

**Substance Misuse Prevention Oversight and Advisory Council (SMPC)  
January 2026 Meeting Minutes**

Date: January 26, 2026 Time: 1-3 PM	Mtg. Facilitator: Nicole Rau Mitiguy Mtg. Recorder: Nicole Rau Mitiguy Where: Microsoft Teams
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	<b>Name</b>	<b>Organization and Role</b>
X	Kelly Dougherty	Department of Health, Chair
X	Amy Brewer	Northwestern Medical Center, Vice Chair
	Mourning Fox	Department of Public Safety, Executive Committee Member
X	Monica Hutt	Agency of Administration, Executive Committee Member
X	Beith Keister	Representing Courtney O'Brien, Agency of Education, Executive Committee Member
X	Kimberley Diamond	Big Brother Big Sister, Member
X	Kheya Ganguly	Department of Mental Health, Member
X	Cindy Hayford	Deerfield Valley Community Partnership, Member
X	Maryann Morris	The Collaborative, Member
	Scott Pavek	Municipality Experience, Member
	Janet Potter	Hartford Middle and High School, Member
X	John Searles, Ph.D.	Department of Health (Retired), Member
	Stephen Von Sitas	Vermont Judiciary, Member

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Agenda Item	Lead	Minutes
<b>Opening Remarks, and Quorum Determination</b>	Kelly Dougherty	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quorum established</li> </ul>
<b>Review October 2025 Minutes</b>	Nicole Rau Mitiguy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• October minutes pass as written</li> </ul>
<b>Legislative Update</b>	Monica Hutt	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Some areas of focus for bills being tracked thus far include:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Recovery residences</li> <li>○ Alcohol and licensing</li> <li>○ Cannabis – specifically <a href="#">S. 278</a></li> </ul> </li> <li>• There is an early interest in discussing substance use prevention and the Health Department is slated to provide testimony on this topic.</li> <li>• One of the focuses of the SMPC is parity across legislation related to substances, so a reminder that as we engage in the legislative session, that should be an area of focus.               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ An example of that could be <a href="#">H. 376</a></li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>SMPC Membership Discussion</b>	Kelly Dougherty and Nicole Rau Mitiguy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All SMPC Members will complete <a href="#">this survey</a> by 2/13               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ SMPC Members can choose No they do not want to continue into another term or Yes they would like to be considered for another term</li> <li>○ If yes, SMPC Members will need to upload a cover letter sharing your interest in continuing on the SMPC and what sector/organization/perspective you hold from <a href="#">Act 82</a></li> </ul> </li> <li>• Executive Committee will review submissions and decide which members will continue on the SMPC by March 27<sup>th</sup></li> <li>• Executive Committee will recruit for either open positions or to add additional perspectives and representation</li> </ul>
<b>Review SMPC 2026 Report</b>	Nicole Rau Mitiguy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The SMPC Annual Report has been published on the legislative website (<a href="#">Substance Misuse Prevention Oversight and Advisory Council 2026 Report to the Legislature</a>)</li> <li>• There are a few changes in this report from previous:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Overall format</li> <li>○ Explanation of Prevention Program Budgets which now includes federal dollars to align with Act 27's Prevention Expenditure Report Requirement</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

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		<p style="text-align: center; font-size: small;">State of Vermont, Substance Misuse Prevention Oversight and Advisory Council Substance Misuse Prevention Oversight and Advisory Council 2026 Report to the Legislature</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; text-align: center;"> <thead> <tr style="background-color: #0070C0; color: white;"> <th>Program</th> <th>General Fund (GF)</th> <th>Special Fund (SF)</th> <th>Tobacco Fund</th> <th>Federal Funds (FF)</th> <th>Global Commitment (GC)</th> <th>Total</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>School-based Substance Misuse Prevention Services</td> <td>\$248,116</td> <td>\$48,138</td> <td>\$119,678</td> <td>\$418,106</td> <td>\$186,404</td> <td>\$1,020,441</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Statewide Drug Disposal Program</td> <td></td> <td>\$470,449</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>\$470,449</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tobacco Control Program</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>\$1,791,842</td> <td>\$1,024,087</td> <td>\$1,400,000</td> <td>\$4,215,930</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Substance Misuse Prevention Oversight and Advisory Council</td> <td></td> <td>\$214,891</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>\$214,891</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Community-based Substance Misuse Prevention Services</td> <td>\$3,781,919</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>\$3,781,919</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Division of Substance Use Programs Prevention Staff</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>\$3,735,739</td> <td></td> <td>\$3,735,739</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Regional Prevention Partnership Program</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>\$956,010</td> <td></td> <td>\$956,010</td> </tr> <tr style="font-weight: bold;"> <td>Total</td> <td>\$4,030,035</td> <td>\$733,478</td> <td>\$1,911,520</td> <td>\$6,133,942</td> <td>\$1,686,404</td> <td>\$14,395,380</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: x-small;">Page 8  VERMONT</p>	Program	General Fund (GF)	Special Fund (SF)	Tobacco Fund	Federal Funds (FF)	Global Commitment (GC)	Total	School-based Substance Misuse Prevention Services	\$248,116	\$48,138	\$119,678	\$418,106	\$186,404	\$1,020,441	Statewide Drug Disposal Program		\$470,449				\$470,449	Tobacco Control Program			\$1,791,842	\$1,024,087	\$1,400,000	\$4,215,930	Substance Misuse Prevention Oversight and Advisory Council		\$214,891				\$214,891	Community-based Substance Misuse Prevention Services	\$3,781,919					\$3,781,919	Division of Substance Use Programs Prevention Staff				\$3,735,739		\$3,735,739	Regional Prevention Partnership Program				\$956,010		\$956,010	Total	\$4,030,035	\$733,478	\$1,911,520	\$6,133,942	\$1,686,404	\$14,395,380
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<b>Review of Act 27 Prevention Expenditures Report</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reviewed the <a href="#">Act 27 Prevention Expenditure Report</a> submitted to the legislature by the Department of Health</li> </ul>																																																															
<b>Discussion of Act 27 Expenditures Report and Information from Prevention Grantees</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recapped the challenges presented to the SMPC by prevention grantees over 2025</li> <li>Discussed the potential impacts from federal statements on <a href="#">alcohol recommendations</a> on the work of prevention throughout Vermont</li> <li>One of the successes of the SMPC has been to provide recommendations on specific legislation</li> <li>An area for growth is to identify additional partners in the prevention work throughout the state for a larger collective impact</li> <li>Another area of growth is how do we integrate the work of all substances across the work of prevention in Vermont so there is less siloing of specific substances, such as tobacco</li> <li>Discussed a way of supporting small coalitions is to identify fiscal agents such as hospitals to help support the work of the coalitions by minimizing the financial oversight and responsibilities</li> <li>Question raised on if there is more that can be done to support impacted communities like LGBTQ and immigrant and refugee communities in Vermont.</li> </ul>																																																															

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