

June 2026

New Videos!

- [New Medicaid Rules for Some Immigrants Starting October 1, 2026](#)
- [Welcome to Your Public Library](#)
- [What You Need to Know About Ticks \(New Language\)](#)
- [Join us in Planning Burlington's Future planBTV2050](#)
- [How to Prepare for Possible ICE Detention and Arrest \(New Languages!\)](#)

Vermont
Language
Justice
Project

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PO Box 1155 Montpelier, Vermont 05602

Hi there,

HOT OFF THE PRESS. S243 was just signed by Governor Scott. This will allow VLJP to create videos in collaboration with the Vermont Department of Health to assist Vermonters in the event of a disease outbreak, natural disaster, or other public health emergency, including ongoing personal and public health information. **Senator Martine Gulkick** who sponsored the bill and brought it to the Senate back in November 2025 has been a stellar advocate for language justice since I have known her. **Rep Rey Garofano** shepherded the bill through the house and **Rep Tiff Blumle** and **Sen Ginny Lyons** gave the bill the final push to get it to the Governors desk. We are so grateful to all four of these amazing women for their commitment to language justice and language access. If you see them around and about, please say thank you to them!

The ending of medicaid benefits for refugees on October 1st is abhorrent to us. I am grateful that the **Department of Health Care Access** sees the importance of sharing this information in video format in 10 languages. PLEASE consider contacting your local representatives as well as Governor Scott to express your concerns and ask them to develop alternative health care provisions for our most vulnerable community members.

The video on "How to Prepare for Possible ICE Detention and Arrest" was able to add an extra 7 languages due to the generosity of the **Community Health Investment Fund (CHIF)** from UVM Medical Center. This has brought the total number of languages on this project up to 21 including ASL. A sincere thank you to **CHIF** and the **Ben and Jerry's Foundation** who stepped up.

What has given me joy this past month is the video we created titled "Welcome to your Public Library." Libraries were such an important part of my childhood and my children's as well. They are a place of safety and wonder for so many children and adults too and are full of kind, thoughtful and generous staff. Working with Karen Gravin the Director of Inclusive Services and the **ABLE Library** was so fun and uplifting and always a highlight of my day.

I do hope you can find some joy this coming month, it is so important.

Please consider making a donation to VLJP through this link. Our donations are thin on the ground right now, and there is so much that we want and need to do.

With Best Wishes and Stay Safe

[Poem of the month](#)

Alison and [Dani](#)

Noel Mukiza

Kirundi



Did You Know That...

Kirundi is a Bantu language with about 11.2 million speakers, mainly in Burundi, and in Rwanda, Tanzania and Kenya. There are about 10.4 million speakers of Kirundi in Burundi, about 565,000 in Rwanda, and about 246,000 in Tanzania.

Kirundi is one of the official languages of Burundi, along with French, and is the spoken mainly by the Hutu people, but also by the Tutsi, Twa and Hima people. It is taught in schools, and used in the media and literature. About 55% of Kirundi speakers are literate in their language.

As is true of many languages, it is important to remember that each Kirundi word does not have an exact English equivalent, and likewise, do not expect to find a Kirundi equivalent for every English word. Also Kirundi varies from one locality to another. Certain words and forms are much more common in some areas than in others, or may have a different meaning than elsewhere.

New Videos from VLJP

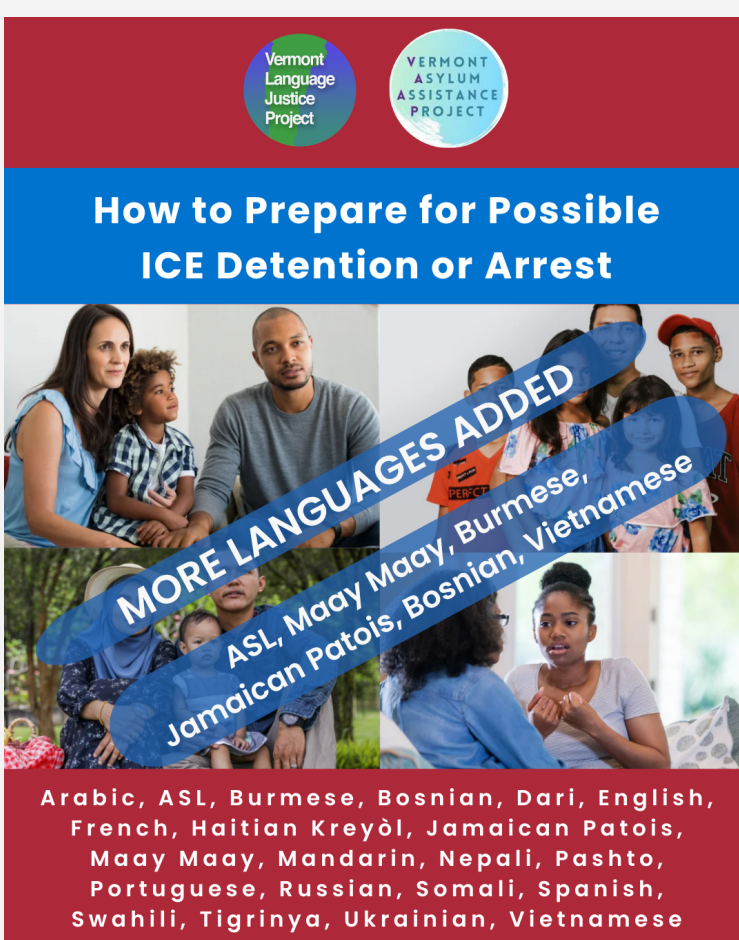
(Click on the image and it will take you to the playlist)



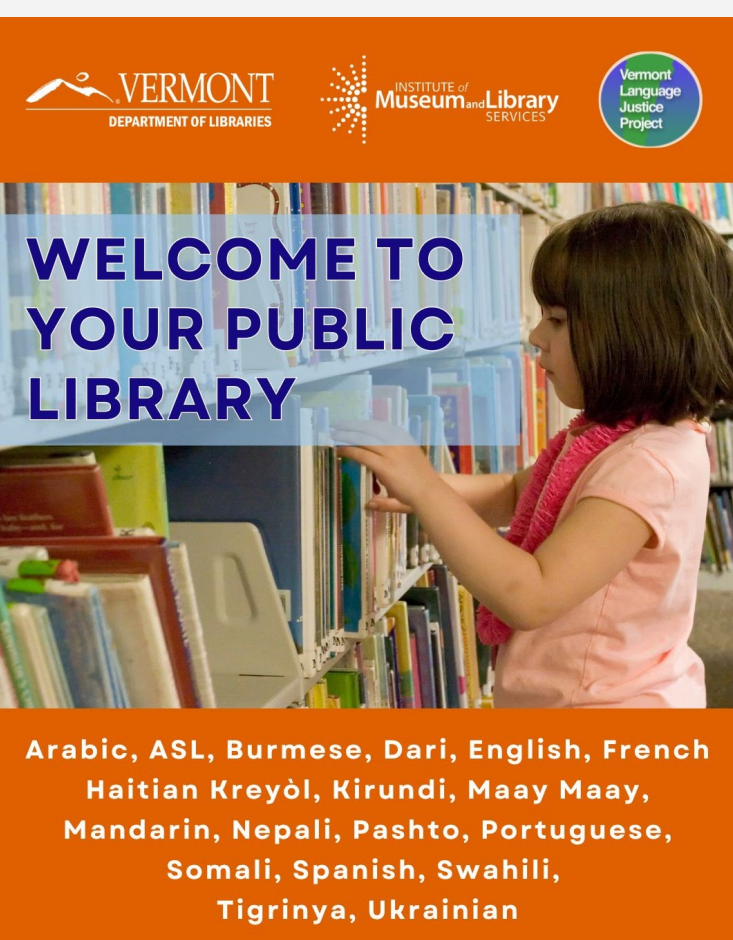
New and important information about new Medicaid rules for some immigrants starting on October 1st, 2026.



Learn about how to access free food for all Vermont children this summer.



This playlist has now been increased to 21 languages, sharing important information about how to prepare for possible ICE detention or arrest.



Learn about your local library! This video discusses the amazing resources and activities available at local libraries, like computer access and children's programming.



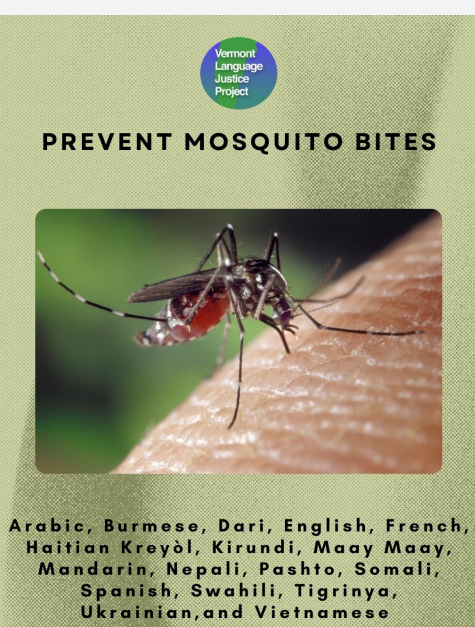
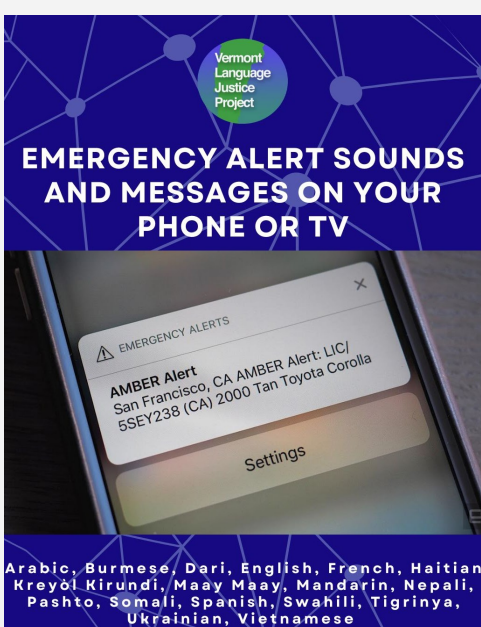
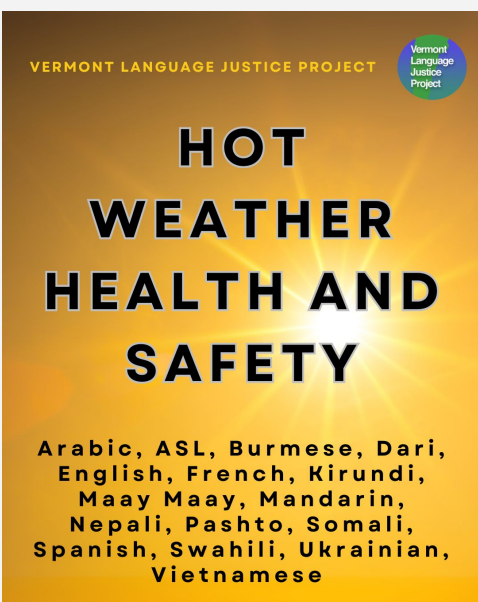
As we enter into tick season here in the northeast, it is important to refresh your memory on ticks, how to prevent tick bites, and what to do if you find a tick on yourself or your child.



VLJP is collaborating with the city to get word out about the creation of **planBTV 2050**, a plan that will guide Burlington's future for the next 25 years. Together as a city, Burlington will be planning for housing, transportation, parks and recreation, jobs and businesses, and places that make Burlington a community.

DOWNLOAD OUR FULL VIDEO RESOURCE LIST

Related and Timely Videos



In Case You Missed Them:

- [Annual Asylum Fee, What Asylum Applicants Need to Know](#)
- [How to Prepare for Your Colonoscopy](#)
- [Urgent Maternal Warning: In-Pregnancy](#)
- [Urgent Maternal Warning: After-Pregnancy](#)