

Vermont's Regional Prevention Partnerships (RPP)

Overview

The Regional Prevention Partnerships (RPP) is a five year cooperative agreement with the US Department of Health and Human Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). Its goals are to:

1. Reduce underage and binge drinking among persons aged 12-20
2. Reduce marijuana use among persons aged 12 to 25
3. Reduce prescription drug misuse and abuse among persons aged 12-25
4. Increase state, regional and community capacity to prevent underage and binge drinking, prescription drug misuse and marijuana use through a targeted regional approach.

In collaboration with multiple state and local community partners, the Vermont Department of Health (VDH) will continue to support regional prevention strategies in the six VDH Districts funded by the current SAMHSA Partnerships for Success (PFS) grant that will end in September 2015 (grantee list below). These six geographic regions were identified through an analysis of prevalence data, size of target population and socioeconomic disparities. **In addition, the RPP grant will expand its focus to the remaining six health department districts** (Bennington, Middlebury, Newport, St. Albans, St. Johnsbury, and Springfield), and will also support training and communications activities aimed at strengthening the prevention infrastructure in all twelve districts of the state.

Current Grantees:

- Brattleboro District
- Morrisville District
- Windsor County (with the WRJ District Office taking the lead)
- Burlington District
- Barre District
- Rutland District

RPP funding will intentionally encompass a variety of evidence-based strategies that collectively address multiple developmental stages of youth and young adults, through multiple levels of intervention – community, organizations, schools and families. Priority interventions will be those that have the potential to influence a range of behavioral health issues in addition to the specifically targeted behaviors of underage drinking, marijuana use and prescription drug misuse.

Vermont Concept:

- Continue to utilize the Strategic Prevention Framework public health planning process to carry out the grant goals and objectives
- VDH Office of Local Health (OLH) will lead the process in the communities' development of a district wide plan to address both alcohol and prescription drug misuse and abuse
- Community-based organization within the district office catchment area will serve as the lead agency to carry out evidence-based strategies to address the goals of the grant

Award Amount: \$ 12,363,000 million over 5-years with \$2,472,608/year

Grant Period: 10/1/15 – 9/30/20