

## Substance Misuse Prevention Oversight and Advisory Council July Meeting Minutes

<b>Mtg. Facilitator and Recorder:</b> Nicole Rau Mitiguy
<b>Where:</b> Microsoft Teams meeting
<b>Date:</b> 7/26/2021
<b>Start Time:</b> 1:00 pm
<b>End Time:</b> 3:00 pm

### Council Attendees

Mark those present with an "X"

Name		Organization and Role		Name		Organization and Role	
X	Kelly Dougherty	Health Department, Co-Chair			Skylar Dryden	Youth Representative	
X	Melanie Sheehan	Mt. Ascutney Hospital and Health Center, Co-Chair		X	Peter Espenshade	Recovery Vermont	
X	Daniel French	Agency of Education, Executive Committee Member		X	Courtney Farrell	Lund	
X	Chris Herrick	Dept. of Public Safety, Executive Committee Member			Clay Gilbert	Rutland Mental Health, Evergreen Recovery Center	
X	Monica Hutt	Office of Governor Phil Scott, Executive Committee Member		X	Cindy Hayford	Deerfield Valley Community Partnership	
X	Amy Brewer	Northwestern Medical Center			Roger Marcoux	Lamoille County Sherriff Department	
	Rebecca Brookes	Upstream Social Marketing		X	Maryann Morris	The Collaborative	
X	Moses Delane	Youth Representative			Jill Rinehart, MD	University of Vermont Medical Center	
X	Kimberley Diamond	Big Brother Big Sister			David Allaire	City of Rutland	
X	John Searles, Ph.D.	Retired, Dept. of Health			Daisy Berbeco	Vermont Department of Mental Health	
X	Stephen Von Sitas	Regional Treatment Court		X	Janet Potter	Student Assistant Professional Hartford School District	
X	Skyler Genest	Dept. of Liquor and Lottery					

#	Time Allotted (Optional)	Type of Topic	Agenda Item (Topic/Objective)	Notes
1	1:00	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Inform	Welcome, Introductions,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Melanie Sheehan, Regional Prevention Program Manager, Mt Ascutney Health</li> </ul>

		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Discussion <input type="checkbox"/> Decision	and Quorum Determination	
2	1:05	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Inform <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Discussion <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Decision	Review and Approval of May Minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• May minutes pass as written.</li> </ul>
3	1:15	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Inform <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Discussion <input type="checkbox"/> Decision	Intervention Treatment and Recovery (ITR) Committee Report Out	<p>Priorities in this order</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Housing was identified as a top prevention priority for the ITR Committee</li> <li>• Stable housing to maintain recovery to support folks from returning to use.</li> <li>• Housing also to support the prevention of use of children, as we know safe housing is a protective factor and again would help support parents in recovery to prevent returning to use as having a stable home environment would reduce stress for them and for their children.</li> <li>• The ITR does have some concerns with the potential evictions with the Covid eviction ban deadline nearing.</li> <li>• There was a suggestion to ensure when we speak about substance free housing that we are also including tobacco as part of substance free. There is tobacco prevention and cessation representation at the ITR meetings to ensure that perspective.</li> <li>• Anyone who is interested in joining ITR can email Nicole Rau Mitiguy at <a href="mailto:Nicole.Rau@vermont.gov">Nicole.Rau@vermont.gov</a> to be invited to those meetings.</li> <li>• Next ITR meeting is August 11<sup>th</sup></li> </ul>
4	1:30	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Inform <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Discussion <input type="checkbox"/> Decision	Cannabis Control Board (CCB) Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• As the tax and regulation system is moving quickly, we will have this as a standing agenda item to ensure the SMPC is kept up to date on this progress.</li> <li>• CCB is poised to begin their work on developing the regulations that they are tasked to complete, and to prepare for that they are holding weekly meetings to take a more in-depth dive into specific topics. These weekly meetings are public meetings to ensure transparency of this work.</li> <li>• Hosted a Prevention Day to hear testimony from several participants local such as local physicians and pediatricians, VT Prevention Works, and Vermont Afterschool</li> <li>• Recognized that with an adult use cannabis market there needs to be a focus on prevention for youth use. Their prevention work focuses on a few big topics: where these establishments are located through zoning and advertising regulations.</li> <li>• Upcoming meeting will be focused on public safety, particularly highway safety. Agency of Transportation will be providing data on vehicle crashes related to cannabis use. There is the</li> </ul>

				<p>potential to work with the Governor’s Highway Safety specifically around putting a campaign in place for prevention Marijuana/ Other Substance use while driving, as there may be folks who will not drive while under the influence of alcohol but may be more willing to drive under the influence of cannabis.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr. Levine has been named to the Advisory Board as the representative from the SMPC. When the full list of Cannabis Advisory Board members is released, this will be shared with the full SMPC for their awareness.</li> <li>• Governor’s Office is working with the Department of Tax to make sure they set-up the coding now so the sales tax from cannabis and product can be tracked, as the legislation writes that the sales tax to go to after school/summer programming. The 30% excise tax is written in legislation to go to substance use prevention.</li> <li>• Monica clarified that Act 82 writes as a suggestion that excise tax</li> <li>• There was a question on whether or not the CCB has control over the THC level that have been written in legislation. Monica will check on whether this is within the CCB control or the General Assembly. Concern of the level of THC for medical verses recreational</li> <li>• DRE Training (Drug Recognition Expert). Based on this statute, eventually all law enforcement will be trained in this. This trains DREs to be able to detect impairment for substances other than alcohol.</li> <li>• There was a question on an update on how the Opioid Settlement funding will be used and allocated. Nicole will ask VDH Policy whether if there are any details on this and will share with the minutes on this if there are any updates.</li> <li>• Nicole will share out the link to the CCB’s webpage for meeting information.</li> <li>• <b>Public Comment:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Rhonda Williams</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
5	1:45	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Inform <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Discussion <input type="checkbox"/> Decision	Draft Workgroup Recommendation for Department of Health Report Discussion and Vote	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Draft recommendations from the SMPC can be found <a href="#">here</a> which were reviewed during this meeting.</li> <li>• <b>Equity:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Requested feedback from several individuals from the Department of Health who focus on equity as part of their job, including individuals from the divisions of Maternal and Child Health, Alcohol and Drug Abuse Programs, and Health Promotion and Disease Prevention.</li> <li>○ Kheya Ganguly will be joining John and Daisy as part of this subcommittee.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Policy:</b></li> </ul>

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Banning the Menthol products was not included on the document outlining the draft recommendations but is being considered by the Policy Subcommittee as part of their recommendation development process.</li> <li>○ There was discussion of what the THC level should be for medical and recreational cannabis, as the SMPC’s recommendation is to reduce the allowable THC level from what is in legislation but there has been testimony from those who use cannabis medicinally that higher THC levels are needed. Research has shown an increase in potential psychosis with an increase in THC levels. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ There was a recommendation for more discussion around this recommendation, including with those who use cannabis medicinally, to ensure all considerations and un-intended consequences from the SMPC’s recommendations</li> <li>▪ Recommendation of separating tax and regulate and medicinal cannabis sales. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recreational cannabis is taxed, medical cannabis is not</li> <li>• Dispensary income basically cover the cost to operate the program.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Suggestion that cannabis/edibles should be tested for additional materials to ensure safety of consumption from additional toxins or other materials. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Recreational cannabis is taxed, medical cannabis is not</li> <li>▪ Dispensary income basically cover the cost to operate the program.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● <b>Prevention:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Need to ensure we clearly define prevention to ensure clarity with the General Assembly and other readers of the SMPC annual report</li> </ul> </li> <li>● <b>Public comment:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Rhonda Williams</li> <li>○ Charles Gurney</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
6	2:45	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Inform <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Discussion <input type="checkbox"/> Decision	Prevention Infrastructure for August Meeting Prep	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● ADAP is looking to use the SMPC in its advisory capacity to help provide guidance on the prevention infrastructure including the Prevention Centers of Excellence (PCEs).</li> <li>● The PCE concept was originally funded by State Opioid Response (SOR) funding</li> <li>● Utilize the Prevention Inventory and other work to identify the needs around prevention throughout the state, and how to utilize this limited opportunity to beef up our prevention infrastructure around the state and what do we want the responsibilities of the PCE grantees to be in that regard.</li> <li>● There is the potential to bring in a national prevention expert to provide some technical assistance.</li> </ul>

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is some time-limited funding coming into the state focused on prevention and ADAP wants to ensure this money is being use as efficiently and effectively as possible. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ ADAP is looking for ideas on where this funding should be invested throughout the state.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Currently we have 3 PCEs serving: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Orange and Windsor Counties</li> <li>○ Franklin, Chittenden and Grand Isle Counties</li> <li>○ Essex, Caledonia and Orleans Counties</li> </ul> </li> <li>• One of the gaps identified is that there is not currently whole state coverage.</li> <li>• Melanie and Maryann previous work done to redefine the definition of Prevention which can be shared with the SMPC to work from for the Annual Report.</li> <li>• Nicole to meet with all subcommittees before the next SMPC meet on August 23<sup>rd</sup>, 1-3pm</li> <li>• Public Comment: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Raquel Aronhime</li> <li>○ Cheryl Chandler</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
7	2:55	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Inform <input type="checkbox"/> Discussion <input type="checkbox"/> Decision	Adjourned	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Next SMPC meeting August 23, 1-3pm</li> </ul>

Action Item Log			
#	Action Item	Due Date	Staff Responsible
1	Email Nicole Rau Mitiguy ( <a href="mailto:nicole.rau@vermont.gov">nicole.rau@vermont.gov</a> ) if you or a group you are a part of are interested in joining the Intervention, Treatment, and Recovery Committee	Ongoing	SMPC Members Nicole Rau Mitiguy (NRM)
2	Contact Nicole Rau Mitiguy ( <a href="mailto:nicole.rau@vermont.gov">nicole.rau@vermont.gov</a> ) if you are interested in serving on one of the four subcommittees: Communications, Equity, Policy, Prevention.	Ongoing	SMPC Members NRM

3	Send Cannabis Control Board (CCB) public meeting information	8/2/2021	Monica Hutt
4	Clarity on the CCB's role on cannabis statute/rule making	8/23/2021	Monica Hutt
5	Gathering information on zoning issues that were unclear in original cannabis legislation	8/23/2021	Melanie Sheehan
6	Share previous work on defining prevention	8/23/2021	Melanie Sheehan Maryann Morris
7	Provide materials for conversation around prevention infrastructure	8/17/2021	NRM

DRAFT - NOT APPROVED