

**Substance Misuse Prevention Oversight and Advisory Council (SMPC)  
May 2023 Meeting Minutes**

Date: May 22, 2023 Time: 1-3 PM	Mtg. Facilitator: Nicole Rau Mitiguy Mtg. Recorder: Trina Crockett Where: Microsoft Teams
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	<b>Name</b>	<b>Organization and Role</b>
X	Mark Levine, MD	Department of Health, Chair
	Melanie Sheehan	Mt. Ascutney Hospital and Health Center, Vice Chair
	Heather Bouchey	Agency of Education, Executive Committee Member
	Mourning Fox	Department of Public Safety, Executive Committee Member
X	Monica Hutt	Agency of Administration, Executive Committee Member
	Amy Brewer	Northwestern Medical Center, Member
X	Rebecca Brookes	Upstream Social Marketing, Member
X	Kimberley Diemond	Big Brothers Big Sisters of Vermont, Member
X	Alex Figueroa	United Counseling Services, Member
	Kheya Ganguly	Department of Mental Health, Member
X	Skyler Genest	Department of Liquor and Lottery, Member
X	Charles Gurney	Departments of Disability, Aging and Independent Living and Health, Member
X	Cindy Hayford	Deerfield Valley Community Partnership, Member
X	Maryann Morris	The Collaborative, Member
X	Kat Patterson	Cathedral Square, Member
X	Scott Pavek	City of Burlington, Member
	Janet Potter	Hartford Middle and High School, Member
X	John Searles, Ph.D.	Department of Health (Retired), Member
X	Stephen Von Sitas	Vermont Judiciary, Member

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Agenda Item	Lead	Minutes
<b>Welcome, Introductions, and Quorum Determination</b>	Dr. Levine	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Region 1, New England, is having a Forum where each state will discuss its approach to opioid settlement monies on 5/23</li> <li>• 5/23 is the next Vermont Opioid Settlement Advisory Committee Meeting which is open to anyone. Information on these meetings can be found <a href="#">here</a>.</li> <li>• The results of the <a href="#">Youth Behavior Risk Survey</a> from 2021 will be released this afternoon. Some areas of focus include vaping, use of alcohol, mental health challenges for our youth, and their feelings of being or not being someone who matters to their community.</li> </ul>
<b>Review and Approve March 2023 Minutes</b>	Nicole Rau Mitiguy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• March minutes were approved as written.</li> </ul>
<b>Legislative Update</b>	Monica Hutt	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">H.222</a> - A bill that originated in House Human Services and the overarching premise of the bill was that it was designed to reduce overdose. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ It passed both House and Senate and went to the governor on May 19<sup>th</sup>. It did cover the recommendations that the Opioid Settlement Committee made.</li> <li>○ The Opioid Settlement Advisory Committee recommended 6 strategies total for funding \$7.3 million.</li> <li>○ H. 222 added funding for the creation of drug testing sites. The sites would be set up and enabled to allow individuals to get personal use amounts tested before they used them as a harm reduction strategy. This is funded at about \$700,000 to set up of those sites across the state.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <a href="#">H.270</a> – Miscellaneous Cannabis bill <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Passed both bodies with the concurrence of amendments. The Governor does not have it yet.</li> <li>○ The bill does a lot of things including repealing the sunset of the Cannabis Control Board.</li> <li>○ It makes some improvements to the advertising laws around cannabis and its intent. Current advertising rules can be found <a href="#">here</a>.</li> <li>○ It adds a new license, a propagation cultivator, which brings the possible licenses in the cannabis world up to 7.</li> <li>○ It changes the amount of THC in a single package from 50mg to 100mg.</li> <li>○ It makes some adjustments to the medical cannabis registry. It adds PTSD as a diagnosis and tightens up some of the rules around caregivers, people that can grow cannabis for</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

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		<p>somebody on the registry and requires that they have a background screening done with the Child Protection Registry and the Adult Protection Registry.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ It also created a study for Cannabis Business Development Fund around how community reinvestments could be made to ensure the social equity focus of cannabis here in Vermont.</li> <li>• <a href="#">H.288</a> – This bill was signed by the Governor this session. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ This bill is specific to liability for sales of alcoholic beverages. It essentially creates the right to civil action in case of an injury due to alcohol.</li> <li>○ It enables the individual that was injured or their family to hold the licensee (seller) civilly responsible for harm that may have occurred.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <a href="#">H.470</a> – Are the amendments to the alcohol beverage laws that did pass the House and Senate.</li> <li>• <a href="#">S.18</a> – bans flavored tobacco and E liquids. It did not pass the House. I got stuck in house Human Services. This is likely to continue into the second half of the biennium.</li> <li>• <a href="#">S.104</a> – Designated August 31<sup>st</sup> as <a href="#">Overdose Awareness Day</a>, it made crossover but did not pass. It did pass the Senate. It is back in the House and expected to be seen again next year.</li> <li>• <a href="#">H.300</a> – Did not move forward, but the funding for the grant program utilizing sales tax revenue from cannabis was included in the Budget Bill.</li> </ul>
<b>State Prevention Funding Updates</b>	Jennifer Pistole	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Meeting Materials</a></li> </ul>
<b>Updates on Agency of Education Work Relevant to the SMPC</b>	Heather Bouchey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Determined to move until July meeting</li> </ul>
<b>Public Comment</b>	Nicole Rau Mitiguy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rhonda Williams: A quick non-member update from VDH and DLL is that we are working on a 2022 Tobacco Retailer Report with evaluator, PDA - key findings will include product types, flavors, price discounting and town by town analysis. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 8 years ago this week we launched Counter Balance in VT</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Beth Shrader: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ PW! VT is working to engage School based prevention staff through stakeholder interviews, focus groups and a workforce survey.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Prevention Works VT announced that they set Prevention Day has received an earmark from Senator Sanders office for \$186,000 and to support the workforce development work that they are currently engaged in through DSU and other funding areas.</li> <li>○ In May of next year PW's first prevention conference in a long time will happen. It will be statewide and involve a lot of stakeholders. Noted the need to start a preventive community to look at workforce beyond just prevention coalitions and need to include all folks who are doing prevention in all those spaces. There is a school-based prevention workforce that we need to bring into the larger prevention workforce conversations. There is also a need to create a hub for prevention as a workforce, a career track for prevention as a workforce and that includes working with colleges and universities, tech centers, and high schools to make substance misuse prevention a career that students pursue.</li> <li>○ In relation to the <a href="#">SMPC Goal 3</a> - 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.             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ We need to talk more about the Student Assistant Professional organization (SAP) and discuss it more on a state level verses a federal level. Part of the work for this grant from Senator Sanders is to be doing a SAP scan. It may be a good idea to invite Prevention Works to present on some of the results of that scan. They are working in conjunction with the United Way of Northwest because they have been doing some outreach. It is important to know what is happening in the schools.</li> <li>▪ The <a href="#">ESSER funds</a> will be ending in the schools and a lot of the other home to school connections or social emotional learning support staff that were hired with those funds. It is a critical time to be able to be looking at what supports the schools need. Kimberley Diemond will help bring updates to this group as to what they are doing in that realm and the workforce development and share that will Beth.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

Minutes approved on July 24, 2023.