

**Substance Misuse Prevention Oversight and Advisory Council (SMPC)
March 2024 Meeting Minutes**

Date: March 25, 2024 Time: 1-3 PM	Mtg. Facilitator: Nicole Rau Mitiguy Mtg. Recorder: Trina Crockett Where: Microsoft Teams
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	Name	Organization and Role
x	Dr Mark Levine	Department of Health, Chair
x	Amy Brewer	Northwestern Medical Center, Vice Chair
	Heather Bouchey	Agency of Education, Executive Committee Member
x	Mourning Fox	Department of Public Safety, Executive Committee Member
x	Monica Hutt	Agency of Administration, Executive Committee Member
x	Melanie Sheehan	Mt. Ascutney Hospital and Health Center, Member
x	Kimberley Diamond	Prevention Works, Member
	Kheya Ganguly	Department of Mental Health, Member
x	Skyler Genest	Department of Liquor and Lottery, Member
x	Charles Gurney	Departments of Disability, Aging and Independent Living and Health, Member
x	Cindy Hayford	Deerfield Valley Community Partnership, Member
x	Maryann Morris	The Collaborative, Member
x	Kat Patterson	Cathedral Square, Member
x	Scott Pavek	City of Burlington, Member
x	Janet Potter	Hartford Middle and High School, Member
x	John Searles, Ph.D.	Department of Health (Retired), Member
	Stephen Von Sitas	Vermont Judiciary, Member

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Agenda Item	Lead	Minutes
Welcome, Introductions, and Quorum Determination	Dr Levine and Amy Brewer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two reflections from the Opioid Settlement Advisory Committee meeting that occurred earlier in the day: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ One of the guiding principles of the group includes a focus on primary prevention and that will be included in the annual funding discussions from that committee ○ A recent CDC MMWR (2020-2022 data) indicated a decrease in fatalities related to injection as the method of consumption while there was an increase in smoking as the method of consumption related to fatal overdoses. This is a trend that will continue to be watched and utilized to inform our overall overdose prevention strategies.
Review and Approve January 2024 Minutes	Nicole Rau Mitiguy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • January minutes will be reviewed in May 2024 meeting
Policy and Legislative Session Updates	Monica Hutt, Kimberley Diamond	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • H. 72: Passed by house, with the Senate. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Funding for this bill is solely from a tax placed on manufacturers of pharmaceuticals; this taxation rate is increased in this bill. • H. 612: Miscellaneous cannabis bill. It didn't pass by the original deadline but they delayed action which means it could still pass to make crossover. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Originally this housed the THC potency level cap piece, but that has been taken out. ○ Does close some loopholes around D8 and D9 products. • H. 847: bill related to peer support providers and peer recovery support specialist certification. This bill crossed over. • S. 18: This bill bans flavored tobacco products and liquids. Has passed both chambers but has not made it to the Governor at the time of this meeting. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Much of the testimony focused on revenue loss and cost savings. ○ One of the challenges is helping them understand that lost revenue might actually translate into meeting the goals that we're all set out to do of helping people use tobacco less. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Every 1% reduction in smokers, you can save \$8 million in related health care costs • S. 104: bill on designating August 31st as Overdose Awareness Day. This made crossover last session but has not yet been picked back up. • S. 186: This bill is related to an evaluation of recovery residences models. This bill did make

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		<p>cross over.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • S. 114: This bill is related to establishing a psychedelic therapy advisory working group. This did make crossover.
<p>Prevention System “Current State” Leading to Prevention System “Future State” Discussion</p>	<p>Amy Brewer</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Executive Committee began discussing about where to go from here as a Council, and it seemed like a really important time to take stock on our big picture. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Meeting Materials • A potential need is consolidating the various prevention funding from across state government to identify funding gaps. • There was a call to ensure we are framing our conversations in relation to our SMPC goals of risk and protective factors and not specific substance funding. • Question: Is there a way for the Council to provide feedback to VDH on larger evaluation efforts related to prevention funding as current evaluation efforts are happening at a local level in parallel to each other? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Nicole Rau Mitiguy will connect with VDH leadership to discuss the best forum for this type of discussion.
<p>Public Comment</p>	<p>Nicole Rau Mitiguy</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None

Next Steps or Assigned Tasks		
Task	Responsible	Due Date
<p>Nicole Rau Mitiguy will connect with VDH leadership to discuss the best forum for an evaluation focused discussion across substances at a local level.</p>	<p>NRM</p>	<p>TBD</p>
<p>NRM to consolidate edits to January minutes and redistribute to SMPC.</p>	<p>NRM</p>	<p>5/17/24</p>

Minutes approved on May 20, 2024.