

# Friday, January 6, 2023

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Join the Newsletter!

# **VT CHEP DISTRICT HIGHLIGHT**



# **Rutland Health District**

**Funded Community Projects!** 

<u>Vermont CARES</u>: Educating the community on relevant topics related to SUD and HIV. Providing Syringe Service and a harm reduction program including: Narcan, HIV & HCV testing, case management, housing support, SUD Treatment referrals, and more. Providing safe and inclusive space for folks to feel seen and valued.

<u>VT AthletaFit:</u> Offering free gym memberships and personal training to those likely to experience disparities in access to gyms or training. Partnering with Come Alive Outside to help people prepare to enter the outdoor recreation space and increase inclusion, access, and health equity in the outdoors.

**Rutland County Pride:** Enhancing and sustaining the well-being of the LGBTQ+ and allied communities by providing programs and services that cultivate community; advocate for LGBTQ+ interests; educate and empower, and provide social support.

**Rutland Area Branch NAACP:** Developing and hosting a half-day professional conference and educational summit with a networking dinner. The conference will consist of two panels, one short presentation, and a final plenary meeting where mental health participants will discuss how to stay best connected. The dinner will serve as the first social gathering of the network, where all participants would have the opportunity to build connections through food and music. Members of the general public will be invited to attend this conference. This summit and dinner aim to build connections between mental health professionals of color and allow participants a chance to locate clinicians and other mental-health-related professionals of color.

<u>Come Alive Outside:</u> Supporting a new partnership with VT AthletaFit to increase inclusion, access, and equity outdoors for underserved populations who face the highest health inequities. Offering free gym memberships, an outdoor gear lending and donation library, and hyper-local outdoor programming for target populations in Poultney.

**Euphoric Hair Experience:** Opening a permanent hair braiding salon for BIPOC youth and adults in the Rutland community. Sponsoring and organizing BIPOC youth and adult hair clinics to make available services that are otherwise unavailable in the community. This service assists with youth and adult mental health, with participants reporting increased positive thoughts due to increased confidence in physical appearance.

**ARC Rutland Area:** Serving citizens with developmental and intellectual disabilities (DD/ID) by providing them equitable access to opportunities for community inclusion and personal growth they may not otherwise have. Programs and social activities provide physical exercise, reduced isolation /loneliness, development of social and life skills, making friends, gaining a sense of belonging, and fun; all of which don't come easily to this population. ARC aims to ensure that members are and will continue to be valued community members, teachers, and leaders.

Allen Street Campus: Conversion of the school stage area into a skateboard room with a

4-foot high mini ramp as a way to provide equitable access to lifelong affordable sports in a safe and supportive environment. Students will be involved in working with a design team to create a comfortable and accessible 3rd space for skateboarding, skate instruction, and art. The experiential learning class will take the lead on this project collaborating with local volunteers to construct the ramp and learn life skills. The space will be graced with street art murals that reflect our diversity, creativity, and resilience.

### **Data Driven Problem Statement**

The voices of oppressed and underserved community members are not centered in the ongoing work of improving health equity in Rutland County. This exclusion assumes services and opportunities needed 'for' rather than 'with' these community members. This is alienating and disempowering, leading to mistrust between underserved community members, service providers, and the community as a whole. Mistrust feeds into lack of engagement which continually exacerbates issues of health inequities and community disconnection.

### **Community Goal/Vision**

The voices and lived experiences of BIPOC, LGBTQ+ folks, people living with disabilities, and other underserved and oppressed community members are centered and valued. We curate safe space for people to speak from that lived experience to inform projects, programs, and policies in Rutland County. This centering is critical to making community networks more just, equitable, and inclusive for all.

# **VT CHEP ACTIVITIES**



### If you are interested in being a part of the Planning Committee, please email Cathy at <u>caikman@vtpha.org</u>.

Our first meeting is on Tuesday, <u>January 10th @ 9-10am</u>. All are welcome!

January Workshops

Thursday, January 12th @ 1-3pm

## Stories with Purpose: Storytelling Tools for Engagement, Equity and Action

with Rebecca Stone

Thursday, January 19th @ 1-3pm

### **Centering Equity in Facilitation**

with L.J. Wallace and Gina Rodriguez from Health Resources in Action (HRiA)

## Wednesday, January 25th @ 1-3pm

## Identities and Biases: Navigating Difficult Conversations

with Indra J. Acharya

Zoom Meeting Link <u>Here</u> Meeting ID: 988 3873 2497

Passcode: 654269

Dial by your location +1 305 224 1968 US

**Webinar Materials** 

**Find Instructions Here** 



# **FUNDING OPPORTUNITY**



## **Center for Advancing Rural Health Equity Grants**

The newly established Center for Advancing Rural Health Equity (CARHE) seeks ideas for projects to advance health equity in rural northern New England communities within NH, VT, and ME. The Request for Ideas (RFI) intends to solicit project ideas with strong potential to address health disparities in rural areas. Ideas do not need to be fully developed proposals; they can be at the formative stage. We will work with you to develop an interesting idea into a full project. Ideas could focus on quality improvement, research, education, training, implementation, development of new services, or any combination of these.

We anticipate funding **three to four** projects at/up to **\$20,000** each.

Deadline: January 20, 2023

**Contact: CARHE@hitchcock.org** 

Learn More About the RFI Here!

# **EXTERNAL ACTIVITIES**



## Triple Threat: American Abenaki Erasure and Continuity of Culture

### Sunday, January 15, 2023 | @ 2pm

### Free and Open to the Public

### Ethan Allen Homestead, Burlington, VT or Virtual - Zoom Link

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## **Martin Luther King Jr Remembrance Events**

Sunday, January 15, 2023 | @ 3pm - First Unitarian Universalist Society, 152 Pearl St, Burlington, VT Monday, January 16, 2023 | @ 3pm - Echo, Burlington, VT

Free tickets available at City Market, Fletcher Free Library, Echo

Learn More	



## Mental Health Advocacy Day

# Annual advocacy event in support of mental health legislation

Monday, January 30, 2023 | 10am-2pm |Virtual

**Share Your Story** 

**Provide Testimony** 

**Register to Attend** 

VT Youth Mental Health Advocacy Awards <u>Nominations</u> due Jan 13th

The agenda includes welcome addresses from state leaders, a keynote plenary session, special awards, and opportunities for people to share their stories of hope and recovery.

Learn More Here!



## **Third Annual Social Justice Summit**

### **Big Conversations: Race, Trauma & Collective Healing**

### January 20 - 22, 2023 | Virtual

Learn More & Register Here!

County Health Rankings & Roadmaps

Building a Culture of Health, County by County

Preventing Compassion Fatigue for Nonprofit Employees

### **Racial Healing for Health**

Tuesday, January 17, 2023 @ 3-4pm

Live Webinar

Jan 27, 2023 @ 9-10:30am

Live Webinar

Learn More and Register

Register Here



## Role of the Board Chair Series

Feb 22 - March 15, 2023 @ 3-4pm

Virtual Event Series

Learn More and Register



Show Me the Money: What You Need to Know About Nonprofit Finance to Make Good Decisions

Feb 8, 2023 @ 1-4pm

Live Webinar

Learn More and Register



### A Tribute to Martin Luther King, Jr, 39 Steps

Wednesday, Jan 18, 2023 @ 7pm

See Program Schedule Here

Live Webinar



Negative Impacts of High Potency THC on Community and Patient Safety: This is NOT Medicine

Tuesday, January 31, 2023 @ 9am

See Information Flyer Here

Live Webinar



### Supporting the Health and

**Effective Volunteer** 

## Well-being of Rural LGBTQ Adults

#### Wednesday, Jan 18, 2023 @ 2pm

Live Webinar



## Management in Blue Skies and Times of Disaster

Tuesday, Jan 31, 2023 @ 10am -12:30pm

Live Webinar



Nonprofit Association of Washington

VERMONT



### **Power House Boards**

January 11 - 25, 2023 @ 1-3pm

Live Webinar Series



Common

January 11 - 25, 2023 @ 7-8:30pm

Live Webinar Series

Learn More and Register

Learn More and Register



## Community Health Workers Animated Video

The video gives an overview of the role and importance of Community Health Workers in Vermont.



### The VT Language Justice

### Project

Working to Make Health Information Accessible for Everyone



### **National Tribal Programs**

NNPHI's goal is to foster public health

**Member Stories** 

**Beneath Our Skin: VAAADN** 



# **JOIN THE NEWSLETTER!**

Do you want to add to the newsletter?

Do you have an opportunity to share with the statewide collaborative?

Please email caikman@vtpha.org with the information!

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