



State of Vermont
Agency of Human Services
280 State Drive, Center Building
Waterbury, VT 05671-1000

Global Commitment Register

October 25, 2023

GCR 23-015
FINAL

Medicaid Investment: Lund Substance Use Screening and Referral Program

Policy Summary:

The Vermont Medicaid program has established a Medicaid health related investment for the Lund substance use screening and referral program overseen by the Department for Children and Families. The purpose of the program is to improve permanency outcomes and enhance the safety and well-being of children who are at risk of being placed out of the home as a result of a parent or caretakers suspected substance use. Regional Lund staff provide substance use screening to families when DCF responds to a report of suspected child abuse or neglect. When the screening indicates additional substance use services are warranted, the Lund staff assists the parent with the referral and provides support to the parent as they seek additional services.

Vermont's Global Commitment to Health Section 1115 Demonstration waiver authorizes expenditures, within annual limits, for public health, health care, and health-related investments. This investment is an innovative program that benefits low-income, uninsured, underinsured individuals and Medicaid beneficiaries in Vermont.

Effective Date:

July 1, 2023

Authority/Legal Basis:

[Global Commitment to Health Waiver](#): Waiver authority #5 [Section 1902(a)(13), 1902(a)(30)]; Special Term and Condition #6.8.

Population Affected:

People receiving Lund program services.

Fiscal Impact:

The estimated gross annualized budget impact is \$736,595.

Public Comment Period:

A public comment period was held and ended June 30, 2023. No comments were received.

To be added to the GCR email list, send an email to AHS.MedicaidPolicy@vermont.gov.

Additional Information:

The new investment template can be found on the following pages.

ATTACHMENT S
New Investment Application Template

For each new investment, the state must submit the following information to CMS as described in STC 11.6.

Date	6/1/2023
Investment Title	Lund Substance Use Screening and Referral Program
Estimated Amount	\$736,595 GC investment
Time Period	7/1/2023
Department	Department for Children and Families
Category	
Project Objective, Targeted Outcomes, and Impact to Health Equity	
<p>The goal of this project is to increase child safety through connecting parents who have come to the attention of the Department for Children and Families, Family Services Division, through a report of suspected child abuse and neglect to substance use treatment. The Substance Use Screening and Referral Program puts substance use experts into the district offices of the Family Services Division of DCF. When a report is accepted for child abuse or neglect and one of the identified concerns is parental substance use, the Lund substance use staff accompanies the Family Services worker on the first home visit to conduct a substance use screening. When the screening indicates additional substance use services are warranted, the Lund staff assists the parent with the referral and provides support to the parent as they seek additional services.</p>	
Project Description	
<p>This must include descriptions of specific terms associated with eligibility, benefits and services, and how the state intends to operationalize the program (e.g., population served, provider types, provider qualifications, methodology for incentive payments)</p>	
<p>The target group includes parents and guardians of children ages 0-18 at risk of suspected abuse and/or neglect. Families are identified through accepted child protection reports to the State Centralized Intake unit child protection hotline where substance use is suspected.</p> <p>Individuals must need assistance in accessing necessary medical, social, educational, or other services, when case management services are not being provided elsewhere.</p> <p>Service description:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Each eligible individual is assessed when the Department for Children and Families responds to the report of suspected child abuse and/or neglect by utilizing an evidence-based screening tool with the parent/guardian. 2. The screening tool is administered once to each adult client identified through a child protection report upon commencement of child protection activity. The screening tool identifies if there is a need for further substance use referrals. The screening tool is administered in the first meeting with the parent. If that is not possible, it is administered as soon as possible after the first child protection meeting. 3. If further substance use assessment is indicated, the Lund staff assists the beneficiary to engage in services. The Lund staff continues to work with the parent/guardian until they begin treatment, at which time, the services end. 4. Services are offered on a short-term basis and end when the client enters substance use treatment, declines support, or when the child protection matter is concluded with the family. 	

How does the state ensure there is no duplication of federal funding?
The Agency of Human Services operates under a Cost Allocation Plan (CAP) which is approved quarterly by HHS. The CAP ensures there is no duplication of funding because total expenses are allocated to the benefitting federal program.
Source of non-federal share
The DCF Family Services budget general funds will be the source of the non-federal share.
How does the state ensure that the investment does not include any activities listed in STC 11.6 (Investment Approval Process)?
AHS staff have reviewed project descriptions to ensure that the investment does not include any activities listed in STC #11.5 and will monitor program expenditures to ensure continued compliance with this requirement.
The state assures that in reporting cost, the state and providers must adhere to 45 CFR §75 Uniform Administration Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Health and Human Services (HHS) Awards and 42 CFR §413 Principles of Reasonable Cost Reimbursement. Pursuant to 45 CFR §75.302(a) the state must have proper fiscal control and accounting procedures in place to permit the tracing of funds to a level of expenditures adequate to establish that such funds have not been used in violation of applicable statutes. Costs must be supported by adequate source documentation.