

Marijuana Education and Prevention Subcommittee meeting

Date: 3/28/2018
Location and Time: VDH, 3 p.m.
Present: Megan Trutor, Mark Levine, Sarah Gregorek, Dawn Poitras, Lori Uerz, John Searles, Mark Redmond, Jake Perkinson, Guy Pearce, Jon Porter, Jolinda LaClair
Absent: Jill Reinhart, Amy Minor, David Scherr
Meeting Facilitator and Note Taker: Sarah Gregorek

Meeting Objectives: Fourth meeting on the marijuana advisory commission, education and prevention subcommittee		
Agenda Item	Discussion	Next Steps
Recap what we've done so far Mark Levine	Submitted official report to the commission in January. Two sets of deliverables were submitted: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Health Impact assessment and areas of focus delineated in the executive order and brought light to those issues. Presenting risk profile of marijuana data. 2. Our subcommittee report addressing youth prevention programs, substance abuse facilities, messaging campaign and limiting sales to adults only outlets with buffer zones was included in the full report. We also mentioned a few issues that we haven't resolved yet, including potency issues, delivery methods, edibles/infusibles and funding research. 	
Lessons learned from CO and WA	<u>Colorado Lessons Learned:</u> Importance of having a regulated system. Gathering surveillance data.	

Lori Urez	<p>Utilize lessons learned from tobacco/alcohol. Allocation of resources for public education up front.</p> <p><u>Washington Lessons Learned:</u> Be clear about standards for edibles. Advertising restrictions, many loop holes. When creating policy, have the cannabis industry in the room with you. They want to do the right thing. If you leave them out they will fight it and not support the policies. Get out in front of laws with messaging regarding restrictions. School-based prevention money eventually goes other places. Keeping it funded will be critical. They thought Vermont went about regulating cannabis the wrong way by legalizing home grown instead of creating a regulated market.</p> <p>Dr. Levine noted that Jonathan Caukins showed via evidence that it's the marijuana market goal to addict as many people as possible and that in the end you have 20% of the pop using 80% of the drug. It's hard to have the cannabis industry sit with you when Jonathan's data shows that they want to get as many people using as possible. Also, we suffer from an environment where the perception is that cannabis use risk is low. There are repercussions and messaging so far isn't sinking in. CBD sales are everywhere and there is a perception that it's harmless and other states advertising that it's harmless.</p>	
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	<p>Committee members noted that prevention program work is so important. With Sec. Holcombe leaving the state, there are concerns about the school-based prevention and how we will put the inventory in place. There is a little bit of money allocated but we need to find out what is available for every school and district for a SAP. What is the cost for these services? There isn't education about what happens when you use cannabis for the first time.</p>	
<p>Revisit executive order next steps</p>	<p>Our subcommittee will provide a plan for the funding and implementation of the educational and prevention protocols that the EO sets forth as prerequisites to the consideration of an overall tax and regulated cannabis market. Very specific proposals with dollars and rollout time frame.</p>	<p>The subgroups will meet in April/May and bring back recommendations for discussion at the next meeting.</p> <p>Ultimately, we need to be ready to contribute to a draft by late October.</p>
<p>Talks planned for future</p>	<p>Holly Morehouse, Vermont afterschool incorporated, Iceland approach</p> <p>RI Department of Business Regulation – RI has a homegrown and medical market. There is a marketing and policy approach in RI similar to Vermont, lessons learned re: business regulations. They will visit us in person. We should invite the other subcommittees when RI is here.</p> <p>Washington DC experience. They are in the same position as Vermont for the last five years. They're dealing with loopholes like gifting marijuana. What is allowed with extraction methods? Black market is stronger than ever and will offer a delivery service with prices lower than the</p>	

	<p>dispensary. Status report for Mayor of DC in 2016 and Lori will distribute via email. See report here</p> <p>Invite Shawn Lynn Vermont dispensary to a future meeting to get his input for educational purposes.</p>	
<p>Next Steps: Subcommittee teams</p>	<p>Dr. Levine recommended we develop smaller working groups to address the multiple areas of concern. The committee endorsed this proposal.</p> <p>Dr. Levine would like each subcommittee to organize this month and determine recommendations on the following:</p> <p><u>School-based programs subcommittee:</u> Participants: Dawn Poitras, Lori Uerz, Amy Minor, Debby Haskins and Margo Austin, AoE contact (TBD)</p> <p>Discussion will include: Should we suggest funding for a SAP in every school and SBIRT? Currently, 1/3 of the supervisory unions have an SAP plus youth engagement staff so that every community has support. Also see email from Dr. Levine on 4/4/18.</p> <p><u>Subcommittee dealing with potency and alternate delivery systems/edibles/infustibles:</u> Guy Roberts Jon Porter, MD Lori suggested Guy connect with Shane Lynn at the Champlain Valley Dispensary.</p>	<p>Jake will reach out to AoE to request they include the new person to this committee.</p>

	<p><u>Messaging subcommittee:</u> Megan Trutor, Nancy Erickson, Kathleen Horton</p> <p>Discussion to include: Are we so bold to recommend money for education up front and dedicate it to that effort? Is there any research effort on the cash that comes in, including surveillance, community-based programs?</p> <p><u>Policy subcommittee:</u> Dr. Levine, Shayla Livingston, David Englander</p> <p>Discussion to include: Adult only outlets and buffer zones and other issues potentially requiring rulemaking or legislative action.</p> <p><u>Community-based programs subcommittee:</u> Mark Redmond, Mariah Sanderson, Lori Uerz, Jill Rinehart</p> <p><u>Research and surveillance</u> – will ask Ann Pugh plus VDH support.</p> <p>Discussion to include: Activities required, dollar estimates and reporting requirements.</p>	
Next Meeting	Schedule the end of May	