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## STATE PREVENTION INVENTORY – RHODE ISLAND PROFILE

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### STATE PREVENTION SYSTEM

#### Structure and Organization

In Rhode Island, the Department of Mental Health, Retardation and Hospitals is the lead State alcohol, tobacco, and other drug (ATOD) prevention agency. The Division of Substance Abuse (DSA) is responsible for administering drug and alcohol prevention programs. DSA contains four units:

- Administration
- Prevention
- Treatment
- Treatment Alternatives to Street Crime

The mission of the prevention unit is “to plan, coordinate, implement, and evaluate programs designed to prevent or reduce the incidence of substance abuse in Rhode Island.” The underlying philosophy is a public health model in a community development context. Substance abuse services are coordinated with the State’s primary health care services, particularly with respect to preventive health, health promotion, maternal and child health, infectious diseases, and health care financing.

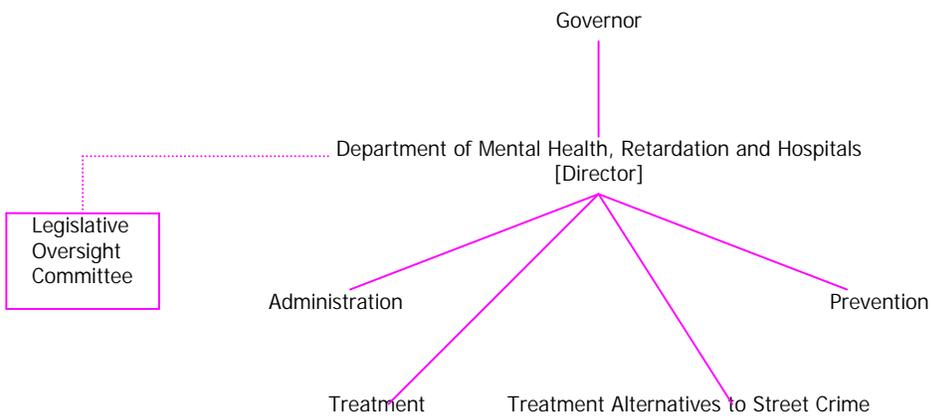
The Rhode Island Substance Abuse Prevention Act (RISAPA) funds 35 community substance abuse prevention Task Forces, representing all 39 municipalities in the State. The purpose of the Act is to “...promote planning and implementation of comprehensive substance abuse prevention programs in Rhode Island communities.” Each Task Force is mandated to conduct a community needs assessment, develop prevention plans, coordinate prevention programs, and conduct program evaluations. DSA reviews the comprehensive plans developed by the Task Forces, provides technical assistance, and monitors Task Force operations.

The Rhode Island Junior High/Middle School Student Assistance Act funds student assistance programs in junior high/middle schools in the State. Student assistance programs in high schools are funded through legislative appropriation. All student assistance programs funded through DSA are required to follow the nationally-recognized Westchester County student assistance model.

Currently, the Legislative Oversight Committee, a nine-member group appointed by the General Assembly, has responsibility for oversight of all substance abuse prevention programs in the State. The DSA prevention unit provides staff for the Committee.

The DSA prevention unit administers Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment (SAPT) Block Grant and State prevention funds that support community-based prevention agencies in the provision of direct services. DSA also has responsibility for the administration of the Governor’s discretionary portion of the Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities program, as well as the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention underage drinking block grant.

### Organizational Chart



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**FUNDING AND RESOURCES**

Year (FFY)	State Funding	SAPT funding	20% Set-aside
1993	\$3,402,535	\$4,952,784	\$1,113,423
1994	3,044,795	5,824,724	1,311,678
1995	3,045,973	4,486,642	904,681

**Allocation of Funds**

CSAP Strategy	FFY 1993	FFY 1994	FFY 1995
Information Dissemination	\$194,559	\$113,372	\$61,432
Education	283,148	600,605	444,447
Alternatives	59,585	69,186	54,653
Problem Identification and Referral	541,306	523,227	342,025
Environmental	1,911	529	0
Community-based Process	31,534	4,759	0
Other*	1,380	0	2,124

\*The State did not specify what these expenditures were.

Resource Spending*	FFY 1993	FFY 1994	FFY 1995
Planning, Coordination, and Needs Assessment	\$0	\$0	\$0
Quality Assurance	0	0	0
Training (post-employment)	222,597	261,284	142,255
Education (pre-employment)	0	0	0
Program Development	0	0	0
Research and Evaluation	0	0	0
Information Systems	0	0	0

\* These expenditures fell outside the set-aside.

**Substate entities receiving set-aside funds for prevention service delivery**

- 48 regional agencies
- 35 Municipal Task Forces

**Average amount of grant/contract:**

- FFY 1993 - \$38,481
- FFY 1994 - \$44,394
- FFY 1995 - \$38,589

**Per-capita 20% set-aside spending (population):**

- FFY 1993 - \$1.11
- FFY 1994 - \$1.32
- FFY 1995 - \$0.91

**Staff/Volunteers designated and supported by set-aside funding and level:**

- FFY 1993 – 180
  - State: \*
  - Regional: \*
  - Local: \*
- FFY 1994 – 174
  - State: \*
  - Regional: \*
  - Local: \*
- FFY 1995 – 159
  - State: \*
  - Regional: \*
  - Local: \*

\*Estimates, provided by Chief of Substance Abuse Prevention Services. Figures represent a combination of State, regional, and local categories.

**STATE CONTACT**

**Sheila L. Whalen**

Chief, Substance Abuse Prevention Services  
 Division of Substance Abuse  
 Rhode Island Department of Mental Health,  
 Retardation, and Hospitals  
 600 New London Avenue  
 Barry Hall, Building 52  
 Cranston, RI 02920  
 (401) 462-5685  
 (401) 462-6078 fax

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## PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

### Definition of Prevention:

The Department of Mental Health, Retardation, and Hospitals ascribes to the theoretical framework of the Public Health Model (agent-host-environment). The underlying philosophy is a "public health model in a community development context." Prevention efforts are focused on individual, family, and community risk and protective factors.

### Does the State have prevention plan?

Yes, "A Strategic Plan (1995-2000) for Substance Abuse Prevention, Intervention and Treatment."

- Domestic violence victims
- Parents
- Elderly
- Public policy decision makers

### Target populations for prevention services:

- Ethnic minority groups residing in Providence
- Community-at-large
- Chemically dependent women and their children

### Total Number served:

- FFY 1993 – 30,793
- FFY 1994 – 42,702
- FFY 1995 – 43,319

### Programs funded:

Type	Number of Programs/Number Served			Programs
	FFY 1993	FFY 1994	FFY 1995	
Information dissemination	N/A/982♦	N/A♦♦	N/A	R.I. Council on Alcoholism and Other Drug Dependence Hotline; In-Rhodes; Red Ribbon campaigns; media campaigns
Education	N/A/1,891 ***	N/A	N/A/1,815	R.I. Teen Institute; New Visions for Newport County; Channel One – Warwick; Progresso Latino – Project Life; Elizabeth Buffam Chace House; Family Resources, Inc. – Woonsocket Project; Institute for Human Development – Genesis Center Family Project; R.I. Youth Guidance – Project CONNECT; Urban League of R.I.; Cranston Human Ecology Program; statewide training program (DATA); Eastman House
Alternative activities*	N/A	N/A	N/A/290	Channel One – Central Falls; Genesis Center; Smithfield Youth Development Council; World Scholar Athlete Games

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Type	Number of Programs/Number Served			Programs
	FFY 1993	FFY 1994	FFY 1995	
Problem identification and referral**	26/9,914	26/18,990	26/19,511	R.I. Employee Assistance Program; R.I. Student Assistance Program
Community-based process	N/A	N/A	N/A	Providence Housing Authority; prevention task forces; career exploration; tutorials; community enhancement projects; family life education; parent training; curriculum development and dissemination; teacher training initiatives; referral of persons in elderly and disabled housing to promote self-sufficiency
Environmental	N/A	N/A	N/A	R.I.S.A.P.A. Task Forces; R.I. Council on Alcoholism and Other Drug Dependence; Tobacco Free Teens groups; Task Force to Restrict Youth Access to Tobacco; tobacco and alcohol vendor training; school policies relating to alcohol and tobacco use; smoke-free building ordinances; tobacco vending machine restrictions

\*As a matter of policy, the DSA does not fund “free-standing” alternative programs; instead the DSA prefers to fund comprehensive prevention programs in which healthy alternative activities may be offered in conjunction with other components.

\*\*Students at 26 public high schools across the State and their families.

\*\*\*Number of individuals trained in statewide training program overseen by Drug and Alcohol Treatment Association (DATA).

◆Number of individuals served by In-Rhodes, the statewide substance abuse resource center. In addition, a total of 27,283 pieces of informational material were distributed.

◆◆Data not available from State.

## DATA COLLECTION ACTIVITIES

### Results currently available on prevention programs funded by the 20% set-aside (including needs assessments and data collection):

The 35 broadly representative Municipal Task Forces (i.e., the community-based organizations) are responsible for assessing the extent of substance abuse-related problems within their respective catchment areas. Each SAPT Block Grant recipient is required to submit an annual program plan projecting planned activities by CSAP strategy area. The goals and objectives must reflect individual performance measures. The SAPT recipients must submit quarterly and annual program and financial reports to the State agency. Although the State agency does not have a prevention management information system, each individual task force and SAPT-funded

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program maintains its own statistics. The programs report the statistics to the State agency.

The Task Forces assess needs through surveys, brainstorming sessions, collection and analysis of incidence/prevalence data, and key information interviews. Thereafter, Task Forces are responsible for implementing comprehensive prevention plans, which are developed tri-annually and updated annually.

In the early 1990s, a three-year prevention needs assessment was undertaken. Three variables were used to determine the relative need for prevention services in each municipality:

- Drug and alcohol treatment admissions
- Drug confiscations
- Number of alcohol outlets per 10,000 residents

As this report goes to press, Rhode Island is currently conducting a statewide treatment needs assessment. The results of the social indicator component of the treatment needs assessment is to be utilized in future prevention planning. The DSA also conducts a biennial Adolescent Substance Abuse Survey (ASAS) and participates in the national Youth Risk Behavior Survey. All prevention providers use these indicators for planning purposes.

The DSA has not been able to fund specific evaluations of programs funded via the 20% set-aside. All funded programs are, however, required to articulate which performance measures will be used within each strategy area in their annual program plan submissions. The quality assurance plans are reviewed at biennial site visits. Rhode Island does not presently have a statewide data collection system.

## SUPPORT SERVICES

### Training and Technical Assistance:

The DSA contracts with the Drug and Alcohol Treatment Association (DATA) to oversee a statewide training program. This training program, which utilizes Federal Block Grant set-aside funds, includes training workshops for the network of substance abuse prevention Task Forces for community prevention providers and for student assistance counselors. DSA also contracts with DATA to maintain a reference and lending library of ATOD- and AIDS-related materials, films, and videos. Bulk materials are provided to both professionals and the general public. This clearinghouse, denoted InRhodes, acts as the State RADAR Network Center.

### Certification Activities:

Rhode Island utilizes an independent organization for the certification of the State's chemical dependency professionals, clinical supervisors, prevention specialists, and student assistance counselors. This organization, the Rhode Island Board for the Certification of Chemical Dependency professionals, is a member of the International Certification Reciprocity Consortium.

Four levels of certification are offered:

- Certified Prevention Specialist (CPS)
- Advanced Certified Prevention Specialist (ACPS)
- Certified Prevention Specialist Supervisor (CPSS)
- Student Assistance Counselor Certification