

Partnerships for Success (PFS) Grant

Partnerships for Success is a three-year Department of Health and Human Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration Grant. Its goals are to reduce underage drinking, and binge drinking among persons aged 12 to 20, and to reduce prescription drug misuse among youth and young adults, ages 12 to 25. This project builds on the significant outcomes achieved through the Strategic Prevention Framework. PFS supports regional prevention strategies in six public health districts selected based on need and capacity to carry out the deliverables of the project. The grant also supports training and communications activities for all twelve districts of the state. The award amount equals approximately \$3.6 million - \$1.2 million per year. The grant award period is October 1, 2012 to September 30, 2015.

PFS Awardees: The community grants in the amount of \$130,000/year have been awarded to the following lead agencies, representing the VDH district office or county catchment area:

- Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission – Burlington District Office
- Washington County Youth Service Bureau – Barre District Office
- Youth Services – Brattleboro District Office expanded to Windham County
- Mt. Ascutney Hospital and Health Center – White River Junction Office – expanded to Windsor County
- Lamoille Family Center – Morrisville District Office
- Rutland Community Programs – Rutland District Office – expanded to Rutland County

Alcohol prevention strategies include: Education on Policy Development (restricting alcohol outlet density, alcohol in public places and/or community events, and enhancements to social host liability and advertising and promotion limitations); Enhanced Law Enforcement (Party and Saturation Patrols); Supporting activities (alcohol compliance checks, Responsible Beverage Service Training, and Retailer Recognition); Community Mobilization; Media Advocacy; Support Statewide Communications Campaign; Electronic Screening and Brief Intervention; and Parenting Programs (Family Matters; Guiding Good Choices; and the Nurturing Parent Program).

Prescription drug misuse and abuse prevention activities include: educating community on proper storage and safe disposal; promotion of prescription drug take back events; work collaboratively with those currently providing training and education to prescribers on drug education and disposal; support statewide and local efforts to educate and encourage local prescribers and dispensers to use the Vermont Prescription Monitoring System (VPMS); provide pharmacists with information on proper storage and safe disposal of unused prescription and over the counter drugs using guidelines provide by VDH to be disseminated to patients picking up such medications.

Example of a PFS Community Plan:

As a result of the PFS funding, the VDH Morrisville District Office has awarded the grant to the Lamoille Family Center who is working cooperatively with the following community partners: Johnson State College, Sterling College and CCV, Lamoille County Planning Commission, Lamoille County Court Diversion, the Department of Liquor Control, the Blueprint for Health and local law enforcement. The grant is supporting the following:

- Work of the Lamoille County Court Diversion (LCCD) and Restorative Justice Programs work to develop a menu of sample ordinances that could be adapted by any town regarding alcohol issues
- Alcohol EDU, an online educational experience that motivates behavior change, resets unrealistic expectations about the effects of alcohol, link choices about drinking to academic and personal success and models safe decision-making, is being implemented at Johnson State College
- Law enforcement will be conducting both Party Patrols and Saturation Patrols
- Lamoille Family Center is implementing the “Nurturing Fathers” parent education program

- Implementation of eCHECKUP, an online screening and education tool to address binge drinking is being promoted through front porch forum, on coasters at bars, as well as collaboration with area employers (Stowe Mountain Lodge) to reach young adult employees.
- Quarterly media messages on underage drinking, binge drinking, and prescription drug misuse and abuse, designed by Green Mountain Tech graphic design students to educate the community and to promote the ParentUp website.

Current Progress

Washington County PFS: e-CHECKUP for College

On Oct. 9, 2013 the PFS Planning Team attended the College Symposium on High Risk Drinking at Castleton state College and learned what various Vermont colleges are using as a tool and how effective it has been. In November 2013, the planning team met with Gail Mears at Norwich University about continuing the use of eCHECKUP and how we can use an event to access more students. The planning team continues to discuss strategies for convincing CCV Montpelier, NECI, Norwich University to require the eCHECKUP for incoming students or in a health/wellness class.

Rutland County PFS: Education and outreach to community on proper storage and safe disposal of unused prescription drugs

The Rutland Area Prevention Coalition (RAP) was invited to meet with town representatives including Castleton State College, law enforcement, Department of Liquor Control (DLC), Vermont Department of Health, business owners, area landlords and Select Board members to discuss alcohol related issues that impact citizens of the town. These incidents involve both on and off campus college residents, resident community members, as well as visitors to the town. As a result of this meeting and the education provided by the RAP Coalition on the impact of reducing access to alcohol, a motion was made to the Select Board that several policies should be adopted within the town. These suggested policies included social host liability and open container policies. The open container policy was overwhelmingly supported by the Select Board and subsequently ratified. The new policy was advertised before it went into effect in December. Penalties include \$100 for a first offense, \$200 for a second offense and \$1,000 for a third offense. Law enforcement would like to initially use this policy as an educational tool prior to writing fines and plans to enforce the policy to the fullest on a case by case basis.

Windsor County PFS: Outreach to pharmacists and prescribers on providing education to patients on prescription drug misuse, safe storage and disposal

The Windsor County Prescription Drug Abuse Prevention Taskforce was developed and includes partners from community-based coalitions, law enforcement, pharmacists, school counselor, and the Ottauquechee Health Foundation. The goal of the Taskforce is to reduce prescription drug abuse and misuse in Windsor County, by working together throughout the county to coordinate and maximize efforts and resources to develop and deliver a clear, concise and cohesive message to families, schools, and communities for raising awareness to reduce abuse of prescription drugs. Current county-wide activities include: community education on proper disposal, pharmacist specific information distribution and patient education, and provider education of prescription abuse and information distribution.

Lamoille Valley PFS: Enhances law enforcement – Party and Saturation Patrols

Lamoille Valley PFS team is planning a meeting with local law enforcement to determine what types of patrols and when, including cooperation from Johnson State College, local high schools prom and graduation dates as well as summer festivals and music series. Educational materials, posting of signage and necessary equipment for law enforcement was secured and utilized in patrols conducted in November and December and are ready for upcoming patrols scheduled for February, April, May, June, July and August 2014.

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