

State of Vermont

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Vermont Mental Health Block Grant Planning Council Planning Council Charter

Overview/Purpose

The Vermont Mental Health Block Grant Planning Council is an advisory body to the Community Mental Health Services Block Grant (MHBG) program that makes funds available to the State to help support community mental health services. These funds are overseen by the Vermont Department of Mental Health (DMH). The MHBG program's objective is to support grantees in carrying out plans for providing comprehensive community mental health services. The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's (SAMHSA) Center for Mental Health Services (CMHS) administers these MHBG funds.

Mental Health Planning Council

Title XIX of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300x) mandates that all states establish a State Mental Health Planning Council. The council's role is to:

- Review the state MHBG application, contribute to its development, and submit any recommendations it has regarding the state's plan;
- Advocate for adults with a serious mental illness, children with a serious emotional disturbance, and other individuals with mental health issues; and
- Monitor, review, and evaluate the allocation and adequacy of mental health services in Vermont, at least annually.

Charter Acceptance

Marla Simpson, MA D

MHBG Planning Council Chair

Stephen DeVoe, MPH, MS

MHBG State Planner, DMH

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