VERMONT
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Opioid Settlement Advisory Committee

Date:	11/16/2026
Location and Time:	Via Microsoft Teams 10:00 - noon
Present:	Shawn Burke, Daniel Franklin, Rick Hildebrant, MD, Monica Hutt, Tera Howard, Stephanie LaRock, Nels Kloster, MD, Eric Maguire, Gail Rose, Deb Wright
Absent:	Martine Gulick, Thomas Davis, Justin Johnston, Matt Prouty, Kenn Stransky, Amy Wunderlich
Meeting Facilitator and Note Taker:	Rick Hildebrant, Sarah Gregorek

Agenda Item	Discussion	Next Steps
Public Comment	Ed Baker The leading cause of death for Vermonter's age 50 and below in 2023 was accidents or unintentional injuries. Of 211 deaths that year, 176 or 84% were a result of unintentional drug overdose. Vermont's social autopsy will tell you most of these deaths occurred without a bystander present. Clearly, the number one cause of death in Vermont for Vermonters age 50 and below was, and continues to be, unintentional drug overdose with no bystander present. Our overdose prevention center (OPC) in Burlington is designed to engage this exact population, the most at risk population in our great state at the very center of this public health emergency, downtown Burlington. Years of preparation, research, legislation, Health Department regulation, funding, acquisition through this committee, combined planning and support from the Burlington Mayor's Office and City Council, community engagement and education provider engagement, client base engagement and now finally site location have gotten us to this precise moment in time. FY2028 allocations are the OPC's operating budget for its inaugural year. I would urge each member of this committee to weigh your vote for OPC, with the mindful understanding that your vote is literally a life or death vote for Vermonters most at risk for death in this great state.	

Approve 10/26/2026 minutes	Daniel Franklin made a motion to approve the 10/26/2026 minutes, and Gail Rose seconded, the motion passed unanimously.	
Two new members appointed by VLCT	Justin Johnston, Brattleboro Police Department and Tera Howard, Windsor Select Board	
SSP's, Outreach workers, and Recovery residence programs funding request for FY'28 – Emily Trutor, DSU	Emily presented the budget request for Syringe Service Providers (SSP), Outreach Workers and Recovery Residences: SSP $850,000 Outreach Workers $1,976,000 Recovery Residences $1,600,000 These amounts are level funded from the previous year.	
Syringe Service Provider Budget Request HIV/HCV Resource Center (H2RC) AIDS Project of Southern Vermont (APSVT) Vermont CARES Theresa Vezina	Theresa sent a memo to Dr. Hildebrant on behalf of the SSP providers requesting more money than DSU is requesting. See memo posted. The Three SSP providers are requesting $1M due to increased costs.	
Overdose Prevention Center funding request	The City of Burlington would like to request funding for fiscal year 2028 in the amount of $ 1.1 Million for the OPC operating budget which includes:	

for FY'28– Tamar Bouchard	staffing for the OPC, benefits, training, consumables for services, care partners including our healthcare partners and subject matter experts for technology assistance and insurance coverage. We hope to have a shuttle service with a 15-passenger van. The OPC has received $2.2M to date and they have spent $660,000. The letter of intent to purchase the building is $600,000. The City of Burlington has an opportunity to receive more funding through the Budget Adjustment process.	
Four Funding Proposal vote	Danial Franklin made a motion to approve the outreach worker funding request of $1,976,000 and Shawn Burke seconded, the motion passed unanimously. Deb Wright made a motion to approve the recovery residences funding request of $1.6M and Daniel Franklin seconded, the motion passed unanimously. Daniel Franklin made a motion to approve the OPC funding request of $1.1M and Stephanie LaRock seconded, with a roll call vote, there were 6 no and 3 yes votes. Per the committee procedures, the OPC must receive the affirmative vote of a majority of all committee members and with only 9 members in attendance, we don't have all the committee members present. The committee decided to leave the vote open and revisit it at the December meeting. Daniel Franklin made a motion to approve the SSP funding request for $1M and Deb Wright seconded, the motion passed with 8 yes and 1 no.	
Draft OSAC Legislative Funding Memo	Deb Wright made a motion to allow the Department of Health to begin drafting the OSAC Funding Request Memo to the Legislature that will be reviewed at the December meeting and Shawn Burke seconded, the motion passed unanimously.	
Future Agenda Items	If you have agenda items for future meetings, please send them to Sarah or Dr. Hildebrant.	

Next Meeting	December 28, 2026, 10 - noon	