

Vermont Department of Health

Looking to Recovery in Vermont

Guidance • Support • Prevention • Protection

*Linda Piasecki, Operations Chief, Division of
Alcohol and Drug Abuse Programs*

August, 2008

 VERMONT
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Backdrop

- Office of Alcohol and Drug Abuse Programs moved to Department of Health
- Agency of Human Services Reorganization
 - Focus on collaboration and coordination
 - Mental Health moved into Health
- Increasing heroin problem in state
- Addictions Legislative Study Committee
- Governor's DETER program
- Increasing incarcerated populations

Public Health Approach

- Focuses on change for entire populations
- Grounded in a solid understanding of relevant epidemiological data, e.g. alcohol, tobacco, and other drug consumption and consequence patterns
- Using data for determining prevention priorities and aligning strategies to address them

D.E.T.E.R. (Drug Education, Treatment, Enforcement and Rehabilitation)

- Governor's initiative begun in January, 2003
- Each year builds on funding from the year before
- Funding is multi-focused, across the continuum
- Includes funding for:
 - Opiate Treatment
 - Outpatient Treatment
 - Drug Courts
 - Incarcerated Women
 - Student Assistance Professionals
 - Recovery Centers
 - Residential Treatment and Transitional Housing
 - Blueprint/Integrated Services
 - Buprenorphine supports

Developing Successful Partnerships for Recovery

- Medication-assisted Treatment
- Criminal Justice
- Co-occurring
- Adolescent Services
- Prevention and Student Assistance Professionals
- Health care
- Recovery

Medication-assisted Treatment

- Implementation and enhancement of methadone treatment
- Buprenorphine Hub (MAT Program)
- Training/Support/Technical Assistance to Physicians
 - Buprenorphine Certification
 - COB-MAT - linking care managers with primary care physicians who are treating clients with buprenorphine
- Moms and Babies
 - Community Response Teams
 - High Risk Pregnancy Clinic and Chittenden Center

Criminal Justice – Strengthening Links with Department of Corrections and Courts

- Ongoing work with treatment courts as alternative to corrections
- Build on Incarcerated Women’s Initiative (3 pilots in Chittenden, Barre and Rutland)
- New legislation will stress consistent screening & assessment

Co-occurring - COSIG Integrated Services Grant

- Strengthening system of services for people with needs that can be handled in outpatient services – this is where most people are served
- Focusing on system, workforce and operational components for improvements

Adolescent Services – Making connections and strengthening services

- More inclusion of family services
- Link to other AHS services areas; DCF
- Strengthen link to schools - SAPs

Prevention System

- Substance Abuse Prevention Consultants
- Strategic Prevention Framework Grant
- Tobacco Prevention, Enforcement and Synar
 - *Departments of Health and Liquor Control*
- New Directions Coalitions
- START Teams - Underage Drinking Program Policy Enforcement
- Student Assistance Professionals
- Community Grants
- Alcohol and Drug Information Clearinghouse

Student Assistance Program Counselors

- Education
- School Staff Training
- Educational Support Groups
- Referral
- 100 Schools

Health Care - Developing stronger connections

- Care management with Blueprint for Health
- SBIRT Model – early screening & assessments
- MAT program
- Bupe trainings and COB-MAT

Recovery Services

- Treatment support services
- Non-clinical services
- Community-based
- Peer supported

Guiding Principles

- Age, gender, and culturally appropriate care
- Accessible, available, consumer friendly
- Case management services help clients
- Transitional services, including housing
- American Society of Addiction Medicine criteria for admit and discharge
- Performance monitoring and outcomes measurement
- Combination of treatments where appropriate

Developing Core Components

- Consistent Screening
- Structured Assessment
- Effective Age and Gender Appropriate Treatments
- Clinical Supervision Strategies
- Case Management
- Follow-up Care / Recovery Supports
- Evaluation & Performance Monitoring