



**Vermont
HIV/AIDS
Guide to
Services**



04/10



HIV/AIDS Program
108 Cherry Street
Burlington, VT 05401
(802) 863-7245
AIDS Hotline: (800) 882-2437
healthvermont.gov

Introduction

Living with HIV is much different today than it was a few years ago. New treatments and therapies have helped people with HIV live longer and healthier lives. That doesn't mean living with HIV isn't challenging, but it doesn't have to be overwhelming. As you will see from the information in this guide, Vermont has a variety of organizations, agencies, hospitals, and health care providers involved in HIV/AIDS-related work. Some of the organizations listed work exclusively with HIV/AIDS-related situations, and you will find that they can efficiently provide you with the service you need or at least help you find it.

This resource guide includes information about organizations that provide support services to people living with HIV/AIDS and their families (ASOs), HIV-specific clinics for medical care, insurance assistance programs, HIV testing as well as other Department of Health programs which may be helpful. For more information call (802) 863-7245.

A Note on the Ryan White CARE Act

The federal Ryan White CARE Act provides coverage for health care and support services for people living with HIV disease. Enacted in 1990, it fills gaps in care faced by those with low-incomes and little or no insurance. Part B of the CARE Act provides grants to all 50 States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Guam, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and five newly eligible U.S. Pacific Territories and Associated Jurisdictions. Part B also funds the AIDS Medication Assistance Program (AMAP). Part B funds may be used to provide a variety of health care and support services. In Vermont these services are provided by ASOs (AIDS Service Organizations) and Vermont's Comprehensive Care Clinics. To find out more about CARE Act programs in Vermont, call the HIV/AIDS Program at (802) 863-7245.

AIDS Medication Assistance Program

The AIDS Medication Assistance Program (AMAP) provides assistance with the purchase of prescription medications to eligible low income Vermonters living with HIV disease (even if the client has private insurance, State-funded insurance, Medicare, or no insurance). The medications for which this program provides funding are listed on the AMAP formulary, and includes all current FDA approved HAART medications.

Narcotics Anonymous (802) 862-4516

Al-Anon (802) 860-8388

Vermont Alcohol Crisis Program (802) 229-2122

Vermont Council of Community Mental Health
Services
(802) 223-1773

Green Mountain Needle Exchange (802) 860-3567

The Chittenden Center is a treatment program for opioid dependence, at Fletcher Allen Health Care, Room 1420, Burlington, VT 05401. Hours are: Mon – Fri, 6:30 AM – 11:15 AM; and, Sat and Sun, 7:30 AM to 10 AM.
(800) 413-2272 or (802) 656-3700

For a complete directory of State approved substance use programs, please call (802) 651-1550 or visit www.state.vt.us/adap/

Syringe Exchange Programs

Green Mountain Needle Co-op - Burlington (802) 860-3567

VT CARES – St. Johnsbury (802) 749-9061

ACORN – White River Junction (603) 448-8887

VT Harm Reduction Coalition – Brattleboro – (802) 251-0066

Other Services

Other forms of assistance are available to people with disabilities and/or limited income, including help with fuel bills, transportation, and employment.

Vermont Public Transportation Association (800) 685-7433

Home Heating Fuel Assistance; Agency of Human Services (800) 479-6151

Vermont Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (802) 241-2186

Special Services Unit of the Vermont Department of Libraries (800) 479-1711

Vermont Center for Independent Living
(800) 639-1522

CONTACT INFORMATION

Vermont Department of Health HIV/AIDS
Program
(802) 863-7245

AIDS Service Organizations and Other Organizations Providing HIV/AIDS Services and Support

AIDS Service Organizations (ASOs) are the backbone of support for people in Vermont Living with HIV/AIDS. They are independently operated and are staffed with both paid employees and volunteers. All of the agencies listed below offer a diverse range of services. Through Ryan White Part B funding some services such as case management, nutritional support, and treatment adherence can be accessed. In most instances these services can be accessed directly from the ASO, in other instances payments to third parties or made to service providers. Other state supported services such as transportation to treatment appointments, co-pays for certain treatments and emergency assistance funds are also available through ASO's when there is a demonstrated need.

The staff at ASOs and other organizations providing HIV/AIDS services and support are knowledgeable about the resources available in their communities. They are well prepared to make recommendations and referrals. Please feel free to call these organizations with questions you have about their services.

All of the organizations in this guide that provide HIV/AIDS services and support maintain policies of confidentiality.

AIDS Community Resource Network (ACORN)

ACORN provides a variety of services for those living with HIV/AIDS in Vermont including case management, volunteer assistance such as transportation, respite, hospital visitation, and help with any day-to-day tasks, including assistance with nutritional care. ACORN also provides support groups, referrals and advocacy and is committed to preventing the spread of HIV through education. ACORN also has limited funds available for substance use counseling, complementary therapies and financial assistance.

CONTACT INFORMATION

2 Blacksmith Street, Lebanon, NH 03766

(603) 448-8887

www.acornvtnh.org

AIDS Project of Southern Vermont

AIDS Project of Southern Vermont provides case management services, family-based counseling, support groups and limited financial and household assistance, as well as funding for substance use and mental health counseling. Clients can also be matched with volunteers to provide additional assistance. AIDS Project of Southern Vermont also serves the greater community through prevention programs.

CONTACT INFORMATION

67 Main Street, Suite 42, P.O. Box 1486, Brattleboro, VT 05301

(802) 254-4444

324 Main Street, P.O. Box 4264, Bennington, VT 05201

(802) 447-8007

www.aidsprojectsouthernvermont.org

Twin State Network

Twin States Network provides support, education and prevention services to individuals, children and families impacted or infected with HIV and Hepatitis C in Vermont and New Hampshire. Our services include: peer support, Straight Talk HIV prevention workshops for heterosexuals, Women's Retreat, Kids' Camp, HIV prevention workshops for young men, and a variety of publications and DVDs providing information about HIV, HCV and Stigma.

AIDS Treatment News

P. O. Box 411256

San Francisco, CA 94103-1012

(800) 873-2812

Update

Distributed by the Vermont PWA Coalition

(802) 229-5754

www.vtpwac.org

Active Voice+

A Publication of the National Association of People Living with AIDS

P. O. Box 18345

Washington, DC 20036

www.napwa.org

Risk Reduction Counseling

Safe behavior, whether the issue is sex or needle use, can be difficult to maintain. Health department counselors are available to provide information and support to people concerned about the risk of HIV transmission.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Vermont AIDS Hotline (800) 882-2437

Social Security Benefits

Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and Social Security Disability insurance (SSDI) are two benefits programs through the federal Social Security Administration. You may be eligible for enrollment in these programs if you are living with HIV/AIDS. SSI benefits are paid to individuals who have low income and limited resources. SSDI is based on your work history and the amount you receive each month is based on your earnings. The medical requirements for enrolling in these programs are the same.

CONTACT INFORMATION

(800) 772-1213 (Social Security Information Center)

(802) 223-5663 (VT Social Security Office)

www.ssa.gov

Substance Use

Alcoholics Anonymous has meetings around the state. In addition, there are several other drug and alcohol crisis lines available.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Alcoholic's Anonymous (802) 860-8382

call an ASO in your area for a list of local therapists who may be able to help.

VT Council on Community Mental Health Services

(802) 223-1773

www.vtcouncil.org

Community Emergency Mental Health Centers

Counseling Centers of Addison County

Middlebury: 802-388-7641

United Counseling Services

Bennington: 802-442-5491

Northeast Kingdom Human Services

St. Johnsbury: 802-748-3181

Newport: 802-334-6744

Howard Center For Human Services

Burlington: Crisis 802-363-2400

Adult Out-Patient 802-488-6100

Rutland Mental Health Services

Rutland: 802-775-1000

Non-Traditional Therapies

There are organizations and individuals in Vermont who offer treatment that may be helpful in addition to traditional medicine for people living with HIV/AIDS.

These therapies include acupuncture, acupressure, herbal therapies, shiatsu, Reiki, yoga, massage, meditation, etc.

For contact information for complementary therapists in your area, please call Vermont's HIV/AIDS Program (802) 863-7245.

Partner Notification

Health Department counselors are available to assist people living with HIV/AIDS in notifying their sexual and needle-sharing partners. Notifying partners about possible risk for HIV/AIDS is important so that they can receive testing and care if needed. When a person requests Health Department assistance in notifying partners, the identity of the original person is kept strictly anonymous.

CONTACT INFORMATION

VT HIV/AIDS Program (802) 863-7245

VT AIDS Hotline (800) 882-2437

Publications

Space does not allow us to list all the publications for people living with HIV. Below are some of the better known resources.

CONTACT INFORMATION

P. O. Box 882, Bellows Falls, VT 05101

(888) 338-8796

www.twinstatesnetwork.net

Vermont People with AIDS Coalition

The Vermont People With AIDS Coalition provides a variety of services including healthcare advocacy, workshops, retreats, a newsletter and peer counseling for people living with HIV/AIDS in Vermont. The organization also runs a buyer's cooperative.

CONTACT INFORMATION

P. O. Box 11

Montpelier, VT 05601

(802) 229-5754

1-800-698-8792 (PWAC hotline)

www.vtpwac.org

vtpwac@sover.net

Vermont CARES

VT CARES Provides advocacy, emergency assistance (including funds for mental health and substance use counseling, transportation and treatment adherence services. CARES also provides social and support groups and information and referral services, and runs a speaker's bureau, and offers prevention and education services including oral HIV testing.

CONTACT INFORMATION

187 St. Paul Street

P.O. Box 5248

Burlington, VT 05402

(802) 863-2437

(800) 649-2437

Vermont CARES

27 South Main Street

P. O. Box 6033

Rutland, VT 05701

(802) 775-5884

Vermont CARES

1290 Hospital Drive, Suite 1,

St. Johnsbury, VT 05819

(802) 748-9061

www.vtcares.org

CHILDREN'S SERVICES

Vermont Children's Hospital at Fletcher Allen Health Care in Burlington has physicians who treat children with HIV/AIDS.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Vermont Children's Hospital at Fletcher Allen Health Care.
(802) 847-8200

Vermont Department of Health has regionally-based family-focused programs for children with special needs, offering specialty clinics, medical social worker support, and limited financial assistance.

CONTACT INFORMATION

(800) 660-4427 or (802) 863-7338

Parent to Parent of Vermont is a statewide support and information network for families with children who have chronic illness, including HIV/AIDS.

CONTACT INFORMATION

(800) 800-4005 or (802) 764-5290

[www. partoparvt.org](http://www.partoparvt.org)

Dental Care Assistance Program (DCAP)

The Dental Care Assistance Program provides financial assistance to underinsured (may have other dental insurance and still be eligible) and uninsured Vermonters living with HIV/AIDS. The services in this program include: diagnostic procedures including x-rays and evaluations; preventive care including cleanings; restorative treatments including silver fillings, tooth colored fillings and root canals; removable prostheses including complete and partial dentures and necessary oral surgery including extractions.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Vermont Department of Health, HIV/AIDS Program
(802) 863-7245

Discrimination

Although growing public awareness about HIV, and the way it is transmitted, has reduced the levels of irrational fear once associated with the disease, there are still people who haven't gotten the message.

VT Insurance Continuation Assistance Program

The Insurance Continuation Assistance Program (ICAP) is a state-funded program administered by the Vermont Department of Health AIDS/STD Program. It is designed to pay insurance premiums for eligible individuals who, due to deteriorating health relating to HIV, are unable to continue working, or have to reduce their hours of employment, and is at risk of losing their group or individual health insurance coverage.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Vermont Department of Health HIV/AIDS Program
(802) 863-7245

Legal Issues

Services such as simple estate planning, wills, durable powers of attorney for health care and living wills are available free of charge through the Vermont Volunteer Lawyers Project. In addition, the Vermont Ethics Network and most hospitals provide living wills and durable powers of attorney for health care, both of which can be completed and executed without the help of a lawyer. For more information call:

Vermont Volunteer Lawyers Project
(800) 639-8857

Vermont Ethics Network
(802) 828-2909

www.vtethicsnetwork.org

(800) 889-2047

(802) 863-2871 (VT Legal Aid, Burlington)

(802) 223-6377 (VT Legal Aid, Montpelier)

(802) 775-0021 (VT Legal Aid, Rutland)

(802) 748-8721 (VT Legal Aid, St. Johnsbury)

(802) 885-5181 (VT Legal Aid, Springfield)

www.vtlegalaid.org

Mental Health Care

There are ten state-funded community mental health centers in Vermont that provide crisis counseling free of charge and long term counseling on a sliding fee schedule. Many therapists in private practice do the same. The Vermont Council on Mental Health Services can refer you to a center in your area or, or

Insurance, Securities and Health Care Administration for more information.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Vermont Department of Banking, Insurance, Securities and Health Care Administration
(802) 828-2900
(800) 631-7788
www.bishca.state.vt.us/

Medicaid

Medicaid is a health insurance program for people 65 and older, people who are blind or disabled, children, pregnant women, and parents or caretaker relatives. You must also meet certain income and certain resources guidelines.

CONTACT INFORMATION

(800) 287-0589 or (802) 241-2800 (Vermont Department of Economic Services Division)
www.path.state.vt.us

Medicare

Medicare is a federal health insurance program for people over the age of 65, some people with disabilities under the age of 65, and some people with end-stage renal disease. Medicare has four parts: A) Hospital Insurance, which most people do not have to pay for; B) Medical Insurance, which most people have to pay for on a monthly basis; C) Managed Care; and, D) Prescription coverage.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Vermont Social Security (800) 772-1213
www.ssa.gov

Vermont Health Access Plan (VHAP)

This state-sponsored insurance plan pays for medical services and pharmaceuticals for people who meet the income guidelines. There is no resource test. This program is for people who have no health insurance that provides hospital/doctor coverage. There are a variety of qualification requirements for applicants.

CONTACT INFORMATION

(800) 250-8427
http://www.dsw.state.vt.us/Programs_Pages/Healthcare/healthcare.htm

Vermont and the federal government have tough, effective laws designed to prevent discrimination against people infected with HIV/AIDS. These laws address discrimination in housing, employment, at school, by any public or private entity that offers goods and services to the general public, and all aspects of medical care. If you feel that you have been discriminated against, or are in any way being treated differently because of your HIV status, you can seek relief under these laws in a number of ways. In addition, complaints can be filed and investigated by the Vermont Human Rights Commission in most situations except private employment, which is handled by the Vermont Attorney General's Office. Both of these offices and your local ASO also have private attorney referral lists.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Vermont Human Rights Commission (802) 828-2480
Vermont Attorney General's Office (802) 828-3171

Food Services

Vermont's statewide Meals on Wheels program provides home-delivered hot meals to people for whom cooking is difficult or impractical. This program is administered by the Vermont Center for Independent Living. Several ASO's in Vermont also provide home-delivered meals to their clients. If you need assistance purchasing food, Vermont's food stamp program, administered by the Vermont Economic Services Division (see listing above), may be able to help. Many communities have food banks administered by the town government or a local church. Your town clerk may be able to direct you to local resources. The Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP) is another resource for people over the age of sixty and women with children in their first year who meet the eligibility requirements.

CONTACT INFORMATION

VT Center for Independent Living (800) 639 1522
CSFP (802) 477-4120

Health Care

Many Health Care providers in Vermont, ranging from small town family practitioners to specialists at large medical centers, treat people living with HIV/AIDS on a regular basis. Some people prefer their family doctors for their primary HIV/AIDS care; others feel that treatment by a specialized HIV/AIDS team at a medical center is best for

them. If you choose to be treated by your family doctor, you may want to suggest that he or she establish a working relationship with a regional medical center that has a specific HIV/AIDS treatment program.

Comprehensive Care Clinics

The Comprehensive Care Clinics, located in four locations throughout Vermont, offer a full range of medical services for people living with HIV/AIDS. The Comprehensive Care clinics are teams of health professionals consisting of physicians, nurses, social workers, dietitians and support personnel. Through Ryan White, they provide early intervention services (including Orasure counseling and testing), nutritional counseling, and treatment adherence services.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Comprehensive Care Clinic

9 Belmont Ave.
Brattleboro, VT 05301
257-8860

Comprehensive Care Clinic

111 Colchester Avenue, 5th floor
Burlington, VT 05401
847-4594

Comprehensive Care Clinic

160 Allen Road
Rutland, VT 05701
747-1831

Comprehensive Care Clinic

Hospital Drive
St. Johnsbury, VT 05819
751-7603

Dartmouth-Hitchcock Infectious Disease

1 Medical Center Drive
Lebanon, NH 03756

CONTACT INFORMATION

(603) 650-8840

Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center

HIV/AIDS Program

The DHMC in Lebanon, New Hampshire, offers a full range of medical services for people living with HIV/AIDS. DHMC has an HIV/AIDS team consisting of physicians, nurses, social workers, and support personnel. Members of the team are familiar with other medical and non-medical HIV/AIDS services available in

HOTLINES

Vermont AIDS Hotline (Mon-Fri 8:00-4:30) (800) 882-2437

CDC Information Line- 24 hours, 7 days a week
(800) 342-2437

Women's Rape Crisis (802) 863-1236 or (800) 489-7273

Women Helping Battered Women (802) 658-1996 or (800) ABUSE95

Safe Space (LGBTQQ) (802)863-0003 or (866) 869-7341

Adult Protective Services Program (800) 564-1612

Housing Resources

People living with HIV/AIDS can qualify for federal, state, or local subsidized housing in Vermont. To be eligible, one must be “disabled” in the eyes of the government. Individuals collecting Social Security benefits usually qualify for subsidized housing; otherwise, you need a letter from your doctor stating that you are disabled. In addition, the Vermont Center for Independent Living can provide assistance with home accessibility modifications that may be needed.

CONTACT INFORMATION

(802) 828-3295 (Vermont State Housing Authority)
(800) 639-1522 (VT Center for Independent Living)

Housing Opportunities for People with AIDS (HOPWA)

Persons living with HIV/AIDS and their families may require housing. HOPWA which is administered by Vermont Housing and Conservation Board provides emergency short term and long term rental assistance. Call for more information.

CONTACT INFORMATION

(802) 828-5061 – Willa Darley Chapin

Insurance

Private Insurance

Some individuals may wish to purchase private or individual insurance. There are currently two organizations in Vermont that offer individual (non-group) insurance. Co-pays and deductibles vary between plans. Interested persons should call Vermont Department of Banking,

RUTLAND VERMONT 05701

Comprehensive Care Clinic; Rutland Regional Medical Center; 160 Allen Rd; **(802) 747-1831**

ST. ALBANS VERMONT 05478

Vermont Department of Health; Destiny Cadieux; 20 Houghton Street, Suite 312; **(802) 527-5586**

St. JOHNSBURY VERMONT 05819

Comprehensive Care Clinic, Northeast VT Regional Hospital; 1235 Hospital Drive; **(802) 751-7603**

VERMONT DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Various locations and times; **(802) 863-7245**

WHITE RIVER JUNCTION VERMONT 05001 / LEBANON NEW HAMPSHIRE 03766:

ACORN; 2 Blacksmith Street; Lebanon, NH; **(603) 448-8887**

Home Health Care

Vermont has a network of home health agencies that provide and coordinate home health care for people who need medical care but prefer to stay out of the hospital. By contacting the Vermont Assembly of Home Health Agencies, you can be put in touch with home health agencies in your area. All providers are certified and trained in HIV/AIDS care.

CONTACT INFORMATION

(802) 229-0579 (VT Assembly of Home Health Care Agencies)

(800) HOMECARE

www.vnavt.com

Hospice

Hospice programs provide home care for people with terminal illness on a regional basis in Vermont.

CONTACT INFORMATION

10 Main Street,

Montpelier, VT 05602

(820) 229-0579 (Hospice and Palliative Care Council of Vermont)

www.hpccv.org

CONTACT INFORMATION

(603) 650-8840

<http://www.dhmc.org/>

The Community Health Center

The Community Health Center of Burlington provides quality primary care at a reasonable cost and emphasizes a philosophy of care based on prevention and education. Interpretive services are available for Vietnamese, Spanish and French speakers. A sliding fee scale is available for those patients without insurance.

CONTACT INFORMATION

617 Riverside Ave., Suite 200

Burlington, VT 05401

(802) 864-6309

Vermont Regional Hemophilia Center

This center is located in Burlington and provides services to people living with HIV/AIDS who also have blood-clotting disorders.

CONTACT INFORMATION

(802) 863-7338 or 865-1326

Veterans Medical Center

The Veterans Administration Hospital in White River Junction has an HIV/AIDS treatment program, which is operated in conjunction with the Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center. There is also a Hospice room at the center for patients and families.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Office of the Regional Counsel (02)

VA Medical & Regional Office Center

215 North Main Street

White River Junction, VT 05009-0001

(802) 295-9363

(866)-687-8387

www.visn1.med.va.gov/wrj/

Family Services

Economic Services Division (ESD) of the VT Department for Children and Families.

ESD provides financial support, human services, insurance resources and case management to families throughout Vermont. ESD, formerly the Department of Prevention, Assistance, Transition, and Health Access (PATH) and before that the Department of Social Welfare (DSW),

administers state and federal programs such as Medicaid, Food Stamps, and Reach Up to assist eligible Vermonters in need.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Economic Services Division (ESD)

(802) 241-2800 or (800) 287-0589

www.dsw.state.vt.us

HEPATITIS A AND B VACCINE

VT Department of Health Immunization Program
(802) 863-7638

HEPATITIS C CO-INFECTION/HCV TESTING

Various services and locations.

CONTACT INFORMATION

VT HIV/AIDS/STD/Hepatitis C Program (800)
244-7639 or (802) 951-4065

HIV TESTING

The AIDS Program also oversees the state's anonymous testing sites, offering free HIV counseling and testing at 24 different sites statewide. Several sites now offer oral HIV testing that does not require a blood sample. Sites that offer anonymous oral HIV testing are listed below. *(Please note that this is not a complete list of testing sites. There are also 13 Planned Parenthood sites which offer confidential, blood-drawn testing on a sliding fee scale. For more information call the Vermont AIDS Hotline (Mon-Fri 8:00-4:30) (800) 882-2437).*

Oral HIV Testing Sites

BARRE VERMONT 05602

Berlin Family Health; 130 Fisher Pond Road; Central Vermont Medical Center; STE. 3-1; **(802) 225-7000**

BENNINGTON VERMONT 05201:

AIDS Project of Southern VT; 324 Main Street (second floor); **(802) 447-8007**

Vermont Department of Health; Chris Bongartz; 324 Main Street, Suite 2; **(802) 447-3531**

BRATTLEBORO VERMONT 05301

AIDS Project of Southern VT; 67 Main Street, Suite #42; **(802) 254-4444**

Brattleboro Memorial Hospital; Comprehensive Care Clinic; 17 Belmont Avenue Brattleboro, VT 05301
(802) 257-8860

BURLINGTON VERMONT 05401

Act 1 / Bridge Program; 184 Pearl Street; **(802) 859-1230**

Safe Recovery; 28 Pine Street; **(802) 860-3567**
Community Health Center; 617 Riverside Avenue;
(802) 864-6309

RU12; 34 Elmwood Avenue; **(802) 860-7812**
Spectrum One Stop; 177 Pearl Street; **(802) 862-5396**
Ext. 206 or 422

Outright Vermont; North Winooski Avenue; **(802) 865-9677**

Comprehensive Care Clinic; FAHC Infectious Disease Clinic, East Pavilion, Level 5; **(802) 847-4594**

Women of Color Alliance; 12 North Street; **(802) 660-0606**

MIDDLEBURY VERMONT 05753

Open Door Clinic; 812 Exchange Street, Ste. 2; **(802) 388-0137**

NEWPORT VERMONT 05855

Vermont Department of Health; Barb Thompson; 100 Main Street, Ste. 220; **(802) 334-4391**

RICHFORD VERMONT 05476

Richford Health Center; 53 Main Street; **(802) 848-3829**