

# AAP-VT UPDATES

Becca Bell, MD



# 2020 GREEN MOUNTAIN PEDIATRICIAN OF THE YEAR

*The Green Mountain Pediatrician Award is given in recognition of dedication and contribution to child and adolescent health within the State of Vermont.*

# 2020 GREEN MOUNTAIN PEDIATRICIAN(S) OF THE YEAR

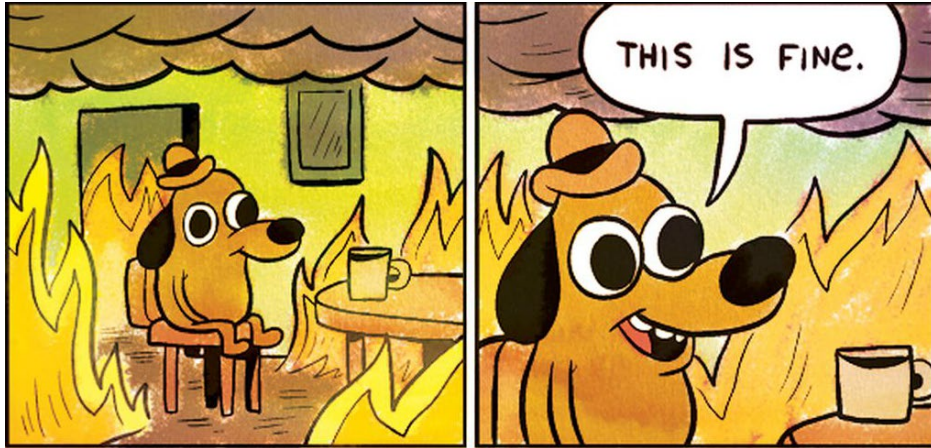


# Gratitude To The VCHIP/CHAMP Team

- Chris Pellegrino, MS, ASQ CMQ/OE
- Avery Rasmussen
- Miki Beach, MA
- Angela Zinno, MA
- Jen Le



# Breena/Wendy Appreciation Day



It was especially touching to see Wendy and Breena become a bit emotional upon receiving this award; they are so cool, calm and collected at all times in their professional work and one never gets a hint that they expect any recognition.

I truly appreciate their dedication to melding the science of public health and primary care while bringing a touch of warmth, humanity and humor to all that they are doing during this trying time.

Erica Gibson, MD  
Adolescent Medicine, UVMHC  
VP, AAP-VT

# Breena/Wendy Appreciation Day

The coronavirus pandemic has been an incredibly stressful time for those of us who care for kids and families.

Wendy and Breena aren't just getting us through the pandemic, in the spirit of eat/sleep/console, they have gathered us up in their arms, dipped our pacifiers in sweet-ease, knitted us warm hats, and swaddled us up tightly. That's how well cared for we feel in Vermont.

Becca Bell, MD  
PICU, UVMHC  
AAP-VT



# Breena/Wendy Appreciation Day

Can't think of two better mentors as pediatricians and public health experts, thinking big and small for helping families in creative and community-focused ways.

Kate Ostrander, MD  
Pediatric Hospitalist, UVMHC

Outstanding and well respected contributors to our field and the state of VT. They are always available and willing to give us sound advice and guidance through these tough times.

Lynn Mann, DO  
Southwestern Vermont Medical Center

# Breena/Wendy Appreciation Day

I don't know how I would have survived these past 9 months without those VCHIP/VDOH calls.

Hearing Wendy and Breena's voices were like a beacon in the most confusing, anxiety provoking fog of my life.

The clarity, and tone were a magic tonic. I am so grateful to them for their TIRELESS work.

Lori Racha, MD  
Assistant Professor, LCOM  
Primary Care Peds - Burlington





# Breena/Wendy Appreciation Day

Your dedication, commitment, and support, demonstrated through these noontime calls, has enabled all of us as Vermont's "nation" of pediatric health care professionals to stay informed, united, and as a result resilient more than we ever imagined we could be in this challenging time. This award is well-earned and well-deserved, and I hope you know that children and families throughout our state are safer and healthier as a result of your efforts! We would not be anywhere near as successful a state at handling the pediatric issues surrounding this pandemic without you—and for that I, and I'm sure everyone who benefits from the information shared on these calls, thank you more than you can ever imagine!

You are the best—and have made this award all the more special to those who have earned it or will earn it in the future.

With appreciation and much gratitude,

Lewis First, MD  
Professor and Chair, Dept of Pediatrics, UVMCH

# Breena/Wendy Appreciation Day

You are both amazing women and pediatricians for many reasons, especially for your advocacy and commitment to the children of Vermont. Your efforts especially during this unprecedented year have been extraordinary and we are grateful for all that you have done for us as VT pediatricians, for our VT children and for our VT communities!

With appreciation and gratitude!

Christa Zehle, MD  
Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education, LCOM

Thank you, Wendy and Breena, for your reassuring and humble leadership during the COVID pandemic. I am always astounded at your ability to provide the latest research and statistics, while also responding to the community's questions and concerns in the chat box, thus acknowledging the social and emotional impact of this disease.

Kate Cappleman Sinz, LICSW  
Community Health Team Social Worker  
UVM Children's Hospital

# Breena/Wendy Appreciation Day

Wendy Davis and Breena Holmes have been invaluable in keeping Vermont pediatricians up to date about issues related to children's health during the COVID-19 pandemic. They have fostered collaborative pediatric care throughout Vermont during an uncertain and ever-changing time.

It is so helpful to know that when I have any COVID related question, within a day I can ask in the VCHIP/CHAMP chat box and the Vermont pediatric community will be there to answer! Wendy and Breena and the team that supports them are a huge part of continuing to make that happen 9 months into this pandemic.

In my 17 years of practicing in Vermont, I have never been prouder to be a part of this pediatric community.

In Dr. Sally Goza's email today she said, *"Lean on each other. Learn from each other. Take care of each other."* Wendy and Breena are great examples of why I believe this is a true statement about the Vermont pediatric community.

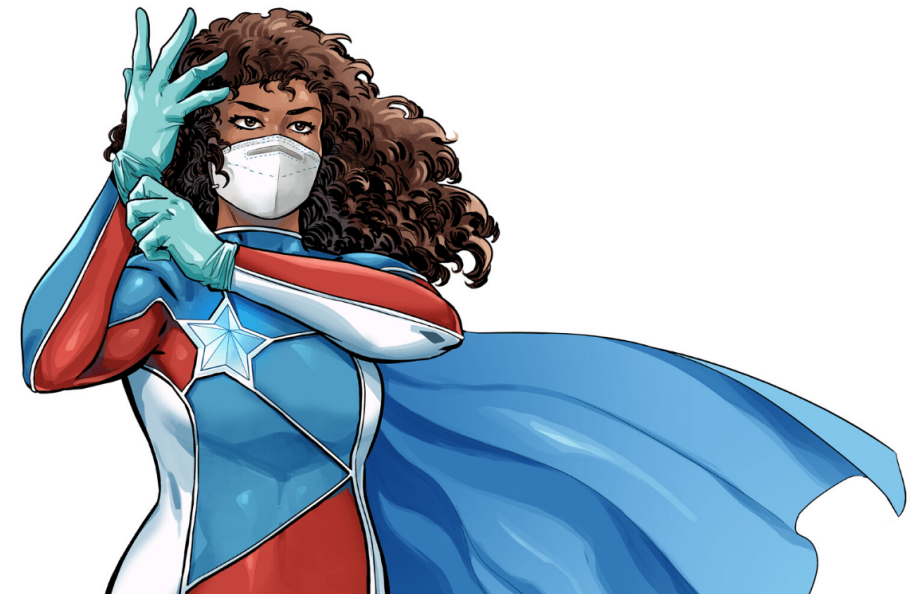
Monica Fiorenza, MD, FAAP  
Timber Lane Pediatrics

# Breena/Wendy Appreciation Day

Wendy and Breena have been my heroes here in the chaos of COVID.

I love tuning in – both because they get the info we need to us fast and accurately, but also (and maybe more important), because they've tapped into this ongoing group that provides a bit of togetherness and fun throughout all this!

Stan Weinberger, MD  
Medical Director, Pediatric Primary Care  
Burlington, VT





# Breena Love

I rotated at Middlebury Peds as a 3rd year resident in pediatrics with Dr. Breena Holmes. It was my first rotation after coming back from maternity leave and I had a 6 week old at home. She had me seeing patients in clinic and learning from them but with a special understanding of where I was coming from when I felt brain dead or needed to leave early but did not want to ask.

Since then she has been a steady force and mentor. She highlighted community partnerships before formal relationships existed between medical homes and such agencies. She adeptly evolved the Maternal and Child Health division into a powerhouse for investing in children and families.

Elizabeth Hunt, MD, FAAP  
Timber Lane Pediatrics  
South Burlington, VT

# Wendy Love

I rotated with Dr. Wendy Davis as a resident when she worked at University Pediatrics. She taught me what patient centered care looks like by painstakingly interviewing parents about their priorities, observations of their children and input on what changes could be possible.

She is a humble leader and a former female Vermont Commissioner of Health! She could be riding out her career into the sunset here in 2020 but she chose to tirelessly lead our Vermont pediatric community through this pandemic.

Elizabeth Hunt, MD, FAAP  
Timber Lane Pediatrics  
South Burlington, VT



# Breena/Wendy Appreciation Day

Wendy and Breena are two of the smartest people I know and I am so happy that they are leading so many public health efforts in our state.

Our children and families are healthier and happier due to their efforts. Thank you for the amazing resource you've provided during the Covid crisis!

Kristin Fontaine, MPH  
Pediatric Outreach, UVM Medical Center

Wendy and Breena - Having been involved in pediatrics in Vermont for almost 50 years, I must say that the statewide response to this pandemic has been unparalleled, and made me extraordinarily proud of this profession, and especially of you two for your leadership in guiding the charge!

Thanks

Buzz Land, MD  
McKay Green and Gold Professor, Dept of Pediatrics, LCOM

# Breena/Wendy Appreciation Day

Wendy Davis and Breena Holmes are truly Vermont superheroes! Their leadership in this trying time of Covid has been immeasurable — tirelessly and unfailingly providing trusted and essential information, listening and responding to concerns, giving us hope and inspiration, and helping to make Vermont the best and only place I would want to be in these times.

Endless thanks and love to them both.....

Kim Aakre, MD, FAAP  
MAHHC-Dept of Pediatrics  
Windsor, VT

On behalf of all the nurses of the Southwest Vermont Supervisory Union: Many thanks to Breena and Wendy for helping us stay organized, for answering our questions promptly, for truly making a difference in our school practices and for giving us endless resources!

We say Breena's name frequently and fondly at our staff weekly meetings! You're the best.

Gail Cohen, RN, BSN, Ba  
SVSU Early Childhood Programs  
Bennington, VT



# Breena/Wendy Appreciation Day

The amazing VCHIP forum of regular information-sharing and problem-solving overseen by Wendy and Breena has supported the entire Vermont pediatric community, which in turn has shone brightly through the pandemic clouds.

Kudos also to the amazing VCHIP staff that made this possible and to Judy Shaw for her overarching leadership.

Wendy and Breena's accessibility and encouragement from the very start of the pandemic were like a lighthouse in the storm.

Our sincerest thanks,

Essex Pediatrics



# Breena/Wendy Appreciation Day

Talking with friends, family and peers across the country, I have been proud of the policies we are following in Vermont, most of which stemmed from VCHIP pediatric guidelines. Thanks to this amazing team.

Katie Marvin, MD  
Stowe Family Practice  
President, AAFP-VT

Wendy and Breena are wonderful mentors, clinicians, and public health advocates. The regular VCHIP calls have been an invaluable source of information for my practice and for medical providers across the state. Their clear, timely, and iterative communication during the pandemic has been exceedingly valuable.

I feel fortunate to be working in Vermont (always, and particularly at this time), and Wendy and Breena play a very important role in keeping us all informed and safe.

Michelle Dorwart, MD  
Family Physician  
Community Health Centers of Burlington

# Breena/Wendy (and B&B ID!) Appreciation Day

I recently attended a pediatric virtual conference and it was clear to me that in Vermont, we are and have been well coached to proficiency in the COVID pandemic care and algorithm!!

Providers from all over were asking questions we had been helped to understand months ago and I felt we were far ahead data and information-wise, due to the organization of the VCHIP/COVID calls and the help of both Ben and Bill, the dynamic ID duo!!!

Our knowledge base is very competent largely thanks to the dedication and tireless efforts of doctors Wendy Davis and Breena Holmes. They brought together a multidisciplinary team that has proven essential in understanding and responding well to the pandemic. I am proud to be a Vermont provider.

Susan Sykas, DNP  
Appleseed Pediatrics  
Morrisville, VT

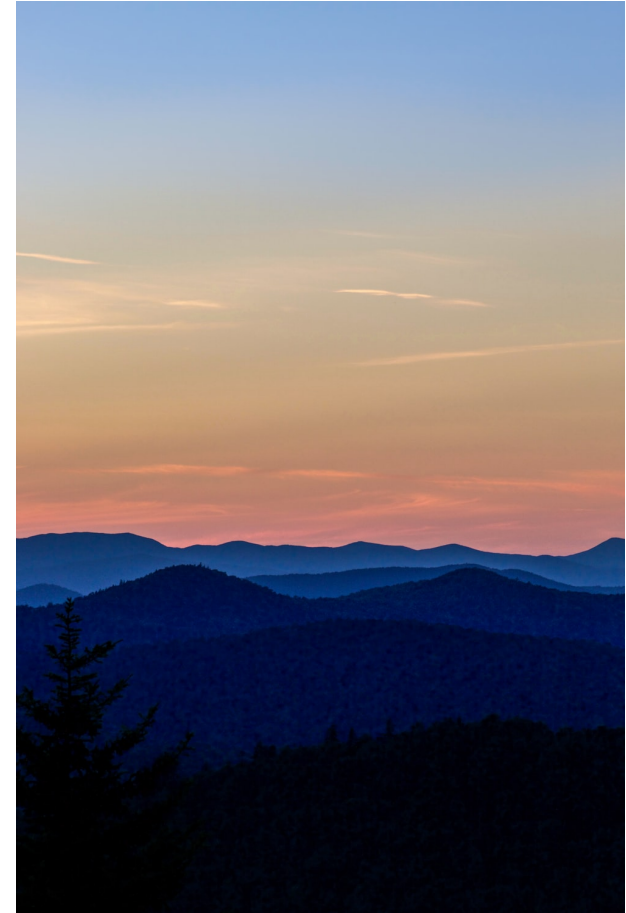


# Breena/Wendy Appreciation Day

They are my lights in a storm, I have felt so incredibly well supported during this difficult time as a small private practice owner always trying to provide the best cutting edge medicine to my patients and families.

Without these two amazing women who have tirelessly answered all my offline questions, who have listened to our needs and put on incredible calls with the experts we need, this pandemic really could have divided VT and closed many doors, instead I feel like we have the most collaborative state both in pediatrics and with our schools and feel blessed every day to work in VT. Thank you, thank you, thank you!

Ashley Miller, MD FAAP  
South Royalton Health Center





# More Wendy Love

I've known Wendy for a very long time. She was my daughters' pediatrician decades ago. When they were 7 and 3 they dubbed her "*Princess of Pediatrics*" - the very highest honor those particular girls could bestow at the time. They liked her a lot already, and then she magically, quickly and painlessly relocated a nursemaid's elbow, and she was then elevated to the highest possible status in their minds.

They have grown up now, and from their various professional positions (one a pediatrician and the other a university data analyst/manager/interpreter), they understand and admire how Wendy has changed her career focus. They join me in being in awe of her ability to see what needs doing, elevate that pursuit to the highest level, and make huge contributions to our community.

Nobody in our house does glitter and pink shiny stuff any more, but the title still stands in our house.

Ann Guillot, MD  
Professor of Pediatrics, LCOM



# More Breena Love

Thirty percent of child care programs have been open throughout the pandemic and over 70% of childcare programs were back open by July 1. Breena was essential to the success of ECE programs staying open and re-opening safely—She hosted so many webinars we lost count-- she provided guidance, answered every question and listened to the ideas of others— and was willing to think about how to ensure every piece of guidance was done in a way that considered what was in the best interest of children.

*There was a large program that said to me “we had parents who didn’t think the guidance was strict enough and parents who thought it was too strict...The staff were so stressed-- Breena agreed to hold a webinar—and that was it – all the families rallied around us from that point on”*

Sherry Carlson

Senior Director of Community and Workforce Strategies, Let’s Grow Kids



# More Breena Love

Breena tops the list of absolute favorite colleagues. She NEVER loses sight of what is most important, and you can see it driving her every move – it's the kids!!

But she adds a brand of pragmatic, creative and collaborative spirit – with a touch of humor – that makes her incredibly effective and fun to work with. She deserves so much credit for a career of pioneering policies that support children and families and for being the glue that made our state's COVID response so strong.

Aly Richards  
CEO, Let's Grow Kids



**For the ECE field - Breena is the most trusted public health person in the state. Her impact on the great success of child care programs to operate safely cannot be understated.**

# Breena/Wendy Appreciation Day

These two are pillars of our Pediatric community!

I love Breena's honest, down to earth, upbeat comments.

Wendy is amazing in how she can deliver so much information, so fluently in a short period of time. She is always on her mark. Maybe her next gig will be an auctioneer.

Our community is so fortunate to have these incredible women who have clearly dedicated their lives to supporting children and our community. Their impact is immeasurable!!

Barb Kennedy, MD  
Timber Lane Pediatrics



# Breena/Wendy Appreciation Day

Wendy and Breena are my heroes and in addition to the Award deserve to be given superhero capes!

They have remained unflappable, no matter what COVID threw at them in the past 8 (or is it 9?) months and are the glue of the pediatric community in Vermont.

Simply hearing their voices brings my (these months slightly elevated) blood pressure back down to the normal range.

Alexandra Bannach, M.D., FAAP  
Medical Director, North Country Pediatrics  
Newport, VT



# Breena/Wendy Appreciation Day

As a home health nurse, I can't thank Wendy and Breena enough for their warm inclusion of those of us who do not provide primary/specialty pediatric care to client families.

These calls have completely altered my, my team's, and many of my community partners' ability to understand and cope with this pandemic. The ongoing fortification of data with nuanced narratives has made a tremendous impact. The calls have been a place for support as well as a landing site and reference point for all questions and concerns.

With tremendous gratitude,

Melissa Kaufold RN, WHNP-BC, MSN  
UVM Health Network Home Health  
Family and Children's Program  
Nursing and Family Support Team Manager  
Colchester, VT

# Breena/Wendy Appreciation Day

Breena and Wendy have been tireless and relentless in their protection of our youngest Vermonters. Their support shows daily in their efforts to strengthen the network of relationships, leadership and endless collaboration.

Their work helps optimize our health care, child care, and education workforce capacity and to build resilience. They are the honest and intelligent energy that keeps the rest of us going day in and day out. They are there for us so we can be there when Vermont's schools, child care providers, and families call to get answers.

With care,

Sharonlee Trefry, MSN, RN, NCSN  
State School Nurse Consultant  
VT Dept of Health



# Breena/Wendy Appreciation Day



During the pandemic VCHIP calls, I felt like a child being guided on a walk by my favorite adults.

John King, MD  
Vice Chair, Family Medicine  
UVMHC



# LOVE & GRATITUDE

