



CELEBRATING 25 YEARS: 1983-2008

BECAUSE ALL GREAT MINDS DON'T THINK ALIKE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 29, 2009

Contact: Kate Stein at 802-878-2332 ext. 314 or kstein@sterncenter.org

Stern Center Receives Grant Award from Montpelier Rotary Club

Williston, VT – BUILDING BLOCKS FOR LITERACY[®] Coordinator Brenda Buzzell attended the Montpelier Rotary Club's 2009 Grant Awards Luncheon on January 12, 2009 and accepted, on behalf of the Stern Center, an award of \$550 to provide two early care provider/parent workshops in Montpelier. Based on research from the National Research Council, BUILDING BLOCKS FOR LITERACY[®] trains early care and education providers to teach pre-literacy skills to preschool age groups.

"We are very appreciative and thrilled that Montpelier Rotary recognizes the importance of early literacy skills," Buzzell commented. "When early care and education providers and parents learn and use the same consistent strategies it will help children develop skills that are needed for later reading success!"

BUILDING BLOCKS FOR LITERACY[®] is the first research-proven program for providers that increases children's reading success. Workshops provide adults with a toolbox that in turn creates a solid foundation for children to succeed at reading. A positive result of this intervention program is it decreases the number of children at-risk for reading failure.

BUILDING BLOCKS FOR LITERACY[®] is a program designed to promote pre-literacy skills for children in child care and preschool environments. Developed in 1997 at the Stern Center for Language and Learning, this research-proven program teaches educators, childcare providers, and parents nationwide how to foster pre-literacy skills in children by incorporating shared book reading, phonological awareness (breaking spoken language into its smallest parts), and speech-to-print relationships into preschool and child care settings. Based on research from the National Research Council, BUILDING BLOCKS FOR LITERACY[®] increases provider knowledge, which leads to early literacy and language enrichment success. More information is available at www.sterncenter.org

###