



LEAD PREVENTION ORGANIZATION REGION 1 ANNUAL REPORT - YEAR 2

Activities, Outputs & Feedback | July 2024 - June 2025



United Way of Northwest Vermont is the Lead Prevention Organization (LPO) for the Vermont Department of Health, Division of Substance Use programs (DSU), serving Region 1: Barre, Burlington, & St. Albans Health Districts. DSU is providing new prevention funding to four regions across the state, through partnership with a Lead Prevention Organization in each region. The purpose of this funding is to increase state, regional, and community capacity to deliver meaningful substance misuse prevention statewide by addressing all ages and substances, ensuring access, decreasing disparities, and developing a consolidated and holistic approach.



UNITED WAY

Northwest Vermont

The purpose of this Annual Report is to provide a summary of activities and achievements during Year 2 of the LPO grant to Region 1 (the Barre, Burlington, and St. Albans Health Districts under the Vermont Department of Health). The report is organized by specific areas of United Way's responsibility as LPO and as convener of the Northwest & Central Vermont Prevention Network.

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ENGAGING & UNIFYING THE REGION

Convening partners focused on prevention of substance misuse and promotion of wellbeing among people of all ages across the region



11

Prevention Network Meetings attended by ...

102

Individuals representing ...

53

Organizations averaging ...

36

Attendees per meeting

Partner Presentations:

- **May 2025**
Burlington Partnership for a Healthy Community & Franklin Grand Isle Tobacco Prevention Coalition
- **April 2025**
Partner Updates and the Vermont Language Justice Project
- **March 2025**
The Intersection of Eating Disorders and Substance Use & Flavors Hook Kids Campaign Update
- **February 2025**
University of Vermont Larner College of Medicine
- **January 2025**
Winooski Partnership for Prevention (Alcohol Policy Work, part 2)
- **December 2024**
Winooski Partnership for Prevention (Alcohol Policy Work, part 1)
- **November 2024**
Follow Up from the Prevention Summit and Partner Updates
- **October 2024**
3rd Annual Prevention Network Summit!
- **September 2024**
Good Samaritan Haven (Building Hope and Resilience) & the Vermont Medical Reserve Corps
- **August 2024**
Sage Mountain Botanical Sanctuary (Afterschool in Nature Program) & the Central Vermont Prevention Coalition
- **July 2024**
Up for Learning (Getting to Y Program)

Feedback:

“[I like] hearing from [other partners] and hearing from you, the learning together, and then thinking about next time together. Feels like we have investment in the meeting.”

“I appreciated having a guest presenter and time for updates.”

“I’ve enjoyed being able to share as a partner, and to get a better sense of community programs.”

“Lots of people attending from diverse organizations”

“I like the shared learning / partner highlights.”

Third Annual Prevention Network Summit

Hosted by United Way of Northwest Vermont, October 2024

Summit Topics

Best Practices for Engaging Underserved and Marginalized Populations

Sarah Debouter, MENTOR Vermont

Addressing Workforce Challenges in Prevention

Beth Shrader, Prevention Works! VT

Incorporating the Voices of Those Served in Program Development

Nicholas Tatakis, Prevention Consultant, DSU

Innovative Approaches to Substance Misuse Prevention

Hilary Denton, Prevention Consultant, DSU

Policy Advocacy

Amy Carmola and Camille Bakoulis, LPO

Introduction to Employer Toolkit

Adrienne Lueders-Dumont and Megan Bridges, LPO

Funding Committee & Process

Mahat Abdullahi and Diana Carminati, LPO



45 Participants Attended, Representing:

- Prevention organizations
- Other community organizations
- State government
- Local government

- Research consultants
- Health focused organizations
- Youth serving organizations
- Senior serving organization

- Schools
- Businesses
- Volunteers
- Family serving organizations

BUILDING FUNCTIONS & CAPACITY

Providing information, data, tools, and training to support the shared interests and needs of prevention partners across the region



Regional Prevention Network Website

Data, tools, resources, news for prevention partners

- Purpose & History of the Prevention Network
- News & Events
- Calendar of activities, events, and trainings
- Invitation to Network Meetings
- Volunteer Opportunities
- Community Scorecards (see list of data points)
- Inventory of Prevention Organizations & Programs
- Resources for Prevention Partners:
 - » Prevention Basics
 - » Crisis Services
 - » Community Services & Treatment
 - » Planning & Toolkits
 - » Communications and Campaign Resources

County Scorecards on 54 Data Points

Scorecards include local data for each county, reflecting:

- Substance Use among youth, young adults, and adults
- Risk Factors
- Protective Factors
- Indicators of Harm related to substance use
- Community Demographics

See Scorecards at:

preventionnetworknwvt.org/community-data

Leverage Additional Resources

As the LPO, United Way secured additional resources to advance prevention in Northwest and Central Vermont:

- Partnership with VT National Guard Counterdrug Program, which provides a full-time position to lead the Prevention Network
- AmeriCorps VISTA Position from SerVermont



Building Awareness of Training Opportunities

As the LPO, United Way helped our community partners promote 26 trainings across the region, including:

- Cannabis Hyperemesis Syndrome** - Vermont Department of Health
- Nonprofit Collaboration** - Vermont Community Leadership Network
- Essentials of Evidence Based Programs** - Prevention Works! VT and Vermont Department of Health
- Scenario and Action Planning in Times of Crisis** - Common Good Vermont
- Training & Facilitation for Community Leaders** - Common Good Vermont
- Youth Mental Health First Aid Training** - University of Vermont Community Health Benefit Leaders
- Supervision of the Prevention Specialist Training** - Vermont Department of Health
- Not On Tobacco (N-O-T) Program Facilitation Training** - Vermont Tobacco Control Program
- Youth and Young Adult Peer Support Training** - Pathways Vermont
- Intentional Peer Support Overview Training** - Pathways Vermont
- Fat Liberation and Health at Every Size™ Training** - Pathways Vermont
- Overdose Prevention and Management Training** - Pathways Vermont
- Getting to Y - UP For Learning**
- Reducing Youth Substance Misuse by Implementing Mental Health Initiatives** - Prevention Technology Transfer Center (PTTC)
- Mental Illness & Recovery Workshop** - NAMI Vermont
- Substances 101** - Chittenden County Homeless Alliance
- Medications for Opiate Use Disorder** - Chittenden County Homeless Alliance
- Youth Thrive** - Vermont Afterschool
- Alcohol Use Disorders** - Vermont Department of Health
- Essentials of Treating Stimulant Use Disorder** - Vermont Department of Health
- Xylazine Wound Care Clinic and Protocol** - Vermont Department of Health
- What is Harm Reduction for Alcohol?** - Vermont Department of Health
- Preventing Substance Misuse on College Campuses** - PTTC
- Equity in Action: Crafting Inclusive Prevention Communication** - PTTC
- Cultural Humility & Responsiveness in Behavioral Health Care** - PTTC
- Reducing Youth Substance Misuse by Implementing Mental Health Initiatives** - PTTC



FACILITATING COLLABORATIVE ACTIONS & INITIATIVES

Convening and funding projects to build capacity, engage new partners, and advance shared priorities



Investing in Prevention Coalitions

As the LPO, United Way invested \$14,000 in a strategic planning process for five prevention coalitions, led by consultants Emily Boedecker and Elise Annes (Momentum Communications).

The purpose of the planning process was to support coalitions in identifying how the coalitions can work together, share expertise and resources, and create a more sustainable and efficient prevention strategy.

Participants in the planning included leaders from:

- Burlington Partnership for Healthy Community
- Winooski Prevention Coalition
- Franklin-Grand Isle Tobacco Prevention Coalition
- Connecting Youth - Champlain Valley School District
- VT Department of Health

Additional input was provided by DSU, United Way, and community partners.

Translated Prevention Content:

We partnered with the Vermont Language Justice Project in 2024-2025 to create translated prevention content.

Each video is available in 18 languages:

1. "The Legal and Health Consequences of Using Drugs and Alcohol"
2. "How Medicines and Alcohol Affect You as You Get Older"

Building Capacity & Practice for Policy Advocacy

- * Six meetings of **Policy Advocacy Workgroup**
- * **Policy & Advocacy Training by Common Good VT**
- * Presentations by William Greer & Olivia Taylor, **Flavors Hook Kids Campaign**
- * LPO staff:
 - Participated in Prevention Advocacy Day
 - Advocated for state funding for prevention in collaboration with other Lead Prevention Organizations and DSU
 - Shared updates on policy issues and promoted opportunities for partners to engage in advocacy

Employer Toolkit:

"The Employer Guide to Substance Misuse" was created in 2024 in partnership with Working Bridges, a program of United Way, and Prevention Works! VT. A workgroup of Vermont employers and community organizations focused on substance misuse prevention and recovery participated in the project. The guide is designed to help Vermont employers promote healthy and safe workplaces through preventive policies and managing the impact of substance misuse. The free toolkit is available online at: bit.ly/substance-misuse-toolkit.

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INVESTING STATE PREVENTION FUNDS

Sub-grants & project funding to advance prevention across all ages & substances



\$607,000

in subgrants to 18 organizations

Funding Scope

Funding programs and projects for the purpose of advancing substance misuse prevention by:

- preventing the onset of substance misuse,
- delaying initiation of substance use,
- promoting healthy lifestyles, and
- optimizing wellbeing among individuals, families, and communities across the lifespan.

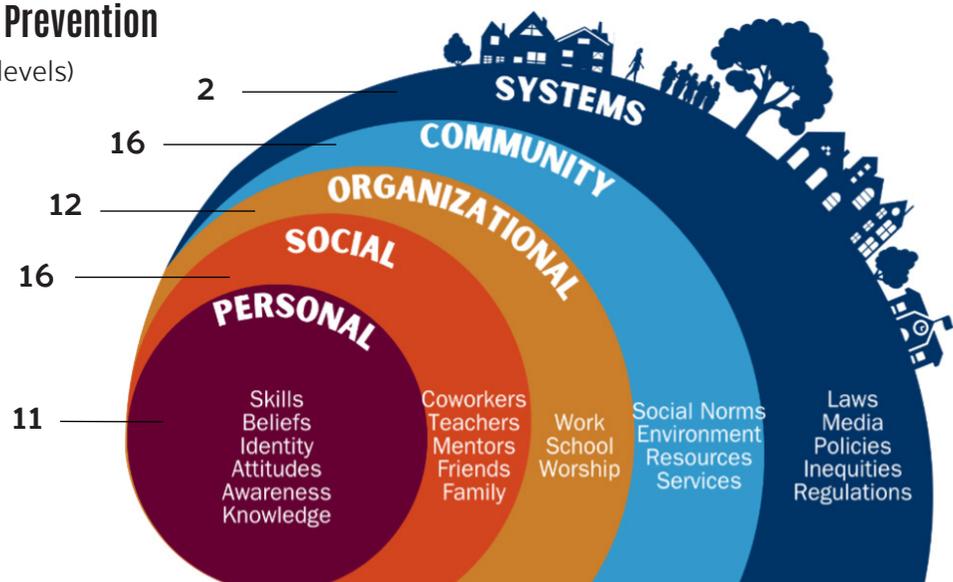
Funding Priorities

- reduce disparities in access to prevention resources
- support a holistic model that builds community
- address risk and protective factors for specific populations including:
 - youth, parents and caregivers,
 - people who identify as Black, Indigenous, or Person of Color,
 - people who identify as LGBTQ+,
 - people from households with limited financial means
 - people experiencing homelessness

Funding Supported Programs and Projects Addressing the Continuum of Prevention

(most programs focus on multiple levels)

Total # of subgrants: 18



VERMONT PREVENTION MODEL

Year 2 Subgrants Awarded By Region 1 Funding Committee

9 community members convened as Region 1 Funding Committee, facilitated by LPO, with representation from each Health District

50+ hours served by the Funding Committee throughout orientation, training, and grant-making process

ORGANIZATION	SUBGRANT FOCUS	AWARD
Burlington Partnership for a Healthy Community	Community Prevention & Education	\$42,000
Dismas of Vermont - Dismas House	Substance Use Case Management	\$26,000
Education Justice Coalition of Vermont	Training and Support Services for BIPOC Youth	\$45,000
Enosburg Youth Center: The Café	3rd Space	\$45,000
Good Samaritan Haven	Prevention Program for Homeless Individuals	\$34,000
Milton Family Community Center	Mentoring & Training	\$32,000
Outright Vermont	3rd Space: Planning for Camp Outright	\$22,000
People's Health & Wellness Clinic	Free Health Care for Uninsured 2SLGBTQI+	\$28,000
Prevent Child Abuse Vermont	Nurturing Parenting Programs for Families	\$22,000
Pride Center of VT	Prevention & Harm Reduction Training for Staff, Programs & Services for 2SLGBTQ+ Communities	\$45,000
Project All Together Now	Youth Empowerment & Increasing Access to Programs & Services	\$45,000
Richard Kemp Center	3rd Space (Activities & Programs)	\$40,000
Sage Mountain Botanical Sanctuary	Afterschool Program	\$45,000
Swanton Recreation	3rd Space	\$27,000
Turning Point Center of Central Vermont	Peer Recovery Coaching	\$25,000
Twinfield Together Mentoring	Mentoring	\$20,000
Winooski Partnership for Prevention	Community-Based Prevention & Education	\$45,000
Youth First Mentoring	Mentoring	\$19,000



**NORTHWEST
AND CENTRAL
VERMONT
PREVENTION
NETWORK**



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