

**COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH
SERVICES BLOCK GRANT**

VERMONT HUMAN SERVICES PLAN - FY 2013

FEDERAL ASSURANCES & DOCUMENTATION

Community Mental Health Services Block Grant
Department of Mental Health

<u>Use of Funds by Goal or Activity</u>	<u>FFY'11 Actual</u>	<u>FFY'12 Estimated</u>	<u>FFY'13 Proposed</u>
<u>Goal #1</u>			
To enable children and adolescents who are experiencing a severe emotional disturbance to remain in community-based programs and public schools by providing community-based treatment, support services and consultation.			
APPROPRIATION: MH- Children	\$2,384,423	\$4,710,193	\$4,710,193
State Funds	741,125	1,961,801	2,028,373
Additional state funds matched by others	641,880	0	0
Federal	938,087	2,693,635	2,627,063
MH Block	63,331	54,757	54,757

Goal #2

Services for families with a child or adolescent experiencing a severe emotional disturbance in order to avoid out-of-home placements.

APPROPRIATION: MH-Respite	\$ 906,489	\$ 906,489	\$ 930,345
State Funds	525,557	525,557	525,557
Federal	0	0	0
MH Block	380,932	404,788	404,788

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<u>Use of Funds by Goal or Activity</u>	<u>FFY'11 Actual</u>	<u>FFY'12 Estimated</u>	<u>FFY'13 Proposed</u>
<u>Goal #3</u>			
To increase the abilities of persons with long-term mental illness to function in community settings with the greatest possible independence from the mental-health and human-services system by providing community-based treatment, rehabilitation and support.			
APPROPRIATION: MH-Community Rehabilitation & Treatment	\$39,615,876	\$40,021,944	\$40,481,770
State Funds	10,177,387	14,253,186	16,024,011
Federal	29,261,815	25,597,800	24,286,801
MH Block	176,674	170,958	170,958

Goal #4

To avoid unnecessary institutionalization of acutely mentally ill persons by providing immediate professional evaluation and treatment.

APPROPRIATION: MH-Emergency	\$2,223,077	\$2,105,960	\$10,230,032
State Funds	1,842,157	1,784,603	9,252,512
Federal	347,824	288,261	944,424
MH Block	33,096	33,096	33,096

Goal #5

Housing infrastructure funds: consultation, etc. to maintain stable housing in the community.

Total	\$13,000	\$13,000	\$13,000
State Funds	0	0	0
Federal	0	0	0
MH Block	\$13,000	\$13,000	13,000

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<u>Use of Funds by Goal or Activity</u>	<u>FFY'11 Actual</u>	<u>FFY'12 Estimated</u>	<u>FFY'13 Proposed</u>
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Goal #6

Outreach to increase the presence and availability of qualified mental-health professionals to work with adults with severe mental illness in the downtown Burlington/Marketplace area through a community-client liaison.

Total	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$25,000
State Funds	0	0	0
Federal	0	0	0
MH Block	\$25,000	25,000	25,000

Goal #7

Support for activities of Vermont Psychiatric Survivors, a statewide consumer-run organization of consumers, survivors, and ex-patients with a multiplicity of activities and growing responsibilities.

Total	\$22,419	\$17,916	\$17,916
State Funds	0	0	0
Federal	0	0	0
MH Block	22,419	17,916	17,916

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	FFY'11	FFY'12	FFY'13
<u>Goal #8</u>			
Peer-operated initiatives			
Total	\$29,140	\$33,643	\$45,000
State Funds	0	0	0
Federal	0	0	0
MH Block	29,140	33,643	45,000
<u>Goal #9</u>			
Peer liaison activities			
Total	\$ 0	\$35,783	\$24,426
State Funds	0	0	0
Federal	0	0	0
MH Block		35,783	24,426
<u>TOTALS</u>	\$45,219,424	\$47,893,784	\$56,477,682
State Funds	13,286,226	18,525,146	27,830,454
Federal	30,547,726	28,579,697	27,858,287
MH Block	743,592	788,941	788,941
Additional state funds	641,880	0	0
Matched by others			

Block Grant Awards

FFY11	\$743,592
FFY12	\$788,941 (appropriated)
FFY13	\$788,941 (projected)

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Community Mental Health Services Block Grant
Department of Mental Health

GOAL ACCOMPLISHMENT

Goal #1

Goal Description

Block grant and other funds are expended to enable children and adolescents who are experiencing a severe emotional disturbance to remain with their families or in community-based programs and public schools by providing treatment, support services, and consultation. Community mental health agencies and one private specialized nonprofit provider deliver a range of services which include outpatient services, residential treatment, individual and group therapy, case management and individualized wraparound services, chemotherapy, diagnosis and evaluation, and consultation to schools and other community agencies. All block grant funds for this goal go to the Northeastern Family Institute, in Winooski, Vermont.

Goal Accomplishment

Services are provided on a statewide basis through a private nonprofit organization and ten community mental health centers (CMHCs) that cover the fourteen counties of Vermont in accordance with 3 VSA 24 (b), passed in 1988. Planning for systems change is carried out in accordance with 3 VSA 24 (b) and P.L. 106-310, which amended the Public Health Service Act with respect to children's health. The state law created an Advisory Board and established state and local interagency coordinating structures. An annual "System of Care Plan for Children and Adolescents with a Severe Emotional Disturbance and Their Families" and an annual status report on implementation are required. If necessary, a waiver may be requested under Section 1916 (c) (2) (B) if it appears that set-aside requirements will substantially disrupt new services in place. Indicators of goal accomplishment include the number of children and adolescents who are experiencing a severe emotional disturbance served in non-institutional in-home and professional foster care services as an alternative to institutional placement and the total number of children and adolescents and their families served. In combination with grants from private foundations and other state and federal funding, Mental Health Block Grants have provided services as follows:

TOTAL NUMBER OF CLIENTS ASSIGNED
TO COMMUNITY-BASED PROGRAMS
FOR CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS
AND THEIR FAMILIES

FY 2011 Actual	10,048
FY 2012 Estimated	10,500-11,700
FY 2013 Projected	11,800-12,000

Community Mental Health Services Block Grant
Department of Mental Health

Goal #2

Goal Description

Block grant and other funds are expended to provide respite services for families with a child or adolescent experiencing a severe emotional disturbance in order to avoid out-of-home placements.

Goal Accomplishment

In Vermont Fiscal Year 2011 (July 1, 2010-June 30, 2011), the last full year for which data are available as of this writing (July 2012), Vermont's designated agencies reported 8,329 episodes of respite services delivered to 405 Children's Services clients experiencing a severe emotional disturbance. The projection for Fiscal 2013 is between 350 and 450 clients served and approximately 7,000 episodes of respite, based on the last three years of data. Respite funds support additional family-specific requests for services outside the numbers given here; they are not reported through the Monthly Service Reports, however. Demand for respite services continues to be considerably in excess of the resources for providing them.

Goal #3

Goal Description

The Vermont Department of Mental Health (DMH) purchases services from designated agencies to increase the abilities of adults with severe mental illness to function in community settings with the greatest possible independence by providing community-based treatment, rehabilitation, and support. The services include (but may not be limited to) community supports and coordination (case management); individual, group, and medication therapy; employment and educational supports; integrated treatment for individuals with dual diagnoses of mental illness and substance abuse, peer support groups and other recovery-oriented activities and counseling; and residential supports and programs.

Goal Accomplishment

One of the most important indicators of Goal Accomplishment is the number of adults with severe mental illness receiving services in community programs. The number of adults with severe mental illness served in Community Rehabilitation and Treatment (CRT) programs from community mental health centers has been between 2,900 and 3,200 for the past five years.

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Community Mental Health Services Block Grant
Department of Mental Health

Goal #4

Goal Description

The Department of Mental Health funds emergency and crisis stabilization support services in all catchment area of Vermont. The specific components include screening, evaluation, and referral; facilitation of an admission to an inpatient setting, if necessary, or facility-based crisis or respite services; in-home support and crisis stabilization services; psychiatric consultation and evaluation; telephone crisis lines (available twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week) staffed by mental-health professionals; and screening for court-ordered psychiatric evaluations in criminal cases.

Goal Accomplishment

Approximately 10,200 people in mental-health crises received emergency services from designated agencies in the community in Vermont Fiscal Year 2011; approximately 70,000 units of emergency services were delivered.

Goal #5

Goal Description

Housing infrastructure funding buys such items as software and computer capacity for keeping data on homelessness, a requirement for federal funding; consultation on renovations; assistance in developing applications, which are extremely technical and competitive, to the Department of Housing and Urban Development; and related services.

Goal Accomplishments

Housing infrastructure funding has provided consistent and reliable data, unavailable until recent years, on homelessness in Vermont. The infrastructure funding has also purchased consultation on renovations essential to maintaining housing for adults with severe mental illness being served by the public mental-health system and to apply for federal funding for additional units.

Community Mental Health Services Block Grant
Department of Mental Health

Goal #6

Goal Description

Howard Center (HC), the designated agency for mental-health services in Burlington, joins with others in Vermont's only Statistical Metropolitan Area in efforts to increase the presence and availability of qualified mental-health professionals to work with adults with severe mental illness in the downtown Burlington/Marketplace area. ("Others" in the community include representatives from the Downtown Business Association; United Way; Spectrum, a youth services agency; the Homeless Health Project; downtown merchants; the Mayor's Office; and the Burlington Police Department.) The overall purpose is to have a coordinated response system to downtown behavioral-health issues through:

- Developing positive, trusting relationships with clients, merchants, and police,
- Enhancing social skills and behavior that will help individuals maintain their independence in the community, and
- Providing a single point of contact with the mental-health system for the business community and the Burlington Police Department.

Goal Accomplishment

A community-client liaison is available in the downtown area for:

- Interaction, prevention or intervention with adults with severe mental illness,
- Coordination of services and supports with HC case management, crisis, homeless health, and other staff,
- Training about severe mental illness and challenging behavioral needs for the police, and
- Developing educational materials on needs and issues of people with severe mental illness for merchants in the area.

Goal #7

Goal Description

Vermont Psychiatric Survivors (VPS) offers peer support, information, referral, and networking services to mental-health consumers all over Vermont in addition to technical assistance and a limited amount of funding to local support groups around Vermont. The organization is a partner with one of Vermont's designated agencies and a local chapter of the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill of Vermont (NAMI—VT) in the operation of a safe haven for people who are mentally ill and homeless in Randolph. In addition VPS administers Vermont's Recovery Education Project, offering the curriculum a number of times each year in several locations;

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Community Mental Health Services Block Grant Department of Mental Health

publishes *Counterpoint*, a voice for news and the arts by psychiatric survivors, ex-patients, and consumers of mental-health services, and their families and friends; assists individuals who have been denied Supplemental Security Income (SSI) or Social Security Disability Income (SSDI) and Medicaid; evaluates the recovery orientations of a local psychiatric inpatient unit as well as the Vermont State Hospital; and offers assistance in drafting a durable power of attorney for mental health treatment.

Goal Accomplishment

VPS continued with these activities and similar ones in Fiscal Years 2011 and 2012 and is under contract to do the same throughout Fiscal Year 2013.

Goal #8

Goal Description

Funding for this goal in FYs 2012-2013 goes to a variety of consumer-operated projects scattered around the state. These projects have all been designed to increase consumer empowerment, independence, and ability to support themselves and others in their communities.

Goal Accomplishment

The consumer projects funded in Fiscal Year 2013 include the following:

- A healthy food and wellness educational program at Another Way in Montpelier
- Peer-run computer projects, training and newsletter development at the peer center at Lamoille Community Connections in Morrisville
- Peer-run computer and art classes at the Springfield Peer Recovery Center
- Mental health telephone support provided by the Rutland County peer-run warmline
- Mental health telephone support provided by the Peer Access Line in Burlington

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Goal #9

Goal Description

Peer liaison activities.

These activities are still being defined as of this writing (July 2012). They have been made possible by an increase in Community Mental Health Services block grant funding at the federal level for Fiscal Year 2013. DMH's planners are still working out the details that will be involved as the project moves forward at this stage of system development.