

**Vermont Alcohol and Drug Abuse Advisory Council  
DLC, Montpelier VT  
Minutes of Wednesday July 27, 2011**

Attending: David O'Brien, Jackie Corbally, Joy Mitchell, Chauncey Liese, Barbara Cimaglio, Willa Farrell, Patrick Martin, Marcia LaPlante, Mark Ames

Regrets: Trudee Etlinger, John Flannigan, Steve Waldo, Sarah Scrodin, Mitch Barron

**1. Minutes**

Minutes for the May 25, 2011 meeting were approved.

**2. Update from ADAP**

Barbara Cimaglio, Deputy Commission for the Vermont Department of Health Division of Alcohol and Drug Abuse Programs (ADAP) gave an update. There was a news release from Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMSHA). Barbara Cimaglio provided a brief overview of what was found; new national reports show many differences in the types and level of substance use of mental illness problems experienced among states. The 2008 – 2009 National Survey on Drug Use and Health reported Vermont as the worst state in the country on underage alcohol use, binge drinking and marijuana use in young adults 18-25. Most New England states had similar rankings which is normal. The Vermont Department of Health (VDH) did analysis of information and all the information can be found online; <http://healthvermont.gov/adap/clearinghouse/publications.aspx#NSDUH>. The entire article can be found at the SAMSHA website [www.samsha.gov](http://www.samsha.gov). Vermont compared to other states does not look so good but if you look at trends there are good news items, which show that Vermont is going in the right direction, for example Vermont underage drinking use trends have been declining. This fall VDH will publish the 2011 Youth Risk Behavior Survey Data

Marcia LaPlante pointed out that the challenge with the survey is that the results are 2 years behind and is concerned that people will see the headlines and assume that this is the evaluation from the Strategic Prevention Framework State Incentive Grant (SPF). The Strategic Prevention Framework State Incentive Grant evaluation will be available this winter. There has been success in Windham County in reducing the amount of paraphernalia through the communities organized approach. There is ongoing discussion regarding Marijuana use, and understanding the effects of it on health, employment and increased risky behavior.

VDH will continue to focus on the young adult population, through the SPF and other services offered to young adults. ADAP will continue to focus on the young adult population especially because they are often in the category of more risky behavior, and the treatment and services for young adults are quite different than what is offered for the older population. ADAP will also continue the Young Adult Advisory Committee which has training and the understanding to help the population.

August 18 there is a public hearing regarding the Medication Assisted Therapy (MAT) Rules. The meeting will take place at the Department of Health Room 2B. All public comment must be submitted by August 28. Rules are coming into play when we loose doctors so that there is not as big a hit on the state. Some required tools include using Vermont Prescription Monitoring System (VPMS); assessments including a Bio Psycho Social. From there working to give

patients a holistic approach, and provide them with the medication they need in their recovery. Vermont is the first state that is looking at medication and the patient. ADAP is working closely with Department of Vermont Health Access (DVHA) and Medical Practice Board. The goal is to support a very complex population and establish a community approach. The expectation is that Physicians will do screenings and work with substance abuse clinicians to help develop appropriate educational tools so that the medical community understands MAT.

Jerri Brouillette is the new Project CRASH Director.

### **3. New Business**

Working to get the Governor at the meeting in September, at the meeting in August people will work to prepare for the September meeting. The letter for the Governors Transition team will be used as a platform and way to look at the talking points; it may be good to discuss alcohol and marijuana issues in a factual way regarding the risk for young people.

#### **Legislative Summary Wrap-Up:**

Willa Farrell noted the increased confidentiality of diversion clients, specifically after referral is completed. Diversion folks spoke with Justin Lorberg about Marijuana de-criminalization. This conversation will continue. In most communities diversion is the common requirement for first time arrest for possession of marijuana. Barbara feels it is very important to have consistency with requirements/convictions for marijuana possession and other similar offenses such as Driving under the influence. It is important to help people understand how their behavior has impacted themselves and others around them. Chauncy Leise spoke to the enhanced rules for Criminal DWI, effective March 12, 2012. The public needs to be educated on the increased implications for a DWI. The ignition interlock system has been making progress. There are 18 systems installed.

### **4. Student Assistant Program (SAP)**

SAP Grants are still in the process of going out. 85 schools have chosen to continue their Grants. ADAP is in charge of gathering a group of stakeholder's and working with the SAP Program to make suggestions to the legislature to determine what the funding should be. In September the counsel will look at the recommendations that go with the Joint Fiscal Committee and comment. The Legislature isn't happy with the way the current structure is working and is looking for suggestions regarding how to monitor and fund the program, and to determine what is needed to evolve the SAP Program with a school health approach.

### **5. RROSC**

RROSC money comes from the BLOCK Grant. All preferred providers were given \$11,000 and \$5,000 to Recovery Centers and Housing was given \$1,000. Extra VISI money was given to Recovery Centers so they are more equitable with preferred providers. From SAMSHA the RROSC component is gaining greater visibility, especially with Health Care Reform.