VSCs Proposal
Growing Vermont’s Mental Health and SUD Treatment Workforce

Senate Committee on Health and Welfare

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Provost, NVU
20 March, 2019
Multiple Pathways To Enhance the Substance Use and Mental Health Workforce

**Master’s Level:** Increase the number of licensed Mental Health Counselors with a focus on addictions and Licensed Alcohol and Drug Counselors

**Baccalaureate Level:** Increase the number of certified Alcohol and Drug Counselors by creating a new educational pathway that will outlive the life cycle of the grant

**Associates Level:** Increase the number of certified Apprentice Addictions Professionals
The Need

“Vermont needs an infusion of Masters prepared clinicians now and into the future to fill the increased demand for this skills set going forward”

Past Year Mental Health Treatment/Counseling Among Adults Aged 18 or Older with Any Mental Illness (AMI)

Tuition Scholarships for Mental Health Counseling Graduate Programs

Objective: Expand the number of licensed mental health counselors

Our Graduate Counseling Programs:

1. NVU-Johnson: MA with a concentration addictions
   - face-to-face delivery evenings and weekends
   - typically takes three years to complete as a part-time student

2. Program in Clinical Mental Health – MS with a concentration in addictions
   - face-to-face weekend intensive once a month – courses offered in Williston

3. *NEW* - Funding will allow us to build a more flexible delivery model that will outlive grant termination and serve the NEK, central, and southern VT
Barriers for program entry:

- Cost ($37k)
- Debt relative to entry salary

Tuition Scholarships for Mental Health Counseling Graduate Programs – New Students

Current Program

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>First-year</th>
<th>Second-year</th>
<th>Third-year</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>45 students</td>
<td>23 students</td>
<td>26 students</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Scholarship Support for New Students

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>First-year</th>
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<td>45 students</td>
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15 additional scholarship supported students

Total new students (and graduates): 45
Scholarship Impact on New Students

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Current Tuition Expense</th>
<th>With Scholarship Support</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$37k</td>
<td>$16,900</td>
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<td>(tuition rate is equivalent to CCV)</td>
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</table>
Tuition Scholarships for Mental Health Counseling Graduate Programs – Current Students

Current Program

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Incoming Fall class</th>
<th>First-year students</th>
<th>Second-year students</th>
<th>Third-year students</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>15 students</td>
<td>45 students</td>
<td>23 students</td>
<td>26 students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 spring graduates</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Current Students Supported

- NVU-J: 20 students
- Williston: 15 students

Scholarship Support for Current Students

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Incoming Fall class</th>
<th>First-year students</th>
<th>Second-year students</th>
<th>Third-year students</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>15 scholarship-supported students</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30 students</td>
<td>23 students</td>
<td>26 students</td>
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<tr>
<td>15 spring graduates</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Residency requirement upon graduation
### Scholarship Impact on Current Students

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Current Cost</td>
<td>$37k</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>With Scholarship Support</td>
<td>$31.6k</td>
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</table>
Alcohol and Drug Counseling (ADC) Pathway

Objective: Create a pathway for Alcohol and Drug Counselor Certification

Work with Office of Professional Regulation (OPR) to create the 270 hours of required course work

ADC Certification = 270 hours of course work + 4000 hours supervised work experience + national exam
Alcohol and Drug Counseling (ADC) Pathway

**Objective:** Create a pathway for Alcohol and Drug Counselor Certification

- Courses will be made available to:
  - Baccalaureate students (e.g., Applied Psychology and Human Services)
  - Master’s students seeking licensure (LADC)
  - Incumbent workers

- Tuition-free access for:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 1</th>
<th>Year 2</th>
<th>Year 3</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>20 students</td>
<td>20 students</td>
<td>20 students</td>
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</table>

- Courses will be offered beyond termination of grant

- The ADC pathway does not presently exist in the state of Vermont
Apprentice Addictions Professional (AAP)

Objective: Increase the number of certified AAPs

AAP certificate = course work + AAP examination

• Offer CCV course “Addiction, an Introduction to Clinical Studies” tuition free

• Offer CU course “Substance Use and Addictions” tuition free
Summary of Funding Impact

During the life-cycle of the grant – scholarship support for:

- Masters-level Mental Health Counseling: 45 new and 35 current students (80 total)
- Alcohol and Drug Counseling coursework: 60 students
- Apprentice Addictions Professional coursework: up to 126 students

What we are creating that outlives the life cycle of the proposed funding:

- A new flexibly delivered Mental Health Counseling Program providing access throughout the state
- A new ADC pathway – does not presently exist in the state of Vermont
Thank you

Questions?