



# **Division of Substance Use (DSU) FY23 Prevention Systems Enhancement Update**

**The Vermont Department of Health (VDH),  
Division of Substance Use (DSU)**

May22, 2023

# FY 23 (July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023)

Planning for prevention system enhancement and regional funding structure as a result of the \$3 million state investment.

As planning took place, DSU provided one-time bridge funding to 14 prevention coalitions and entities throughout Vermont.

## Bridge funding grantees

- Healthy Lamoille Valley
- Mt Ascutney Prevention Partnerships
- Brattleboro Area Prevention Coalition
- Burlington Partnership for a Healthy Community the Northeast Prevention Coalition
- The Collaborative serving Springfield and Bennington counties
- 302 Cares in Orange County
- Rutland Partnerships for Prevention
- ONE Prevention Coalition serving Orleans and Northern Essex counties and more

## FY24 (July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024)

Four regional **Lead Prevention Organizations established** covering the state that will lead broader prevention efforts and allocate prevention funding in the region

**Key elements** of the Lead Organization structure include regional assessment/strategic planning and fiscal management/subgranting

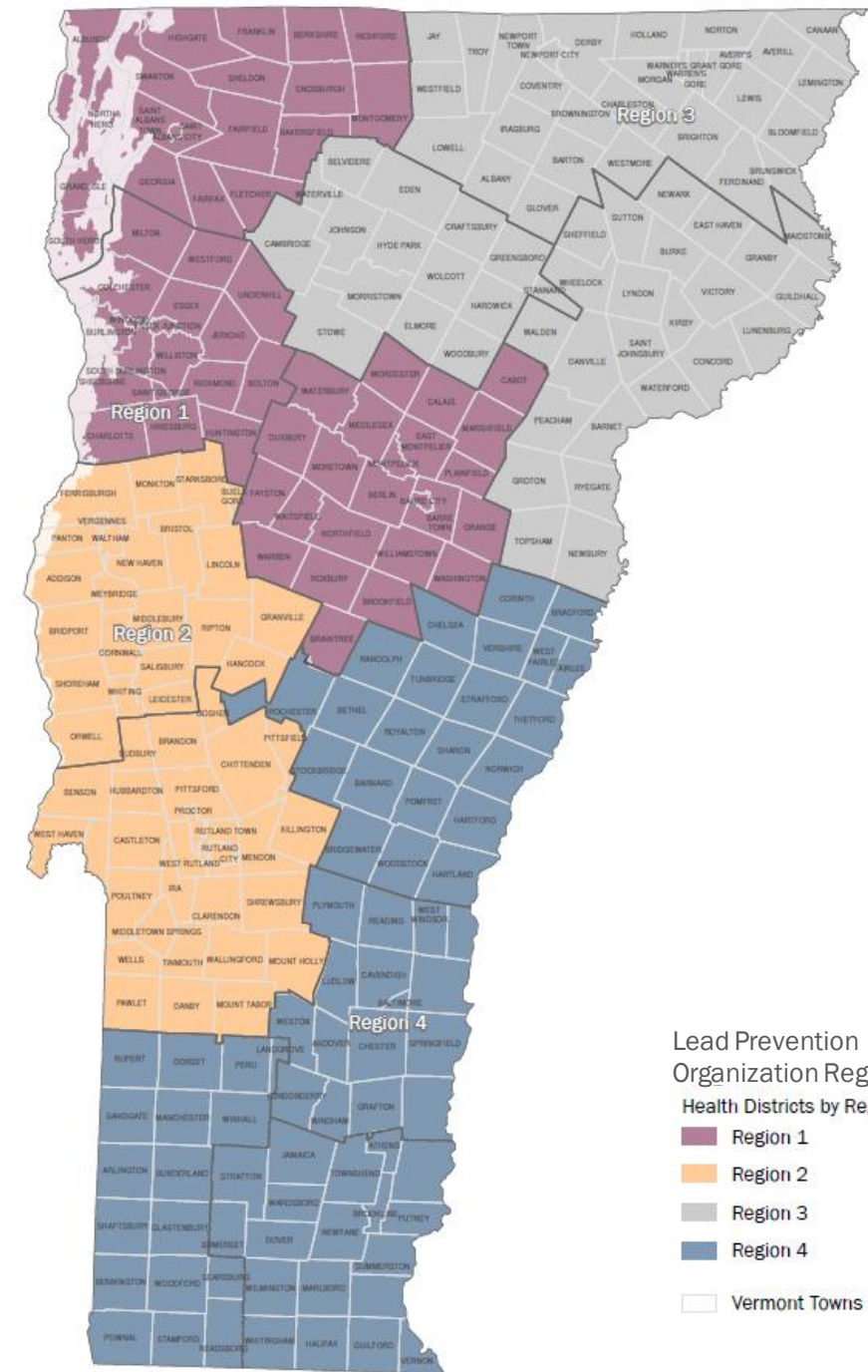
An overarching goal of this funding is to **sustain existing substance misuse prevention coalitions, build additional prevention capacity, and reach gap areas to ensure statewide prevention coverage** in all 12 health districts

There will be a **six-month start-up** and DSU will extend its Bridge Funding grants by 6 months and Lead Organizations will begin broader subgranting in their region starting 1/1/24

# Lead Prevention Organization Regions

The 4 regions are made up of the following VDH Health Districts:

- **Region 1** – Burlington, St. Albans, Barre:
- **Region 2** – Middlebury, Rutland:
- **Region 3** – Newport, St. Johnsbury, Morrisville:
- **Region 4** – Bennington, Brattleboro, Springfield, White River Junction



# High Level Goals of System Enhancement and Regional Approach

1. Prevent and reduce substance use/misuse across **all ages and substances**
2. Ensure all Vermonters have access to substance misuse prevention statewide that allows for and **optimizes regional assets and variability**
3. **Decrease geographic and other health disparities**
4. **Increase efficiency and collaboration** on prevention efforts across all state, public, and private entities through a consolidated and holistic approach to prevention that is sustainable, scalable, and equitable - *Vermont Substance Misuse and Prevention Council (SMPC) Goal #3.*



# How this structure addresses substance use and misuse across all age groups, substances, geographic regions

State funding will allow for flexibility to address all age groups and all substances

There is a 6 month start up where Lead Organizations will put together plans and processes, ensure adequate staffing, build an advisory structure, design the regional funding allocation approach, and gather data that will drive the needs and priorities within their region.

Lead Organizations will work in their geographic regions to address their needs and there are no restrictions on groups or substances that they focus on

Lead Organizations will work closely with the Prevention Consultants for their region who help provide data and information relevant to their populations and geographic area

Workplans are under development and more can be shared with this group as the process moves forward

# Current status

RFP released on 4/10/23 and submissions were due 5/10/23

Last week proposals were reviewed and recommendations were given

The four selected Lead Organizations have been notified and will be:

- Region 1 (Burlington, St. Albans, Barre) – **United Way of Northwestern Vermont (UWNV)**
- Region 2 (Middlebury, Rutland) – **Rutland Regional Medical Center (RRMC)**
- Region 3 (Newport, St. Johnsbury, Morrisville) – **Northeastern Vermont Regional Hospital (NVRH)**
- Region 4 (Bennington, Brattleboro, Springfield, White River Junction) - **Mt. Ascutney Hospital and Health Center (MAHHC)**

A formal announcement will be sent out by VDH in the coming weeks