

VT Special Investigation Units – Funding Study 2014

BACKGROUND:

- Establishment – June 2005 – Act 83
- SIU/CAC Partners
- State Support – Scope and Type
- Community Support – Expectations
- Law Enforcement – Evolved Support

CURRENT STATUS

- SIU Locations
- CAC Affiliation
- Ongoing Development

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Title 24: Municipal and County Government

§ 1938. Intermunicipal police services; purpose; agreements

(a) Cities, towns, incorporated villages, the University of Vermont, sheriffs, and state agencies may enter into agreements to provide for intermunicipal police services. Intermunicipal police services include general police services, emergency planning and assistance, task forces, and other specialized investigative units to provide police services within the boundaries of the participating municipalities and counties.

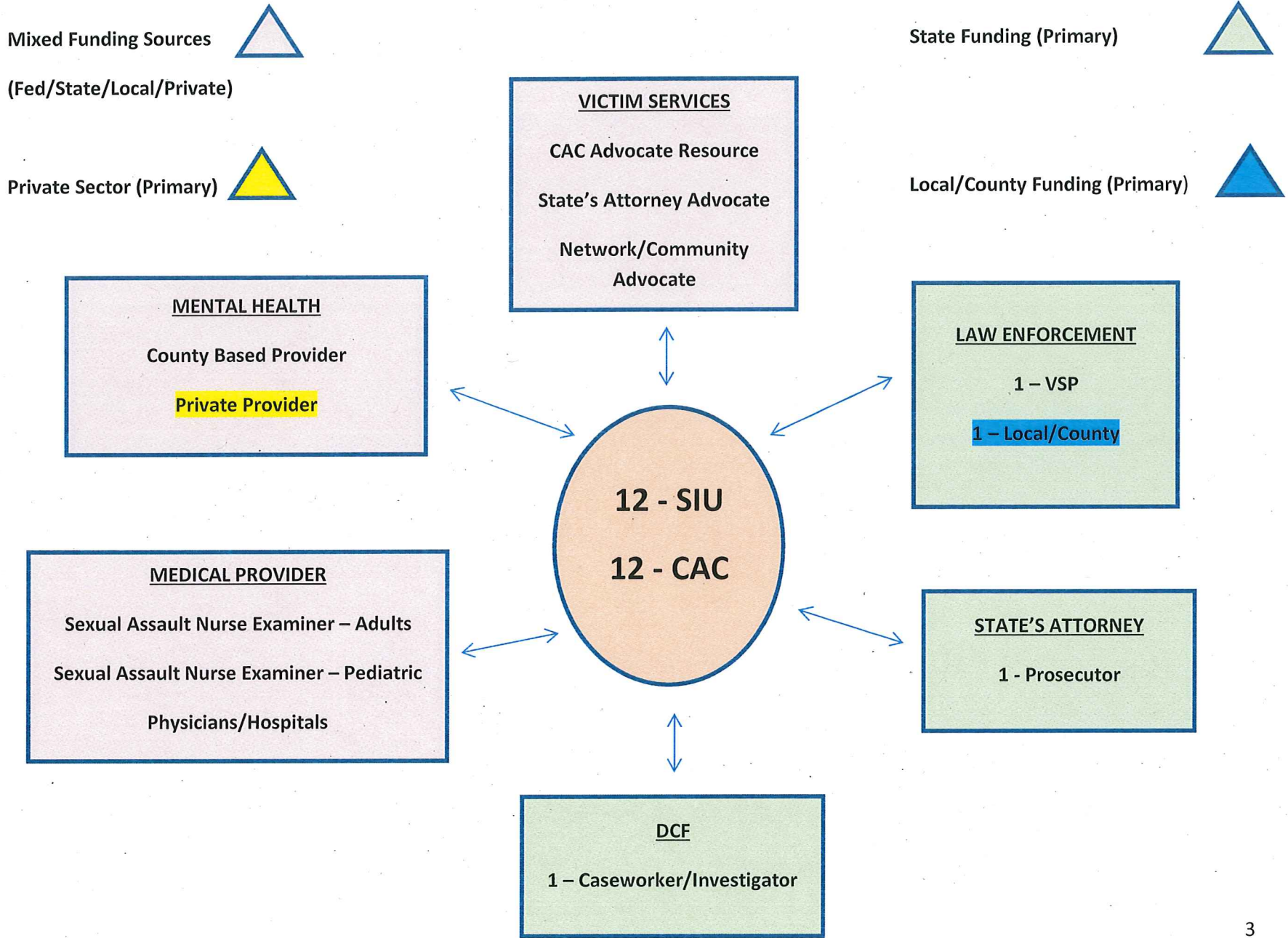
(b) The legislative body of each municipality may authorize the chief of police or other designee to provide police resources for intermunicipal police services. The participating municipalities, sheriffs and state agencies shall enter into a written agreement which shall provide for the scope of the mutual services, the powers, duties and responsibilities of each participant and the governing authority for officers called for duty under the terms of the agreement. The agreement shall also contain provisions relating to the use of equipment, supplies and materials during the period of mutual service. Any employee covered by such an agreement shall remain an employee of the donor agency.

§ 1940. Task forces; specialized investigative units; boards; grants

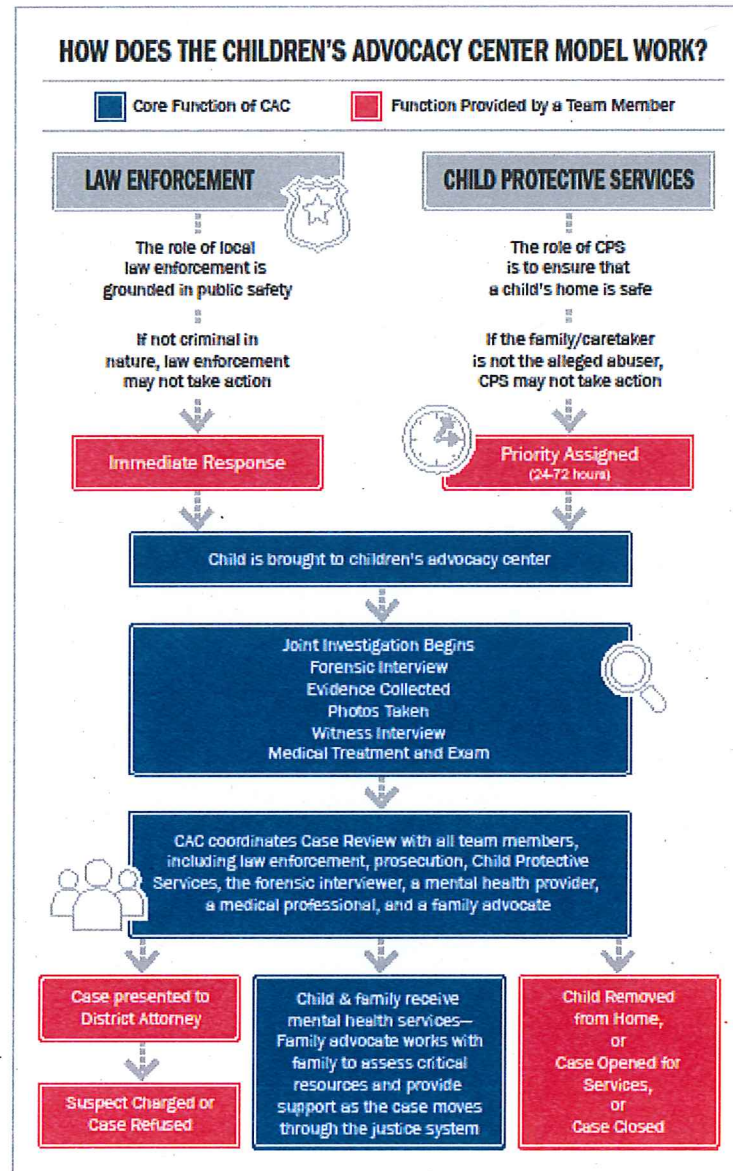
(a) Pursuant to the authority established under section 1938 of this title, and in collaboration with law enforcement agencies, investigative agencies, victims' advocates and social service providers, the Department of State's Attorneys and Sheriffs shall coordinate efforts to provide access in each region of the state to special investigative units to investigate sex crimes, child abuse, domestic violence, or crimes against those with physical or developmental disabilities. The General Assembly intends that access to special investigative units be available to all Vermonters as soon as reasonably possible, but not later than July 1, 2009.

(b) A task force or specialized investigative unit organized and operating under this section may accept, receive, and disburse in furtherance of its duties and functions any funds, grants, and services made available by the State of Vermont and its agencies, the federal government and its agencies, any municipality or other unit of local government, or private or civic sources. Any employee covered by an agreement establishing a special investigative unit shall remain an employee of the donor agency.

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State Contributions:

- Program Support Grants to meet the requirements of 24VSA§1940
 - Personnel expenses for SIU Director/Case Manager/Adm Assistant
 - Operating expenses for establishment of physical co-location site (rent/utilities/supplies)
- Law Enforcement Grants
 - Maximum of \$60K per grant, provided to supplement the expense of providing a police investigator from a local/county department (one per county is baseline)
 - 10 grants are currently awarded
 - 2 reimbursement grants are awarded to support Essex County and Grand Isle County (statutory requirement) - \$20K reserve for each county

Community Support – Expectations

- In-kind support
 - Office space
 - Law Enforcement resource
 - Administrative support
- Direct contribution
 - Response to direct billings (Chittenden – only)
 - Funding request through town meetings (Franklin/Lamoille/Windsor)
 - Limited response - Not successful in most counties

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- Fund raising/Private contributions
 - Variable success
 - Amounts range from ~ \$1K to \$12K
 - Private sources unlikely to support ongoing funding requests – startup oriented

LAW ENFORCEMENT – EVOLVED SUPPORT

- OVERTIME EXPENSE EXPRESSLY PROHIBITED
- Initially no law enforcement funding provided
 - Difficulty getting law enforcement participation
 - Small departments did not have staffing to provide
 - Communities reluctant to contribute without financial support
- Unexpended funding from prior year used to create pool of funding for law enforcement grants (reimbursement and block amounts piloted)
- Average expense of investigator ~ \$70K/yr
 - FY10 - \$40K LE Grants awarded (7)
 - Funded through unexpended prior year funds
 - Continuous feedback from Chiefs/Sheriffs regarding inadequate funding
 - Local governing officials not able or willing to support LE participation without increased funding
 - FY13 – Increase funding maximum at mid-year - \$50K (8 awards)

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- FY14 – Increase funding maximum to \$60K (8 awards)
 - Included directly in appropriation request to reflect demand
 - Positive responses from law enforcement – increased interest/ability to participate
- FY15 - Added two award opportunities for FY15
 - 10 - Law Enforcement Grants awarded
 - 2 – Reimbursement Grants awarded (Essex/Grand Isle)

CURRENT STATUS

- SIUs located in 12 of the 14 counties
 - Essex and Grand Isle counties served by partnerships with neighboring counties
 - Co-location of SIU team members is not fully implemented
 - Inability of partners to contribute a staff position
 - Limitation of physical locations occupied by the SIU
- CAC/SIU Affiliation
 - Partnership has been encouraged from the beginning
 - VCA/NCA provide a professional network for SIU directors
 - NCA standards provide a nationally recognized accreditation process
 - Nationally accredited training opportunities

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➤ Ongoing Development

- All SIUs are part of, or directly affiliated with a CAC
 - 5 CACs have full NCA Accreditation
 - Each CAC eligible for \$30K state CAC funds/\$9K federal NCA funds
 - 6 CACs are Associate members of NCA
 - Each CAC eligible for \$18K state CAC funds
 - Windsor County has 2 CAC locations (Norwich & Springfield)
 - Springfield receives one of these awards although Windsor SIU funds are awarded through The Family Place CAC in Norwich
 - 1 CAC is recognized as a developing member by VCA
 - Eligible for \$3K state CAC funds
- Lamoille SIU is the final unit to work on the establishment of a CAC
- As the SIU resource matures, expanded facility space will become necessary
 - Variables for co-location
 - Availability of participants from MDT disciplines
 - Size of physical location
- Law Enforcement Grants are projected to be capped at 12 full grants (future planning), along with the 2 required reimbursement grants
- SIU/CAC directors leverage as many funding sources as possible, but sustainability remains uncertain

FY15

SIU Funding Contributions by Source

SIU by County	Year Established	Year Funded by SIU	SIU Funding %	CAC Funding %	Local Funding %	Fund Raising %	In-Kind %	Fed Grants %	TOTAL FUNDING
Addison	2013 (2010)	2010	36.4%	5.0%	0.0%	0.0%	58.5%	0.0%	\$356,763.00
Bennington	1989	2007	25.2%	5.4%	0.0%	1.4%	66.4%	1.6%	\$559,263.00
Caledonia	2008/2011	2008	41.5%	6.8%	0.0%	0.0%	55.5%	0.0%	\$264,647.00
Chittenden	1992	2007	8.7%	3.3%	6.2%	1.3%	79.4%	1.0%	\$914,453.00
Franklin	1995	2007	17.0%	5.8%	2.3%	0.0%	57.8%	17.0%	\$516,871.00
Lamoille	2007	2008	41.0%	0.0%	1.9%	0.0%	19.7%	37.4%	\$334,407.00
Orange	2008/2011	2008	53.7%	5.0%	0.0%	0.0%	41.3%	0.0%	\$357,588.00
Orleans	2008/2011	2008	47.9%	1.0%	0.0%	0.0%	51.0%	0.0%	\$283,210.00
Rutland	1998	2007	33.3%	6.6%	0.0%	0.0%	58.2%	1.9%	\$457,787.00
Washington	2008 (1989)	2008	26.0%	5.3%	0.0%	0.0%	68.7%	0.0%	\$342,292.00
Windham	2007	2007	35.7%	4.1%	0.0%	1.7%	58.5%	0.0%	\$439,337.00
Windsor	2008 (1999)	2007	32.9%	5.8%	0.0%	0.0%	59.6%	1.7%	\$520,297.00
AVERAGE:			29.6%	4.5%	1.4%	0.5%	59.3%	4.7%	\$445,576.25
TOTAL FUNDING:			\$1,583,126.00	\$243,000.00	\$75,158.00	\$27,300.00	\$3,169,481.00	\$248,850.00	\$5,346,915.00

% In-Kind Contribution by Source				Funding Source - Definitions	
SIU by County	STATE	LOCAL/COUNTY	TOTAL by \$\$\$		
Addison	70.0%	30.0%	\$208,750.00	SIU:	State funding awarded thru Program Support and Law Enforcement Grants - annual application required. SIU Grants Board approval.
Bennington	81.3%	18.7%	\$402,300.00	CAC:	State funding awarded thru the Center for Crime Victim Services to established child advocacy centers. \$30K/\$18K/\$3K increments
Caledonia	100.0%	0.0%	\$136,872.00	LOCAL:	Local funding provided thru direct billing or local budget requests approved thru town meetings - annual requests required.
Chittenden	45.4%	54.6%	\$723,557.00	FUND RAISING:	Initiated by individual SIU/CAC - 501(c) (3) / variety of fund raising events conducted as charity benefits.
Franklin	100.0%	0.0%	\$298,983.00	IN-KIND:	Salary and operational expenses of contributing partners. Predominantly LE/DCF/Prosecutors/Victim Advocates
Lamoille	100.0%	0.0%	\$65,833.00	FED GRANTS:	National Children's Alliance - fully accredited CAC -\$9K per CAC (Bennington/Chittenden/Franklin/Rutland/Windsor); STOP Grants (Franklin/Lamoille); Rural Justice Grant (Franklin)
Orange	38.9%	61.1%	\$113,595.00		
Orleans	89.6%	10.4%	\$144,490.00		
Rutland	81.5%	18.5%	\$266,514.00		
Washington	78.8%	21.2%	\$235,044.00		
Windham	83.9%	16.1%	\$262,842.00		
Windsor	90.6%	9.4%	\$310,701.00		
TOTAL:			\$3,169,481.00		
AVERAGE:	80.0%	20.0%	\$264,123.42		

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Survey of Directors

FUNDING OPTIONS

- Town, Village, Local Law Enforcement contributions – currently in place
- County tax – use of county budgets for contributions from all communities based upon a standardized formula
- Fully state funded/managed by classified state employees

NEW FUNDING – Anticipated amount as percentage of budgets/estimated need

- 15%-20% - most respondents estimated this amount as likely % of budget to be supported by new funding mechanism
- 5% - 10% - this amount is the range presently used by some units when approaching communities; does not include potential for future growth of operations
- 33% - estimated based upon removing the reliance on existing fund raising/community solicitations and including increased community outreach functions in return
- 50% - estimate received from a smaller unit without access to community resources of the scale found in larger counties

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ANTICIPATED USES

- Provide sustainability of current operations and provide for a reasonable measure of future growth (facility needs and service provision)
- Increase delivery of programs and public outreach beyond the modest levels currently in place

UNMET NEEDS

- Expansion of existing physical space
- Ability to offer more services in-house (related to space & partner resourcing)
- Ability to increase efforts in case coordination (primarily a part-time role for many)
- Shortage of therapists trained in trauma focused treatments
- Equipment replacement/maintenance & modifications to existing physical space
- Training opportunities
- Ability to conduct community outreach/community education
- Consistent staffing of MDT partner positions in a co-located setting

**FY 15
FUNDING ESTIMATES**

SIU by County	TOTAL FUNDING	10%	20%	33%	50%
Addison	\$356,763.00	\$35,676.30	\$71,352.60	\$117,731.79	\$178,381.50
Bennington	\$559,263.00	\$55,926.30	\$111,852.60	\$184,556.79	\$279,631.50
Caledonia	\$264,647.00	\$26,464.70	\$52,929.40	\$87,333.51	\$132,323.50
Chittenden	\$914,453.00	\$91,445.30	\$182,890.60	\$301,769.49	\$457,226.50
Franklin	\$516,871.00	\$51,687.10	\$103,374.20	\$170,567.43	\$258,435.50
Lamoille	\$334,407.00	\$33,440.70	\$66,881.40	\$110,354.31	\$167,203.50
Orange	\$357,588.00	\$35,758.80	\$71,517.60	\$118,004.04	\$178,794.00
Orleans	\$283,210.00	\$28,321.00	\$56,642.00	\$93,459.30	\$141,605.00
Rutland	\$457,787.00	\$45,778.70	\$91,557.40	\$151,069.71	\$228,893.50
Washington	\$342,292.00	\$34,229.20	\$68,458.40	\$112,956.36	\$171,146.00
Windham	\$439,337.00	\$43,933.70	\$87,867.40	\$144,981.21	\$219,668.50
Windsor	\$520,297.00	\$52,029.70	\$104,059.40	\$171,698.01	\$260,148.50
TOTALS:	\$5,346,915.00	\$534,691.50	\$1,069,383.00	\$1,764,481.95	\$2,673,457.50