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*Agency of Human Services*

## **Vermont Screening, Brief Intervention and Referral to Treatment Grant**

SAMSHA titled this grant opportunity: FY 2013 Screening Brief Intervention and Referral for Treatment (Short Title: SBIRT)

**Length of grant:** 5 Years

**Amount:** \$10,000,000 (\$2,000,000 per year)

### **Who will be getting subgrants:**

BiState Primary Care Association  
Vermont Coalition of Clinics for the Uninsured  
The Vermont Child Health Improvement Program (VCHIP)  
Central Vermont Medical Center  
Covisint  
VITL  
Evidence Based Solutions LLC

### **Description of the grant:**

SBIRT stands for screening, brief intervention and referral. Vermont Department of Health received a 5 year/\$10 million dollar grant award from SAMHSA's Center for Substance Abuse Treatment to implement evidence based SBIRT services to help identify and reduce substance misuse in Vermont adults aged 18 year and older. The grant objective is to serve 18,000 Vermonters in Year 1, and over five years, a total of 95,000 adults ages 18 and older.

### **Where will new integrated services be delivered?**

VT SBIRT will take place in the following types of healthcare settings: Community Health Centers (FQHCs), Clinics for the Uninsured, University of Vermont-Student Health Center, Central Vermont Medical Center/Satellite Primary Care Clinics and the Vermont National Guard Camp Johnson Medical Center. This grant extends Vermont's progress under the blueprint for health initiatives by further integrating behavioral health and physical health to focus on substance use risk for all Vermonters. Healthcare providers will receive SBIRT training to conduct a similar approach for the risk of substance misuse as any medical disorder like heart disease or diabetes. The screening and brief interventions/treatment will now become part of the routine care at primary and medical care clinics.



## Who will be helped by this new initiative?

This grant considerably expands the available healthcare resources for identification and brief intervention/treatment of substance misuse for a large proportion of Vermont citizens often unable to access help for a variety of reasons. Previously, the focus of substance abuse treatment resources and money were spent on the 4-6% of Vermonter's already abusing or dependent on substances. Instead, SBIRT focuses resources on the larger majority of citizens (25%) that currently misuse substances, in attempt to intervene briefly but effectively to thwart increased use. A primary group to be served in this project is Vermont adults who have lower income, have received less formal education, and are of diverse racial/ethnic background. A second group is young adults aged 18-25, selected because of this group's high rate of misuse of alcohol and other drugs, combined with its having the highest unmet need for receiving treatment.

## More specific outcomes include:

Healthcare providers will implement VT-SBIRT in these primary care settings to:

- a) dramatically reduce the impact of health disparities often present in rural state populations;
- b) actively link/coordinate primary care to community MH/SA treatment providers when referrals for more intensive treatment are necessary;
- c) effectively deliver and share integrated electronic health records decreasing provider and patient burden through new health information technology as well as policies and procedures;
- d) utilize VT-SBIRT billing codes and advocate for changes in restrictions to ensure sustainability.

## Budget Categories:

50% Services	Healthcare Providers: 5 FQHCs, 3 Clinics for Uninsured, UVM Student Health Center, Central Vermont Medical Center (ER),
30% Infrastructure	Covisint & Vermont Information Technology Leadership (VITL)
20% Administration	Evaluation, VDH & EBS LLC., UVM Medical School - VCHIP

## Provider List

1. The Health Center
2. Community Health Centers of Burlington
3. Northern Tier Center for Health
4. Little Rivers Health Care
5. Community Health Services of Lamoille Valley
6. Central Vermont Medical Center
7. UVM Student Health Center
8. Vermont National Guard - Camp Johnson
9. Rutland Free Clinic
10. Bennington Free Clinic
11. People's Health and Wellness Clinic