



STATE OF VERMONT
JOINT FISCAL OFFICE

MEMORANDUM

To: Joint Fiscal Committee members
From: Daniel Dickerson, Fiscal Analyst *DD*
Date: December 13, 2019
Subject: Grant Requests – JFO #2983-2986

Enclosed please find four (4) items, including two (2) limited-service positions, which the Joint Fiscal Office has received from the Administration.

JFO #2983 – \$135,728 from Vibrant Emotional Health to the VT Dept. of Mental Health. This funding will be used to build capacity within Vermont to provide in-state call response for individuals that call into the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline. Much of the grant funding will be used for sub-contracts with two in-state organizations to provide lifeline services: Northwestern Counseling & Support Services, and Vermont 2-1-1. The remainder of grant funding will cover salary, benefits and travel for an existing department employee (approx. 0.09 FTE) to serve as a state liaison for the project. The main project goal will be to reach or exceed a 70% in-state lifeline answer rate by Sept. 30, 2021 (current in-state answer rate is 0%).
[JFO received 12/05/19]

JFO #2984 – \$2,040,000 from the U.S. Dept. of Transportation to the VT Agency of Transportation. This funding was received as part of the 2019 BUILD grant program. The funding received by Vermont represents 17% of the total \$12,000,000 grant award, with the rest going to the New Hampshire Dept. of Transportation. The funds will be used towards a \$50 million project to build a new VT/NH 119 bypass bridge, which will replace two structurally deficient truss bridges crossing the Connecticut River and connecting Hinsdale, NH to Brattleboro, VT. The old bridges will be maintained for pedestrian and bicycle use.
[JFO received 12/05/19]

JFO #2985 – \$679,990 from the U.S. Dept. of Labor to the VT Dept. of Labor. This funding will be used to expand the availability and quality of registered apprenticeship programs in Vermont. This work will be done over three State fiscal years (FY20-22). The four primary goals of the program will be: 1) establish strong organizational leadership within the Department through an expansion and reorganization of the apprenticeship division, 2) establish an effective information management system for Vermont's registered apprenticeship programs, 3) carry out public outreach and establish communication tools, and 4) increase the recruitment and enrollment of underrepresented participants in apprenticeship programs.
[JFO received 12/05/19]

JFO #2986 – \$1,050,000 from U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services to the VT Dept. of Disabilities, Aging and Independent Living. This funding will be used to enhance state adult protective services through the Elder Abuse Prevention Interventions program and will seek to serve both victims and perpetrators of elder abuse. The primary objectives will be to 1) provide additional options for perpetrators who are placed on the Vermont Adult Abuse Registry, 2) decrease recidivism rates among offenders, 3) reduce re-victimization rates among maltreatment victims, 4) and increase reporting to the national Adult Protective Services (APS) database. **Two (2) limited-service positions are being requested in conjunction with this grant.** The two positions would be titled APS Restorative Justice Case Manager. This grant would require \$350,000 in State matching funds over the 3-year term of the program.

[JFO received 12/10/19]

Please review the enclosed materials and notify the Joint Fiscal Office (Daniel Dickerson at (802) 828-2472; ddickerson@leg.state.vt.us) if you have questions or would like an item held for legislative review. Unless we hear from you to the contrary by December 27, 2019 we will assume that you agree to consider as final the Governor's acceptance of these requests.

State of Vermont
 Department of Finance & Management
 109 State Street, Pavilion Building
 Montpelier, VT 05620-0401

[phone] 802-828-2376
 [fax] 802-828-2428


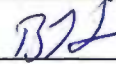
RECEIVED

Agency of Administration

DEC 05 2019

JOINT FISCAL OFFICE

**STATE OF VERMONT
 FINANCE & MANAGEMENT GRANT REVIEW FORM**

Grant Summary:		Vibrant Emotional Health, administrator of the National Suicide PRevention Lifeline, is granting funds to DMH to build capacity for in-state call response for Vermonters calling into the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline.			
Date:		11/26/2019			
Department:		Department of Mental Health			
Legal Title of Grant:		National Suicide Prevention Lifeline FY20-21 State Capacity Building Initiative			
Federal Catalog #:		n/a			
Grant/Donor Name and Address:		Vibrant Emotional Health 50 Broadway, 19 th Floor, New York, NY 10004			
Grant Period:	From:	10/1/2019	To:	9/30/2021	
Grant/Donation		\$135,728			
	SFY 1	SFY 2	SFY 3	Total	Comments
Grant Amount:	\$59,539	\$76,189	\$	\$	
Position Information:		# Positions	Explanation/Comments		
Additional Comments:			.09 FTE of existing VDH position will be funded through this grant (#740913 - approved in July 2017 for JFO #2882, related to the Governor's Highway Safety Program)		
Department of Finance & Management				(Initial)	
Secretary of Administration				(Initial)	
Sent To Joint Fiscal Office			12/5/19	Date	



STATE OF VERMONT REQUEST FOR GRANT (*) ACCEPTANCE (Form AA-1)

BASIC GRANT INFORMATION

1. Agency:	Agency of Human Services		
2. Department:	Department of Mental Health		
3. Program:	VT Suicide Prevention - Lifeline Call Centers		
4. Legal Title of Grant:	National Suicide Prevention Lifeline FY 20-21 State Capacity Building		
5. Federal Catalog #:			
6. Grant/Donor Name and Address:	Vibrant Emotional Health 50 Broadway, 19 th Floor, New York, NY 10004		
7. Grant Period:	From:	10/1/2019	To: 9/30/2021
8. Purpose of Grant:	Build capacity for in-state call response for Vermonters calling into the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline. Vermont has a 0% response rate currently and we are working toward an 85% call response rate		
9. Impact on existing program if grant is not Accepted:	Vermont will not have a Lifeline call response center. Calls from Vermonters will be triaged to other states, increasing the wait time for suicidal callers, and limiting the effectiveness of service due to lack of awareness of local resources.		

BUDGET INFORMATION

	SFY 1	SFY 2	SFY 3	Comments
	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY	
Expenditures:				
Personal Services	\$7914	\$7,914	\$	
Operating Expenses	\$2,150	\$2,150	\$	
Grants	\$49,475	\$66,125	\$	
Total	\$59,539	\$76,189	\$	
Revenues:				
State Funds:				
Cash	\$	\$	\$	
In-Kind	\$	\$	\$	
Federal Funds:				
(Direct Costs)	\$	\$	\$	
(Statewide Indirect)	\$	\$	\$	
(Departmental Indirect)	\$	\$	\$	
Other Funds:				
Grant (source Vibrant Emotional Health)	\$59,539	\$76,189	\$	
Total	\$	\$	\$	

Appropriation No:	3150070000	Amount:	\$135,728
			\$
			\$
			\$
			\$
			\$



STATE OF VERMONT REQUEST FOR GRANT (*) ACCEPTANCE (Form AA-1)

		\$
	Total	\$135,728

PERSONAL SERVICE INFORMATION

11. Will monies from this grant be used to fund one or more Personal Service Contracts? Yes No
 If "Yes", appointing authority must initial here to indicate intent to follow current competitive bidding process/policy.
 Appointing Authority Name: Sarah Squirrel Agreed by: SS (initial)

12. Limited Service Position Information:	# Positions	Title
Total Positions		

12a. Equipment and space for these positions: Is presently available. Can be obtained with available funds.

13. AUTHORIZATION AGENCY/DEPARTMENT/UNIT

I/we certify that no funds beyond basic application preparation and filing costs have been expended or committed in anticipation of Joint Fiscal Committee approval of this grant, unless previous notification was made on Form AA-1PN (if applicable):

Signature: <u>[Signature]</u>	Date: <u>11/8/19</u>
Title: Commissioner, Department of Mental Health	
Signature: <u>[Signature]</u>	Date: <u>11/22/19</u>
Title: Deputy Secretary, Agency of Human Services	

14. SECRETARY OF ADMINISTRATION

Approved: [Signature] (Secretary or designee signature) Date: 11/26/19

15. ACTION BY GOVERNOR

Check One Box:
 Accepted [Signature] (Governor's signature) Date: 12/3/19
 Rejected

16. DOCUMENTATION REQUIRED

Required GRANT Documentation

<input type="checkbox"/> Request Memo	<input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Donation (if any)
<input type="checkbox"/> Dept. project approval (if applicable)	<input type="checkbox"/> Grant (Project) Timeline (if applicable)
<input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Award	<input type="checkbox"/> Request for Extension (if applicable)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grant Agreement	<input type="checkbox"/> Form AA-1PN attached (if applicable)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grant Budget	

End Form AA-1

(*) The term "grant" refers to any grant, gift, loan, or any sum of money or thing of value to be accepted by any agency, department, commission, board, or other part of state government (see 32 V.S.A. §5).

08-11/15/19

Vibrant

Emotional Health

NATIONAL SUICIDE PREVENTION LIFELINE FY20-21 STATE CAPACITY BUILDING INITIATIVE FUNDING AGREEMENT WITH THE VERMONT AGENCY OF HUMAN SERVICES

Agreement made as of October 1, 2019, between Vibrant Emotional Health (hereinafter referred to as "Vibrant"), the Administrator of the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline, located at 50 Broadway, 19th Floor, New York, New York 10004 and the Vermont Agency of Human Services (hereinafter referred to as "Contractor") located at 280 State Drive, NOB 2 North, Waterbury, VT 05671-2010

WHEREAS, Vibrant desires to support state authorities with low in-state answer rates for National Suicide Prevention Lifeline calls (hereinafter referred to as "Lifeline"), by supporting crisis centers participating in the Lifeline network through a State Capacity Building Initiative;

WHEREAS, Subrecipient is a state agency;

WHEREAS, Vibrant desires to grant an award to Contractor to provide capacity-building support in order for Vermont to achieve a 70% or greater in-state answer rate for Lifeline calls by September 30, 2021;

WHEREAS, this funding agreement governs year one of a two-year award;

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual covenants contained herein and for other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged, Vibrant and the Contractor hereby agree as follows:

TERM AND TERMINATION

The Services shall be performed under this agreement shall occur during the period October 1, 2019 (Effective Date) to September 30, 2020. Notwithstanding the foregoing, this Agreement may be terminated by either party with or without cause with thirty (30) days written notice. In the event a party defaults in the performance of this Agreement or materially breaches any of the provisions herein, the non-breaching party may terminate the agreement with one week's notice.

SCOPE AND TERMS OF WORK

Contractor will perform the year one services outlined within the Vermont Agency of Human Services' grant proposal submitted for the Lifeline FY20-21 State Capacity Building Initiative, attached as **Exhibit C**. Major, year one work scope details are outlined in **Exhibit A: Approved Services**.

COMPENSATION

1. **Payment of Funds.** Upon receipt from Contractor of a one-time, advance payment invoice, Vibrant agrees to reimburse Contractor for year one project costs not to exceed \$59,539.00 (the "**Total Agreement Funds**") in accordance with **Exhibit B: Approved Budget**.

While not governed by this agreement, Vibrant expects to fund Contractor for an additional year, not to exceed \$76,189.00.

2. The amount of Total Agreement Funds, however, is subject to adjustment by Vibrant if a substantial change is made to the work scope, as mutually agreed upon by Vibrant and the Contractor, that affects this Agreement or if this Agreement is terminated prior to the expiration of the Agreement as provided above. Program funds shall not be expended prior to the Effective Date, or following the earlier of the expiration or termination of this Agreement. Costs incurred shall only be as necessary and allowable to carry out the purposes and activities of the Approved Services and may not exceed the maximum limit of \$59,539.00 in year one in accordance with **Exhibit B: Approved Budget**.

INVOICE

Contractor must submit invoice totaling \$59,539.00 to Vibrant as advance payment for year one services rendered. The Invoice shall be emailed to the Lifeline's Director of Network Development, Matthew Taylor at mtaylor@vibrant.org no later than 10 business days after the full execution of this agreement. The invoice submitted by the Contractor to Vibrant shall note all of the Contractor's responsibilities as identified in **Exhibit A: Approved Services**.

RESPONSIBILITY OF INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR

Contractor agrees to perform all Services pursuant to this Agreement in accordance with all applicable laws, codes, and regulations of governmental authorities with jurisdiction over the services set forth herein.

CONFIDENTIALITY

Contractor acknowledges that in connection with the Services, Contractor will have access to and become acquainted with confidential information regarding Vibrant, including without limitation trade secrets, proprietary information, innovations, processes, information, records and specifications retained, owned or licensed by Vibrant and/or used by Vibrant in connection with the operation of its services including, Vibrant's business processes and methods; personal, compensation and other information regarding employees and prospective employees; clients or client information, including medical and clinical information; accounts; proprietary information, services, vendors, suppliers, prices and costs; designs, product development and plans, marketing data; finances, budgets, financial records; information that may be disclosed to Vibrant by others in confidence, and other non-public information disclosed to Contractor by Vibrant either directly or indirectly (collectively, "Confidential Information"). The Contractor agrees that the Contractor will not disclose any of this Confidential Information, directly or indirectly, or use any of it in any manner, either during the term of this Agreement, or at any other time, except as required in the course of providing the Services herein.

COPYRIGHT OWNERSHIP; WORK MADE FOR HIRE

1. **The Works**. The "Works" means all copyrightable works, whether or not registered, conceived, created, produced or prepared by or with the cooperation of Contractor, at the request or under the direction of the Vibrant or through use of Vibrant's resources, records, equipment or personnel, in connection with the Services, including without limitation all designs, drawings, text, prototypes, patterns, images, depictions and all copyrights and other intellectual property and proprietary rights therein and thereto.
2. **Works Made for Hire; Assignment**. Contractor agrees that the Works made by Contractor on behalf of Vibrant were or will be produced or prepared within the scope of the Services and are works-made-for-hire under the Copyright Act of 1976. If any of the Works or any portion thereof are held not to be "works made for hire" (or if ownership of all rights therein did not or do not vest exclusively in Vibrant), Contractor irrevocably assigns, releases and conveys to Vibrant in perpetuity all rights with respect to control, management and dissemination of the materials, as well as all intellectual property rights embodied therein or pertaining thereto and the complete right to exploit or otherwise use the Works and all auxiliary, subsidiary and moral rights in any form, medium, expression or technology now known or hereafter developed in all jurisdictions worldwide as may be permitted under Vibrant's grant with the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, and all right to recover for past or future infringements thereof. Upon the request of Vibrant, Contractor agrees to perform such further acts requested to transfer, perfect and defend Vibrant's right, title and interest in and to

the Works, including by executing, acknowledging and delivering any requested affidavits and documents of assignment or conveyance of the Works and obtaining and/or aiding in the enforcement of any related intellectual property rights. Notwithstanding the above, Vibrant agrees to provide Contractor with a royalty-free, irrevocable license, to use for its own internal non-commercial research and education purposes, in Works assigned by Contractor to Vibrant.

ENGAGEMENT

The parties agree that Contractor is acting as an independent contractor with respect to the provision of services hereunder, and not as an employee or agent of Vibrant. Contractor understands that it will not be subject to Vibrant's direction, control or supervision, with respect to the time spent or procedures followed in the performance of services hereunder. Contractor is not expected to perform the services set forth hereunder at Vibrant's premises, but may perform a portion of its work at Vibrant's offices if it deems it necessary with prior notice to Vibrant. Nothing in this Agreement shall prevent Contractor from engaging in any other business relationship, or to provide services to any other business, provided that Contractor agrees it will not engage in any other business activity that will interfere with the provision of Services as set forth herein. Nothing in this Agreement shall preclude Contractor from employing individuals to perform the Services set forth herein; however, the Contractor may not assign the agreement to another party without the prior written approval of Vibrant.

WARRANTY OF LICENSURE

Contractor warrants to Vibrant that Contractor maintains, and throughout the term of this Agreement will maintain, in full force and effect and in good standing all licenses, permits, accreditations and other approvals necessary or, under prevailing standards of the trade, appropriate for the full and proper performance of all services.

QUARTERLY AND FINAL PROGRESS AND FINANCIAL REPORT

Quarterly progress and financial reports shall be submitted by the Contractor and are due by the 10th day of the following month. A final year one progress and year one financial report shall be submitted by the Contractor to Vibrant no later than October 30, 2020 (format, content and time frame, as determined by Vibrant).

TERMINATION

By Vibrant. Vibrant may, by giving written notice to Subrecipient, terminate this Agreement in whole or in part for cause, which shall include, without limitation: (i) failure for any reason of Subrecipient to fulfill timely and properly any of its obligations under this Agreement, including failure to comply with any provision of the scope of work detailed in this Agreement; (ii) Subrecipient's default, breach or any intervening casualty which poses an immediate threat to life, health or safety; (iii) Subrecipient's breach of its representations, warranties and certifications contained in this Agreement; (iv) the submission by Subrecipient to Vibrant of reports that are knowingly incorrect or incomplete in any material respect; (v) ineffective or improper use by Subrecipient of funds received under this Agreement; (vi) the necessity for termination and/or amendment of this Agreement so as to make any terms of this Agreement consistent with federal, state or local laws; (vii) fraudulent activities on the part of Subrecipient; and (viii) the filing of bankruptcy, receivership or dissolution by or with respect to Subrecipient. Vibrant may also terminate this Agreement in whole or in part without cause upon thirty (30) days' written notice to Subrecipient.

By Subrecipient. If Subrecipient is unable or unwilling to comply with any additional conditions or requirements which may arise as a result of changes in or additions to any federal, state or local laws after the commencement of the Agreement Term, Subrecipient shall terminate this Agreement by giving written notice to Vibrant. The effective date of such notice of termination shall be no earlier than thirty (30) days from the date of the notice.

Transfer of Performance Upon Termination. Upon giving or receiving notice of termination, Vibrant may require Subrecipient to ensure that adequate arrangements have been made for the transfer of performance of the Approved Services to another entity or to Vibrant, including the reasonable payments of any costs involved in such transfer out of compensation otherwise due Subrecipient under this Agreement.

Liability for Default. Whether or not this Agreement is terminated, Subrecipient shall be liable to Vibrant for damages sustained by Vibrant by virtue of any breach of this Agreement by Subrecipient and Vibrant shall be liable to Subrecipient for damages sustained by Subrecipient by virtue of any breach of this Agreement by Vibrant. This shall include, without limitation, liability of Subrecipient for the provision or maintenance by Subrecipient of inadequate or erroneous records or billing documentation of services provided. If any such reimbursement of charges is disallowed as a result of an audit by Vibrant of Subrecipient, the amount disallowed must be paid by Subrecipient to Vibrant from funds other than those provided by Vibrant under this Agreement.

SURVIVAL

Contractor agrees that the provisions set forth in paragraphs in the sections regarding Copyright Ownership, Work Made for Hire and Confidentiality shall survive the termination of this Agreement.

CHOICE OF LAW

This Agreement shall be governed by the laws of the State of New York.

COMPLETE AGREEMENT

This Agreement constitutes the complete agreement between Vibrant and Contractor with respect to the services Contractor shall provide for Vibrant as an independent contractor. This Agreement can be modified only by agreement in writing signed by Contractor and an authorized representative of Vibrant. This Agreement supersedes and replaces any and all prior agreements which the parties may have previously made, whether oral or written.

NOTICES

Notices required by this Agreement shall be made in writing and delivered via U.S. mail (postage prepaid), commercial courier, or personal delivery or sent by facsimile or other electronic means (provided that receipt is confirmed). Any notice delivered or sent as described above shall be effective on the date received. All notices and other written communications under this Agreement shall be addressed to the individuals in the capacities indicated below, unless otherwise modified by subsequent written notice.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, each of the parties has executed this Agreement by its duly authorized officer as of the day and year first written above, October 1, 2019.

Sarah Squirrell
(Print/Type Name of Authorized Signatory for the
Vermont Agency of Human Services)

Commissioner
(Title of Contractor Representative)

Sarah.Squirrell@vermont.gov / 802-241-0137
(Contact information)

Kimberly Williams
(Print/Type Name of Vibrant Representative)

President and CEO
(Title of Vibrant Representative)

Sarah Squirrell
Sarah Squirrell (Oct 24, 2019)
(Signature of Contractor)

03-6000274
(Contractor Tax ID Number)

Kim Williams
Kim Williams (Oct 25, 2019)
(Signature of Vibrant Representative)

Exhibit A
Approved Services

Service	Through a one-time funding opportunity from Vibrant Emotional Health (hereinafter referred to as "Vibrant"), funds from private donations are available to the Vermont Agency of Human Services (hereinafter referred to as "AHS") to support the further alignment of Lifeline member call centers in Vermont with AHS state suicide prevention goals and activities and, specifically, to expand the capacity at three Vermont based Lifeline member call centers so that over a two year period and by September 30, 2021, the in-state answer rate for Vermont's Lifeline calls is at or above 70%.
Term and Termination	The period of performance for this Agreement is for the first year of the two-year project with a term from October 1, 2019 (the " <u>Effective Date</u> ") until September 30, 2020
Vermont Agency of Human Services' Role in Year One	<p>Vermont Agency of Human Services, (AHS) agrees to adhere to the following responsibilities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Directly support, via two-year subcontracting relationships at levels specified in the approved budget (Exhibit B), expanded call center capacity for Lifeline <u>calls at two Lifeline member call centers in Vermont (Northwestern Counseling and Support Services and 2-1-1 Vermont)</u> and a third center applicant center (Pathways) so that sufficient year one progress is made towards reaching an in-state answer rate for Vermont's Lifeline calls that reaches or exceeds 70% by the end of year two of the grant (September 30, 2021). (ii) Disseminate no capacity grant funds to the Pathways center until they become an approved member of the Lifeline network. (iii) Designate a state liaison at 9% FTE as outlined in the approved budget (Exhibit B) to ensure overall project management, data collection, quality assurance and quality improvement activities, and coordination with each of the three call center liaisons. (iv) Directly support the efforts of <u>call centers noted in (i) so that best faith efforts are made to achieve the target numbers of additional Lifeline calls to be answered at each center as outlined in the AHS revised and approved budget (Exhibit B), specifically 234 calls at Vermont 2-1-1, 208 calls at Pathways, and 364 calls at the Northwestern Counseling and Support Services</u>. (v) As compared to pre-grant baseline call volume and answer-rates levels determined by Vibrant from FY19Q2 (January-March 2019), ensure efforts are made at each of the call centers noted in (i) to collectively answer an additional 806 Lifeline calls in year one of the project. (vi) Plan for year two activities at the centers noted in (i) so that 2,388 Vermont Lifeline calls will be answered as required in Section 1A of Lifeline's FY20-21 State Capacity Building Grant as opposed to 1,952 calls to be answered as predicted in AHS' grant application Section C Table 2 (Exhibit C). (vii) Implement, in year one, an AHS plan to help sustain crisis center capacity and Lifeline in-state answer rate gains through activities that include, but are not limited to, submitting Vermont Lifeline member call center funding recommendations to the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare, the House Committee Health Care and Senate Committees implementing suicide prevention activities. Year one sustainability activities also shall include Lifeline related funding discussions with the Vermont Secretary of

	<p>the Agency of Human Services as outlined in Section C of AHS' capacity grant narrative (Exhibit C).</p>
(viii)	<p>Submit timely of quarterly progress and financial reports to Vibrant by the 10th day of the following month.</p>
(ix)	<p>Adhere to the project timeline as submitted by AHS in its grant narrative (Exhibit C, Section B), including best faith efforts to have Pathways onboarded into the Lifeline network by the 3rd quarter of year one, the monthly convening of project steering committee meetings on a minimum of a bi-monthly bases, and the formal delivery of a sustainability plan to AHS leadership by the end of the year one.</p>
(x)	<p>Monthly collection of the following data from the participating call centers noted in (i): Lifeline call volume and answer rates; average speed to answer; percentages of caller disposition categories; percentages of caller gender; percentages of caller age categories; percentages of caller's suicide experience categories as specified by Vibrant; number of callers who identify as a veteran or in active military service (and participation in Lifeline's veterans amendment); number of calls that resulted in emergency dispatch; percent of calls that required emergency dispatch; percent of calls that required emergency dispatch where rescue was initiated in collaboration with the caller or were initiated involuntarily; percent by category of how callers learned about lifeline (if appropriate for the call); percent of callers from outside of the center's primary Lifeline coverage area.</p>
(xi)	<p>Submit monthly progress reports to are submitted to Vibrant on a format to be determined by Vibrant which include the performance metrics noted in (x) and by the 10th of each month beginning December 10, 2019,</p>
(xii)	<p>Comply with the terms of the award and satisfactorily perform activities outlined;</p>
(xiii)	<p>Participation by the state liaison and 1 additional state agency or sub-contracted call center liaison at the April 2020 American Association of Suicidology Conference in Portland, OR.</p>
(xiv)	<p>Receive approval from the Administrator of proposed approach prior to implementing proposed design if it differs from the scope of work outlined in AHS's capacity grant application and accept the Administrator's modification suggestions as mutually agreed upon by the Administrator and AHS;</p>
(xv)	<p>Participation in quarterly support calls with the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline and semi-annual capacity grant cohort calls;</p>
(xvi)	<p>Submit a final year one project and fiscal report to the Administrator by October 30, 2020 (format, content and time frame, as determined by administrator and as mutually agreed upon by the Administrator and AHS);</p>
(xvii)	<p>Ensure the three call centers noted in (i) conduct periodic quality improvement monitoring for each staff member hired under this initiative as is current operating practice within each center.</p>
(xviii)	<p>Provide information and feedback to the Administrator that may improve the quality of the Lifeline, including sharing relevant protocols, policies, or training materials; and participating in conference calls or other forums offered by the Administrator to share relevant ideas and experience;</p>
(xix)	<p>Notify the Lifeline/Vibrant staff promptly if AHS becomes aware of events or circumstances that may adversely affect the ability of the three call centers noted in (i) to respond to incoming calls from the Lifeline;</p>

	(xx) Other duties as assigned and mutually agreed upon by AHS and Vibrant.
Administrator's Role	<p>The Administrator agrees to do the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Review proposed approach(es) and reviewers' ratings of each proposal, and assist in the development of special terms (<i>e.g.</i>, modifications and/or revision of proposed approach(es) when needed in order to ensure that the proposal meets Vibrant Emotional Health performance requirements; (ii) Approve data collection plans and institute policies regarding data collection; (iii) Approve quality improvement monitoring plan and institute policies regarding quality improvement; (iv) Generate call volume data reports upon request; (v) Facilitate monthly individual grantee and semi-annual group grantee program cohort calls; (vi) Provide monthly updates to state/territory grantees specific to in-state answer rates in order to track progress toward grantee goals; (vii) Make reasonable efforts to provide AHS with information regarding resources and referrals for callers from within Vermont; (viii) Maintain regular communication with AHS regarding Lifeline through routine conference calls and the provision of technical assistance, consultation, and relevant Lifeline materials; (ix) Facilitate the sharing of information regarding Lifeline procedures via blog, email, conference calls, or other forums to improve the quality of the Lifeline overall; (x) Make Lifeline Simulation Training exercises available on the Network Resource Center.

EXHIBIT B
APPROVED BUDGET

The following revised budget for the Vermont Agency of Human Services' two year Lifeline State Capacity Building Grant was received and approved by Lifeline on 10/21/19 and begins as Section F on the following page.

[See Attached]

NSPL Data Requirements 2-1-1 and NCSS currently report	Pathways currently reports Y/N
Call volume and answer rates	Y
Average speed to answer	Y
Percentages of caller disposition categories	Y
Percentages of caller gender	Y
Percentages of caller age categories	
Percentages of caller's suicide experience categories (i.e. loss survivor, attempt survivor, suicide attempt in progress, ideation etc.)	Y
Number of callers who identify as a veteran or in active military service	Y
Number of calls that resulted in emergency dispatch	N
Number of calls that resulted in emergency dispatch	N
Percent of calls that required emergency dispatch and the percent of these which were collaborative or involuntary	N
Percent by category of how callers learned about the Lifeline	N
Percent of callers from outside of the center's primary coverage area	Y

SECTION E: PROVIDERS' PREVIOUS PERFORMANCE (5 POINTS)

Vermont's previous performance for in state call response of the Lifeline over the past two years has been frankly, abysmal. It is the very reason we are applying for this grant opportunity. 2-1-1 has been Vermont's sole Lifeline call center, and despite their passionate and dedicated leadership, they have not been able to build capacity on Lifeline stipend alone. New leadership at the Department of Mental Health and AHS attendance at the American Association of Suicidology conference has lit a fire in Vermont to provide more leadership and attention to supporting the need for in state Lifeline call response. Combined with SAMHSA's consistent messaging we have been able to grab the attention of the media in Vermont and the legislators in Montpelier. Despite our lackluster performance in the past, AHS feels confident we can utilize this grant opportunity as a much needed spark for igniting our existing plans to create sustainable infrastructure for suicide prevention in the state.

SECTION F: BUDGET AND BUDGET JUSTIFICATION

Personnel Cost

State Liaison Stephanie Busch \$54,954 salary * 9% FTE \$4,946.

The State Liaison (SL) will coordinate project service and activities across the Vermont Department of Health, Mental Health, the Crisis Centers, NSPL and other partners including ensuring assure timely adherence to project goals, objectives and reporting. The SL will be responsible for engaging

government and non-government stakeholders, conducting meetings training, communication and information dissemination.

Benefits

State Liaison Stephanie Busch 45% of salary \$2,226

Justification for Fringe Benefits: The actual cost of fringe benefits (not a fringe benefit rate) will be reported as a direct cost of the program. The actual cost of fringe benefits varies from employee to employee based on salary, employee choice of health care plan, and employee election of certain other benefits. The usual, major components of this cost are FICA, retirement, and a portion of the actual costs of the medical, dental, and life insurance coverage selected by the employee. The cost of each employee's fringe benefits will be allocated to the program based on hours worked in the program relative to all hours worked by the employee. Based on the current cost of fringe benefits for employees working in this program, we are estimating the cost of these fringe benefits at 45% of salary. We do not anticipate the fringe benefit rate to change.

Fringe Category	Rate
Retirement	14.39%
FICA	5.87%
Insurance	24.74%
Total	45%

Travel

Total Annual Travel Request: \$2150

Conference: AAS Conference Attendance and Travel \$(1990/ person * 1 person) = \$1,990

The state liaison, and one person from a crisis center will attend this meeting. AAS conference registration for registration \$1000 * 1 person (the crisis center): \$1,000.

Estimated cost of travel is based on the 2019 AAS conference in Denver, CO person attendee: (airfare (\$400), hotel (\$181/night x 2 night), meals and incidentals (\$76/day*3 days) = 990* 1 people= \$990.

The registration and travel of the state liaison will be provided through other funds.

Local Travel: \$160

Local travel is needed to allow the state liaison to provide on-site technical assistance to the contracted centers, and partners including formal meetings to state agencies, and partners. Local travel rate for the Vermont Department of Health's fleet cost of \$40/day x 4 trips = \$160

Contracts

We cannot bring these agencies to the target in-state call rate with just \$25/call. We have incorporated several of activities (training, supporting accreditation, etc.) to bring these agencies online and answering Lifeline calls. Based on the calculations and information from the contracted organizations, a calculated indirect rate is not included for the 3 organizations.

Vermont 2-1-1

Year 1 = \$11,625; Year 2 = \$14,675

Year 1 = 234 calls x \$25 = \$5,850

Year 1 Training: \$5,775

The cost of materials is \$45 per/person for ASIST. 45 participant training kits x \$45 = \$2,025.
30 hrs staff time x 5 staff to conduct quarterly workshops and refresher trainings at \$25/hour = \$3,750.

Year 2 = 356 calls x \$25/call = \$8,900

Year 2 training: \$5,775

The cost of materials is \$45 per/person for ASIST. 45 participant training kits x \$45 = \$2,025.
30 hrs staff time x 5 staff to conduct quarterly workshops and refresher trainings at \$25/hour = \$3,750.

Pathways Vermont

Year 1 = \$22,975; Year 2 = \$34,275

Year 1 = 208 calls x \$25/call = \$5,200

Technology (Year 1 only): Costs incurred would include creating a third call center, cost per seat and cost of recording calls. \$6,000

Accreditation (Year 1 only): Pathways Vermont will go through the process to become AIRS accreditation \$6,000

Year 1 Training: \$5,775

The cost of materials is \$45 per/person for ASIST. 45 participant training kits x \$45 = \$2,025.
30 hrs staff time x 5 staff to conduct quarterly workshops and refresher trainings at \$25/hour = \$3,750.

Year 2 1140 calls x \$25/call = \$28,500

Year 2 training: \$5,775

The cost of materials is \$45 per/person for ASIST. 45 participant training kits x \$45 = \$2,025.
30 hrs staff time x 5 staff to conduct quarterly workshops and refresher trainings at \$25/hour = \$3,750.

Northwestern Counseling and Support Services

Year 1 = \$14,875; Year 2 = \$17,175

Year 1 = 364 calls X \$25/call = \$9,100

Year 1 Training: \$5,775

The cost of materials is \$45 per/person for ASIST. 45 participant training kits x \$45 = \$2,025.
30 hrs staff time x 5 staff to conduct quarterly workshops and refresher trainings at \$25/hour = \$3,750.

Year 2 = 456 calls x \$25/call = \$11,400

Year 2 training: \$5,775

The cost of materials is \$45 per/person for ASIST. 45 participant training kits x \$45 = \$2,025.
30 hrs staff time x 5 staff to conduct quarterly workshops and refresher trainings at \$25/hour = \$3,750.

Agency of Human Services: State Indirect Rate

AHS Indirect Rate: State Liaison Stephanie Busch (15% * \$4,946 salary) = \$ 742

Justification for indirect rate: The Vermont Department of Health uses a Cost Allocation Plan, not an indirect rate. The Department of Health is a department of the Vermont Agency of Human Services, a public assistance agency, which uses a Cost Allocation Plan in lieu of an indirect rate agreement as authorized by OMB Circular A-87, Attachment D. This Cost Allocation Plan was approved by the US Department of Health and Human Services effective October 1, 1987. A copy of the most recent approval letter is attached. The Cost Allocation Plan summarizes actual, allowable costs incurred in the operation of the program. These costs include items which are often shown as direct costs, such as

telephone and general office supply expenses, as well as items which are often included in an indirect rate, such as the cost of office space and administrative salaries. These costs are allocated to the program based on the salaries and wages paid in the program. Because these are actual costs, unlike an Indirect Cost Rate, these costs will vary from quarter to quarter and cannot be fixed as a rate. Based on costs allocated to similar programs during recent quarters, we would currently estimate these allocated costs at 15% of the direct salary line item.

Total state cost (no more than 15% of total): Salary, benefits, local travel and AHS indirect
 (\$4,946+\$2,226+\$160+\$742) = Year 1: \$8,076 Year 2: \$8,076

Total subcontracted cost (at least 85% of total): contacted costs, one AAS conference attendance
 (\$49,475+\$1,990) = Year 1: \$51,465 (\$66,125+\$1,990)= Year 2: \$68,115

Total Proposed Budget for Project Period: Start Date 10/1/19 End Date: 9/30/21

Category	Year 1	Year 2
Personnel	\$4,946	\$4,946
Fringe	\$2,226	\$2,226
Travel	\$2,150	\$2,150
Equipment	0	0
Contractual	\$49,475	\$66,125
Total Direct Charges	\$58,797	\$75,447
Indirect Charges (15% of state salary)	\$742	\$742
Total Projected Costs	\$59,539	\$76,189

Exhibit C:

Vermont Agency of Human Services
FY20-21 State Capacity Building Grant Application
Revised narrative 10/21/19

[See attached]

Vermont Agency of Human Services NSPL Capacity Building Grant Application

ABSTRACT:

The Vermont Agency of Human Services (AHS) is applying for the FY 20-21 Lifeline State Capacity Building Grant to significantly bolster and develop Vermont's capacity for in state call response. Vermont 2-1-1 has been a member of the Lifeline network since 2009, however they have answered zero calls in 2019. A significant portion of the capacity grant will be utilized to assist 2-1-1 in developing workforce capacity and competency to answer lifeline calls. Northwestern Counseling and Support Services (NCSS) will also be a partner in this grant. NCSS came online in August of 2019 and we expect them to reach full call capacity (20%) within Year 1. Both Vermont 2-1-1 and NCSS are limited by operating hours that are immutable within the grant period. This requires Vermont to build capacity through onboarding an additional call center. Pathways Vermont Support Line has the afterhours and weekend capacity Vermont needs to reach our goal of 85% in state call response and they are committed to partnering with AHS on this aim. Vermont's sustainability plan includes utilizing existing legislation under Act 32, which requires AHS to submit recommendations to the Vermont legislature informing the implementation of suicide prevention activities and supporting the prioritization of suicide prevention resources and activities in Vermont for 2021 and beyond. A Lifeline State Capacity Building Grant will well position AHS to recommend sustaining the instate call response capacity built through this grant as a top priority.

SECTION A. PROGRESS TO DATE

Designated Agencies

The Department of Mental Health (DMH) oversees the publicly funded community-based and inpatient mental health services available to Vermonters. DMH works with private nonprofit agencies in Vermont called Designated Agencies (DA), or community mental health centers to provide mental health programs in each region. DMH is responsible for ensuring needed services are available at each Designated Agency. Emergency Services, often referred to as "Crisis Services" or "Crisis Teams" are required service delivery programs for each DA. Emergency Services are defined in the Department of Mental Health Emergency Services Standards Manual as follows:

Mental Health Emergency Services (Emergency Services, ES) are 24-hours-a-day, 7 days-a-week services that provide emergency supportive counseling for telephone or face-to-face

interventions, screening for involuntary hospital admissions, and referrals to other appropriate levels of care. Emergency Services typically include assessment of the client and the circumstances leading to the crisis, crisis counseling, screening for hospitalization or emergency placement, assessment of need for mental health and other services, referral and follow-up. The role of the Designated Agency (DA) crisis screener is to identify and access the least restrictive intervention that will help to resolve or stabilize the immediate crisis.

https://mentalhealth.vermont.gov/sites/mhnew/files/documents/Manuals/Emergency_Services_Standards_2017-12.pdf

Designated Agency Emergency Services Standards Emergency Services must be provided in compliance with quality standards set by the Department of Mental Health. A summary of standards relevant to NSPL are as follows:

Access Standards:

- Emergency Services shall be available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, with telephone availability within an average of five minutes. Face-to-face Emergency Services must be available within an average of thirty minutes of identified need.
- Emergency Services shall be closely and routinely coordinated with all necessary community emergency resources, including medical and law enforcement support.

Performance Measures In fiscal Year 2018, Emergency Services programs in Vermont served 7,365 individuals and provided 20,669 crisis services. DMH and the Emergency Services teams have focused on increasing the percentage of people receiving a non-emergency service within 7 days of an emergency service as an indicator of supportive follow up after a mental health crisis. In 2018 63% of individuals received a non-emergency service within 7 days of their emergency service.

DA Emergency Services non-Alignment with Lifeline requirements Although Emergency Services are required to be available 24/7, Vermont's community mental health agencies are open only during business hours, 9:00 – 5:00, Monday through Friday. After hours the Crisis Teams operate off a pager system. If an individual is in mental health crisis, they call the Crisis Line, for which each DA has a separate designated number, and a page is sent to the crisis team member on call who returns the call.

Northwestern Counseling and Support Services (NCSS) In the fall of 2018 DMH sent out a request for proposals for agencies to apply to become a Lifeline member, offering one-time funding to support an agency through the administrative cost of the membership process. Northwestern Counseling and Support Services (NCSS), a Designated Agency in St. Albans, VT was selected. They embarked on a 10-

month process working with NSPL updating their policies and procedures as well as adapting their phone lines in order to meet the requirements. NCSS was officially approved to receive Lifeline calls as of August of 2019.

SPECIALIZED SERVICE AGENCY – PATHWAYS VERMONT

In addition to the Designated Agencies, the Department of Mental Health works with a Specialized Service Agency: Pathways Vermont. This agency is not required to offer the same scope of services as the DA's and does not have Emergency Services teams. Alternatively, Pathways Vermont operates a Support Line which is available from 4 PM to 6 AM. Pathways is not currently a Lifeline member. Onboarding their organization to provide evening and weekend call response is necessary if Vermont is to achieve a significant increase in Lifeline call response.

The Pathways Vermont Support Line, also called the "warm line" was legislated in 2012 through Act No. 79 by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont. The Department of Mental Health oversees the grant agreement with Pathways Vermont, which states the following regarding Act 79 requirements:

Services will be provided with the overall goal of engaging and supporting individuals who are at risk of experiencing a mental health emergency or crisis. Services will provide pre-crisis support with the objective of helping the individual avoid experiencing a psychiatric emergency. Expected outcomes of the program will include: a. Decreased usage of local area crisis services by individuals accessing the support line; b. Increased knowledge of recovery, peer support, and wellness planning; c. Decreased isolation and increased access to recovery-oriented supportive services; d. Establishment of stronger natural support networks.

https://mentalhealth.vermont.gov/sites/mhnew/files/documents/Reports/2019ACT_79_FINAL_REPORT_011519.pdf

Quality Oversight The Department of Mental Health (DMH) provides quality oversight for all Designated and Special Service Agencies in Vermont. Pathways Vermont and Northwestern Counseling & Support Services have current Master Agreement contracts indicating the scope of services to be provided and performance measures required to be reported quarterly. DMH also conducts in person site visits to the DA's and SSA's to complete minimum standard chart reviews.

VERMONT 2-1-1

Vermont 2-1-1, a program of the United Ways of Vermont (UWsvT), launched in 2005 to promote the health and well-being of all people in Vermont through a statewide information and referral system for streamlined access to community resources.

Quality Oversight Vermont 2-1-1 is awarded a Certificate of Accreditation from the Alliance of Information and Referral Systems (AIRS) through April 2021.

SECTION B: PROPOSED APPROACH FOR STATE CAPACITY BUILDING INITIATIVE IMPLEMENTATION

Vermont's approach for state capacity building is to bolster our two existing call centers 2-1-1 and Northwestern Counseling and Support Services (NCSS), and to support an additional organization, Pathways Vermont to become a Lifeline member. Vermont's two existing call centers do not operate through direct phone line after business hours. Given the average call volume overnight for Vermonters to the NSPL is 4 calls, the state is unable to support expanding the hours of 2-1-1 or NCSS through the \$25 per call maximum possible in this grant opportunity. AHS sought feedback from the NSPL on the possibility of adding an additional center in our grant proposal, being that it is the only viable option to successfully move Vermont above a 30-40% call response rate. NSPL indicated this option is appropriate if Pathways Vermont can make the transition to start receiving calls by the end of the 4th quarter in Year 1. Pathways is committed to working with NSPL within that time frame to achieve this goal.

Bolstering 2-1-1

Vermont 2-1-1 became a Lifeline member in 2009 and met all NSPL standards. They continue to meet all telephony requirements, policy and practice requirements. The area in which 2-1-1 identifies needing quality improvement is in staff training, due to experiencing 50% staff turnover in recent years. Vermont 2-1-1 has been able to answer Lifeline calls due to significant turnover in recent years, which limited the number of staff trained in ASIST. 2-1-1 leadership did not feel confident that newly onboarded staff could competently or confidently respond to Lifeline calls and therefore the organization adopted a policy in 2018 where new staff could not answer the Lifeline if a supervisor was not present. This created a significant barrier to call response. 2-1-1 plans to address current barriers in the following ways:

- ♦ Train and re-train existing staff in ASIST
- ♦ Hire additional staff – The Erlang Calculator suggests 1 staff

- Hold bi-weekly Lifeline call role play with staff and supervisors
- Participate in applicable webinars and local trainings in Mental Health First aid
- Managers will monitor all calls initially and then intermittently going forward

Bolstering NCSS

NCSS has recently become a Lifeline Call Center and DMH plans to utilize Lifeline grant funding to support this center in being the primary response for those calling the Lifeline from 9 AM to 5 PM, Monday – Friday in the first two Quarters of Year 1. AHS is confident in NCSS' ability to respond to Lifeline calls appropriately and plan to utilize their expertise to assist 2-1-1 and Pathways to increase their capacity. NCSS is CARF accredited. They have significant standards for hiring and training their Crisis Team staff as they must abide by the Designation minimum standards described in Section A. NCSS finished the onboarding process with NSPL in August of this year and met all requirements to execute their Network Agreement.

Onboarding Pathways Vermont

Relevant Performance: Pathways receives on average 794 calls a month from Vermonters. Almost half of callers identify seeking "connection" as their reason for calling. In Fiscal Year 2019, 108 calls were received by Pathways Support Line from persons identifying suicidal feelings as the main purpose of the call.

Pathways Vermont Support Line collects monthly data on the percentage of callers who identify the service as helpful. In their quarterly reports from CY2018 this measure ranged from 94.8% - 96.7% of callers. Pathways Vermont added a texting feature to their service in July of 2018 and have exceeded their goal of 30 texting conversations a month, averaging about 150 texting conversations a quarter.

Pathways is committed to becoming a Lifeline call center over the first 9 months of the grant period. The following activities are necessary in order for Pathways to be eligible:

Telephony Requirements Pathways Vermont has a direct phone line meeting the NSPL requirements. They will need additional tech support to have the ability to record NSPL calls and to re-program the telephony to add another "call center."

Training Pathways will partner with 2-1-1 to train their staff in Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASIST). Further training would include Suicide Talk for those who have taken ASIST and need a refresher, and the development of quarterly workshops.

Accreditation Pathways receives quality oversight from the Department of Mental Health and undergoes a quality review process, including on-site minimum standards reviews, for which the last one occurred in July of 2019. Pathways understands they will need to achieve accreditation within 3 years from the NSPL approved list of accrediting bodies and is committed to pursuing this deliverable.

ANTICIPATED RISKS AND CHALLENGES

Bolstering 2-1-1 and onboarding Pathways Vermont requires securing ASIST trainings. There are very few registered ASIST trainers in Vermont. Coordinating this training initially and then re-training as needed will be difficult with current Vermont resources. Vermont AHS has been connecting with potential training partners, such as HeadRest, a Lifeline call center in New Hampshire that has been handling Vermont calls to Lifeline during the past few years, and the New England Mental Health Technology Transfer Center. Vermont intends to collaborate with these partners to share training resources and secure additional technical support.

SECTION C: IMPLEMENTATION PLAN AND STAFFING (40 POINTS)

After the notice of funding, the Vermont Department of Mental Health, Department of Health, and the proposed three contracted organizations will meet to formalize the proposed activities in consultation with Vibrant Staff. The project team will conduct a statewide assessment and develop a detailed implementation and action plan with the three organizations, VDH, DMH and the NSPL. In coordination with partners, the project team and other key stakeholders will develop and review the organization internal protocols and training programs for staff answering the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline. This group will utilize existing state and national resources, and with the assistance from Vibrant staff to develop resource material for Vermont Crisis centers and staff.

The primary short-term and intermediate outcomes include:

- Existing Crisis center staff comfortableness and readiness to answer Lifeline calls
- Development and utilization of a defined quality improvement monitoring plan
- State and local collaboration in seeking a sustainable model for Vermont NSPL crisis centers.

- Expanding the number of NSPL Crisis Center from one to three.

Table 1. Project Timeline

Pathways start answering the Lifeline					X	X	X	X	X	X
Pathways work with NSPL to become a lifeline member	Estimated 6-9 month process			X						
Pathways attains AIR certified	Estimated 2-year process									X
Grantee Team (2) Attend AAS conferences annually	April 2020			X				X		
Monthly reporting of Grantee		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Monthly reporting of Lifeline Centers		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Convene Project Steering Committee, meetings bimonthly (hereafter)		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Explore funding sources for sustainability for NSPL staff and centers, evaluate in state response rate										
Develop and present a Sustainability Plan to stakeholders including AHS Leadership					X					
Research existing state and national resources for supporting lifeline call centers		X	X							
Bi-Quarterly evaluation and assessment of answer rates		X	X		X		X		X	X

Table 2. Call Response Timeline

Organization	Year 1 Q1%	Year 1 Q1#	Year 1 Q2%	Year 1 Q2#	Year 1 Q3%	Year 1 Q3#	Year 1 Q4%	Year 1 Q4#	Total
NCSS	15%	78	15%	78	20%	104	20%	104	364
2-1-1	5%	26	10%	52	15%	78	15%	78	234
Pathways VT	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	40%	208	208
TOTAL	20%	104	25%	130	35%	182	75%	390	806

Organization	Year 2 Q1%	Year 2 Q1#	Year 2 Q2%	Year 2 Q2#	Year 2 Q3%	Year 2 Q3#	Year 2 Q4%	Year 2 Q4#	Total
NCSS	20%	114	20%	114	20%	114	20%	114	456
2-1-1	15%	89	15%	89	15%	89	15%	89	356
Pathways VT	50%	285	50%	285	50%	285	50%	285	1,140
TOTAL	85%	488	85%	488	85%	488	85%	488	1,952

SUSTAINABILITY PLAN

Vermont's sustainability plan includes utilizing existing legislation under Act 32, which requires AHS to submit recommendations to the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare and the House Committee on Health Care and Senate committees in 2020 Informing Implementation of suicide prevention activities and supporting the prioritization of suicide prevention resources and activities in Vermont. A Lifeline State Capacity Building Grant will allow Vermont to invest in capacity building to well position AHS to request sustainability funding for in state call response for the Lifeline. Link to Act 34 language:

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/Documents/2018/Docs/BILLS/H-0184/H0184%20As%20Passed%20by%20both%20House%20and%20Senate%20Official.pdf>

Vermont is not just relying on Vermont legislators to approve funding to AHS to support sustaining the Lifeline. DMH and the Vermont Department of Health (VDH) are meeting with the Suicide Prevention Coalition on Sept 12, 2019 to discuss prioritizing a plan for sustaining capacity for the Lifeline by 2022. DMH and VDH are then meeting with the Secretary of the Agency of Human Services in October 2019 to submit a proposal for suicide prevention recommendations that includes sustaining in-state Lifeline capacity within the AHS budget regardless of whether the Vermont legislature approves an increase in funding. The AHS leadership, including the Secretary have indicated significant interest in support suicide prevention across the state and have requested this meeting with VDH and DMH to solicit recommendations. Vermont's suicide rate over the past five years is 35% higher than the national average and is increasing at a greater rate. Data over the past few years indicate that only around 20% of those dying by suicide in Vermont are accessing our community mental health centers. The vast majority of those dying by suicide are unknown to our current mental health system. This indicates a need for additional pathways to care. DMH and VDH are confident that presenting AHS leadership and the Vermont legislature with this data accompanied with the reality of our current 0% in-state call response rate will result in commitment to addressing this issue.

SECTION D: PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT AND DATA (10 POINTS)

NCSS, Pathways and 2-1-1 are committed to reporting monthly on the required metrics in:

Vermont National Suicide Prevention Lifeline Grant Application. 2019

NSPL Data Requirements 2-1-1 and NCSS currently report	Pathways currently reports Y/N
Call volume and answer rates	Y
Average speed to answer	Y
Percentages of caller disposition categories	Y
Percentages of caller gender	Y
Percentages of caller age categories	
Percentages of caller's suicide experience categories (i.e. loss survivor, attempt survivor, suicide attempt in progress, ideation etc.)	Y
Number of callers who identify as a veteran or in active military service	Y
Number of calls that resulted in emergency dispatch	N
Number of calls that resulted in emergency dispatch	N
Percent of calls that required emergency dispatch and the percent of these which were collaborative or involuntary	N
Percent by category of how callers learned about the Lifeline	N
Percent of callers from outside of the center's primary coverage area	Y

SECTION E: PROVIDERS' PREVIOUS PERFORMANCE (5 POINTS)

Vermont's previous performance for in state call response of the Lifeline over the past two years has been frankly, abysmal. It is the very reason we are applying for this grant opportunity. 2-1-1 has been Vermont's sole Lifeline call center, and despite their passionate and dedicated leadership, they have not been able to build capacity on Lifeline stipend alone. New leadership at the Department of Mental Health and AHS attendance at the American Association of Suicidology conference has lit a fire in Vermont to provide more leadership and attention to supporting the need for in state Lifeline call response. Combined with SAMHSA's consistent messaging we have been able to grab the attention of the media in Vermont and the legislators in Montpelier. Despite our lackluster performance in the past, AHS feels confident we can utilize this grant opportunity as a much needed spark for igniting our existing plans to create sustainable infrastructure for suicide prevention in the state.









Vermont Year 1 Life Line Capacity Grant

Final Audit Report

2019-10-25

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