Smott

Weathersfield Food Shelf

First Congregational Church

June Monetary Donors:

Fred and Elizabeth Willias

Cruisdeckplans, LLC

Pat Hill and Angela Trauth

Jeannine and Richard Highes

Kenneth Spoor

Tessa Danieils

Kathleen

Chris Pudjak

Alwin Schuller

Caroline Comely

Paul and Angel Cioffi

Carol Knight

A special thank you to the Alma Gibbs Donation Foundation for helping support our community meals programs. Together we are making a meaningful difference inf the lives of many.

See you in August!

Your Friends at the Springfield Family Center

802 885 3646

[Click Here To Donate Today To SFC!](#)

Please note the recent change to Springfield Family Center's mailing address.

New mailing address is: 130 Springfield Plaza Road, Springfield, VT 05156

