

**Minutes of the Public Hearing
On AHS Block Grants
August 27, 2013
At 10:00 am
208 Hurricane Lane, Williston, VT
Conference Room B**

Mary Ann Alligood convened the meeting at 10:00 am, allowed a few minutes for participant greetings and entry of late-comers, then commenced the prepared speech at 10:03 am:

“I am Mary Ann Alligood, a financial director with the Vermont Agency of Human Services. Under federal regulation we must, at the beginning of each federal fiscal year, conduct a public hearing and notification of that public hearing for these federal block grants administered by AHS.

Today, I have with me members from each department who can address any specific concerns or questions regarding these grants. I believe you all received, prior to today’s hearing, a summary of the block grants. I should also note that these block grants and the respective programs and amounts, for the most part, were approved as part of last legislative session as part of the fiscal year 2014 budget contained in the Appropriations Act, Act 50 of the Acts of 2013. Currently, the federal appropriations bills supporting these Block Grants are under review. The estimated allocations remain consistent with these presentations with the exception of the Preventive Health Block Grant, which may be eliminated in the federal appropriation process. Until enacted into law, we will use the known distribution at this time.

At this time if you should have any questions, we would be happy to address those questions and if anyone from the public is here, we would be happy to answer their questions. If for any reason, we don’t have the information readily available to us; it will be provided to you as soon as possible.”

Bob Bick of the Howard Center noted that the Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention (ADAP)/ Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment (SAPT) Block Grant had been level funded between State Fiscal Years 2013 and 2014. Hugh McCaslin explained that the Federal Awards for 2014 were not available at the time of the Block Plan preparation, and that the prior year’s award level was often used as an estimate, as was the case this year. Bob Bick asked whether there was a set amount or percentage required to split the award between Prevention and Treatment. The staff present did not know, and Hugh McCaslin (VDH) offered to find the

answer and let him know (See notes below minutes for details).

Attendees were notified that the State Block Plan Material would be posted online, could be emailed upon request and were available as full or summary paper copies.

(Recess for ten minutes)

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 10:23 am. Staff remained in the room until after 10:30 am but no additional attendees arrived.

Notes on follow up question:

On August 27, 2013 at 3:00 pm, Barbara Cimaglio (Deputy Commissioner – VDH) emailed Bob Bick:

Bob,

The funding split for Prevention and Treatment in the Block Grant is in the Federal law that authorizes the grant. 20% must be used for Prevention.

Let me know if you have further questions. Happy to share any of the regulations with you.

Barbara Cimaglio

On August 28, 2013 at 6:20 am, Bob Bick replied:

Thanks. B.

Minutes prepared by Mary Ann Alligood, Financial Director III, Vermont Agency of Human Services.