

Letter to Governor Scott

In mid-January, we sent a letter to Governor Scott and his Drug Policy Coordinator, Jolinda LaClair. We recommended 4 key areas we wanted them to pay attention to. These four highlighted some of the discussions we have been having in our Action Teams over the past few months. Follow-up discussion with the Administration are scheduled.

1. Create salary parity among licensed clinical drug and alcohol professionals.
2. Continue funding state-wide prevention programs.
3. Augment the state loan forgiveness fund to create incentive for people to go into the drug and alcohol counseling field.
4. Bolster wrap around services, and mental health counseling, for individuals in recovery.

CCOA Action Team Meeting Dates

Treatment Access and Recovery Supports- 3rd Friday of the month, 8:30-10:30am, Turning Point Center

Community Level Prevention- 1st Friday of the month, 8:30-10am, Burlington Police Department

Workforce Development- 4th Wednesday of the month, 2:30-4:30pm, location varies

CommStat- every 3 weeks, starting Feb 23rd, 8:30-10:30am, Contois Auditorium

If you want to attend an Action Team meeting, check with Cathy beforehand, as the dates and times are subject to change.

Burlington Partnership for a Healthy Community is looking for a **Public Health Marketing Coordinator!** The online posting and full job description can be found [here](#).

GE Healthy Cities Grant

Ron Stankevich, our loyal GE Healthy Cities intern, has been working with a local team of 8 partners (United Way, Chamber of Commerce, Howard Center, to name a few) to identify workplace best practices that inform and lead other local companies to successfully implement sound policies and practices for hiring and retaining people in recovery as part of their workforce. Ron has been actively interviewing local businesses to garner some of this information. A meeting with the VT Human Resources Association is planned for late February to learn from each other and discuss their experience and needs as HR representatives from across the State.



Data Manager Update

Sam continues to work with local partners to secure data that will help us understand the opioid crisis better (for example, DCF). A Data Team is being established to help define key metrics and share this information with the community, as well as researching implementing a data dashboard where we can display our metrics. Look for this in the upcoming months. Sam also supports the Action Teams and their data requests, for example mapping all the SAP's in Chittenden County for the Prevention Team.

Delta Dental Plan of VT Donates Dental Supplies

Through our partnership with Delta Dental Plan of VT we were able to secure 700 much needed toothbrushes, floss and toothpaste for 3 area non-profits. Thank you Paula Cope for coordinating the donation!



Winter Warming Shelter Needs Donations

Winter Warming Shelter Coordinator Margaret Merriam, (802) 578 9017; **Winter Warming Shelter staff/office phone** (802) 540-8503

Office hours: 5:30pm to 7:30am; **Shelter service hours:** 6pm to 7am

Needed: sound machines/fans, dishes, food donations (snacks, meals, groceries, coffee/creamer/sugar), warm weather clothing

CCOA Community Engagement Project

We have started our work with Paul Born, from Tamarack Institute, by developing a Staff Team. The Staff Team has been tasked with planning the June kick-off event as well as identifying 100 key partners in the community who care about the opioid crisis. These 100 people need to represent 25% each of business, government, non-profit organizations and people with lived experience. More details on the event to come soon.



Training

Marijuana/Cannabis and Mental Health in the Year 2017

The Center for Health and Learning is offering a new local training for providers, parents or anyone to learn more about marijuana.

You will leave with a better understanding of the impact of cannabis addiction, have the chance to see the latest trends in products, see the impact on mental health, and have time to discuss the implications of medical marijuana & legalization.

March 9th, 8:30-4pm in West Lebanon, NH

Training cost: \$125/person

REGISTER HERE: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/marijuanacannabis-and-mental-health-in-the-year-2017-new-spring-date-tickets-28665081029>

The Hungry Heart

Film Screening and Discussion with the Cast
Wednesday, February 15th, 6:30 – 8:30pm
The Film House-Main Street Landing, 60 Lake Street

The Hungry Heart an award-winning documentary film on prescription drug and opiate addiction and recovery in Vermont by local filmmaker, Bess O'Brien. Through the movie we see the many faces and diverse populations of addiction, and the ir continued search for a life of recovery. After the screening there will be time for dialogue and a Q & A with Bess O'Brien, a cast member, and a local treatment provider who can connect families to resources in the community. For more information [click here](#).

Grant Opportunity

The Vermont Children's Trust Foundation RFP is now available for distribution.

The RFP and grant applications can be found on our website, [here](#).

The Turning Point Center of Chittenden County is hiring a n Operations Manager. Learn more at [Seven Days](#).

Worth a Read

[Iceland knows how to stop teen substance abuse but the rest of the world isn't listening](#)

[Teaching Yoga to Kids](#)

[Can Acupuncture Offer Pain Relief And Reduce Opioid Use? Vermont Funds Medicaid Study](#)

Teen substance use shows promising decline

The annual 2016 NIH [Monitoring the Future](#) survey shows use of most illicit substances down, but past year marijuana use relatively stable

[Maple Leaf Treatment Center](#)

[Opiates Claimed a Record Number of Vermonters in 2016](#)

Learn more about the Action Teams

Visit our website to learn more about the Action Teams. All their meeting agenda and minutes can be found here:

www.ecosproject.com/chittenden-county-opioid-alliance/alliance/agendasminutes/

CCOA In the NewsChannel 5, Thursday, [January 26, 2017](#)**EVENTS****Prevention Awareness Day at the Vermont State House****Wednesday, February 15, 2017**

Everyone is invited to help educate legislators about how substance abuse prevention works in your community and school. [Prevention Works! VT](#) will be in the Card Room of the State House all day. **Bring displays of your work and handouts to share with legislators.**

9:30-10am Welcome & Orientation

10:15-11am Tours of State House & VT History Museum

11-11:45am Lunch with legislators or Bag Lunch

12:00 noon Promoting Wellness in VT Celebration

12:30 pm News Conference and Prevention Champion Awards

1:00 pm House & Senate in session

1:30—2:15 pm Tours of State House & VT History Museum

If you are interested in participating in the tours (State House and History Museum) or want more information about the bag lunch option (prepared by NECI) contact Lori Augustyniak at preventionworks@fairpoint.net.

Recovery Day at the Vermont State House**Wednesday, February 15, 2017**

Join us in Room 11 for a day of networking, testimony, personal stories, resources from around the state, and cake with your legislators!

8:30 am - Networking with Legislators

9:30 am - Kickoff in Room 11 with Speakers, Awards, Community Presentations

12:00 pm - Lunch Time Celebration in the Cafeteria

TBA: Testimonies Scheduled Throughout Day

More info at: <http://www.pear-vt.org/event/recovery-day-at-the-state-house/>**The 2016 Vermont Collective Impact Conference Videos Available**

Watch the videos of the plenary and a selection of the breakout sessions, see presentation materials, find resources and view graphic recordings and photos of the conference [here](#).

The conference featured 25 breakout sessions hosted by nearly 60 individuals, from around the state, as well as two amazing keynotes by [Paul Born](#) author and president of [Tamarack Institute](#), a leader in community change.

Taking Action– Prevention Monthly Campaigns

Help spread the word about a Vermont resource for parents called [ParentUP Vermont!](#)



Help us spread the word about a resource for Vermont parents to help them talk with their teens about drug and alcohol use. Just cut and paste the text that works best for your needs!

You can also order print materials, such as brochures, rack cards, stickers and posters about [ParentUPvt.org](#). Materials can be ordered through Vermont's Drug & Alcohol Information Clearinghouse (a free resource!) [here](#). A thank you to the [Chittenden Prevention Network](#) (a group of coalitions working together in Chittenden County to support healthy communities and prevent substance misuse) for agreeing to put together information like this monthly for CCOA partners to engage in community substance abuse education!

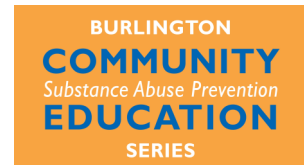
MEDIUM POST (for Front Porch Forum, Newsletter highlights, Facebook)

Research shows parents are still the #1 influence on teens' decision making! Vermont parents know it's important to have conversations with their kids about alcohol and other drug use. But starting the conversation can be hard. Watch video tips from Vermont parents on how to keep teens on the right track with it comes to alcohol and other drug use at [parentupvt.org](#).

SHORT POST (for Twitter, Instagram, etc.)

Think your teen may be drinking or using other drugs? Step in early. Learn more about each step and other tools at <http://bit.ly/gethelpvt>

Substance Abuse Prevention Community Education Series



Being a parent can be hard. But getting support doesn't have to be.

Four free, public presentations and discussions designed to help parents and others caring for middle and high school aged youth, learn more about what is changing around drug and alcohol use and how to support our kids to make healthy decisions in our increasingly complex world. Learn more about them [here](#).