

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). The grant award of \$12,363,000 over 5-years (\$2,400,000/year) will be funded from 10/1/15 – 9/30/20. 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, and 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 regionals 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 (list below),** and will also support training and communications activities aimed at strengthening the prevention infrastructure in all twelve districts of the state.

Current Grantees (through 10/1/15) to be continued through 10/1/17

- Youth Services, Inc. (Brattleboro District Office)
- Lamoille Family Center (Morrisville District Office)
- Mt. Ascutney Hospital (Windsor County with the WRJ District Office taking the lead)
- Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission (Burlington District Office)
- Washington County Youth Service Bureau and Boys and Girls Club (Barre District Office)
- Rutland Community Programs (Rutland District Office)

Expansion to the following Health Department Districts to be funded through 10/1/20

- Bennington
- Middlebury
- Newport
- St. Albans
- St. Johnsbury
- Springfield

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, and that have the potential to influence a range of behavioral health issues in addition to the specifically targeted behaviors of underage drinking 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.