

Statewide Coordinating Council for Public Health
Meeting Minutes for March 24, 2011 Meeting, 11:00am-3:00pm
Augusta Armory, 179 Western Avenue, Second Floor

In Attendance:

Members: Heather Davis, Deb Deatruck, Deb Erickson-Irons, Joanne Joy, Tom Lizotte, Robin Mayo, Geoffrey Miller, Kathy Norwood, Connie Putnam, Ted Trainer (for Megan Rochelo), Emilie Van Eeghen, Shawn Yardley, Stephen Sears

Key Stakeholders: Dennise Whitley (American Heart Association of Maine), Mark Griswold (Maine CDC Office of Local Public Health)

Interested Parties: Judy Gopaul, Teresa Hubley, Kathy Cullinen, Joe Mando, Clarissa Webber, Al May, Stacy Boucher, Jessica Fogg, Margaret Gradie, Lisa Miller, Becca Matusovich, Chris Lyman, MaryAnn Amrich, Lisa Sockabasin, Jerolyn Ireland, Valerie Ricker, Ellen Wells, Mark Pelletier, Jennifer Gunderman-King, Len Bartel, Bridget O'Connor, Susan Kring, Becky Smith, Amy Olphene

The meeting was called to order at 11:00am by Joanne Joy, SCC Chair.

- District Updates: Each district reported out on recent activities and issues. Updates focused both on district priorities as well as a presentation of a summary of the district public health improvement plans, which have now been finalized in most districts. Written Updates from each District, as well as one-page district public health improvement plan summaries, are posted on the SCC website (<http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/boh/olph/scc/index.shtml>). Observations, issues and questions that arose during the discussion include the following:
 - The public health structure in the Downeast District will be greatly impacted by HMP awards, with the number of HMPs reduced from 6 to 2.
 - How should districts promote advocacy and policy issues? DCCs can engage in legislative advocacy, with the understanding state staff cannot be involved in these efforts. In addition, DCC advocacy can be challenging because people come to the table representing their various work organizations. At minimum, DCC members should have a list of legislators so that members know who represents their communities and can advocate as individuals.
 - How should we promote funding opportunities in the district? This issue will be explored by the Executive Committee and District Representatives.
 - A letter from the DHHS Department of Licensing and Regulatory Services concerning unused medication disposal was discussed. The letter directs long-term care facilities and others to connect with local law enforcement about a drug take-back campaign in April. Some local law enforcement agencies have been caught off-guard by this request. Mark Griswold will follow up with appropriate DHHS staff for clarification.
 - Who provides oversight and monitoring of the District Public Health Improvement Plans? The district plans are under the oversight of the DCCs, although the SCC will remain involved at the state level and should be kept informed of progress by the

District Representatives and OLPH. Suggestion for upcoming SCC meeting: discussion about recommendations for evaluation and reporting back to SCC on the plans.

- The group was updated concerning LHO coverage in unorganized territories, which was discussed during the December meeting. Memoranda of understanding are being drafted by OLPH that will allow counties to form agreements with towns for LHO coverage, both in unorganized territories and to provide regional coverage for towns. The memoranda will be reviewed by the assistant district attorney who works with Maine CDC on public health issues.
- One Maine Collaborative Community Health Needs Assessment: Deb Deatrick presented an overview of both the 2010 MaineHealth Health Index Initiative and the OneMaine Collaborative Community Health Needs Assessment. Her presentation is located on the SCC website (<http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/boh/olph/scc/index.shtml>). The Index Initiative focuses on the MaineHealth service area and uses a methodology similar to that of America's Health Rankings to profile community health strengths and needs. The Community Health Needs Assessment is statewide in scope and features a variety of data, including hospital claims data, data compiled by Maine CDC, and a large household telephone survey. Results will be used to create state and county health profiles. Results of the Assessment will be publicized via forums co-hosted by hospitals and the public health community and will occur between April and October. The forums will allow for important dialogue between care and public health sectors, and promote DCC membership for healthcare providers and administrators.
- Key Stakeholder Report from Maine Public Health Association: Dennise Whitley, Becky Smith and Amy Olphene presented information about legislation and policy initiatives impacting public health during this current legislative session. There was spirited discussion about the potential impact of proposed legislation and the importance of advocacy during this critical time. Their presentation is posted here on the SCC website: <http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/boh/olph/scc/index.shtml>.
- Tribal Public Health: Lisa Sockabasin, Sandy Yarmal, Clarissa Webber, Jerolyn Ireland and Mark Griswold discussed tribal health status and public health activities, as well as LD 121, which, if passed, will incorporate tribal public health structures more comprehensively within the broader public health infrastructure. Jeri and Clarissa, who are the Tribal District Public Health Liaisons, discussed the Waponaki Health Assessment, an intensive effort to gather health status data among the four Maine federally-recognized tribes through comprehensive in-person interviews. Lisa provided an overview of tribal health disparities and reviewed the impact of historical trauma on the Maine tribal population. Mark described LD 121, which passed through HHS committee review with a unanimous "ought to pass." The legislation has broad support from statewide advocates including the SCC, which provided testimony. It was recommended that tribal health be discussed at all DCCs, and was noted that this discussion has already occurred and was very well received in several districts.
- Development of Healthy Maine 2020: As a follow up to our last meeting, Nancy Birkhimer and Mark Griswold described the process for development of Healthy Maine 2020. Thirteen Focus Areas have been established and volunteers are being sought to provide expert advice

in order to choose a maximum of five indicators per Focus Area. Maine CDC staff and USM Muskie facilitators have been assigned to each Focus Area, and will be leading meetings during April and May to prioritize the indicators. In addition, subject matter experts will receive online surveys to assist in the prioritization process. Sign up sheets were distributed to SCC attendees so that they could volunteer to assist. An email will be sent to solicit the participation of SCC members, stakeholders and interested parties who were not present at the meeting

The meeting adjourned at 3:00pm.

Next Meeting: June 23, 2011, 11:00 to 3:00 pm, location to be determined