



STATE OF VERMONT
JOINT FISCAL OFFICE

MEMORANDUM

To: Joint Fiscal Committee members
From: Sorsha Anderson, Senior Staff Associate
Date: April 14, 2022
Subject: Grant Request – JFO #3097

Enclosed please find one (1) item, which the Joint Fiscal Office has received from the Administration.

JFO #3097 – Two (2) limited-service positions to the Vermont Agency of Human Services, Department of Health funded through a Substance Abuse Block grant supplement which was part of the American Recovery Act funding. Positions to help relieve the increase of substance abuse due to isolation during the Covid-19 pandemic. One (1) Substance Use Information Specialist, and one (1) Public Health Analyst funded through 9/30/2025.

[Received April 11, 2022]

Please review the enclosed materials and notify the Joint Fiscal Office (Sorsha Anderson: sanderson@leg.state.vt.us) if you have questions or would like this item held for legislative review. Unless we hear from you to the contrary by May 6, 2022, we will assume that you agree to consider as final the Governor's acceptance of this request.



Department of Health
Office of the Commissioner
108 Cherry Street – PO Box 70
Burlington, VT 05402-0070
HealthVermont.gov


[phone] 802-863-7280

Agency of Human Services

MEMORANDUM

January 31, 2022

TO: Jenney Samuelson, Secretary of Human Services

FR: Mark A. Levine, MD, Commissioner of Health 

RE: Substance Abuse Block Grant Supplement Funded Position Request

Please find enclosed a request for 2 limited-service positions required to support this supplemental funding, a Substance Use Information Specialist and a Public Health Analyst I.

Public Health recommendations such as social distancing, while necessary to reduce the spread of COVID-19, can result in people with Substance Use Disorder feeling isolated and lonely which can lead to increased stress and, in turn, increased substance use. These positions are essential to the management of this new funding to promote and maximize the strategies necessary to mitigate deaths during this pandemic.

These positions will be funded through a supplemental award to our existing SAMHSA Substance Abuse Block Grant, American Rescue Plan Act funding.

After review and approval by your office, please forward to DHR Classification for review.

Thank you in advance for your favorable consideration of this request.



**STATE OF VERMONT
Joint Fiscal Committee Review
Limited Service - Grant Funded
Position Request Form**

This form is to be used by agencies and departments when additional grant funded positions are being requested. Review and approval by the Department of Human Resources must be obtained prior to review by the Department of Finance and Management. The Department of Finance will forward requests to the Joint Fiscal Office for JFC review. A Request for Classification Review Form (RFR) and an updated organizational chart showing to whom the new position(s) would report must be attached to this form. Please attach additional pages as necessary to provide enough detail.

Agency/Department: **Human Services – Vermont Department of Health** Date: **January 31, 2022**

Name and Phone (of the person completing this request): **Anna Swenson 652-2043**

Request is for:

- Positions funded and attached to a new grant
- Positions funded and attached to an existing grant approved by JFO #: (unknown)

1. Name of Granting Agency, Title of Grant, Grant Funding Detail (attach grant documents):

Department of Health & Human Services, Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Administration, Block Grants for Prevention and Treatment of Substance Abuse (CFDA 93.959)

2. List below titles, number of positions in each title, program area, and limited-service end date:

Title of Positions Requested	# of Positions	Division	Grant Funding End Date
Substance Use Information Specialist	1	ADAP	9/30/2025
Public Health Analyst I	1	ADAP	9/30/2025

3. Justification for this request as an essential grant program need:


The requested positions are required to support the Substance Abuse Block Grant Supplement, American Rescue Plan Act funding, for the purpose of:

- SUD Prevention Primer Development – Prevention Primers are community planning guides focusing on reducing youth misuse of substances while supporting efforts to help youth make healthy substance-free choices.
- School-based Substance Abuse Services (SBSAS) – SBSASs are aimed at reducing past month use of alcohol, marijuana, or any illicit substances among adolescents (ages 12-17); and reducing binge drinking among adolescents (ages 12-17).
- Pregnant & Parenting Women Residential Program Development -- funding to support the development of a Pregnant and Parenting Women’s residential program.
- Recovery Housing -- funding to expand recovery housing capacity in the State of Vermont. These residences provide safe, ethical, substance-free, and fair housing for the populations they serve.
- Revolving Loan for Recovery Residences -- funding to support the development of a revolving loan for Recovery residences. The money from this fund can be used for start-up costs, including the costs to become licensed and certified by the Vermont Association of Recovery Residences (VTARR), the Vermont affiliate of the National Association of Recovery Residences (NARR).

- Community Grant Program -- A mini-grant program for community-initiated SUD Prevention, Intervention, Treatment and Recovery Services

Public Health recommendations such as social distancing, while necessary to reduce the spread of COVID-19, can result in people with Substance Use Disorder feeling isolated and lonely which can lead to increased stress and, in turn, increased substance use. These positions are essential to the management of this new funding to promote and maximize the strategies necessary to mitigate deaths during this pandemic.

I certify that this information is correct and that necessary funding, space and equipment for the above position(s) are available (required by 32 VSA Sec. 5(b)).


DocuSigned by:
Richard Donahue
2/7/2022
2/2/2022

Signature of Agency or Department Head Date

Aimee Pope

Digitally signed by Aimee Pope
Date: 2022.02.14 16:03:41 -05'00'

Approved/Denied by Department of Human Resources Date

Adam Greshin

Digitally signed by Adam Greshin
Date: 2022.03.24 15:23:32 -04'00'

Approved/Denied by Finance and Management Date

Approved/Denied by Secretary of Administration Date

Approved/Denied by Governor (required as amended by 2019 Leg. Session)

4/8/22

Date

Comments:

DHR – 08/12/2019

2/7/2022

DocuSigned by:
Tracy O'Connell
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