



**Midcoast Public Health Council Steering Committee
Meeting Minutes – October 13, 2020
ZOOM
DRAFT DATED October 13**



Present: Cathy Cole – Chair, Director of Community Health, LincolnHealth; Kate Martin, Vice Chair, Director, Healthy Lincoln County; Susan Dupler- Belfast Public Health Nursing; Christine Lyman, Community Member and Public Health Consultant; Rachel McCormick- Director of Community Health Improvement, Penbay Medical Center and Waldo County General Hospital; Marianne Pinkham- Maine Association of Consumer Sciences, Healthy Lincoln County Board Member, Lincoln County Regional Planning Commission, and more; Connie Putnam- Knox County Community Health Coalition, Penbay YMCA; Drexell White- MCDC District Liaison; Julie Daigle – Midcoast PHD Council Coordinator

AGENDA	DISCUSSION	ACTION(S)
Welcome/Introductions		
COVID 19- District Liaison Updates	<p><i>Drexell</i> Outbreaks- Have been lucky with the number of cases, but are starting to see more- some in schools, some in a biotech company. Previously, only saw one at Tall Pines in April and the BIW outbreak.</p> <p>Mass vaccinations- working on planning with hospitals and EMA directors, dusting off plans. Looking to make sure the right people are in the discussions at this point. There will be a prioritization process- looks likely to start with healthcare facilities, congregate facilities, then schools. Trying to get ready for any eventuality.</p>	
Planning for November 10, 2020 MPH Council Meeting	<i>Meeting Evals/Debrief</i> Well organized.	- Julie will create a template for

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. September 11, 2020 meeting evals/debrief 2. Speaker suggestions beginning Nov 2020 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Disability Rights Maine - Mary Turner/GSFB - HPV vaccination - Maine Breast and Cervical Cancer Program - MPHA policy/legislative initiatives - Other? 	<p>Chris Lyman asked for a template that could be used to create the agendas, moving forward.</p> <p>Concerns- the leaders for the breakout sessions were not determined ahead of time and the questions were not provided ahead of time- leaving a gap into which someone who was participating and was perhaps not the appropriate leader assumed that role. Also, the groups were small; larger groups would have made for more robust conversation. Discussion revolved around some technical issues that had occurred behind the scenes and the difficulty of setting up the breakout rooms without knowing ahead of time how many people will be attending. This was the first time that we had put this together and it was a learning experience; the next time we will have that experience to draw from.</p> <p>What is the purpose of the breakout sessions- important to make sure that there is some forward movement that occurs, so that the time isn't just a "coffee conversation."</p> <p><i>Speaker Suggestions</i> Possible speakers include: -Jess Mahler from the Maine Council on Aging, -Dr. Shah, -Mary Turner (to help provide awareness on food programs for the community during COVID). Food insecurity questions- it has increased; is it changing the direction people are moving in; are we adjusting our future direction permanently because of it? What is going on statewide during COVID 19? How is it impacting all ages? What happens when the extra money "goes away"? -and in the future (not the November meeting), could bring in some New Mainers, since there is now a Midcoast New Mainers group.</p>	<p>council meeting planning.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Julie will try to connect with Greg Marley at NAMI Maine; Dr. Thomas Meuser at UNE (with Marianne's help); and Mary Turner at GSFB- all as potential speakers for the next Council meeting.
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	<p>- Mental health speaker: NAMI Maine (Greg Marley)- exploring what some of the mental health issues from COVID isolation are; Legacy Scholars program at UNE- Dr. Thomas Meuser is doing research on the impact of COVID on older adults. Suicide rates have increased; how is COVID 19 contributing to this?</p> <p>Drexell shared that Connie, and Rachel and he had met with Kristen Kilcollins to go over screening and mortality rates for Knox and Waldo County.</p> <p>Julie will try to connect with Greg Marley and Dr. Thomas Meuser for a mental health presentation; and then with Mary Turner for a food security presentation. If one or more of these presenters aren't available, reach out to Debra Bare-Rogers at Disability Rights Maine for a presentation on inclusivity services.</p>	
<p>Administrative</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Approve previous Steering Committee minutes 2. Membership crosswalk 3. Review of one draft policy- Dissemination of PH Messaging 4. Newsletter timeline and discussion of possible themes 	<p><i>Previous Steering Committee minutes</i> Rachael made a motion to accept the previous minutes; Susan seconded. Approval was unanimous.</p> <p><i>Membership crosswalk</i> - No municipal government representation at the moment -send out a survey to Steering Committee members with possible names? -typically, a name is suggested; if someone on the Steering Committee has a connection to this person, they contact that person (as opposed to "cold calling" them) regarding their interest; then a vote happens at the next Council meeting. The proposed slate will be provided to the Steering Committee at the January meeting; the vote will happen at the February Council meeting. -need clear language around what their role is, what the role of the DCC is</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Julie will provide the slate of possible names to the Steering Committee members at the next SC meeting in January - Julie will draft a "sales pitch" for membership recruitment. - Julie will contact members whose

	<p>-Julie will draft a “sales pitch” for recruitment- what resources a nominee gets from participation and what’s “in it for them.”</p> <p>-Julie will contact incumbents to ask whether they would like to remain on the Council</p> <p>-Drexell, Cathy and Kate will meet to discuss succession planning for the Chair/Vice Chair positions</p> <p><i>Draft policy</i></p> <p>-Group discussed the role of the Council- what role does the Council play in public health messaging</p> <p>-the draft policy as written is mainly concerned with emergency messaging</p> <p>-change language around “vulnerable populations,” this is not feasible</p> <p>-will edit and provide revised version at January meeting</p> <p><i>Newsletter/newsletter themes</i></p> <p>-Consensus was to provide a newsletter three times a year, particularly since post-COVID 19 responsibilities (LPHSA and DPHIP) for the Council Coordinator will likely increase</p> <p>-how to maintain emotional wellbeing through the holiday season while still staying safe</p> <p>-flu vaccination/types of flu shots</p> <p>-Local response to COVID 19</p> <p>-what can we put up on the MPHPC website as resources?</p> <p>-Provide local, reliable information</p> <p>-Link to state level initiatives</p> <p>-Have a subject matter expert provide a highlight</p> <p><i>Calendar</i></p> <p>Keep the snow dates on the calendar; dates were approved.</p>	<p>terms are coming up to find out if they want to renew.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Drexell, Cathy and Kate will meet to discuss succession planning. - Julie will change the language in the draft policy around “vulnerable populations” and provide an edited version to Steering Committee members for the January meeting
Sharing/Wrap up/Adjourn	<i>Food Security</i>	

	<p>USDA has extended school food program to the end of the year. Handful of kids who are schooling remotely- the state will make some accommodation for them and provide food. However, a lot of families aren't choosing to receive the free food, and this negatively impacts the reimbursement rates for the schools. Although parents have been told that they will automatically get the free food through December, so they don't have to sign up for it until January, it would benefit the schools if they were signing up for it now. Schools are saying that record numbers are refusing the free lunch. For those who are at home, they have to have transportation to pick up one lunch a day.</p> <p>Went from 12000 meals to 33500 this year (through Healthy Lincoln County?). Outside of schools meals, organizations serving 15000 breakfast and lunch meals this year.</p> <p>Some groups are using special pails to give meals out in, recyclable pail that can also be sanitized. In one Lincoln County initiative- 46 families were served and 99 people- all cooked by Camp Kiev.</p> <p>Sold out of food at a Good Shepherd sponsored food box distribution- 175 provided in Waldoboro (under two hours), 150 whitefield (in 3 hours). Whitefield had sausages/hotdogs, not scrapple (a southern food). Last minutes changes that weren't expected, like not having as many vegetables as anticipated. Waldoboro- cabbage and potatoes and apple. Looked good. Heard that some of the previous boxes, food was not in as good shape. Although it was supposed to be local foods- the definition of local included a much bigger region, like the entire eastern seaboard.</p> <p>Meeting adjourned at 11:57 am.</p>	
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Next Steering Committee Meeting: January 14, 2020

Next MPH Meeting: November 10, 2020