



# Mental Health Integration Council

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ACHIEVING AN INTEGRATED HEALTH  
CARE SYSTEM THAT SERVES EVERY  
VERMONT

# Legislative Charge

## Sec. 4. MENTAL HEALTH INTEGRATION COUNCIL; REPORT

Creation. There is created the Mental Health Integration Council for the purpose of helping to ensure that all sectors of the health care system actively participate in the State's principles for mental health integration established pursuant to 18 V.S.A. § 7251(4) and (8) and as envisioned in the Department of Mental Health's 2020 report "Vision 2030: A 10-Year Plan for an Integrated and Holistic System of Care."

### **The Council shall address the integration of mental health in the health care system, including:**

1. identifying obstacles to the full integration of mental health into a holistic health care system and identifying means of overcoming those barriers;
2. helping to ensure the implementation of existing law to establish full integration within each member of the Council's area of expertise;
3. establishing commitments from non-state entities to adopt practices and implementation tools that further integration;
4. proposing legislation where current statute is either inadequate to achieve full integration or where it creates barriers to achieving the principles of integration; and
5. fulfilling any other duties the Council deems necessary to achieve its objectives.

## **The Council may create subcommittees comprising the Council's members for the purpose of carrying out the Council's charge.**

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The Commissioner of Mental Health shall call the first meeting of the Council.

- (2) The Commissioner of Mental Health shall serve as chair. The Commissioner of Health shall serve as vice chair.
- (3) The Council shall meet every other month between January 15, 2021 and January 1, 2023.
- (4) The Council shall cease to exist on July 30, 2023.

On or before December 15, 2021, the Commissioners of Mental Health and of Health shall report on the Council's progress to the Joint Health Reform Oversight Committee.

On or before January 15, 2023, the Council shall submit a final written report to the House Committee on Health Care and to the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare with its findings and any recommendations for legislative action, including a recommendation as to whether the term of the Council should be extended.

# Current Vermont Law on Integration

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8 V.S.A. § 4089b

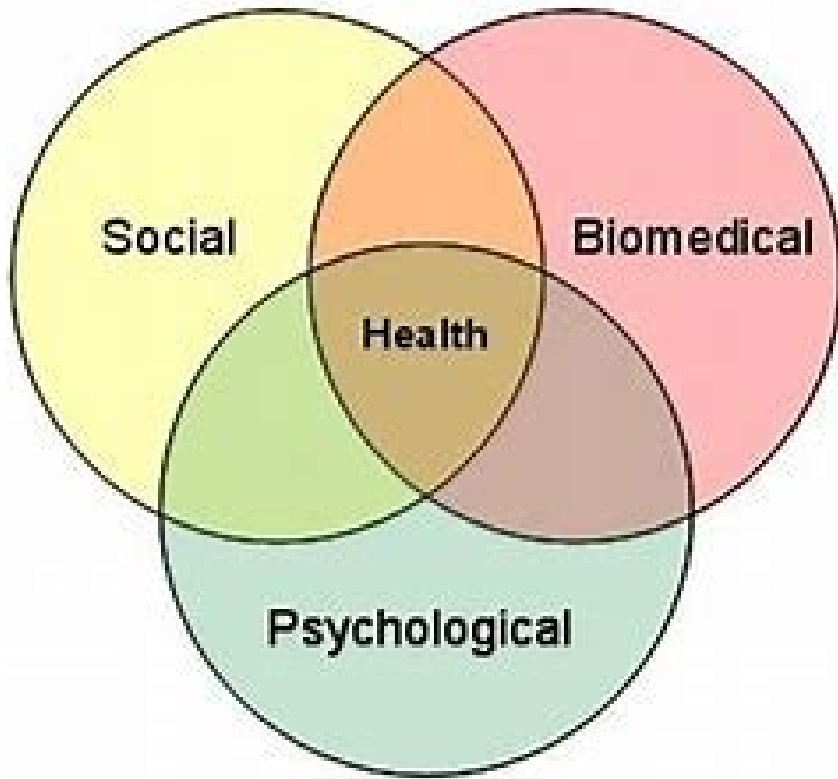
§ 4089b. Health insurance coverage, mental health, and substance use disorder

(a) It is the goal of the General Assembly that treatment for mental conditions be recognized as an integral component of health care, that health insurance plans cover all necessary and appropriate medical services without imposing practices that create barriers to receiving appropriate care, and that integration of health care be recognized as the standard for care in this State



# Current Vermont Law on Integration

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18 V.S.A. § 7201

§ 7201. Mental health

(b) The Department [of Mental Health] shall ensure **equal access to appropriate mental health care** in a manner equivalent to other aspects of health care as part of an **integrated, holistic system** of care.

# Current Vermont Law on Integration

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18 V.S.A. § 7251

Principles for mental health care reform

(4) The mental health system shall be integrated into the overall health care system and ensure equal access to appropriate mental health care in a manner equivalent to other aspects of health care as part of an integrated, holistic system of care.

(8) Vermont's mental health system shall be adequately funded and financially sustainable to the same degree as other health services.



One 4 hour meeting every other month



### **Kick-Off Meeting**

Entire council meets, orients around integration concept and commitment to a scope of work

### **On-going meetings**

First two hours: Council hears from Workgroups  
Rest of meeting: Focus on a specific topic with a speaker

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STRUCTURE

## Work Groups

Four work groups/year  
Year 1



- 1) Integration of Levels of Care – Primary Care
  - 2) Integration of Levels of Care – Pediatric Care
  - 3) Integration of Funding and Alignment of Performance Measures
  - 4) Integration of Workforce Development
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## STRUCTURE



## Work Groups

Four work groups/year  
Year 2



- 1) Integration of Levels of Care – Specialty Care
  - 2) Integration of Levels of Care – Public Health Prevention & Wellness, Bias and Health Equity
  - 3) Integration of Communications & Data Sharing
  - 4) Integration of Education of Providers
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## STRUCTURE

## Workgroup Expectations

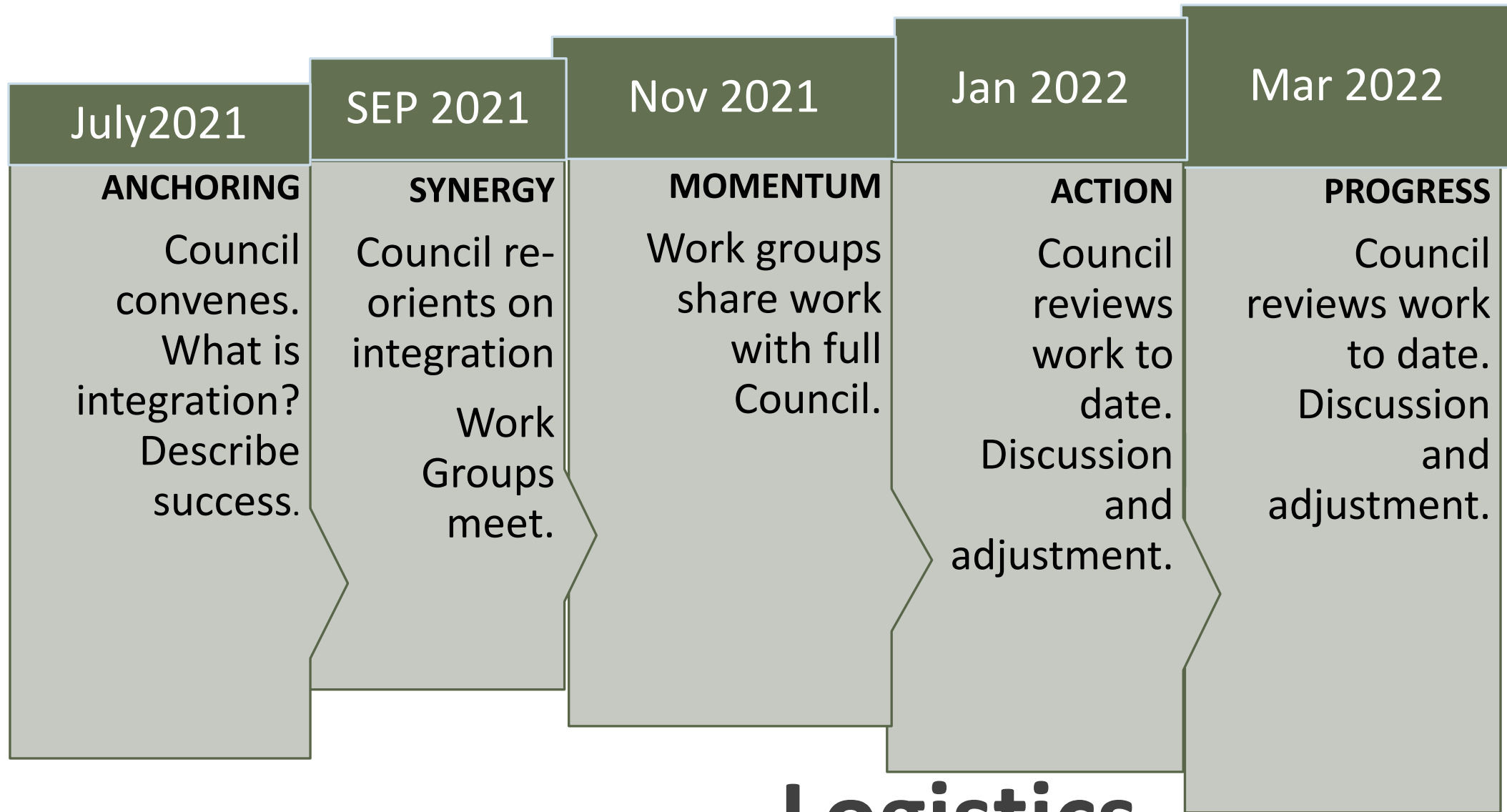
- 1) Define a scope of work
- 2) Carry out work between meetings
- 3) Share information freely with other workgroups



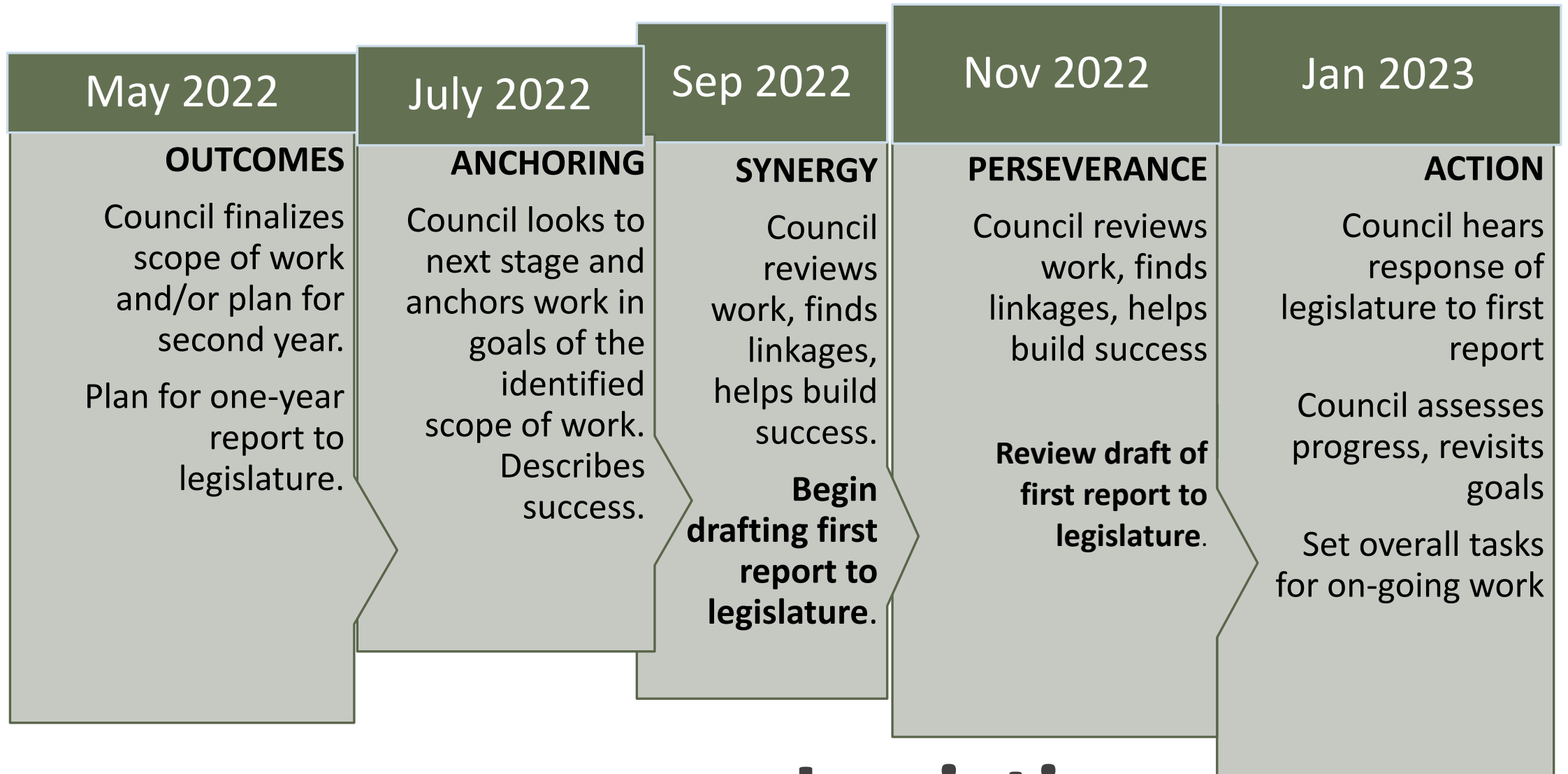
Year 1 Workgroups may continue work beyond the first year of the Council.

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FUNCTION



**Logistics**



# Logistics

# Agenda – Day 1 (4 hours)

Time	What	Who
8:30 AM – 9:30 AM Alison Krompf – 20 min Mark Levine – 10 min Anne Donahue – 30 min	Welcome  Orientation to Vermont’s integration charge	Alison Krompf, DMH Deputy Commissioner Dr. Mark Levine, VDH Commissioner Rep. Anne Donahue
9:30 AM- 9:45 AM	BREAK	
9:40 AM-10:20 AM	What is Integration? Lessons Learned Around the Country	1) Dr. Andy Pomerantz
10:20 AM-10:50 AM	An effort at Integration under way	DMH Child, Adolescent & Family Unit Pediatric Integration project
10:50 AM -11:00 AM	BREAK	
11:00 AM -12:30 PM	Questions/Discussion	Dr. Andy Pomerantz Rep. Anne Donahue Alison Krompf Dr. Mark Levine

What questions  
do you have?  
Suggestions?  
Comments?

