



# Vermont State Cancer Plan 2012 Activities Report

## PREVENTING FUTURE CANCERS

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**Tobacco cessation programs for youth and adults & reducing second hand smoke exposure**

**Obesity control and fruits and vegetable consumption**

**Physical activity for youth and adults**

**Radon detection**

**Sun protection promotion**

**Breastfeeding promotion**

**HPV Vaccinations for women**

The Vermont Department of Health (VDH) continues to support programs to address these issues. For more information, please visit: <http://healthvermont.gov>

## DETECTING NEW CANCERS EARLY

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### **Breast cancer screening**

VTAAC hosted its third Breast Cancer Summit in October. VTAAC's Women's Health Workgroup was formed and met during the year. The workgroup has targeted increasing breast, cervical and colon cancer screening for all Vermont women. The VDH Ladies First Program continues to reach out to low-income, under-insured women across Vermont through collaborations with clinical providers, free clinics and others. For more information, please visit: [http://healthvermont.gov/prevent/ladies\\_first.aspx](http://healthvermont.gov/prevent/ladies_first.aspx).

### **Cervical cancer screening**

The VTAAC Cervical Cancer workgroup has been joined with the Women's Health Workgroup. The workgroup will continue to develop and prioritize strategies related to HPV vaccinations for young women and cervical cancer screening for women of all ages. VTAAC partner, the Hicks' Foundation sponsored free screening days in 2012. For more information, please visit: <http://www.freepap.org>

### **Colorectal cancer screening**

The VTAAC Colon Cancer workgroup continued to work with Vermont health insurers to incorporate written and telephone reminders to subscribers eligible for colon cancer screening. For more information, please visit: <http://www.cancer.net/patient/Cancer+Types/Colorectal+Cancer>

### **Prostate cancer screening/informed decision making**

VTAAC staff continued to meet with Prostate cancer survivor groups to assess their needs. For more information, please visit: <http://www.cancer.net/patient/cancer+types/prostate+cancer>

## INCREASING ACCESS TO OPTIMUM CANCER TREATMENT

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### **Transportation service usage**

The American Cancer Society (ACS) continues to recruit volunteers for its "Road to Recovery" program, which links volunteer drivers to patients needing rides to treatment. In 2012, ACS Volunteers provided over 1700 rides in Vermont. For more information, please visit: [http://www.cancer.org/docroot/ESN/content/ESN\\_3\\_1x\\_Road\\_to\\_Recovery.asp](http://www.cancer.org/docroot/ESN/content/ESN_3_1x_Road_to_Recovery.asp)

## **Insurance coverage**

ACS and several VTAAC partners continued working on reducing barriers to access to the Catamount Health Plan. For more information, please visit: <http://www.greenmountaincare.org/>

## **IMPROVING QUALITY OF LIFE FOR CANCER SURVIVORS**

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### **Survivorship**

VTAAC affiliate, the Vermont Cancer Survivor Network (VCSN), continued their peer-to-peer support program “Kindred Connections” which connects cancer patients with others who have had similar experiences in five counties. VTAAC and VCSN sponsored the first Cancer Survivor Summit/Celebration in March. The University of Vermont, working with VCSN, published its findings from a survey of unmet needs using the Vermont Cancer Survivor Registry. In addition, ACS, the Cancer Patient Support Program, the Foley Cancer Center at Rutland, Central Vermont Medical Center and other VTAAC partners promoted and provided support services across Vermont. For more information, please visit: <http://www.vcsn.net>

### **Pain management, Hospice and palliative care**

VTAAC members are working with the Vermont Ethics Network to implement the recommendations of Vermont Act 25 to address pain management and palliative care in Vermont. For more information, please visit: <http://www.vtethicsnetwork.org/>

### **Advance directives**

In 2006, the VDH launched a statewide electronic Advance Directives Registry. VTAAC and the Vermont Ethics Network are promoting use of this on-line service. Thousands of Vermonters have registered for this free service. For more information, please visit: <http://healthvermont.gov/vadr/index.aspx>

## **COALITION STRUCTURE AND PROMOTION**

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### **Infrastructure**

VTAAC convened Summits for Survivorship and Breast Cancer to have discussions on addressing these areas in the 2015 Plan. The new alignment for VTAAC workgroups and taskforces to address the objectives in the State Cancer Plan has been implemented.

### **Promoting VTAAC and the State Cancer Plan**

VTAAC hosted a Regional Cancer Summit with the Cancer Committee at Northwestern Medical Center in St. Albans in May. VTAAC staff presented information at several cancer-related programs and conferences across the state in 2012. Outreach priorities include working with the six American College of Surgeons (ACoS) Commission on Cancer certified centers in Vermont to further promote the coalition, the State Cancer Plan, and various cancer control activities.

### **The Vermont State Cancer Plan**

VDH updated the 2015 Vermont State Cancer Plan in January and produced the Vermont State Cancer Plan Status Report in October. VTAAC workgroups and taskforces are using the Status Report to address the goals and objectives in the new plan <http://healthvermont.gov/prevent/cancer/documents/2015VermontStateCancerPlan-1-21-11.pdf>

## **ACTIVITIES PLANNED FOR 2013**

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### **Prevention**

VDH Programs to continue activities in tobacco control, obesity control, fitness promotion, radon detection, sun protection and promotion of breastfeeding; including policy, media, community and individual level interventions. The VDH Comprehensive Cancer Control program will continue to provide support for several of these initiatives this year.

## **Breast & Cervical Cancers**

The VTAAC Women's Health Workgroup will address the 2015 State Cancer Plan goals to increase access to screening for women. Members will be working on the Blueprint Learning Collaborative and the Health Plan's Joint Payer Project. VTAAC will convene the fourth Women's Cancer Summit in October.

## **Colorectal Cancer**

VTAAC Women's Health and Colorectal Cancer workgroups will continue to target areas with disparate population to promote access to screening and to continue developing strategies to raise public awareness of the need for screening.

## **Prostate Cancer**

VTAAC will convene a Prostate Cancer Summit in September.

## **Survivorship**

The VTAAC Quality of Life Workgroup will be established to address the quality of life goals in the State Cancer Plan. VCSN will maintain peer support program and develop plan to expand program in Vermont. VTAAC to work with partners to develop strategies for increasing access to information for cancer survivors.

## **Insurance**

VTAAC will continue working with partners to educate Vermonters on health care reform and to improve Vermonters' access to appropriate cancer screenings and quality health care.

## **Pain Management & Palliative Care**

VTAAC to work with partners to implement the recommendations of the Palliative Care & Pain Management Task Force.

## **Partner Recruitment**

VTAAC will work with partners to reach membership goals for broader geographic representation and increase the number of members that represent Vermont's disparate populations.

## **Promote Plan**

VTAAC and VDH staff will continue working with partners to promote cancer plan and activities. VTAAC will host a Regional Cancer Summit in the Northeast Kingdom in June, 2013

## **Evaluate Plan**

VDH and VTAAC Steering Committee will continue the development of a formal evaluation of the 2015 Plan.

## **Partnership**

VTAAC to hold its Seventh Annual Meeting in April, 2013.

### **VERMONTERS ARE TAKING ACTION AGAINST CANCER!**

*To find out what actions you can take:*

**Call:** David Cranmer, VTAAC coordinator at 802-872-6303  
Sharon Mallory, VDH Comprehensive Cancer Control at 802-951-4001

**Email:** [info@vtaac.org](mailto:info@vtaac.org)

**Click:** <http://www.vtaac.org> or

[http://www.healthvermont.gov/prevent/cancer/cancer\\_programs.aspx](http://www.healthvermont.gov/prevent/cancer/cancer_programs.aspx)