

**Substance Misuse Prevention Oversight and Advisory Council (SMPC)
December 2022 Meeting Minutes**

| | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| Date: 12/12/2022 Time: 1-3 PM | Mtg. Facilitator: Nicole Rau Mitiguy Mtg. Recorder: Nicole Rau Mitiguy Where: Microsoft Teams |
|----------------------------------|---|

| | Name | Organization and Role |
|---|---------------------------|--|
| X | Kelly Dougherty | Department of Health, Chair Delegate |
| X | Melanie Sheehan | Mt. Ascutney Hospital and Health Center, Vice Chair |
| X | Daniel French | Agency of Education, Executive Committee Member |
| | Mourning Fox | Department of Public Safety, Executive Committee Member |
| X | Monica Hutt | Agency of Administration, Executive Committee Member |
| X | Amy Brewer | Northwestern Medical Center, Member |
| X | Rebecca Brookes | Upstream Social Marketing, Member |
| | Moses Delane | Youth Representative (18-25 year old), Member |
| X | Kimberley Diamond | Big Brothers Big Sisters of Vermont, Member |
| | Skyler Dryden | Youth Representative (<18), Member |
| X | Alex Figueroa | United Counseling Services, Member |
| X | Kheya Ganguly | Department of Mental Health, Member |
| | 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 |
| X | Janet Potter | Hartford Middle and High School, Member |
| | Jillian Rinehart, M.D. | UVM Children's Hospital, Member |
| X | John Searles, Ph.D. | Department of Health (Retired), Member |
| X | Stephen Von Sitas | Vermont Judiciary, Member |

**Substance Misuse Prevention Oversight and Advisory Council (SMPC)
December 2022 Meeting Minutes**

| Agenda Item | Lead | Minutes |
|---|-------------------------------------|--|
| Welcome, Introductions, and Quorum Determination | Kelly Dougherty and Melanie Sheehan | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Levine on vacation so Kelly Dougherty is acting as his delegate. • Welcome Moira Cook as the Division Director of Health Promotion and Disease Prevention • Welcome Traci Swayers as the new Director of Prevention for the Division of Substance Use Programs (DSU) • DSU Division Director Cindy Seivwright will be retiring after 20 years in state service. Her last day will be on January 27th. |
| Review and Approve August and October 2022 Minutes | Nicole Rau Mitiguy | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • August minutes – approved as written • October minutes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Edits needed: change the month on the top of the minutes from August to October ○ Approved with identified edit |
| Cannabis Measure Discussion | Monica Hutt | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Licenses for retail cannabis started being issued and retail locations started opening in October. • Are there measures or data points the SMPC would like to prioritize to monitor potential impacts of retail adult use cannabis on Vermont from a public health perspective? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Are there things not included in the presentation Jeff Trites reviewed with the SMPC in January 2022? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mixing medication and THC, especially with older adults, and the impact that has on emergency department utilization ▪ Roadway safety and public safety – there are data points for fatal traffic accidents where the driver tested positive for Delta 9 THC <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Department of Health (VDH) obtains these data through Governors Highway Safety Program ▪ What substance do Vermont youth typically start using first, examples include: vaping THC, vaping Nicotine, alcohol use ○ Are there other data points that we would like to see if we think we could get them? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mechanism for teasing out prescribed medicinal use vs self-medicating vs recreational use of cannabis? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Per John Searles this is not available data ○ Do we want to build some regular structure for reviewing that data? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Assess timeliness every 6 months – noting that not all reports are completed in this time frame or data collected that frequently |

**Substance Misuse Prevention Oversight and Advisory Council (SMPC)
December 2022 Meeting Minutes**

| Agenda Item | Lead | Minutes |
|---------------------------------------|------------------|--|
| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The cannabis data pages VDH is developing as discussed previously are currently with the Commissioner’s Office for review. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ VDH is going through a website review and upgrade as well and will not be able to update any new data products through January 1, 2023. • There is a single page data brief focused on Cannabis and Mental Health that will be released soon. |
| DSU Prevention Updates | Traci Sawyers | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vision: to have a sustainable, scalable, and equitable prevention system that uses evidence-based/informed programs, policies and practices designed to prevent the onset of substance use disorder, delay initiation of use, promote healthy lifestyles and optimize well-being among individuals, families, and communities across the lifespan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ With the increased funding allocated during the 2022 legislative session, DSU has the opportunity to enhance the statewide prevention system to pursue this vision ○ Bridge funding was provided to subrecipients through June 2023 to allow for more planning to be conducted. • DSU seeks to increase state, regional and community capacity to deliver meaningful substance use prevention in all 12 public health districts. There is not currently coverage in all 12 public health districts. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ There are disparities in the current substance misuse prevention system that include geographical gaps and unserved or underserved populations. We need to reduce disparities in substance use disorder across populations which includes using data, addressing policy and practice, and workforce development. • DSU worked with the Public Consulting Group of Maine for an initial needs assessment and from that they submitted a report that provided options around funding mechanisms and programmatic structures. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Input was gathered from the SMPC meetings and DSU has begun working with a planning provision group. ○ DSU will continue to engage stakeholders as the process for distributing this funding and working toward the vision continues. • DSU is still in the planning phase for this funding and work and no final decisions have been made <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Currently moving in the direction of broader prevention entities/fiscal agents that would cover two to four health districts with a coordinator who would lead the district/region and the Strategic Prevention Framework process. ○ As part of the Strategic Prevention Framework process, the fiscal agent would work with the |

**Substance Misuse Prevention Oversight and Advisory Council (SMPC)
December 2022 Meeting Minutes**

| Agenda Item | Lead | Minutes |
|--|--------------------|---|
| | | <p>regional network of prevention organizations to allocate the funding in the region based on needs.</p> |
| 2022 Report Review | Nicole Rau Mitiguy | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2022 report had been approved by VDH Commissioner’s Office and the Agency of Human Services’ Secretary’s Office. It has been posted here. • Language was changed to strengthen the report but not the meaning. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Recommendation 2 had language change and recommendation 4 we added a link to the Social Emotional Learning and Well-being supports. • In the legislative components, language was added to better clarify and gave direction around re-evaluating THC limits by doing that every two years but at a minimum, ensuring annual hearings are held. • Added language for the outlet density component – follow up to see if additional references can be shared regarding cannabis • In this year’s report, the state funded prevention program budgets were moved to an appendix as it is not something that the SMPC is directly overseeing. • The updated logic models are in the following appendix. |
| Open Discussion on Current Experiences and Trends | Nicole Rau Mitiguy | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are thoughts and concerns or anecdotal data that council members are hearing in their work? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Middle schoolers talking about depression and anxiety and recreational cannabis is a treatment for it ○ Concern around unlicensed retail cannabis retailers continuing to sell cannabis ○ Delta 8 is still being advertised and sold ○ Unintentional and unintended overdose fatalities with fentanyl showing up in nontraditional products such as pills being stamped as one product but actually includes fentanyl <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Confusion around the types of fentanyl testing being used or the different modes of testing – leading to inaccurate reports for fentanyl ○ Need to consider where else we are placing our fentanyl test strips in addition to messaging to get them out in more of a prevention mindset ○ Lack of teens and minor substance use treatment options all the way through to recovery ○ More stimulant use, specifically methamphetamine in drug court programs than ever before ○ Also seeing the use of xylazine in drug courts – curious to know the hospitalization rates when the injection site becomes infected from xylazine use ○ Working with an increasing number of children in foster care or living with grandparents due to their parents’ substance use – need to take into consideration that substance use has been a norm for many of the youth we are working with in our communities. |

**Substance Misuse Prevention Oversight and Advisory Council (SMPC)
December 2022 Meeting Minutes**

| Agenda Item | Lead | Minutes |
|-----------------------|--------------------|--|
| Public Comment | Nicole Rau Mitiguy | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Beth Shrader |

| Next Steps or Assigned Tasks | | |
|---|--------------------|--------------|
| Task | Responsible | Due Date |
| Prep existing Data Products to show what is available and being responded to | Monica Hunt | Next Meeting |
| To send his reports on THC and Medication to John Searles and Chelsea Carmen for review | Charles Gurney | Next meeting |
| Follow up to see if cannabis outlet density component can be added to report | Nicole Rau Mitiguy | Next meeting |

Approved January 23, 2023.