

Article - Health - General

SUBTITLE 10. HEPATITIS C ~~ADVISORY COUNCIL~~ VIRUS.

18-1001.

AS FUNDS ARE AVAILABLE, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL:

(1) CONDUCT A NEEDS ASSESSMENT TO DETERMINE THE INCIDENCE OF THE HEPATITIS C VIRUS IN THE STATE;

(2) INITIATE A STATEWIDE PUBLIC AWARENESS CAMPAIGN TARGETING VULNERABLE POPULATIONS AND HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS IN THE STATE TO URGE HEPATITIS C VIRUS EDUCATION AND TESTING;

(3) COORDINATE WITH OTHER UNITS OF STATE GOVERNMENT, INCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND CORRECTIONAL SERVICES AND THE VETERANS' ADMINISTRATION, TO ACTIVATE A HEPATITIS C VIRUS PLAN FOR THE EDUCATION, TESTING, AND TREATMENT OF THE POPULATIONS WITHIN THE JURISDICTION OF THE UNITS;

(4) SOLICIT FUNDING FROM THE PRIVATE SECTOR AND UNITS OF FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT FOR HEPATITIS C VIRUS OUTREACH;

(5) ~~IF FUNDS ARE AVAILABLE,~~ PROVIDE FUNDING FOR HEPATITIS C VIRUS PILOT PROGRAMS, WHICH MAY INCLUDE PROGRAMS IN METHADONE CLINICS OR PROGRAMS FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONAL SERVICES POPULATION;

(6) REVIEW AND RECOMMEND INITIATIVES TO PROMOTE ADVOCACY, EDUCATION, PHYSICIAN OUTREACH, AND AWARENESS OF THE HEPATITIS C VIRUS;

(7) ASSESS THE FEASIBILITY OF CREATING A HEPATITIS C VIRUS ADMINISTRATION IN THE DEPARTMENT AND EXAMINE METHODS TO MAXIMIZE EXISTING RESOURCES TO RAISE AWARENESS OF THE HEPATITIS C VIRUS; AND

(8) IMPLEMENT THE 2005 REPORT OF THE HEPATITIS C ADVISORY COUNCIL, ~~AS FUNDS ARE AVAILABLE.~~

18-1002.

ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 1, 2006, AND ANNUALLY THEREAFTER, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL REPORT TO THE GOVERNOR AND, IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 2-1246 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, TO THE SENATE EDUCATION, HEALTH, AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE AND THE HOUSE HEALTH AND GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS COMMITTEE ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE DEPARTMENT IN IMPLEMENTING § 18-1001 OF THIS SUBTITLE.

~~THERE IS A STATE ADVISORY COUNCIL ON HEPATITIS C.~~

~~18-1002.~~

~~(A) IN THIS SUBTITLE THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED:~~