

Goals

- Reduce past 30-day marijuana use among adolescents, ages 12 -17
- Reduce past 30-day marijuana use among young adults, ages 18 - 25

Communities

- Regional Prevention Partnerships (RPP) is a five-year cooperative agreement (2015 –2020) with the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) to support regional prevention strategies, training and communications in all twelve Vermont Office of Local Health Districts.
- Combined Community Grants are two year grants funded through the federal Substance Abuse Block Grant to address alcohol and marijuana prevention in local communities.

Required Activities (All Regions)	Optional Activities
Local Policy Enhancements (Any of the following): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Restrictions on Advertising/Promotion • Restrictions on Hours of Operation/Location of Retailers Selling Products Prohibited to Minors • Language in Town Plans Regarding Marijuana Use 	Marijuana / Substance Use Screening <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marijuana eCheckUp • School-Based Screening & Referral to Substance Abuse and/or Mental Health Services • Support Training of School / Youth Serving Organizations Staff in Youth Mental Health First Aid or Drug Impairment Training for Educational Professionals
DUI Enhancements (At least one of the following:) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sobriety Check Points • Saturation/Party Patrols • Support/Promote Drug Recognition Experts/ARIDE Trainings 	Family Education Programs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guiding Good Choices • Nurturing Parenting Program • Strengthening Families Program
Regional Capacity Building: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Mobilization & Media Advocacy • Promotion of Statewide Media Campaigns 	Evidenced Base Health Curricula / School Programs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gay / Queer Straight Alliance Groups • Michigan Model • Peer Leadership / Youth Empowerment Groups • Project ALERT • School-Based Mentoring • ATLAS • Life Skills • Caring School Community • Project Northland • PROSPER

Schools

- School-Based Substance Abuse Services (SBSAS) grants to 20 Supervisory Unions support coordinated school health initiatives focused on screening and referrals to substance abuse and mental health services, as well as health promoting training, educational programs, and other support efforts.

Required Activities

Support of coordinated school health initiatives (all grantees)

Screening and referral to substance abuse and mental health services (all grantees)

- A total of 1,322 students were screened in the 2015-16 school year; 25% screened positive for a possible substance abuse problem; 49% screened positive for a possible mental health problem
- 88% of those students who screened positive for substance abuse were referred to services
- Approximately 62% of referred students were reported to have connected with recommended substance abuse services

Optional Activities

Support of classroom health curricula (18 grantees)

- 5,674 students participated in evidence-based curricula with a primary focus of substance abuse education

Advising and training of youth empowerment groups (19 grantees)

- Almost 900 students participated in these groups

Delivery of parent information and educational programs

- 123 parents participated in an evidence-based parent program (7 grantees)
- Almost 8,000 parents were reached through newsletters, dialogue nights, etc. (19 grantees)

Delivery of teacher and support staff training (14 grantees)

- Alcohol or other drug training provided to over 1,200 school staff

Delivery of educational support groups (18 grantees)

- Over 800 students participated in an educational support group

Public Information

- **ParentUp** (ParentUpVT.org) a campaign that provides tools for parents to build resiliency and talk with their kids about drugs and alcohol. Parents are the #1 influence on adolescent substance use. In 2016, ParentUp was updated with marijuana-specific messaging and resources, including an interactive tool highlighting how marijuana affects the brain.
- **Campaign (Planned for 2017-2018)** - a campaign targeting youth at the age of initiation, including non-users vulnerable to risk factors and “on the edge” of marijuana use. Messaging objectives include:
 - o increase the perceived risk of harm from use; and
 - o reduce the perception among youth that most people use marijuana.
- **Pediatric Practices (Planned for 2017-2018)** - development of information materials for parents and adolescents on the risks of marijuana use to be distributed through pediatric practices in well-care visits.

