



**STATE OF CONNECTICUT**  
**DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTION SERVICES**  
*A Healthcare Service Agency*

NED LAMONT  
GOVERNOR

MIRIAM E. DELPHIN-RITTMON, Ph.D.  
COMMISSIONER

June 8, 2021

RE: Local Prevention Council Funding 2021-2022

Dear Community Leader:

I am writing to inform you of changes to the statewide Local Prevention Council (LPC) Program, effective July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022. LPCs will be required to continue to address youth vaping which emerged as a priority from the 2019 Regional Behavioral Health Action Organizations' (RBHAO) priority setting process. A coordinated effort across all communities will mitigate the problem which has far reaching impact and a disregard for boundaries.

We understand that for some LPCs vaping is not their locally perceived priority problem and others need to build and sustain their membership, capacity and readiness to address problem substances. To that end, additional federal dollars have been approved to identify and address local priority problem substance(s) and other related behavioral health problems that have shared risk factors (e.g. poor mental health, suicide and gambling). These funds may also be used to build and sustain LPC membership, capacity and readiness.

LPCs must apply to address both youth vaping and the local priority problem substance(s). Otherwise, funds can be used by the RBHAOs to revamp and reconfigure LPCs that lack the capacity to implement interventions. Regardless of status, Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS) and RBHAOs have made the LPC 2021-2022 application flexible enough to meet the needs of each municipality.

Should you have questions, please contact your RBHAO, or Andrea Duarte at: [Andrea.Duarte@ct.gov](mailto:Andrea.Duarte@ct.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Carol P. Meredith".

Carol P. Meredith, M.P.A.  
Director  
Prevention and Health Promotion Division