

## Regional Prevention Partnerships Grant

The Vermont Department of Health has been awarded a five year grant from the U.S. Dept. of Health & Human Services/Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) to reduce the prevalence of substance abuse among young Vermonters age 12 to 25.

**Award** \$12.4 M for Oct. 1, 2015 – Sept. 30, 2020 (\$2.4 M per year)

**Goals** Strengthen state, regional and community prevention capacity to reduce the prevalence of:

- underage and high-risk drinking
- marijuana use
- prescription drug misuse

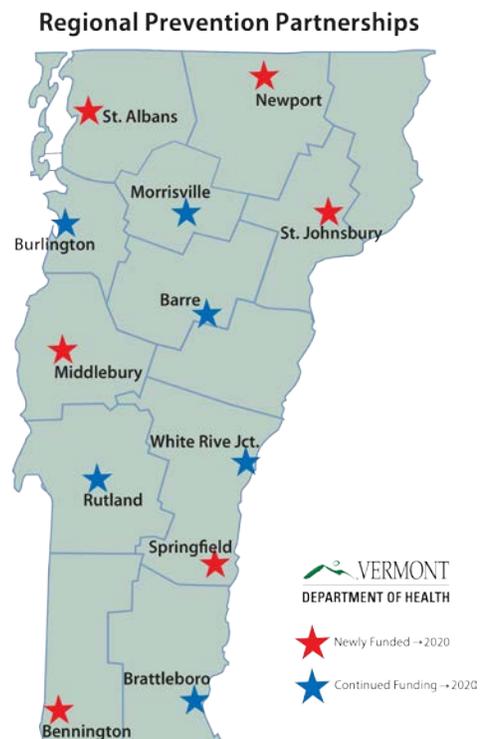
Building on the success of the current Partnerships for Success grant ending Sept. 30, 2015, the new Regional Prevention Partnership grant award will put into action evidence-based strategies to prevent/reduce the prevalence and negative impacts of substance abuse among youth and young adults, strengthen existing partnerships, and support new partnerships statewide.

### Regional Prevention Partnership Grantees

*Funding for 6 current partnerships/  
Health Dept. districts:*

- Washington County Youth Services Bureau/Boys & Girls Club  
*Barre District Office*
- Youth Services, Inc.  
*Brattleboro District Office*
- Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission/*Burlington District Office*
- Lamoille County Family Center  
*Morrisville District Office*
- Rutland Community Programs  
*Rutland District Office*
- Mt. Ascutney Hospital  
*White River Junction District Office*

*Funding for 6 new partnerships/ Health Dept. districts: Newport, St. Albans, St. Johnsbury, Middlebury, Springfield, Bennington*



## Examples of Current Partnerships for Success Work –

**Washington County Youth Services Bureau/Boys & Girls Club** leads the Washington County regional partnership. As a result, the partnership:

- Collaborated with the local substance abuse prevention coalitions Community Connections and Central Vermont New Directions, local schools and the Montpelier Parent Group to offer the parenting program *Guiding Good Choices*.
- Presented information on policy approaches for restricting alcohol in public places to select boards in Middlesex, Montpelier, East Montpelier, Calais, Worcester and Berlin, and developed a policy resource guide: *Education for Cities and Towns on Substance Abuse Prevention*.
- Worked with local law enforcement to conduct both Sobriety Checkpoints and Saturation Patrols, stopping 800+ vehicles. Law enforcement partners said that this visible presence made an impact on motorists, keeping the roads safe during this time.
- Provided leadership for follow-up forums to the Governor's Forum in 2014 and participated on the steering committee that has been formed to continue the focus on opiate addiction in the region.
- As part of their peer leadership focus, partnered with the In Your Face Gorilla Theatre Company to raise the voice of youth as it relates to their experiences with high-risk drinking and prescription drug misuse. The theatre work with youth provides a dynamic and interactive approach to engaging the community in dialogue and action regarding alcohol and prescription drug use and misuse.

**Lamoille Family Center** serves as the lead agency for the current and newly awarded Regional Prevention Partnership grant. The Lamoille Family Center partners with the Lamoille County Regional Planning Commission to:

- Deliver education on policy approaches to restrict alcohol in public places and events
- Provide an online education program on alcohol for freshman at Johnson State College
- Offer an electronic alcohol screening program for the community through worksites
- Conduct a parenting program called *Nurturing Fathers* through the Family Center
- Develop the Lamoille Opiate Summit to follow up the Governor's Opiate Forum in 2014

The Health Department district office in Morrisville provides leadership to the regional grant with the following active partners: Johnson State College, Sterling College, law enforcement, Lamoille Prevention Campaign, Lamoille County Planning Commission, Blueprint for Health, Lamoille County Court Diversion, Department of Liquor Control, Lamoille Family Center, and local news media outlets.

*July 6, 2015*