

Vermont Alcohol and Drug Abuse  
Advisory Council

Department of Liquor Control  
13 Green Mountain Drive  
Montpelier, Vermont

Wednesday, May 27, 2015  
10:00AM – 12:00PM

**I. Welcome and introductions:**

**Welcome:**

Welcome everyone

**Introductions**

Mitch Barron  
John Gramuglia  
Steve Waldo  
Melanie Giadia  
Bob Uerz  
Patrick Martin  
Mark Weikert  
Chauncey Liese  
Erin Devost  
Rebecca Fenn  
Cindy Thomas  
Barbara Cimaglio  
Donna McAllister  
Lori Augustyniak  
Matthew Amadon

**Regrets**

Peter Espenshade  
Mark Ames  
Willa Farrell  
Mark Ames  
Todd Bauman  
Marcia LaPlante  
Mark Depman  
Jennifer Wall-Howard  
Rita Johnson  
Michael Hogan  
Amanda Fulmer  
Marcus Hass

Greg Nagurney  
Matthew Birmingham  
Mitch Barron

- I. **Approval of the Minutes:** Minutes reviewed from April 22, 2015. Minutes approved with no corrections/edits/additions.

- II. **ADAP Report Out**

Cindy Thomas is the new ADAP Division Director. Cindy has been with ADAP for three weeks. Prior to VDH, Cindy worked for DVHA as the Medicaid quality improvement director, and director of mental health and substance abuse services for providers in the private sector. Prior to this she worked with DMH doing utilization review. She has been with the State for 15 years starting at VDH in Children with Special Health Needs. Prior to state government, she was a clinician working in physician's offices as a psychotherapist, and prior to that she worked at Community Mental Health. Cindy's role is focusing on internal day to day operations at ADAP.

- Barbara will continue to work with this council in conjunction with Marcia LaPlante and her staff.
- Jackie Corbally, Clinical Services Director is leaving her position in June. She is going to Maple Leaf Farm and will be their Clinical Director.
- Erin Devost will take over staffing this meeting in place of Rebecca Fenn.

**H20:** The bill proposing LADC parity to bill Medicaid did pass. DVHA will develop a protocol for enrolling in Medicaid. This will likely not be complete until later this fall. Communication will go out once a protocol is in place. Office of Professional Regulation and ADAP will report to the legislature on moving the LADC licensing administrative component from the Health Department to OPR.

- This move from being a complicated certification process could have a positive effect on workforce development.

**S42:** (see handout) Proposed changes for Alcohol and Drug Abuse Programs. Senate Health and Welfare Committee is interested in updating the language defining the alcohol and drug abuse services system, as it has not been updated since the 80s. The bill passed the senate and had a first

hearing in the House Human Services Committee. The Committee has requested that ADAP submit the report called for in S42 even though the bill did not pass. The Senate pulled out the language in S42 that related to the VADAAC council and put it into the budget bill. The statute was amended so now there is new language governing this council. Changes will be effective in July.

- New members include: Commissioner of Mental Health or designee, Director of the Blueprint or designee, a Licensed Alcohol and Drug Abuse Counselor, approved or preferred provider representative, representative of hospitals, educator involved in substance abuse prevention services, youth substance abuse prevention specialist, community prevention coalition member, peer community involved in recovery services. Department of Liquor Control, Department of Motor Vehicles, and Agency of Education are no longer required to participate in this Council. Members from these sectors will advocate for continued participation. Meetings are open and everyone will continue to be invited.
- Annually on or before 11/15 the council shall submit a written report to the House Committee on Human Services and Senate Committee on Health and Welfare with findings and/or recommendations (see handout for more information).
- Barbara and Mitch will discuss before the next meeting to clarify expectations.

Welcome Cindy Thomas, ADAP's new Division Director.

**Budget:** There is a level budget for substance abuse prevention, and treatment. There will be no major changes to grants.

- There is a .22% increase in the Medicaid allotment for provider increases being provided in the field; this will take the form of a rate increase.
- Funds that had been allocated for treatment incentives for providers are eliminated as a result of the budget shortfall.
- Four grants at \$50K that go to designated agencies for offender reentry services (Clara Martin Center, Howard Center, Rutland Mental Health and Northeast Kingdom Human Services) were eliminated because DOC has been putting more focus on offender reentry and these

services might be redundant. Tapestry program funding has moved from ADAP to DOC.

- Tapestry funded by ADAP was a governor Douglas initiative. The budget shift will not change programming.
- AHS Secretary has asked the SATC workgroup to continue to work on coordination across AHS services in terms of substance abuse treatment. Consistency across departments will lead to more cohesive services.
- There is a very small provider rate increase. The total increase across providers is \$70,000.
- A new Recovery Center is being funded in Newport. They will get startup funds in FY15 and a grant for FY16.
- ADAP has applied for several Federal grants. One large prevention grant could extend community prevention work (\$12.4 million over 5 years). ADAP has applied for a Medication Assisted Treatment enhancement grant (\$3 million over 3 years) to focus on St. Albans/Franklin/Chittenden, and Rutland/Addison. Also applied for a multi-million dollar CDC grant for overdose prevention.
- Revised and improved ParentUP site – [www.parentupvt.org](http://www.parentupvt.org) . Edits/updates/corrections/suggestions can be sent to Kelly Lamonda for the next two weeks.
- Legislation passed that will require ADAP and DMH to provide a registry of active providers. This will be updated annually.

## II. Member Updates/Announcements

### Prevention & Education:

**Donna McAllister:** State Board of Education adopted the new National Health Education Standards. In order to graduate, students have to demonstrate competency in 7 areas. This is a K-12 initiative. AoE provides help and services to schools – with the new standards there will be an education review / compliance component.

**Lori Augustyniak:** The bill around legalizing recreational marijuana use did not make it to the floor this session.

Smart Approaches to Marijuana (SAM VT) is a new group and it is growing. If you are concerned about the issue, you can visit the website. The group is a 501(c)(3) now and they will apply to become a 501(c)(4) so it can lobby.

Prevention Works does have a person working on compiling a marijuana education database. They are also doing educational outreach around this issue.

Dick Sears, Vicki Strong, Mitzie Johnson, and Shap Smith are all opponents of the marijuana legalization issue. Conversely a lot of people are supporting the legalization but they do not want corporations coming in and controlling the market. This could sway some thinking about legalization because it is difficult to control who enters the market.

**Patrick Martin:** Wit's End is a parent support group started 15 years ago after Patrick's daughter overdosed. This group educates parents and families on signs and symptoms of drug use, and offers strategies for intervention and treatment and provides education around available services. This group is really expanding. They have had to increase the size of their meeting room, and people are requesting meetings more nights a week.

#### **Recovery and Resiliency:**

#### **Enforcement and Justice:**

**Matthew Amadon** joins the council from public safety. The drug unit is focusing on heroin. The drug unit continues collaboration with the US Attorney's Office and Department of Homeland Security, DEA, and FBI. There is a push to focus on suppliers, and not users. Heroin is coming primarily from MA, NY, and NJ. Narcan is out on the streets and it is working. State Police is using Narcan in overdose situations.

**Bob Uerz:** He is overseeing tobacco use prevention in schools.

**Steve Waldo:** Steve is retiring, as is Mike Hogan. Steve will be here for the next few months and will be replaced by Sergeant Melanie Giadi. There have been some changes in the liquor licensing world. There will be a license required to sell fortified wine in convenience stores. There will also be an efficiency study conducted on the Department of Liquor Control.

A national trend is decentralized liquor control. The availability of a product increases consumption – therefore selling hard liquors in grocery stores and convenience stores could be harmful. More states allow privatized sale than states that require a controlled systems (like VT).

DLC goes through a listing process – where all alcoholic beverages are “listed”. There has been an increase in the types of liquors and packaging that would be appealing to children.

Marijuana legalization has taken a lot of the focus off of alcohol.

**John Gramuglia:** Risk reduction model has been used for over a year. The model is working well but there is high turnover (100% in a year) in people that deliver services through DOC contracts. It is anticipated that this will be a recurring problem.

**Future Presentations/presenters (NOTES):**

- (6/25/14) Invite a subject matter expert to present to the council about medication assisted treatment. (John Brooklyn, Stacey Sigmon).
- (7/23/14) Presentation on restorative justice as it relates to substance abuse.
- (7/23/14) Bobby Sand, Karen Genette, Monica Hutt - to discuss S295
- Hanna Rose
- (10/22/15) Debbie Haskins – Smart VT coalition
- (5/27/15) Invite AHS Secretary Hal Cohen (?)