



Review of SMPC's 2020 Annual Report

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Goals were identified by the SMPC and approved by the Executive Committee.

1. Increase protective factors and build resilience and feelings of connectedness in Vermont communities, across all ages, cultures, and socioeconomic conditions.
2. Decrease risk factors for substance use in Vermont for individuals of all ages, cultures, and socioeconomic conditions.
3. 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.

Performance measures were discussed by the SMPC and approved by the Executive Committee.

1. Percent of high school and middle school students who believe they matter to their community.
2. Percent of high school and middle school students who perceive harm in using substances (marijuana, alcohol, and tobacco).
3. Percent of Vermonters aged 12 years old and older who use alcohol, marijuana, tobacco, stimulants (prescription and illicit) and opioids (prescription and illicit).
4. Percent of Vermonters aged 18-25 who use alcohol, marijuana, tobacco, stimulants (prescription and illicit) and opioids (prescription and illicit).
5. Number of prevention programs and services available and sustainably funded across Vermont's communities and schools.

The budgets included in this report are FY 19 Actuals from General Fund or Special Funds.

Program	FY19 Spend
School Based Substance Abuse Services	\$295,765.00
Statewide Drug Disposal Program	\$834,100.22
Tobacco Control Program Global Commitment State Share	\$746,789.32
Tobacco Master Settlement Agreement	\$1,379,271.00

We had two evaluations available for the state funded prevention work.

- [School-based Substance Abuse Services evaluation](#)
- [Tobacco Control Program](#)
- Statewide Drug Disposal Program: an evaluation of the Statewide Drug Disposal Program will be available in January 2020

Next steps:

- The SMPC will Continue to meet monthly as needed, and at a minimum a total of six times over the next year.
- During the 2020 calendar year, the Council will review additional data and resources to further define the goals they identified and assess the performance measures identified to ensure they demonstrate the results of prevention in Vermont and are accurately measuring progress of the defined goals.



Review of Previous Councils' Prevention Recommendations

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Vermont Department of Health

December 2019

The Governor's Marijuana Advisory Commission recommended 24 strategies for prevention and education.

The Commission provided recommendations under these 7 larger strategies:

1. Establish a Substance Misuse Prevention Fund and Council.
2. Invest in and establish a statewide prevention system across Vermont's communities and schools.
3. Develop statewide education and messaging campaigns.
4. Invest in research on the impacts of marijuana use.
5. Ensure regulations, rules, infrastructure and enforcement tools are available and complete prior to legalization.
6. Restrict packaging, age and areas of use, price and availability through statewide and local rules and regulations.
7. Provide education and support for medical providers.

The Vermont Tobacco Evaluation and Review Board (VTERB) made multiple recommendations for prevention under three larger strategies.

VTERB provided recommendations under these 3 larger strategies:

1. Restrict the age of use, types of tobacco products available, and areas of use.
2. Increase the price of all tobacco products.
3. Invest sustainable funding in a comprehensive, statewide tobacco control program.

VTERB - Restrict the age of use, types of tobacco products available, and areas of use.

1. Increase the legal age for the sale of tobacco products to 21.
2. Ban flavored tobacco products including chew & tobacco substitutes (e-cigarettes).
3. Support strong clean indoor air laws that prevent exposure to secondhand smoke and vape/aerosol.

VTERB - Increase the price of all tobacco products.

1. Increase the price of all tobacco products, including tobacco substitutes, by increasing the excise tax.
 - Increase excise taxes a minimum of 10% on tobacco products which has been proven to reduce youth use and increase cessation.

VTERB - Invest sustainable funding in a comprehensive, statewide tobacco control program.

1. Dedicate a percentage of the tobacco product and tobacco substitute excise taxes to the Tobacco Control Program.
2. Appropriate receipts of previously-withheld payments by Tobacco Product Manufacturers to the Tobacco Control Program.

Opioid Coordination Council (OCC) made multiple recommendations related to substance misuse prevention strategies for Vermont.

The OCC made recommendations for prevention under four larger strategies:

1. Implement statewide comprehensive school-based prevention.
2. Expand health care education, monitoring, and screening for providers and patients.
3. Build community-based prevention.
4. Create a comprehensive drug prevention messaging campaign.

OCC - Implement statewide comprehensive school-based prevention.

- **Recommended sub-strategy:** Implement a statewide, comprehensive system for delivery of school-based primary prevention programs.
- **Action steps:**
 - Support the addition of an FTE in the Agency of Education to ensure access and availability of evidence-based models for prevention and intervention.
 - The Agency of Education, and VDH/ADAP and Department of Mental Health will lead a working group to inventory school professional resources supporting primary prevention and SUD intervention.

OCC - Expand health care education, monitoring, and screening for providers and patients.

Recommended sub-strategies:

1. Ensure full participation among providers in the Vermont Prescription Monitoring System (VPMS).
2. Ensure all prescriber and those in training on alternatives to opioids for pain management, including non-pharmacological options, and on patient education regarding options and risks in pain management.
3. Expand screening, brief intervention and referral to treatment (SBIRT) throughout primary care, emergency departments, in corrections and in schools—for all from pre-k through older Vermonters.

Action: Support AHS in development of a plan to expand SBIRT services.

OCC - Build community-based prevention.

Recommended sub-strategy: Build, replicate, and support strong community-based models through multi-sector partnerships, innovation, and research resulting in outcomes that exceed previous, less collaborative efforts.

Action steps:

- Council will convene a working group to identify resources for community-based initiatives. The working group will explore the development of a community tool kit and community mentoring program.
- OCC will also support work among agencies, departments, community partners and others to develop a statewide comprehensive system for primary prevention programs.

OCC - Create a comprehensive drug prevention messaging campaign.

Recommended sub-strategy: Create a statewide prevention messaging campaign designed to raise public awareness, reduce stigma, provide hope for families, and strengthen resilience in Vermont's communities.

Action: Convene a multi-sector working group to frame an enhanced communications strategy including ADAP, State Chief Marketing Officer, medical institutions, and private sector professionals by October 2018. Ensure 2-1-1 is incorporated into the messaging campaign.

There are common themes among the prevention recommendations made by the three previous councils.

1. Invest sustainable funding in prevention services in communities and schools.
2. Restrict the age of use and products available for use.
3. Support medical providers in screening for substance use and provide additional, substance specific education as indicated.
4. Develop and implement a statewide media and education campaign.

In addition, the OCC made 10 recommendations under four larger strategies for intervention, treatment, recovery, and enforcement in Vermont.

The four larger strategies are as follows:

- Expand and reinforce intervention and harm reduction programs and services statewide.
- Support and expand a statewide system of treatment that ensures timely accessibility to comprehensive care.
- Build and support the Recovery Bridge – Integrate recovery services across Vermont, to ensure access to robust recovery supports is available to all in need.
- Support law enforcement efforts to increase resources to address drug trafficking and roadway safety.

OCC - Expand and reinforce intervention and harm reduction programs and services statewide.

Recommendation sub-strategies:

1. Expand and reinforce syringe service programs statewide.
2. Build a human bridge of intervention where services engage people with addiction at critical moments of risk/harm (injection, overdose, withdrawal, illness and injury).
 - These services include law enforcement, emergency departments, syringe services programs, primary care, and other clinical settings.

The recovery bridge includes a statewide approach to all of the following:

- Expand the use of and training for Screening, Brief Intervention and Navigation to Services (SBINS) in emergency departments, primary care, and other clinical settings.
- Use Rapid Access to Medication-Assisted Treatment (RAM) in emergency departments and syringe services programs where clinically appropriate.
- Expand SUD and mental health professionals embedded in state and local police departments.
- Deploy recovery coaches throughout the state to support and encourage just-in-time transitions toward treatment and recovery resources.

OCC - Support and expand a statewide system of treatment that ensures timely accessibility to comprehensive care.

Recommendation sub-strategies:

1. Continue to evaluate, improve quality, and increase capacity as needed in Vermont's nationally recognized Hub and Spoke system for treatment of opioid use disorder.
2. Continue implementation of the expansion of MAT in correctional facilities.

OCC - Build and support the Recovery Bridge – Integrate recovery services across Vermont, to ensure access to robust recovery supports is available to all in need.

1. Support statewide collaboration and resources to ensure recovery housing is available for those in need in every region of Vermont.
2. Partner with community and state organizations to promote recovery-friendly workplaces across Vermont, and to expand the Employment Services in Recovery Pilot Program through the VT Department of Labor, Voc Rehab, and Department of Health.
3. Develop a Recovery Coach Workforce to build resilience and improve outcomes in recovery, treatment, and prevention.
4. Support the continuation of the transportation quality process improvement initiative in AHS, and through collaboration with VTTrans improve services for clients and ensure a single/unified point of entry regardless of payment method.

OCC- Support law enforcement efforts to increase resources to address drug trafficking and roadway safety.

1. Increase coordination/resources for drug trafficking investigations.
2. Improve roadway safety. The OCC fully supports Governor Scott's Marijuana Advisory Commission in its recommendations to address drug impaired driving, including:
 - legislation allowing for the collection and testing of oral fluid to determine the presence of drugs in impaired drivers
 - ensuring there are adequate drug recognition experts and funding for same



Thank you!

Let's stay in touch.

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Suggested Prevention Inventory measure—the Vermont Prevention Model.

