

Vermont Drug and Alcohol Coalition

March 28th, 2007

Small Conference Room at the Pavilion, Montpelier

12:30-2:30 pm

Mission Statement: The Vermont Drug and Alcohol Coalition exist to continually improve access to quality prevention, intervention, treatment, enforcement, and recovery services and programs for all Vermonters.

Attendance: Debby Haskins-PX & IX, Ken Libertoff-TX, Patrick Martin-PX, IX & Recovery, Patty McCarthy-Recovery, Marie Holtman-TX, David O'Brien- TX, Linda Ryan, Tx-Women's Homeless Shelter, Kim Martin-PX-Coalitions, Beth Crane-New Directions Coalition.

- 📞 The web site is up and running: www.vdacvt.org, we have yet to find someone to write our grant and become the "Development Director" so we will advertise on our web site. Each part of the Coalition will have their own page. (Kim Martin will send Debby the name of a grant writer.)
- 📞 Because VAPA may hire a legislative advocate we discussed whether we should support them, or hire our own advocate for the Coalition. VAPA is an organization for the individual, while we represent organizations. No motion was made.
- 📞 We spent most of the time discussing Legislative Day this Tuesday from 8-12, followed by testimony in the Senate Chambers from 1:30-4:30 on Substance Abuse. The whole continuum of care will get its chance to testify.
- 📞 We need to look at the whole system, not just the preferred providers.

Legislative Assignments & VAMH: Ken reported that there is a real good chance that a Commissioner of Mental Health will be named, and it will be the current Dept Commissioner, Michael Hartman. He also said that there is discussion about where Substance Abuse would stay. Shumlin and Symington have proposed \$100,000 to hire a consultant for work on the State Hospital/Futures project. (\$124) And \$400,000 was cut out ADAP's budget for adolescent case management. There was much discussion about how it might "be found".

Suggestions to VDAC: we need to work harder to have positions on things. VDAC needs to be part of the budget process.

This year Substance abuse has a flat budget, with no increase. While mental health budget increase is 11%.

Minutes from the January 2007 meeting were distributed, but not discussed.

Quarterly meeting mtgs were distributed.

Treasurer's Report-no report given

April is Alcohol Awareness Month.

2007 Important Dates:

Coalition Meeting Dates:,

April 25th @ Dept of Liquor Control, May 23rd 12:30-2:30 place tba.

LEGISLATIVE DAY –Tuesday, April 3rd, 2007

After which many of us will be testifying in the Senate Chambers.

I was asked to represent VDAC with the concerns of our 0 budget, and concerns of where we are headed if DETER is not resurrected. Services are being cut, and there is no five year plan. Reference the Elephant in the Living room report.

VDAC 2007 Priorities

P.I.T.E.R. s.

Prevention Priorities: A commitment to sustain the existing Coalitions

Intervention Priorities: A commitment to sustain existing Student Assistance Professionals, and to increase the # of SAP's by 5. (This would increase capacity so every High School would have a counselor a minimum of 2 days per week.)

Treatment Priorities: To maintain existing service capacity, and to increase the # of Detox beds by 3 in every County

Enforcement Priorities: To change the DUI laws to include penalties for drugs.

Recovery Priorities: A commitment to sustain the existing Recovery Centers,
To increase Transitional Housing Beds by 24 beds.
To increase the peer led support services, e.g. Wit's End Parent Support Groups.

Sustainability: ??????

Thanks to Marie for taking the minutes. Errors are mine: Debby Haskins

Next Quarterly meeting at ADAP: To be held Wednesday, June 20th, 10-11:30 am, at VT Dept of Health.