



State of Vermont Opioid Settlement Fund Proposal Presentation

JOINT PUBLIC SAFETY ENHANCEMENT TEAM COMMUNITY CAPACITY BUILDING CONSORTIUM PROJECT
SPRINGFIELD, BRATTLEBORO, BENNINGTON, ST. JOHNSBURY & CENTRAL VERMONT

BACKGROUND OF COLLABORATIVE DEVELOPMENT

- Catalyzed by release of Governor Scott's 10-Point Public Safety Enhancement and Violence Prevention Action Plan in August 2022
- Focus groups and summits hosted across the specific communities (Bennington, Springfield, Brattleboro and St. Johnsbury)
- Public health, public safety and other cross sector collaborations are the core tenets of these community initiatives
- Substance use disorder is a critical element involved in the challenges our communities face, in addition to mental illness and co-occurring conditions and broader violent crime challenges - addressing these impacts as a collective is the most proactive approach
- Each of our communities is unique, and the projects are at different stages of development, but are all committed to continuing to move towards progress and better outcomes for our residents and communities by continuing to invest in this multi-sector partnership work
- Situation Table trainings with Cordata have been provided to these communities (through one-time DPS funding)
- Overarching need identified is coordinator capacity in each of these jurisdictions to assist with continuing momentum and sustainability
- This need has been expressed to the Department of Public Safety who have advised that there are no available funds to support

FUNDING REQUEST SUMMARY ACROSS COMMUNITIES

CONSORTIUM COMMUNITIES & FUNDING USAGE

- Applicant communities are Springfield, Bennington, Brattleboro, St. Johnsbury and Central Vermont
- Addiction is a driving force of chaos impacting communities across Vermont
- These communities are working together to seek funding as they have this overarching need to support the continuation of the work that was born of the the PSET summits
- It is critical to fund coordination efforts across these five communities to ensure the work continues to progress in support of the collective impact of the cross-sector work
- There is currently not another funding mechanism for this work
- Part of the efforts of the coordinators will be to work with their community to identify other future funding opportunities and resources beyond the one year of requested opioid settlement funds - having dedicated staff to support this will be critical
- Communities are at different stages of the development and work, but share many common goals and activities
- Coordinators will provide support for ongoing facilitation and coordination, based on the needs of their communities
 - Administrative and logistic support
 - Partner coordination and engagement
 - Community outreach and event support
 - Grant research

FUNDAMENTAL PARTNERS OF THE COLLABORATIVES

- Key Partners Involved in applicant communities:
 - VT Dept of Health/Division of Substance Use Programs
 - Police Departments/Police Liaisons/PAARI Model Programs
 - Emergency Services - Fire, EMS
 - Turning Point Recovery Centers
 - Designated Mental Health Agency
 - Town/Municipal Leaders
 - Syringe Service Programs
 - Medical Providers - Hospitals/FQHCs

CONSORTIUM COORDINATOR

RATIONALE AND PURPOSE

The Consortium Coordinator will work across all participating jurisdictions to:

- **Provide Expertise and Support:** Offer guidance, technical assistance, and coordination across collective initiatives and their respective coordinators and administrative staff
- **Foster Communication and Collaboration:** Facilitate information sharing among partner sites across the state to highlight successes, address challenges, and strengthen ongoing work - This can support the possibility of this work and groups developing into a think-tank model
- **Coordinate with the Crime Research Group:** Serve as a liaison to ensure accurate and consistent data collection and information sharing to support the evaluability assessment and related data measures
- **Support Reporting and Documentation:** Assist the Grantee in meeting reporting requirements and in developing regular updates and summary briefs reflecting progress across the five participating communities

Compensation:

Funds will be used to engage a contractor at a professional hourly rate of **\$100 per hour**, for up to **five hours per week**, to perform the duties described above

Note: This role is intended to supplement—not replace or duplicate—the efforts of the existing consultants working with the Department of Public Safety’s Public Safety Enhancement Team

Rationale:

The three original communities have moved beyond the short-term consultant model that initially supported them and now require more consistent, long-term coordination. Adding a Consortium Coordinator will provide them with sustained support, strengthen communication, and create additional opportunities for collaboration beyond regular Consortium meetings.

CRIME RESEARCH GROUP

ROLE WITH THE PSET/APPLICANT COMMUNITIES

- Technical support to communities to support their data capacity analysis
- Analysis of police calls for service
- Creation of interactive reports
- Presentations to select boards and public groups

UTILIZATION OF FUNDS

- CRG will work individually and collectively with the project communities to:
 - document goals and activities
 - understand current data collection
 - identify gaps and data needs
 - develop recommendations for data
- CRG's activities will ensure that high quality data is available to conduct program evaluations in the future

BUDGET

Organization: Springfield Project ACTION, Inc.		
	BRIEF DESCRIPTION	TOTAL
PERSONNEL		
Salaries (list individually below)		
Coordinator	@ \$40/hour for 20 hrs/week	\$41,600.00
below)		
Total Personnel Costs		\$ 41,600.00
NON -PERSONNEL/OPERATING		
Sub-Contracts/grants (list individually below)		
Coordinator	@ \$40/hour for 10 hrs/week	\$20,800.00
Coordinator	@ \$40/hour for 10 hrs/week	\$ 20,800.00
Central Vermont - Coordinator	@ \$40/hour for 10 hrs/week	\$ 20,800.00
St. Johnsbury - Public Safety Task Force and Situation Table Staffing support	Funding to offset unbudgetted staff time by partner agencies leading the Situation Table and Public Safety Task Force	\$ 58,600.00
Crime Research Group	Professional services for completion of evaluability assessments and data collection recommendations for all involved projects in this funding request	\$ 37,730.00
Consortium Coordinator	To provide support and guidance to partner applicants coordinators; ensure regular collaboration across the jurisdictions; support CRG efforts; Provide grant support for required reporting - Contractors @100/hour for 5 hrs/week	\$ 26,000.00
Costs		\$ 184,730.00
Total Direct Costs		\$ 226,330.00
INDIRECT/ADMINISTRATIVE		
(does not self-calculate; 10% unless a different rate has been approved - Federal or State)	ACTION to support the distribution of funds and associated costs that may be incurred in doing so	\$ 11,316.00
GRAND TOTAL		\$ 237,646.00

- Stephanie Thompson
- Springfield
- thompson@nehidta.org

- Sue Graff
- Brattleboro
- sue.graff@vermont.gov

- Lorna Mattern
- Bennington
- lmattern@ucsvt.org

- Chad Whitehead
- St. Johnsbury
- cwhitehead@stjvt.com

- Eva Zaret
- Central Vermont
- eva.zaret@cvmc.org

- Monica Weeber
- Crime Research Group
- monicaw@crgvt.org

COMMUNITY CONTACTS FOR OSF APPLICATION

THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME AND
CONSIDERATION

APPENDIX

Community Level Activities, Needs and Funding Uses



**Project
ACTION**

SPRINGFIELD

SPRINGFIELD PROJECT ACTION, INC.

WHAT THE COLLABORATION IS AND WHO IS INVOLVED

- Springfield Project ACTION
- Formed in 2015, in response to increased violence and substance use related challenges
- Hiatus from 2018-2023 (some groups still met during this time and is where the Supportive Outreach Project post overdose outreach work came from)
- In January 2023 there was renewed interest from partners to re-energize Project ACTION
- The opportunity to relaunch in partnership with the State's PSET work through community Summit was beneficial
- The Project ACTION Board of Directors provides leadership for this work and includes representatives from public safety, public health, housing, town government, economic development, recovery, restorative justice and corrections
- More than 120 individuals have regular engagement in some way with Project ACTION - from the weekly meetings, Situation Table, monthly partner meetings, and committees
- Some current key focus of Project ACTION have been to increase safety, decrease the impacts of substance use disorder on individuals and the community, enhance partnerships between community service organizations, create greater efficiencies with systems and services, provide opportunities for youth engagement



UTILIZATION OF FUNDS

- Funds will support staffing for a part-time coordinator (20 hours per week) to help continue to build and strengthen Project ACTION
- Activities will include
 - Creating and documenting the process of Project ACTION
 - Assisting with planning, scheduling, and coordinating monthly meetings
 - Supporting the Board of Directors' monthly meeting
 - Support, note-taking, and sharing updates from current and future subcommittees
 - Support the Situation Table and related Community Table, held weekly,
 - Conduct outreach to other partners to engage them in Project ACTION
 - Participating in community events, organizing volunteers, and helping to prioritize tasks.
 - Work with Project ACTION and its Board on fundraising and grant opportunities to seek sustainability of this position or to expand it
- Project ACTION has sought out other funding opportunities
 - \$100,000 from Bureau of Justice Assistance COSSUP funding was awarded in January, and then rescinded due to the closure of COSSUP by the Federal Administration

OTHER

Mission

To work collaboratively with community stakeholders to mitigate the impact of crime on the community, impact substance misuse, support residents in treatment and recovery, and work towards the overall betterment of the community.

Vision

Project ACTION is dedicated to utilizing community stakeholders to share information and identify necessary action steps to achieve the organizational objectives.

The Project ACTION Board of Directors is currently engaged in Strategic Planning, to update our mission and vision, and to create more clarity of purpose, goals and measurement matrices to inform the overall work and committees with increasing meaningfulness



BRATTLEBORO

ONE BRATTLEBORO

WHAT THE COLLABORATION IS AND WHO IS INVOLVED

- One Brattleboro
- April 2024
- Five-member steering committee
- Representation from 26 public health and public safety organizations
- Main focuses: providing a balcony view of public safety and public health issues in Brattleboro and how they can be improved
- Regular updates on: Data Accountability, Situation Table, Outreach Coordination, Community Building, Safety Advocacy, and Funding Opportunities

UTILIZATION OF FUNDS

- Requesting capacity for group organizing and facilitation
- Without this support, the collaboration is not sustainable because putting together meeting agendas, doing background research, nudging participants, facilitating the meetings, and providing notes would not get done as smoothly or consistently

- High rates of poverty and drug addiction have led to a strong need for collaboration in Brattleboro
- Help us keep the momentum going on connecting people with resources and organizing our public safety and public health response to be efficient and effective
- Check out the One Brattleboro website at <https://brattleboro.gov/one-brattleboro>



One Brattleboro

The One Brattleboro leadership team is implementing and overseeing strategies related to community building, mental health/substance use, and care coordination for community members facing the highest level of complex needs.

In 2023, Brattleboro was identified by Governor Scott's Public Safety Enhancement Team as having higher-than-average rates of violent and drug-related crime, according to a prescribed set of law enforcement call data.

Ret. Lt. James Baker, a consultant with the Governor's Office, led discussions to examine the data, engage partners, and determine the next steps in addressing both the drivers (poverty, isolation, mental health) and downstream impacts (crime rate, opioid overdose, suicide).

Following a summit in Brattleboro in April 2024, One Brattleboro was formed. One Brattleboro is a public-private coalition that meets regularly to identify and address gaps or needs in public health and safety, as well as its impacts on the Town of Brattleboro.

VISION

Brattleboro is a healthy and resilient community providing a high quality of life for its residents and a thriving local economy.

PURPOSE

To develop and maintain a shared consciousness, strategic guidance, and measurable goals around protecting and improving public health, public safety, and the quality of life in Brattleboro.

MEMBERSHIP

High-level leaders in key sectors of public health and public safety in Brattleboro that together can provide a balcony view of what is going on and how it can be improved.

One Brattleboro includes representation from 26 local agencies:

- Vermont Agency of Human Services
- AIDS Project of Southern Vermont
- Building a Positive Community
- Brattleboro Fire Department
- Brattleboro Housing Partnerships
- Brattleboro Memorial Hospital
- Brattleboro Police Department
- Brattleboro Retreat
- Brattleboro Selectboard
- Brooks Memorial Library
- Brattleboro Union High School
- Downtown Brattleboro Alliance
- Department of Corrections and the Probation & Parole Office
- Groundworks Collaborative
- Health Care & Rehabilitation Services
- Interaction
- Senior Solutions
- Southeastern Vermont Community Action
- Town of Brattleboro
- Turning Point of Windham County
- Vermont Department of Health/ Division of Substance Use Programs
- Vermont Judiciary
- Windham County State's Attorney
- Winston Prouty Center
- Windham Southeast School District
- Windham & Windsor Housing Trust

CONTACT: OneBrattleboro@gmail.com

BENNINGTON

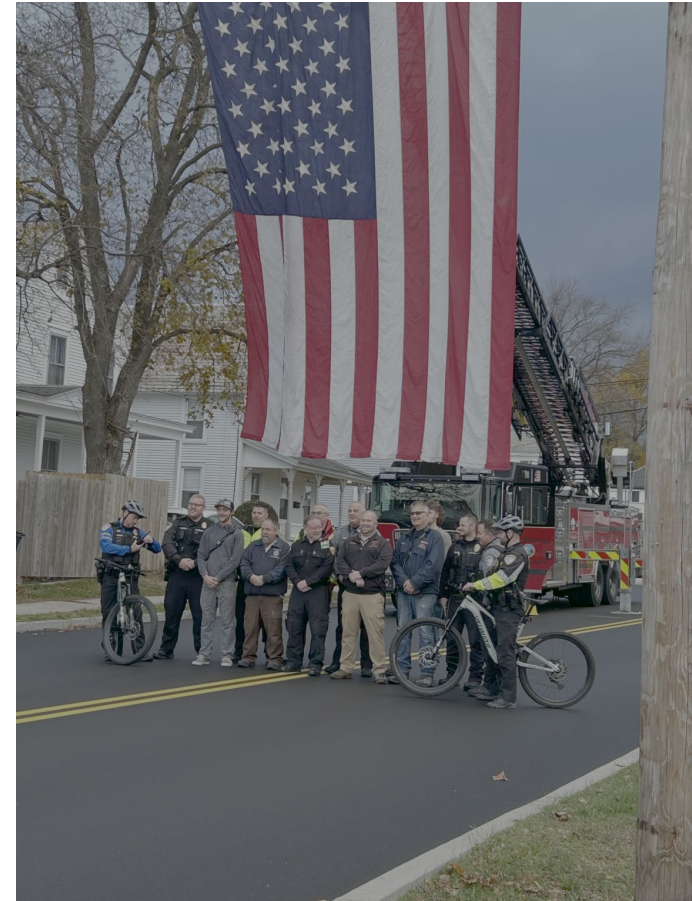
PROJECT ALLIANCE

WHAT THE COLLABORATION IS AND WHO IS INVOLVED

- Project Alliance
- March 2023
- Project Alliance Leadership Team consists of 6 member team from health, first responders, mental health, and higher Ed.
- Project Alliance consists of a cross section of members including business/community partners, faith-based, social services, schools and higher ed, mental health and substance use, prevention and intervention.
- Main focus- public safety/public health, trauma informed interactions and intervention. Focus on Data, Bennstat, Situation Table, partnership and collaboration.

UTILIZATION OF FUNDS

- Requesting capacity for group organizing and facilitation
- The funds would allow us to sustain this exciting and innovative community collaboration around public safety and the continuation of Situation Table.
- Without this support, the collaboration would most likely not function as effectively or efficiently as it could be as putting together meeting agendas, doing background research, collecting data, following up on assignments, facilitating the meetings, and providing notes is incredibly important but time consuming.



MISSION AND VISION

Mission Statement: Project Alliance is a collaboration committed to building a healthy, safe, and thriving Bennington County community through partnerships, cooperation, education, support, and growth.

Vision Statement: Project Alliance envisions a community of hope, tolerance, and safety with improved public health outcomes for all Bennington County residents, where all people are treated with respect and live in dignity.



ST. JOHNSBURY

PUBLIC SAFETY TASK FORCE AND SITUATION TABLE

ST. JOHNSBURY PUBLIC SAFETY TASK FORCE AND SITUATION TABLE

- The Task Force began meeting in the spring of 2024 in response to residents' concerns being voiced at public meetings
- Governor Scott Visits the NEK and meets with Town Staff and Service Provider Partners on August 30, 2024.
- The Town began working with CRG in September 2024
- Situation Table Training completed June 2025
- Public Safety Task Force meets 2x monthly
- Review Police Call Data to include addresses and individuals with frequent interaction with Law Enforcement.
- Makes recommendations to bring to the Situation Table.
- Situation Table meets weekly for updates and introduction of new Situations

ST. JOHNSBURY - PARTNERSHIPS

- Town of St Johnsbury
 - Town Manager
 - Police Chief
 - Fire Chief
 - Code Compliance Officer
 - Director of Dispatch
- Health Services:
 - Northeastern Vermont Regional Hospital
 - Northern Counties Health Care
 - Kingdom Internal Medicine
 - St Johnsbury Community Health Center
- St Johnsbury School District
- United Community Church
- State of Vermont
 - Corrections/ Probation & Parole
 - Economic Services
 - Family Services
 - Vermont State Police
 - State's Attorney's Office
- Umbrella
- Kingdom Recovery Center
- Northeast Kingdom Human Services
- Northeast Kingdom Community Action
- Restorative Justice Center

UTILIZATION OF FUNDS

- \$4,600 to Offset labor costs for Municipal Staff time to prepare for and facilitate PSTF meetings bi-monthly
- \$54,000 to offset labor costs for the Hospital, School District, and VT Department of Corrections for preparation and facilitation of Situation Table Meetings.

CENTRAL VERMONT

CENTRAL VERMONT PREVENTION COALITION at Central Vermont Medical Center

Purpose

- Strengthen Central Vermont's substance use system of care through collaboration and shared action, including harm reduction, prevention, treatment, and recovery
- Convene partners monthly across sectors to improve health, safety, and wellbeing

Mission

- Lead a collaborative network of partners to address substance use in order to enhance community health and resilience.

Vision

- Central Vermont is a strong, healthy community free from the harms of substance use.

Core Values

- Community collaboration & cohesiveness
- Evidence-supported practices and innovation
- Equity of access and services
- Person-centered approaches

History (Abbreviated)

- 2013–2014: CVMC identifies gaps and launches universal SBIRT in the ED
- 2015: Regional coalition established as WC-SARP to coordinate prevention, harm reduction, treatment & recovery
- 2020: Rebrands as CVPC; expands membership, scope, and initiatives
- 2021–2023: Launches ROAD, expands harm reduction access, NaloxBox project, and Project BEACON
- Today: Transitioning into a permanent home within CVMC with dedicated public health leadership

Current Leadership

- **Eva Zaret, MPH** – Interim co-director & community health strategist
- **Marissa Patrick, MPH** – CVPC Director & coalition lead

Key Partners

Central Vermont Medical Center - Emergency Department, Primary Care, Women's Health, MAT Program (Spokes)
Vermont CARES
Turning Point Center of Central Vermont
Central Vermont New Directions
BAART/Central Vermont Addiction Medicine (the Hub)
Washington County Mental Health Services
Treatment Associates (Spoke)
Montpelier and Barre Community Justice Centers
People's Health & Wellness Clinic
Downstreet Housing & Community Development
Family Center of Washington County
Better Life Partners
New England High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (NEHIDTA)
Elevate Youth
Montpelier & Barre Police Departments
District 6 EMS
VAMHAR
Agency of Human Services - District Field Director
Vermont Department of Health - Division of Substance Use (DSU),
Department of Corrections - Treatment Court, Barre Office of Local Health
Montpelier Food Pantry
Mosaic
Washington County Diversion Program
Good Samaritan Haven
Green Mountain United Way
United Way of Northwestern Vermont
The Pride Center
Montpelier Transit Center

UTILIZATION OF FUNDS

- Coalition coordination: 10 hrs/week to:
 - Strengthen hospital-community partnerships
 - Overdose prevention
 - Coalition administration
 - Facilitate coalition connection to Barre Situation Table for substance use related concerns