



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Statewide Coordinating Council for Public Health District Coordinating Council Update

Template updated 03/2012

District: Aroostook District	Date: September 17, 2020
<p>Brief review of decisions and outcomes from Executive Committee and DCC meetings held since last SCC meeting. For agendas and copies of minutes, please see district's website at:</p> <p>http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/mecdc/public-health-systems/lphd/district8/council-main.shtml</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ August 5, 2020: DCC Presentation: Suicide Prevention and Mental Health During a Pandemic presented by Lorraine Chamberlain, Aroostook Mental Health Center ➤ Aroostook DCC Subcommittee Updates (Healthy Aging and Public Health Emergency Preparedness) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Dates of note in Aroostook District: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Next DCC Meeting: November 4, 2020 • Next Steering Committee Meeting: October 7, 2020 • Next Healthy Aging Committee Meeting: September 23, 2020 • Next Public Health Emergency Planning Committee Meeting: October 8, 2020 	
<p>Ongoing or upcoming projects or priority issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Aroostook DCC began offering Disability Rights Maine's Relay Conference Captioning (RCC) during full council meetings. 	
<p>Progress with District Public Health Improvement Plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Physical Activity: Northern Light AR Gould's Walk with A Doc program September 15, 2020 in Presque Isle ➤ Healthy Aging – Aroostook Agency on Aging Award CARES Act mini Awards August 28, 2020 	
<p>Structural and Operational changes, including updates in membership.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Changes in membership: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amy Anyoha, Maine CDC Epidemiologist stationed in Caribou • Gina Brown, Houlton Regional Hospital • Bev Wardwell, Public Health Nursing • Judy Anderson, Aroostook Agency on Aging 	
<p>In-district or multi-district collaborations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Aroostook DCC Public Health Emergency Planning Committee creating the Aroostook Alternate Care Site Plan a multi-partner collaboration with the Aroostook EMA ➤ Aroostook DCC Healthy Aging Committee decided to host informal drop in meeting for Aroostook partners to discuss multiple Healthy Aging related topics. 	
<p>Other topics of interest for SCC members: None to report at this time.</p>	

District Name: Aroostook

22 M.R.S. §412 (2011).

A. A district coordinating council for public health shall:

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A-1. The tribal district coordinating council shall:

- (1) Participate as appropriate in department district-level activities to help ensure the tribal public health system in the tribal district is ready and maintained for tribal public health accreditation; and
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Statewide Coordinating Council for Public Health District Coordinating Council Update

District: Central	Date: September 17, 2020
<p>Brief review of decisions and outcomes from Executive Committee and DCC meetings held since last SCC meeting. For agendas and copies of minutes, please see district’s website at: http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/boh/olph/lphd/index.shtml The July quarterly DCC meeting was cancelled. The Steering Committee had weekly COVID-19 Situational Awareness calls for updates on pandemic response, to identify district needs, and take care of time-sensitive DCC business; those calls are now bi-weekly. We continue to update and circulate our district Call for Donations flyer for funding, goods, and volunteer time requests; as well as review 211 call and unmet needs data to help ensure that district resources are included in 211 and residents are getting connected to the help they need.</p>	
<p>Ongoing or upcoming projects or priority issues: COVID-19 response, infection prevention, PPE provision, assistance for organizations providing basic needs and connecting people to those resources. Starting back up with work on the Partners for Recovery (PFR/HRSA) Grant and hospital HRSA grants; Harm Reduction/ Needle Exchange capacity building and Naloxone distribution; and ACEs-Resilience training and resources.</p>	
<p>Progress with District Public Health Improvement Plan (DPHIP): <i>Activities planned for completion during the quarter and whether activities are able to be completed on schedule</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Use Central District Public Health Unit updates to communicate important information to DCC, LHOs, and partners – added chief municipal officials at the start of COVID-19 response. Ongoing task with updates going out weekly when possible. ▶ Workgroups have been less active this quarter to deal with COVID-19 pandemic response and new infection prevention working conditions. <p><i>Successes achieved</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ ‘District Donations, Financial Assistance, and Volunteer Opportunities’ handout updated and shared to help answer the question ‘What can I do to help?’, and to solicit needed supplies for response and basic needs organizations. ▶ The ACEs-Resilience Workgroup met to share toolkits and resources, and has assisted the Partnership for Children’s Oral Health with identification of sites/partners for the provision of 2,300 dental kits for disadvantaged children in the district. Kits will be assembled and delivered to all of the 3-5-year olds in pre-K/K in Somerset and Northern Kennebec, the families with young children served by KVCAP social services, home visiting, and child and family services in Somerset; and many district grade schools. <p><i>Barriers encountered</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Disruption in usual way of doing business and lack of staff time for other DCC tasks due to COVID-19 pandemic response. 	
<p>Structural and Operational changes, including updates in membership: One Steering Committee member has retired and one has left due to a job change.</p>	
<p>In-district or multi-district collaborations: COVID-19 response with County EMAs and regional EMS; prevention/basic needs assistance for organizations serving vulnerable populations (e.g., shelters, long term care, congregate living, behavioral health providers, at-risk youth programs, food/meals programs, libraries, schools); dental kit distribution with Partnership for Children’s Oral Health.</p>	
<p>Other topics of interest for SCC members: Greatest need right now is for partner assistance with mainstreaming infection control practices and combatting vaccination hesitancy (flu and COVID-19).</p>	

22 M.R.S. §412 (2011).

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Statewide Coordinating Council for Public Health District Coordinating Council Update



District: Cumberland

Date: 09/15/20

For agendas and copies of minutes, please see district's website at:

<http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/mecdc/public-health-systems/lphd/district2/council-main.shtml>

Brief review of decisions and outcomes from Executive Committee and DCC meetings held since last SCC meeting:

July DCC Meeting:

Forty-three people attended the July full Council meeting, held by Zoom.

Tonya Philbrook from Maine Immunization Program presented on immunization strategies in the context of Covid-19.

Additionally, Council members reviewed and discussed the CDPHC Statement on Racial Disparity and Covid-19. CDPHC Vice-Chair, Carl Toney shared about one-on-one meetings with leaders of various cultural communities including Claude Rwaganje, Rev. Kenneth Lewis, and Mufalo Chitam around more recommendations for the Council to address racial disparities during the Covid-19 pandemic. A working group will discuss next steps. Initial participants in the working group include: Wollie Agmas, Cathy Bean, Caity Hager, Kate Herrick, Alex Hughes, Kristine Jenkins, Sonny Nsiona Nguizani, Jemma Penberthy, and Naomi Schucker.

September DCC Meeting:

The September 18th CDPHC meeting will take place by Zoom. The subject of the meeting is Mental Health During Covid-19. Speakers will present on:

- Youth Mental Health and Covid-19 (Kai Morley and Nina Misra, Opportunity Alliance)
 - Immigrant and Refugee Mental Health and Covid-19 (Bernard Katende, Catholic Charities of Maine)
 - First Responder and Frontline Healthcare Worker Mental Health and Covid-19 (Dr. Ed Pontius, Frontline Warmline)
- We will also recognize September as Suicide Prevention Month.

Ongoing or upcoming projects or priority issues:

Progress with District Public Health Improvement Plan:

Structural and Operational changes, including updates in membership:

In-district or multi-district collaborations:

Other topics of interest for SCC members:

- Influenza Coordination Working Groups have been established for Portland and for Cumberland County, with participation from Maine Immunization Program, Public Health Nursing, MaineHealth, City of Portland, Bridgton Hospital, Walgreens and CVS.
- Cumberland County Emergency Management Director will be stepping down as of 9/25/20 and Deputy Director, Emily Kaster will serve as Acting Director.

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Public Health
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Statewide Coordinating Council for Public Health District Coordinating Council Update

Template updated 03/2015 (CTG section removed)

District: Downeast	Date: September 17, 2020
<p>Brief review of decisions and outcomes from Executive Committee and DCC meetings held since last SCC meeting. SCC meeting materials and general information can be found at http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/mecdc/public-health-systems/lphd/district7/council-main.shtml.</p> <p>District Public Health Council Meetings July 17, 2020 all Virtual Meeting: 17 Attendees Key Action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sector Updates (Coronavirus Update; Emergency Management, Statewide Coordinating Council; Passamaquoddy/Tribal) • Committee Work (Palliative Care and Health Literacy) <p>2020 Meetings: 1/17, 5/15, 7/19, 9/18 and 11/20</p> <p>Executive Committee Meetings June 19, 2019</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coronavirus Updates (Contact Tracing and Social Services; Municipal Support; Behavioral Health Supports; Partner Organization Updates) • LPHSA/SPHSA Process Update • Committee Work (Health Literacy, Palliative Care and Washington County Basic Needs) <p>August 21, 2020</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coronavirus Update (Reopening Schools and Immunization Planning) • Committee Planning (Health Literacy, Palliative Care, Cancer, Emergency Preparedness and Healthy Aging) 	
<p>Ongoing or upcoming district projects or priority issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Public Health Systems Assessment (postponed); State Public Health System Assessment (Postponed) 	
<p>Progress with District Public Health Improvement Plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cancer: worksite healthcare initiative to increase screening mammograms for employees has been implemented with success at one hospital site; expansion to other hospitals in next fiscal year. Work on quality assurance of breast cancer screening and education of providers, staff and patients to be expanded to other health centers. 	

Downeast District

September 9, 2020

¹Section 5. 22 MRSA c. 152

A district coordinating council for public health shall:

1. Participate as appropriate in district-level activities to help ensure the state public health system in each district is ready and maintained for accreditation;
2. Provide a mechanism for district-wide input to the state health plan under Title 2, section 103;
3. Ensure that the goals and strategies of the state health plan are addressed in the district; and
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Statewide Coordinating Council for Public Health District Coordinating Council Update

- Formation of committees working on infrastructure coordination, including emergency preparedness, palliative care and hospice, health literacy, healthy aging, and cancer.

Structural and Operational changes, including updates in membership:

- Newsletters: July 2020- HIV, Hepatitis and Arthritis
- Membership Updates and Orientation
- We had added Disability Rights Maine’s Relay Conference Calling (RCC) to our full council meetings.
- Facebook: Social Media daily checked and kept up to date with Downeast Public Health related issues.

In-district or multi-district collaborations:

- Washington County Basic Needs Initiative creating Helpline and Volunteer Management platform for Washington County.
- Downeast Substance Treatment Network and Washington County Substance Use Response Collaborative (Collaborative work focused on clinical and behavioral health treatment and recovery supportive programming in Washington and Hancock Counties)
- Medical Reserve Corps Unit Organization

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Statewide Coordinating Council for Public Health

District Coordinating Council Update



District: Midcoast	Date: September 17, 2020
<p>Brief review of decisions and outcomes from Steering Committee and District Coordinating Council (DCC) meetings held since last SCC meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• At the September 8, 2020 meeting, district council members and community partners met (via Zoom) as a large group to discuss immunizations, including COVID 19 impacts, and future COVID 19 vaccinations. Attendees then split into smaller groups to discuss COVID 19 impacts on the DPHIP priorities, including mental health, food insecurity, and physical activity. District Liaison Drexell White provided an update on the Maine CDC's work during the current pandemic, and District Liaison Al May provided an update on the State Public Health System Assessment (SPHSA) process. Health equity disparities were a common theme of discussion in the smaller groups, as was the incidence of increased anxiety and tension in both school settings and wider community settings. Relay Conference Captioning, free to Maine residents, was offered to increase inclusivity.• The next Steering Committee meeting is scheduled for October 13, 2020; the next DCC meeting will be on November 10, 2020.	
<p>Ongoing or upcoming projects or priority issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• During the Steering Committee meeting that occurred on August 10th, members discussed the possibility of having future presentations around state policies/legislative initiatives and having presentations from Maine CDC educators regarding HPV vaccination and the Maine Breast and Cervical Cancer Program.• The District produced and distributed a newsletter for the first time, which had as a featured topic the prevention of tick-borne illnesses. It provided updates on Maine CDC COVID 19 resources, food security work in the district, opportunities to get outside/trail development, and resources for our senior population.	
<p>Progress with District Public Health Improvement Plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• During the recent full Council meeting, most of the DPHIP priorities were discussed during an informal assessment of successes and concerns around them, excepting lead exposure. The focus was on COVID 19 disruptions/challenges in meeting the needs of our community members.	
<p>Structural and operational changes, including updates in membership:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Steering Committee agreed to review the proposed committee standard operational policies and to revisit with suggested edits, if needed.	
<p>In-district or multi-district collaborations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Via the GovDelivery platform, MPHCC now has a distribution list of approximately 2800 people.	



**Statewide Coordinating Council
for Public Health
District Coordinating Council Update**



District: Penquis	Date: September 17, 2020
<p>Brief review of decisions and outcomes from Steering Committee and DCC (District Coordinating Council) meetings held since last SCC (State Coordinating Council) meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Penquis DCC meeting was held on September 11, 2020. Agenda items included presentations, from Maine CDC educator Kristen Kilcollins about HPV vaccination. Disability Rights Maine/Maine Relay Services representative Debra Bare-Rogers about services for the deaf/hard of hearing and those with speech communication difficulties. A facilitated discussion around COVID 19 impacts to social determinants of health, including transportation, housing, access to education. A discussion about the upcoming COVID 19 vaccination efforts and the DCC’s role. Relay Conference Captioning, a free service for Maine residents, was offered to increase participant inclusivity. • The next DCC meeting will be held on December 4, 2020. 	
<p>Ongoing or upcoming projects or priority issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • COVID 19 and flu vaccination • School reopening efforts • Mental health challenges/substance use increases • Ongoing transportation/SDOH initiatives • Shared CHNA 	
<p>Progress with District Public Health Improvement Plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • COVID 19 response is the highest priority for district members, including anticipating negative impacts to prevention funding. 	
<p>Structural and operational changes, including updates in membership:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nicholas Wichowski, Dorothea Dix Psychiatric Center • Christopher McCollum, Northern Light EMMC • James Fortunato, St. Joseph Hospital 	
<p>In-district or multi-district collaborations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DOT HOPE grant: Several DCC members met to examine further funding opportunities while waiting to find out if the HOPE grant application has been approved by the funders. • Mask Up for Me: promotion of this initiative is ongoing: https://chlb.me/mask-up-for-me/ • Shared CHNA: the advisory board has added a health equity strategy subcommittee; the community engagement committee is planning alternatives to large, in-person meetings if this remains necessary in the fall of 2021; and vendor requests for proposals have been developed to identify three vendors with expertise in each of the following areas: data analysis, community engagement, and communications. It is anticipated that the contractors 	

for the 2021 CHNA process will be in place in January/February 2021, and local-level planning will begin.

Other topics of interest for SCC members:

- The conversation around COVID 19 impacts covered a wide range of topics:
- Multiple partners noted the increase in substance use numbers and its likely reflection of and/or driver of mental health challenges.
- A rise in anxiety and tension in students and school staff has been noted as a direct result of COVID 19 stressors, and as an indirect result of increased screen time and “screen fatigue.” *This, however, may spark creative, positive change in how school is “delivered” virtually.
- A rise in violence against women and children and an apparent rise in homelessness was also described.
- Social isolation and its negative impacts to seniors and senior mental health and resiliency is an ongoing concern. *Some increase in supports for seniors is occurring.
- *There has been some success in increasing community-wide supports for food security: a nearly eight-fold increase in Meals on Wheels deliveries has occurred in Piscataquis County.
- Penquis district prevention services contracts, particularly tobacco use prevention contracts, has continued to get statewide notice for their success at achieving their objectives in face of the COVID 19 disruptions: since the last DCC meeting, they’ve assisted the University of Maine system with improvements to their tobacco policy.



Statewide Coordinating Council for Public Health District Coordinating Council Update

District: Tribal District	Date: 9/17/2020
<p>Brief review of decisions and outcomes from Executive Committee and DCC meetings held since last SCC meeting. For agendas and copies of minutes, please see district’s website at: http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/boh/olph/lphd/index.shtml</p> <p>Latest DCC Meeting was held on November 11, 2019. Next meeting tentatively set for November 2020. The July 2020, meeting was cancelled due to scheduling constraints of Tribal Leadership.</p>	
<p>Ongoing or upcoming projects or priority issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Wabanaki Public Health is continuing to convene the Rural Communities Opioid Response Program (RCORP)-Planning Consortium for the District’s number one priority, addressing substance use disorder. ○ WPH received notice last month that they were awarded the RCORP Implementation Grant to open an Indigenous Wellness Center in Millinocket. ○ Property for the treatment center and a men’s recovery home to serve indigenous people, have been secured in Millinocket. ○ An additional property in Bangor is nearing closure, this will also be recovery home for indigenous men. ○ DL and WPH presented at the Federal Region 1 Tribal Consultation Meeting on the Indigenous Wellness Center currently in development on Sept 1, 2020. ○ Tribal Data sharing agreement with the Maine CDC, United South and Eastern Tribes, and the Tribal Health Centers in progress, regarding COVID-19 surveillance data. 	
<p>Progress with District Public Health Improvement Plan (DPHIP):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Community Health Improvement Plans (CHIP) for each Tribal community are completed or in progress ○ Tribal Data Sub-Committee continues to meet weekly to discuss data relevant to DPHIP ○ Work with WPH continues to address prevention activities with the Tribal District 	
<p>In-district or multi-district collaborations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● District Liaison or an identified alternate, will continue to attend Penquis, Downeast and Aroostook DCCs. ● In-District Collaboration: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ DL working with staff from the DHHS Commissioner’s Office, USET and the Tribal Health Directors to address Data Sharing Agreements and their importance within the Tribal District as related to COVID surveillance ● ME DHHS Commissioner’s Office is partnering with WPH to provide culturally appropriate wrap around support services as part of the State’s COVID-19 response 	

Tribal District

9/17/2020

22 M.R.S. §412 (2011).

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Statewide Coordinating Council for Public Health District Coordinating Council Update

Other topics of interest for SCC members:

- WPH received \$60,000 from the John T Gorman Foundation, which is being directed to securing essential supplies that have been difficult for tribes to procure, like food, cleaning supplies, and water (two communities do not have access to safe drinking water); supports to elders, families and children isolated at home; and ways to safely continue cultural practices.
- WPH has partnered with the John T Gorman Foundation, Maine Community Foundation, My Alford Grant and First Book to develop their *Literacy and Love* program. This effort will provide thousands of books, many by Wabanaki or indigenous authors, to indigenous children, elders, tribal youth council members, people in recovery, people within the correctional system, young indigenous families, organizational partners, and more.
- Wabanaki Health and Wellness received \$250,000 through the Tribal Opioid Response (TOR) Grant Program to provide medical-assisted treatment services to tribal communities.
- Wabanaki Health and Wellness/Wabanaki Public Health received \$1 million dollars through the FY 2020 Rural Communities Opioid Response Program - Implementation Awards for the Wabanaki Wellness Center in Millinocket
- Throughout the COVID-19 response, the Tribal District and Wabanaki Public Health have worked with the Tribal communities to provide support and meet the needs of community members during these difficult times.
 - ✓ This includes constructed and delivered twelve raised garden beds to the Maliseet community to provide space for community members to grow and learn about our traditional foods.
 - ✓ WPH is in the process of distributing thousands of books through the new *Literacy and Love* program to our Indigenous children, elders, tribal youth council members, people in recovery, people within the correctional system, young indigenous families, organizational partners, and more.
 - ✓ The Colored Paper Project will continue through at least the end of 2020 -This project was designed to assist elders in communicating with WPH staff and Community Elder Advocates on their physical and mental statuses, as well as any other needs they have while engaging in social distancing practices. WPH staff delivered instructions for elders to participate along with sheets of red, yellow, green, and blue papers (each color has a specific meaning). Elders are asked to place a sheet on their doors to communicate their status with staff. WPH staff travel along each of the Passamaquoddy reservations twice a day to check on the statuses of elders.
 - ✓ Sipayik Bottled Water Project: 5649 gallons of bottled water have been distributed to the Sipayik community to date
 - ✓ Sipayik Spring Water Project: 703 gallons of spring water have been hand-sourced from a nearby well and distributed to the Sipayik community to date.
 - ✓ Cloth Mask Project: 1586 cloth masks have been made and distributed to the Wabanaki communities to date

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- ✓ Virtual Wabanaki Recovery Meetings are happening every evening at 7:30 pm via Zoom. This includes Wellbriety, Alcoholic Anonymous and Narcotics Anonymous meetings. Along with other activities to bring community members together, including an Open Mic Night.
- ✓ Virtual Passamaquoddy Language Classes every Tuesday at 2pm.
- ✓ Wabanaki Public Health staff traveled to the Passamaquoddy Wild Blueberry Company (PWBCo) barrens on the first day of the harvesting season to provide safety training for harvesters during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Tribal District

3

9/17/2020

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**Statewide Coordinating Council for Public Health
District Coordinating Council Update**

District: Western

September 17, 2020

**For agendas and copies of minutes, please see district's website at:
<http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/boh/olph/lphd/index.shtml>**

Brief review of decisions and outcomes from Executive Committee and DCC meetings held since last SCC meeting:

Western DCC Executive Committee has not met since March 2020, as many of them have been busy on COVID-19 projects that have needed their immediate attention. Several of us have been in many of these same meetings.

Our June 2020 DCC meeting was cancelled due to COVID-19 immediate needs and we are scheduled to resume a September 25, 2020 zoom meeting from 8:30-9:45am to reconvene our group and discuss how the DCC may be able to address any district needs.

Ongoing or upcoming projects or priority issues:

Local Public Health System Assessments have been put on hold as we focus on addressing COVID-19 needs throughout our state and district.

Progress with District Public Health Improvement Plan:

Structural and Operational changes, including updates in membership:

Our DCC chair, Nate Miller has changed jobs (from Seniors Plus to Spectrum Generations) and will continue on in his role as chair until 2021.

In-district or multi-district collaborations:

Other topics of interest for SCC members:

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**Statewide Coordinating Council for Public Health
District Coordinating Council Update**

District: York District

Date: 09/17/2020

For agendas and copies of minutes, please see district's website at:
<http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/boh/olph/lphd/index.shtml>

Brief review of decisions and outcomes from Executive Committee and DCC meetings held since last SCC meeting:

The Executive Committee continues to meet as needed.

Ongoing or upcoming projects or priority issues:

The DCC will hold virtual meeting on Monday September 14th and will focus on school nutrition during the pandemic. Due to the timing of the DCC meeting and the SCC meeting updates will not be available.

Progress with District Public Health Improvement Plan:

Work is currently on hold due to pandemic.

**Statewide Coordinating Council for Public Health
District Coordinating Council Update**

Structural and Operational changes, including updates in membership:

In-district or multi-district collaborations:

Other topics of interest for SCC members:

22 M.R.S. §412 (2011).

A. A district coordinating council for public health shall:

- (1) Participate as appropriate in district-level activities to help ensure the state public health system in each district is ready and maintained for accreditation; and
- (4) Ensure that the essential public health services and resources are provided for in each district in the most efficient, effective and evidence based manner possible.

A-1. The tribal district coordinating council shall:

- (1) Participate as appropriate in department district-level activities to help ensure the tribal public health system in the tribal district is ready and maintained for tribal public health accreditation; and
- (2) Ensure that the national goals and strategies for health in tribal lands and the tribal district health goals and strategies are aligned and that tribal district health goals and strategies are appropriately tailored for each tribe and tribal health department or health clinic