



Statewide Coordinating Council for Public Health District Project Update

Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Template updated 03/2023

District: Aroostook	Date: 06/01/2025
**Office of Readiness and Response: District Public Health, Rural Health and Primary Care and Oral Health; PH Emergency Preparedness, Data, Research and Vital Statistics	
Agendas and minutes available on district’s webpage: APHC Quarterly Meeting Minutes 05.07.2025	
Council Education Topic: “Maine Geographic Lead-Based Paint Initiative” “Current Topics in Community Water Fluoridation”	
Guest Presenters: Claire Dinehart, Jordan Alves, Jennifer Shoemaker , U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 1 Kalie Hess , Children’s Oral Health Network of Maine	
➤ Dates of note in Aroostook District: ➤ Next DCC Meeting: 08/06/2025 ➤ Next Aroostook Chapter of Maine HCC Meeting: 07/10/2025 ➤ Next APHC Aging Committee Meeting: TBD ➤ Next APHC Steering Committee Meeting: 06/04/2025 ➤ Next APHC Care Management Committee: 08/13/2025	
Ongoing or upcoming Public Health Council projects or priority issues: ➤ Partnership with OPHE to increase awareness and utilization of Community Care referral link in addition to 211 or Find Help resources. ➤ The Office of Readiness and Response, in collaboration with the Aroostook Chapter of HCC-ME and Aroostook EMA are sponsoring a medical facility evacuation training.	
Ongoing or upcoming District projects or priority issues:	
In-district or multi-district collaborations: ➤ Public Health Nurses have been in collaboration with other community social service programs to host and attend Community Baby Showers for new and expecting mothers and families. ➤ Aroostook PHU partnering with the HIV/STI program in Infectious Disease Prevention to host a HIV/HEP C Rapid Testing Training in Caribou at the beginning of June for community/district partners.	
** Division of Disease Surveillance; Infectious Disease Epidemiology; Infectious Disease Prevention, Maine Immunization Program	
Ongoing or upcoming District projects or priority issues:	

strict Name: Aroostook

**** Indicates the presence of Maine CDC Field Staff assigned to the District Public Health Unit**

22 M.R.S. §412 (2011).

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Disease reporting Contact Information: Phone: 1 - 800 - 821 - 5821 (24 hours a day)

➤ HANS

- 03/14/2025: U.S. CDC: Expanding Measles Outbreak in Texas and New Mexico and Guidance for the Upcoming Travel Season
- 03/21/2025: Ongoing Risk of Dengue Virus Infections and Updated Testing Recommendations in the United States
- 03/25/2025: Influenza-Associated Pediatric Death
- 04/11/2025: Expanded Measles Vaccination Recommendations for Domestic Travel
- 05/13/2025: Health Risks from Browntail Moths
- 05/19/2025: 2025 Lyme and Other Tickborne Disease Information

➤ Local Activity:

- 5/14 & 5/17/2025: Epidemiologist aided with ORV bait drop plane distribution in Aroostook

**** Division of Public Health Nursing**

Ongoing or upcoming District projects or priority issues:

- Collaboration with local social service agencies to hold Community Baby Showers across the district
- Anticipated opening for (1) PHN position in Aroostook District
- Collaboration with HIV/STI Program and Public Health Unit to host a HIV/Hep C Testing Training in June in Caribou.
- Beginning to provide Older Population services – P & P completed.

**** Division of Environmental and Community Health: Drinking Water Program, Health Inspection Program, Radiation Control Program, Environmental and Occupational Health Program**

Ongoing or upcoming District projects or priority issues:

Drinking Water Program:

- Projects in Fort Kent, Houlton, Madawaska, and Presque Isle were placed on the 2025 Primary Project List with a cumulative amount of \$11,546,000 being offered, with \$3,903,600 of that amount being eligible for principal forgiveness:
 - Fort Kent – Distribution System Improvements
 - Houlton – HWC Phase 2 Water Main Replacement
 - Madawaska – 7th Avenue Water Tank Painting Project
 - Presque Isle – State Street Transmission Main Replacement
- Construction activity for drinking water projects in Aroostook County is resuming in Spring of 2025 after a winter shutdown.
- Drinking Water Program engineering staff attended State Revolving Fund project management training in Boston, MA.

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- Currently in District (H) there are 50 Sanitary Survey Inspections for 2025. There have been 19 completed so far, with 31 remaining inspections to conduct.
- Many small seasonal systems have opened for the season (campgrounds/sporting camps/activity centers).

Health Inspections Program: *data retrieved from Maine.gov Health Inspection Website

- 52 Inspections completed between March 1, 2024 –May 27, 2025
 - Body Piercer: 1
 - Eating – School: 4
 - Eating – School Catering: 1
 - Eating and Catering: 6
 - Eating and Lodging: 8
 - Eating Place - Limited Menu: 1
 - Eating Place – Mobile: 1
 - Eating Place – Takeout: 3
 - Eating Place (Tier 1, 2, 3): 19
 - Lodging (Tier 1, 2): 2
 - MUN- Eating and Catering: 1
 - MUN- Eating Place Takeout: 1
 - Pool/Spa: 2
 - Tattooist: 2

Division of Disease Prevention: Maternal Child Health Program, Chronic Disease Prevention, Tobacco & Substance Use Prevention and Control, Women, Infants and Children

Ongoing or upcoming District projects or priority issues:

➤ **Highlight completed activities conducted by Maine Prevention Network Contractor/ Subcontractors during January – March 2025**

➤ **Tobacco Prevention:**

- **Focus Area: Prevention**
 - INDEPTH: Fort Kent (9), Caribou High School (13),
 - Catch My Breath: Fort Kent (6), Wisdom Middle/High (5), Caribou High School (17), Caribou Community School (220),
 - Restorative Circles: Wisdom Middle/High (5), Caribou High School (17), Fort Kent (4), Summit Academy (62), Caribou Community School (220),
 - Photovoice: Summit Academy (167),
- **Focus Area: Second-Hand Smoke**
 - Zoom Presentation: Little Feathers Head Start (4),

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- Technical Assistance: Baby and Me Parenting Group (10),
- Workplace Policies: (7)
- **Focus Area: Treatment Services**
 - Zoom Presentation: Little Feathers Head Start (4)
 - My Life My Quit: Fort Kent High School (6), Wisdom Middle/High (4), Caribou High School (12), UMPI (1), Caribou Community School (232), Baby & Me Parenting Group (10), Triple P Parenting Group (3)
- **Substance Use Prevention (SUPS):**
 - **Block Grant:** Drug Free Aroostook meeting (10), Restorative Circles at Caswell Elementary (81), Presque Isle High School (21), Deterra Bag Distribution (30 to ACAP),
 - **PFS:** Lion’s Quest at Caswell Elementary (72), Photovoice project (33), Positive Action & Conflict Resolution (10), Social Emotional Lesson (55), Prevention Post & Stall Talk Newsletter “Healthy Relationships”, “Healthy Activities” , RBS course (11), Talking Circles at Caswell School (65), Prime for Life (9)
- **HEAL (Healthy Eating, Active Living):**
 - To date, HEAL is working with Healthy Families to hold the 7th Community Baby Sprinkle for new and breastfeeding moms with education regarding the benefits of breastfeeding. This month the event was held in the municipality of Fort Fairfield, 18 individuals participated and received education. Additionally, six agencies from surrounding areas also presented.
 - HEAL staff conducted a survey with questions to 65 agency contacts regarding breast feeding policy, systems and environmental change. As a result, 5 municipalities responded and were interested in moving forward with support to discuss gaps and needs. These municipalities requested resources and continued support from our program.
 - HEAL Lead worked to increase the number of organizations working on farm to institution strategies. Together with AR Gould Staff the HEAL Lead worked with the Children’s Museum to encourage container gardening. 50 people attended a gardening demo at the event. Northern Light AR Gould will also, help provide staffing to support container gardening educational. WAGM News did a segment covering the story. Parent feedback was very positive for the event. HEAL lead also is working with sites such as Zion Wellness and ACAP After School Program to improve/expand their raised garden beds and container gardens.

Maine CDC Administration: CDC Operations, Medical Epidemiology, Communications, Office of Health Equity

- Ongoing or upcoming District projects or priority issues:**
- May: Awareness month for Lyme Disease, Hepatitis, and Mental Health
 - May Aroostook PHU Bulletin Board: Topic - Measles

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- 06/03/2025: Nurture ME Monthly Webinar Series “Cannabis Use During Pregnancy and Postpartum”
- 06/05/2025: MaineHealth’s SDOH Food Insecurity Community Convening
- 06/11/2025: 2025 Maine Tobacco Treatment and Prevention Conference
- 06/11 – 06/12/2025: HIV/HEP C Rapid Testing Training, Caribou DHHS
- 06/13/2025: Maine Community Health Worker Summit
- 06/17/2025: “Trends and Updates on Suicide and Self-Harm in Maine”
- 06/18/2025: World Refugee Week “Community as a Superpower”

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** Division of Public Health Systems: District Public Health, Rural Health and Primary Care and Oral Health; PH Emergency Preparedness, Data, Research and Vital Statistics	
Agendas and minutes available on district’s webpage: https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/mecdc/public-health-systems/lphd/district2/council-main.shtml	
Ongoing or upcoming Public Health Council projects or priority issues:	
➤ DCC Meetings:	
Full Council Meeting with 27 participants (Virtual)	
➤ Outgoing Chair’s last meeting	
➤ Presentation by Spiritual Services of Maine on Spiritual Well-Being and Resilience	
➤ Presentation on the Mental Health Benefits of Creative Activities by Tear Cap Center	
May 16th, 2025 Full Council Meeting with 35 participants hybrid/in-person in Windham	
➤ Legislative and Public Health Landscape updates from Good Shepherd Food Bank, MPHA, and Maine CDC Director	
➤ New Chair, Bridget Rauscher (PPH), and four new members elected: Mufalo Chitam (MIRC), Samantha Grela (CRI), Racheal Josephine Kamagaju (QHC), Miranda Shorty (Lake Region High School), Racheal Sylvester (Bridgton Library)	
In-district or multi-district collaborations:	
➤ DL and PHE tabled at Community Week at South Portland High School, April 29th	
➤ March 21 st pop-up clinic (Diabetes/Flu shots/blood pressure/TB Education) at Congolese Community of Maine with MaineHealth, UNE, Diabimetrics, and Maine CDC	
➤ March 6 th – quarterly Health Care Coalition meeting was held	
➤ May 20 – Cumberland Chapter HCC members participated in medical surge exercise	
➤ June 16 th – upcoming pop-up clinic with MCD School Oral Health Program, Portland Public Health optometry project, and Maine CDC at Congolese Community of Maine- Maine CDC Rural Health Program providing toothbrushes and floss.	
** Division of Disease Surveillance; Infectious Disease Epidemiology; Infectious Disease Prevention, Maine Immunization Program	
Ongoing or upcoming District projects or priority issues:	
➤ Cumberland Field Epidemiologist will be presenting on an outbreak, at the annual Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists (“ <i>Campylobacter coli</i> Outbreak from Raw Oyster Consumption, Maine 2024”).	

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- Cumberland District Field Epidemiologist, and 2 Maine CDC health inspectors participated in Food and Environmental Sampling Training course offered by the New York Food Safety Center of Excellence in March
- Field Epidemiologist reports providers and health care facilities seeking resources to prepare for potential measles cases; continued pockets of pertussis in communities (most recently in Bridgton); a more active late winter/spring season for invasive Group A Streptococcus and invasive Streptococcus pneumoniae infections (These infections are often linked to injection drug use, homelessness, influenza infection, and chronic health problems)
- DIS continues to call for sustained education for the public & providers to include syphilis testing in routine health exams, especially for pregnant people
- Quarterly District meetings of the Healthcare Coalition took place on 3/6/25 and 6/5/25

Reportable Disease Cumberland Q1 '25	Number of cases
Covid-19	798
Air Outbreak	16
Anaplasma Phagocytohilum	2
Campylobacteriosis	8
Carbapenem-producing organisms	1
Chlamydia trachomatis infection	158
Dengue	1
GI Illness outbreak	11
Giardiasis	3
Gonorrhea	43
Group A Streptococcus invasive	18
Hemophilus Influenzae, invasive	1
Hepatitis B acute	3
Hepatitis B chronic	17
Hepatitis C acute	3
Hepatitis C chronic	78
HIV	4
Influenza-like illness outbreak	37
Invasive pneumococcal Disease	13
Lyme Disease	56
Malaria	1
Pertussis	4
Rabies (PEP)	3
Rabies (animal)	2
Salmonellosis	2
Shiga	1
Shigellosis	4
Streptococcal Toxic-shock Syndrome	1
Syphilis	8
TB	4
Varicella	5
Vaccine Preventable Disease outbreak	1

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**** Division of Public Health Nursing**

Ongoing or upcoming District projects or priority issues:

- Active TB cases continue to be a focus for our Cumberland PHN team
-PHN and Portland Public Health are cooperating on contact tracing related to TB in congregate living sites
- DOE and PHN will cooperate to ensure school-based clinics are covered, and duplication of effort is avoided, in cooperation with DL-convened District Vaccination Coordination Working Group

**** Division of Environmental and Community Health: Drinking Water Program, Health Inspection Program, Radiation Control Program, Environmental and Occupational Health Program**

Ongoing or upcoming District projects or priority issues:

- Boil Water Order issued for Vacation Campground in Harrison on 5/19/25 due to chlorinator being down.
- Do Not Drink orders were issued for Northeastern Motel, in Windham on March 31st due to high nitrate levels, and for Radiodetection in Raymond on May 2nd for high lead levels.
- [LD 407](#), which directs the quasi-governmental agency that manages the Brunswick airport where a PFAS spill happened, called the Midcoast Regional Redevelopment Authority, to stop using and get rid of the toxic firefighting foam that is still at the site, was signed by Governor Mills.
- Cumberland DL is participating in the Division of Environmental Health's General Tracking Advisory Board

Health Inspections Program:

- HIP in Cumberland is running into a lot of eating establishments that are conducting specialized processes, especially Reduced Oxygen Packaging (ROP), without the proper safeguards and approvals. This has resulted in much food being discarded or embargoed. Some of these are quite large. Example (not in Cumberland County): one current embargo involves 356 pounds of scallops, tuna, and crab.
- If the past few years are indicative, Maine Vibrio season begins in ~6 weeks.
- We have 14 of 15 inspector positions filled. The vacancy is in the Farmington office/area.

HIP inspections for April and May

- Mobiles Homes: They are all opening for the year. We now have ~600 licensed mobile units in the state covered by HIP. [This number does not include the ~250 operating in the delegated municipalities (Portland, SoPo, Lewiston)]
- Youth Camps: We have new Rules that just went into effect. They start to open in two weeks. 66 of our 154 are due for inspection.

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- Schools: Close soon. HIP covered: 554 schools (1-12 grade). Thus far, all but 4 have been seen this school year. [MUNs have another 38 schools]
- Between April 1 and May 28, **670** inspections were conducted by HIP

Division of Disease Prevention: Maternal Child Health Program, Chronic Disease Prevention, Tobacco & Substance Use Prevention and Control, Women, Infants and Children

Ongoing or upcoming District projects or priority issues:

- Cumberland DL is participating in the **Maine CDC Maternal and Child Health Wellness Coalition**
- Cumberland DL participates in the **State Refugee Advisory Council**
- Cumberland DL participated in 5/6/25 **Maine Department of Health & Human Services/Community Health Worker Steering Committee meeting**
- **Highlight completed activities conducted by Maine Prevention Network Contractor/ Subcontractors during February – April 2025:**
 - The HEAL team completed a community engagement initiative that included 11 interviews in partnership with 5 organizations in the Food Resources Coalition. The team is working with Boston University School of Public Health to summarize and present results. The team was awarded a grant from the Permanent Commission on Racial, Indigenous, and Tribal Populations to create a map and messaging toolkit informed by these interviews. The goal of these resources will be to support narrative change around food insecurity, uplifting opportunities for increased choice and autonomy in food access.
 - The HEAL and SUP team leads, in partnership with the South Portland Youth Transportation Advocacy cohort, were awarded a grant from the Maine Youth Action Network to create a youth activity map. The map will feature youth-identified locations of interest in the community and include information about available transportation options. The group plans to use the map as a tool for peer mentorship and education next year.
 - HEAL staff at Portland Public Health have supported the towns of Gray and Cape Elizabeth in passing new workplace lactation policies in alignment with state and federal law and best practice for breast and chestfeeding employees. HEAL staff continue to work with other municipal sites across Cumberland County to build on these successes.

**Tobacco and SUPs:
May 2025 Accomplishments/Updates**

Portland Public Health:

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- Launching a smoke-free housing incentive program for landlords in Cumberland County. Landlords and rental property owners who pass or update smoke-free policies consistent with public health recommendations are eligible for a one-time cash incentive of \$1,500 to purchase materials to improve their rental properties, to reduce secondhand smoke.
- PPH team has been working with CAP Quality Care and providing Quitlink support in a group setting on a monthly basis. Exploring ways to provide additional support to the providers at CAP Quality Care so that their team can transition to providing TA while their team gains the skills and knowledge needed to keep the program going.

Cumberland Public Health:

- Cumberland’s Substance Use Prevention Specialist was a key partner in developing and creating access for the Safer Schools Conference, which was held in March 2025. This conference brought together 150 students (grades 6–12), 75 educators and youth service providers, and over 20 community-based organizations from 7 counties. Over half of the school districts represented were from Cumberland County and our SUP team supported transportation and registration as well as youth input from local Gay Straight Trans Alliances to help design the conference. Attendees joined workshops and panels on LGBTQ+ advocacy, health and wellbeing, empowerment, and personal storytelling
- The Substance Use Prevention Team attended the Cumberland County Superintendents' meeting in May. This meeting was combined with York County Superintendents and 21 representatives across these 2 districts were in attendance, 13 of which came from Cumberland districts, representing nearly 21,000 K-12 students. Our presentation offered an initial connection point to district leadership on evidence-based prevention practice, local MIYHS data, and examples of our work with schools through the Maine Prevention Network initiative
- The CCPH SUP Team participated in a 3-part community-based participatory action research project with local ethnic community-based organizations. The project brought together partners from Gateway Community Services of Maine, Maine Access Immigrant Network, New England Arab American Organization, and Maine Association of New Americans, along with CCPH staff to review disaggregated MIYHS data for BIPOC, LGBTQ+ students, and student who spoke a language other than English at home, along with qualitative focus group data to outline narratives related to wellbeing and tobacco and substance use prevention for youth with these intersecting identities. The group brainstormed 16 different strategies that could support substance and tobacco use prevention and prioritized 3 from this larger list to invest in
- Mid Coast Hospital had successful meeting in March with BABLO liquor inspectors and the Principal of Brunswick Junior High School, for future cooperation. Tabled at the Maine Fisherman’s Forum event and had many contacts with attendees around responsible use of alcohol, cannabis and prescription medications

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Maine CDC Administration: CDC Operations, Medical Epidemiology, Communications, Office of Health Equity

- OPHE will be partnering with local organizations on contracted community needs assessments

Ongoing or upcoming District projects or priority issues:

- DCC Executive Committee and DL identified LPHSA systems improvement priorities to work on

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District: Downeast (Hancock & Washington Counties)	Date: June 12, 2025
Division of Public Health Systems: District Public Health; Rural Health and Primary Care; Oral Health; Public Health Emergency Preparedness; and Data, Research and Vital Statistics	
Agendas and minutes available on district's webpage: https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/mecdc/public-health-systems/lphd/district7/publications.shtml	
➤ Downeast Public Health Council Meeting Dates for 2025 (third Friday of the month at new time 10:00 am to 12:00 pm): January 17, March 21, May 16, July 18, September 19, and November 21.	
<p>March 21, 2025 Meeting Zoom Meeting with 27 participants Topic: There was no Meet Your Downeast Partner presentation and What is Public Health session had Maine CDC Health Inspection Program do a comprehensive overview of their program work. Our SCC Representative gave a summary of the SCC Meeting on March 20 where Dr. Va provided a federal and state funding update, the State Health Improvement Plan was discussed, and the Downeast District gave a brief overview of our council and our work. Becca Boulos then gave a Maine Public Health Association Priorities and Legislative Update. We spent the last half of the meeting reviewing the Shared CHNA and the process for creating the hospital community health plans and the district infrastructure plan. For the district plan, we are looking to expand on our four committees work in 2024 and develop a five-year work plan for the district and district partners. The district wants to partner with the hospitals to choose one priority objective that all partners can work on and report out on. We met on March 13 with hospitals and partners in Hancock County to start that discussion.</p>	
<p>May 16 2025 Meeting In Person Meeting in Steuben with 17 participants Topic: Meet Your Downeast Partner was presented by Dante Zanoni of the Community Caring Collaborative, and he provided an overview of The Connection Initiative, a Washington County project providing resources via navigator type outreach, covering all needs that older adults have across all quality-of-life areas. What is Public Health session was given by our field epidemiologist Maura Lockwood, who covered her work on surveillance and education of infectious diseases in our district, including respiratory diseases, tick borne diseases, and rabies. Our Public Health Educator shared our district council communication efforts through the monthly newsletter and Facebook page. We briefly reviewed the new County Health Rankings report and discussed the district work plan. Breakout groups for the four committees met to speak more about developing goals, objectives and strategies for the five-year plan.</p>	

22 M.R.S. §412 (2011).

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Statewide Coordinating Council for Public Health District Project Update

Ongoing or upcoming Public Health Council projects or priority issues:

- Develop in 2025 our five-year 2025-2030 health improvement and infrastructure plan with an annual report like our first annual report.
- Collaborate with Hancock County EMA, Washington County EMA, Downeast Chapter Health Care Coalition, and Downeast MRC to offer training, courses, and exercises with a focus on a radiological event and the operation of a point of dispensing site for medical countermeasures.
- Working with partners in each county for a strategic planning process to identify one common goal, objectives and activities that all partners will work on for one to three years.

Ongoing or upcoming District projects or priority issues:

- Develop Downeast Medical Reserve Corps Unit Volunteer Handbook and Recruitment Strategies; determine plan for aligning MRC with Downeast Public Health Council and Downeast Health Care Coalition Planning.
- Well Water Quality and promotion of well testing in communities and providing support to overcome barriers to it.
- Downeast District will be one of the focus areas for the new Maine DHHS MaineCare Transforming Maternal Health Model Initiative.

In-district or multi-district collaborations:

- AMHC, district hospitals, district federally qualified health centers, and Healthy Acadia lead a broad network of substance use services, specifically to opioid treatment and recovery in both counties.
- AMHC and local business partners piloting a mental health awareness and first aid training at high customer sites in Calais to recognize and minimize suicide ideation and other mental health incidences.
- Healthy Acadia with broad coalition of partners is facilitating a Maine Rural Community Health Improvement Partnership (R-CHIP) to assess readiness and develop outcomes regarding sustainable and affordable housing, both emergency (e.g., winter warming centers) and long-term housing units.
- Working Communities Challenge focused on reducing child poverty in Washington County. One of these contributing projects is rebuilding the Washington County School Consortium and assessing resources to schools by surveying organizations in Washington County that provide services or resources to schools.

22 M.R.S. §412 (2011).

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Statewide Coordinating Council for Public Health District Project Update

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Division of Disease Surveillance; Infectious Disease Epidemiology; Infectious Disease Prevention, Maine Immunization Program

Ongoing or upcoming District projects or priority issues:

- Provided program work at May 16 meeting.
Maura Lockwood, District Epidemiologist

Disease reporting Contact Information: Phone: 1 - 800 - 821 - 5821 (24 hours a day)

Division of Public Health Nursing

Ongoing or upcoming District projects or priority issues:

- PHN Staff are looking to collaborate with schools in fall 2025 on school located vaccine clinics, offering influenza and catch-up vaccines.
- PHN Staff have participated in trainings and exercises to support district emergency preparedness priority.
- PHN Staff are planning or participating in older adult health fairs in 2025.
Cynthia Grass, PHN Supervisor

Division of Environmental and Community Health: Drinking Water Program, Health Inspection Program, Radiation Control Program, Environmental and Occupational Health Program

Ongoing or upcoming District projects or priority issues:

- Ongoing consultation with municipalities on well water testing days
- Ongoing consultations with Health Inspections on local food preparation concerns and complaints.
Lisa Silva, Program Director, Health Inspection Program

Division of Disease Prevention: Maternal Child Health Program, Chronic Disease Prevention, Tobacco & Substance Use Prevention and Control, Women, Infants and Children

➤ **Highlight completed activities conducted by Maine Prevention Network Contractor in 2024:** *Healthy Acadia staff provide the prevention work in Downeast.*

Healthy Eating, Active Living (HEAL)

- ❖ Delivered and promoted the Smarter Lunchroom Scorecard in collaboration with Washington County schools and Hancock County schools.
- ❖ Provided physical activities at regional events and reached over 170 participants, including teachers, early care educators, and families with young children. Introduced programs like WinterKids and Ag in the Classroom.
- ❖ Attended the School Wellness Summit, resulting in newly developed relationships with wellness champions, most notably at Jonesport-Beals School,
- ❖ Organized the 14th annual Hancock County Food Drive, collaborating with dozens of food security organizations and businesses and raising over \$27,000.
- ❖ Provided technical assistance, resources, and program recommendations to the Town of Bar Harbor Safe Streets Committee, Town of Sullivan Recreation Hub, and the Schoodic National Scenic Byways Committee to support environmental and policy change initiatives.

22 M.R.S. §412 (2011).

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Substance Use Prevention

- ❖ *Rx Safe Storage and Disposal*: organized and delivered Deterra bags to various communities and organizations.
- ❖ *Evidenced-based opioid/cannabis prevention presentations*: put together a training program after speaking with the Director of Student Support and Wellness about which modules from UPENN curriculum to share with COA students in a future training in April.
- ❖ *Workplace Prevention*: contacted many partners this month regarding an offer to present to staff a virtual overview of the *Maine Workplace Wellness Toolkit*.
- ❖ *Restorative Schools*: Discussed non-stigmatizing language around SUD so as to be able to engage fully with participants who are currently experiencing SUD or are in recovery, as well as providing a space to process difficulties with engaging students, and brainstormed new approaches
- ❖ *Evidence-based Resilience Middle School*: provided UPENN resilience training to Tremont middle school. Worked on learning the skills of Mental Games and Put It in Perspective; also practiced Hunt The Good Stuff.
- ❖ *Cannabis policies*: outreach to HOME and EAAA regarding cannabis policies. Contacted 15 partners this month regarding an offer for support around tobacco-free policy development and the HA mini-grant opportunity and included references to cannabis language in her outreach emails.

Tobacco Prevention

- ❖ Prevention of tobacco: Strong work in the school/youth space; Supporting details for HDPs provided in Activity field; and high number of activities focused on businesses and social service agencies

Maine Youth

- ❖ No report this time.

Maine CDC Administration: CDC Operations, Medical Epidemiology, Communications, Office of Health Equity

- State Health Improvement Plan: committees have been formed for priorities who will meet during 2025.
- Statewide Coordinating Council for Public Health: reorganization of SCC with new bylaws, membership committee, orientation packet, and annual goals with quarterly meeting agendas.

Ongoing or upcoming District projects or priority issues:

- Alignment of emergency preparedness work, including trainings and exercises, between public health district, Downeast Medical Reserve Corps Unit, Health Care Coalition, and County Emergency Management Agencies.

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Statewide Coordinating Council for Public Health District Update

Midcoast District (Knox, Lincoln, Sagadahoc & Waldo Counties)

Date: June 12, 2025

Office of Readiness and Response includes District Public Health, Rural Health and Primary Care and Oral Health; Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP), Data, Research and Vital Statistics (DRVS)

Agendas and minutes available on District’s webpage:

<https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/mecdc/public-health-systems/lphd/district4/publications.shtml>

Midcoast Public Health Council:

The Midcoast Public Health Council (MPHC) meeting held on June 10th, 2025, featured speakers from the Maine Prevention Network (MPN) discussing Healthy Eating and Active Living Initiatives (HEAL) and work occurring in the Midcoast District. Matt Wellington from Maine Public Health Association (MPHA) discussed current legislation. Heather Drake provided a summary of the final reports from the Maine Shared Community Health Needs Assessment (SCHNA).

The MPHC Steering Committee Meeting was held on May 13th, 2025. The Steering Committee is working to identify actionable goals for the District Public Health Infrastructure Improvement Plan. The SC also discussed an in-person council meeting for the September 9th meeting - location to be determined. The Council hopes to increase engagement with a “Bring a Friend to MPHC” event.

Ongoing or upcoming Public Health Council projects or priority issues:

- The Midcoast Public Health Unit (PHU) will meet on June 18th. The PHU meeting will focus on opportunities for collaboration within the Public Health Unit (PHU).
- Midcoast Public Health Educator met with COVID-19 Health Educators from Infectious Disease Epidemiology (ID-EPI) to brainstorm ways to disseminate essential public information.

In-district or multi-district collaborations:

- The Midcoast Public Health Educator tabled at the Waldo County Health and Wellness Fair in May 2025. Over 250 attendees received information about pertinent public health information including tick-borne illnesses. Public Health Educator and Public Health Nursing (PHN) are involved in the planning committee for the first annual Waldo County Community Baby Shower event in October 2025.

22 M.R.S. §412 (2011).

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Statewide Coordinating Council for Public Health District Update

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- The Midcoast District Chapter of the Health Care Coalition of Maine (HCC) is scheduled to meet on Wednesday June 25th at 2pm.
- The HCC Medical Response and Surge Event (MRSE) was held May 20th, 2025, and designed as a functional exercise for facilities. This MRSE exercise was a cyber-attack aimed at communication disruption through a fictional hospital's HVAC and medical record systems. The exercise included four hospitals and over 20 long term care facilities, skilled nursing facilities and district public health units (PHU).

**** Division of Disease Surveillance; Infectious Disease Epidemiology; Infectious Disease Prevention, Maine Immunization Program**

- Midcoast PHE worked with the Disease Surveillance team at the annual Northeast Livestock Expo Event (NELE) at the Windsor Fair to deliver an educational hand-washing activity for school aged children. This event includes over 2,500 students from the local and surrounding areas.
- Infectious Disease Epidemiology continues to do case and outbreak investigations as well as consultations for stakeholders and members of the public. ID Epidemiology has received several concerned calls from the public about federal changes in the vaccine and CDC recommendations.
- Currently working on measles outreach to under-vaccinated communities for outbreak preparedness.
- Monitoring for invasive Group A Streptococcal infections as the number of cases has risen in the Midcoast District.

**** Division of Public Health Nursing**

- Public Health Nursing (PHN) has been busy with multiple projects across the district. A vaccine clinic was held at the Hyde School in Bath, ME where the team administered MMR, varicella, meningococcal and Tdap vaccines for students
- PHN Nurses in the Midcoast District are busy navigating the closure of the Labor and Delivery Unit at MaineHealth Waldo Hospital. In response to this concern PHN is partnering with Waldo Maine Families and Waldo YMCA to begin a perinatal support group. The group is in the planning stages and a survey will be sent out to community stakeholders for feedback on the structure of the group and what days and times will work best for expecting new parents.

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Statewide Coordinating Council for Public Health District Update

- The Midcoast District currently has one active and two latent TB cases.
- Midcoast District PHN received new log tags to ensure vaccine cold storage.

**** Division of Environmental and Community Health:** Drinking Water Program, Health Inspection Program, Radiation Control Program, Environmental and Occupational Health Program

- Dr. Va highlighted some important work being done in the Health Inspection Program (HIP) this past week during her bi-weekly update. This work included attendance of two community expos aimed at providing education, awareness and visibility to the Health Inspection Program (HIP).
- The Drinking Water Program is fully staffed and recently secured an EPA grant to address lead in schools. These funds will be used to reimburse schools for installing filtered water bottle filling stations to give school aged children access to lead free water without schools having to replace old plumbing.
- Subsurface Wastewater Unit projects include the update of various rules that the program administers and creation of new forms for the septic system permitting. The program continues to develop Rules around Natural Organic Reduction (composting of human remains).
- April Bledsoe is the new "Private Well Coordinator". She has been with the program since early spring.

Division of Disease Prevention: Maternal Child Health Program, Chronic Disease Prevention, Tobacco & Substance Use Prevention and Control, Women, Infants and Children

- Highlights of completed activities conducted by Maine Prevention Network (MPN) Contractor/Subcontractors during January 2025-March 2025

Midcoast Substance Use Prevention (SUP) Activities include:
 - MPN staff made significant strides in promoting substance use prevention through community outreach and education. MPN staff in **Knox and Lincoln County** attended the 50th Annual Fisherman's Forum and connected attendees with resources in the local fishing community. MPN Staff distributed medication lock boxes and locking bags for medication safe storage.
 - MPN staff in **Lincoln County** also participated in the Maine Fisherman's Forum and noted the increase in open dialogue with community stakeholders and attendees of the Forum.

22 M.R.S. §412 (2011).

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Statewide Coordinating Council for Public Health District Update

The district 4 Team also worked collaboratively to ensure that supplies were transported from Midcoast Hospital up through **Lincoln County** to the forum in Rockport.

- MPN staff in **Sagadahoc County** attended the Southern Midcoast Communities for Prevention coalition meeting which focused on the upcoming season of high-risk times like prom and graduation.
- MPN Staff in **Sagadahoc County** also created a valuable new partnership with local liquor inspectors at BABLO to assist the team with liquor license and responsible beverage licensee education and training moving forward. Staff also re-stocked “first-aid” kits to the Family Birth Center at Midcoast Hospital. The “kits” contain a safe storage rack card that educates on the importance of safely storing cannabis products away from young children.
- MPN Staff in **Lincoln County** partnered with the Lincoln County Sheriff’s Office (LCSO) to deliver a Responsible Beverage Server (RBS) training to 8 individuals from four local licensees.
- **Knox and Waldo County** staff sent out a monthly newsletter and expanded the current reach to include five more rural schools. The newsletter is delivered to 58 school staff and administrators across 23 schools and 2 preventionists working in health care settings.
- **Knox and Waldo County** staff hosted a Responsible Beverage Server Training at Rockland City Hall for 5 restaurant workers and managers. During the promotion of this event training and print resources went out to 11 local retailers. The Team also posted twice to social media about this training opportunity.

Maine CDC Administration: CDC Operations, Medical Epidemiology, Communications, Office of Population Health Equity (OPHE), and Environmental Testing Laboratory

22 M.R.S. §412 (2011).

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Statewide Coordinating Council for Public Health District Project Update

Public Health
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Template updated 03/2023

District: Penquis	Date: 06-09-2024
** Office of Readiness and Response: District Public Health, Rural Health and Primary Care and Oral Health; PH Emergency Preparedness, Data, Research and Vital Statistics	
Agendas and minutes are available on the district's webpage:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting Overview: Penquis Public Health Council met on May 7, 2025, in Bangor and virtually; attendees included public health officials, healthcare providers, and community leaders. • Legislation & Advocacy: Dr. Rebecca Boulos discussed the impacts of public health budget cuts and urged advocacy through tools like APHA alerts and the "5 Calls" app. • Health Needs Assessment: Heather Drake presented the Maine Shared Community Health Needs Assessment process, with stakeholder engagement planned for the fall. • Health Huddles: Open-table discussions covered food insecurity, housing, mental health, and healthy living, highlighting funding cuts, access issues, and collaboration needs. 	
Next DCC Meeting: August 6, 2025 (virtual only).	
Ongoing or upcoming District projects or priority issues:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HIV case cluster response 	
In-district or multi-district collaborations:	
** Division of Disease Surveillance; Infectious Disease Epidemiology; Infectious Disease Prevention, Maine Immunization Program	
Ongoing or upcoming District projects or priority issues	
Infectious Disease Epidemiology	
<p>March 14, 2025: CDC issues Health Advisory for clinicians and potential travelers about the growing measles outbreak in Texas and New Mexico. There have been 208 confirmed cases, and two deaths associated with the outbreak. Provided guidance for prevention and monitoring.</p> <p>March 18, 2025: Maine CDC assembled an HCV and HIV Clinical Guidance Package (HIV-HCV-Clinical-Guidance-Package.pdf) with resources for healthcare providers to use for screening, treatment, prevention, and patient care to address the ongoing HIV and Hepatitis C cluster among people who inject drugs (PWID) in Penobscot County.</p>	

District Name: Penquis

1

**** Indicates the presence of Maine CDC Field Staff assigned to the District Public Health Unit**

22 M.R.S. §412 (2011).

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Statewide Coordinating Council for Public Health District Project Update

Public Health
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March 21, 2025: CDC issues Health Update to give additional information to healthcare providers and the public about the ongoing risk of dengue virus infections as well as updates to testing recommendations in the U.S.

March 25, 2025: Maine CDC received notification of an influenza-associated pediatric death, the child had tested positive for influenza B. This was the first influenza-associated pediatric death in Maine during the 2024-2025 influenza season. Information on prevention, vaccination, and treatment were provided.

April 11, 2025: CDC notified of 607 confirmed cases and two deaths due to measles across 22 states and jurisdictions. CDC and Maine CDC expanded vaccination recommendations beyond what the current recommendations were for children who may be traveling to a region with a known measles outbreak.

May 13, 2025: Maine CDC provided Health Alert for health risks associated with brown tail moths in response to upcoming season and increased activity. Recommendations for providers and the public were discussed.

May 19, 2025: As part of Lyme Disease Awareness Month, the Maine CDC released a Health Advisory with information on Lyme and other tickborne diseases for the 2025 season. Prevention, symptoms, testing, and reporting guidance reviewed for healthcare providers and the public.

The Infectious Disease Prevention (IDP) Program continues to respond to an HIV outbreak affecting people who inject drugs and may be unhoused in Penobscot County. In response to this increase in HIV diagnoses, we are working with community partners to:

- Increase access to HIV and hepatitis C virus (HCV) testing among those at risk;
- Provide HIV and sexually transmitted infection (STI) prevention services, such as post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP), pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP), and safer sex supplies;
- Offer syringe services and other harm reduction services; and
- Link and support people diagnosed with HIV or HCV to medical care and treatment.

Additional information about the outbreak can be found here:
<https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/mecdc/infectious-disease/epi/hiv-cluster.shtml>.

The IDP Program reconvened the Maine HIV/AIDS Advisory Board (MeHAAB) in early 2025. MeHAAB is a broad group of partners and stakeholders including federal, State, and local HIV/AIDS government entities, programs and organizations, and other stakeholders that are engaged in planning, improving the scientific basis of program decisions, targeting resources to those communities at highest risk for HIV transmission and acquisition, and addressing disparities in health outcomes along the HIV Care Continuum. This board is charged with the development and implementation of the statewide Integrated HIV Prevention and Care Plan. Contact Tara Thomas at tara.thomas@maine.gov to join.

Disease reporting Contact Information: Phone: 1 - 800 - 821 - 5821 (24 hours a day)

District Name: Penquis

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Statewide Coordinating Council for Public Health District Project Update

Public Health
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**** Division of Public Health Nursing**

Ongoing or upcoming District projects or priority issues:

PHN is currently fully staffed in Penobscot and Piscataquis counties. We have been busy with a variety of referrals, including Maternal Child Health, older adults, and Tuberculosis, as well as working with our community partners on the HIV/HCV response in the city of Bangor. The following are several areas that we have been focused on and that we have done within the Penquis district this past quarter. We hope to continue to gain education to best serve the beautiful communities of the Penquis District.

Speakers:

- Sue Hersom-Mead Johnson Nutrition-Formula 101
- Early Intervention for ME
- Sara Heald Langevin-Alternative Wellness Services
- Penquis START Team-Human Trafficking Identification & Response

Events:

- Early Childhood Education Fair-Lincoln, ME
- Project Play Family Event-Dover-Foxcroft
- Baby & ME Groups: Dover-Foxcroft, Millinocket and Old Town (Our groups continue to grow and expand in these areas. Our partnerships with the local libraries have been incredible).
- PHN Attended Healthy Aging Expo

Special/Other Projects/Meetings:

- Older Adult Program
- Hosted Boston College Students and Staff in Piscataquis county
- Helping Hands with Heart-Piscataquis County
- Bi-Annual PHN Meeting-held in Bangor in May 2025
- PHN/Maine Families Quartely Meeting held in Brewer, ME
- MHIRN-Weekly meeting

Education:

- Rutgers Tuberculosis Training
- Motivational Interviewing Training
- Bloodborne Pathogen Training
- Perinatal Orientation & Education Program certification
- TEEX Training: FEMA Certification for Community Disaster Preparedness for Healthcare-2 PHN's in this district will attain certification by Fall 2025.

District Name: Penquis

3

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22 M.R.S. §412 (2011).

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Statewide Coordinating Council for Public Health District Project Update

Public Health
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**** Division of Environmental and Community Health:** Drinking Water Program, Health Inspection Program, Radiation Control Program, Environmental and Occupational Health Program

Ongoing or upcoming District projects or priority issues:

Division of Disease Prevention: Maternal Child Health Program, Chronic Disease Prevention, Tobacco & Substance Use Prevention and Control, Women, Infants and Children

Ongoing or upcoming District projects or priority issues:

➤ **Highlight completed activities conducted by Maine Prevention Network Contractor/ Subcontractors:**

Maine Prevention Network

Q1 Tobacco Prevention Summary (Jan 1 – Mar 31, 2025)

Scope & Reach:

In the first quarter of 2025, District 6 conducted 82 tobacco prevention activities across a range of settings, with a strong focus on schools (35 activities), healthcare facilities (11), and community spaces (18). A total of 84 activities were tailored to specific groups, particularly youth, parents, and the general population.

The estimated total reach was nearly 10,000 people, including over 5,800 from the general public and 3,000 youth and parents, reflecting thoughtful outreach and strong community engagement.

Health Disparity Focus:

- 43 activities targeted populations with known health disparities, mainly low-income individuals.
- However, no measurable reach was reported yet for these populations—an area to monitor and build upon in future quarters.

Program Outputs (Highlights):

- 1,071 youth engaged
- 196 stakeholders educated, plus 42 decision makers engaged or educated
- 261 communications disseminated
- 68 evidence-based strategies presented
- Partnerships formed with both clinical (8) and non-clinical (23) organizations

Policy Progress:

District Name: Penquis

4

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22 M.R.S. §412 (2011).

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Statewide Coordinating Council for Public Health District Project Update

Public Health
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- One enhanced smoke-free policy was implemented, estimated to impact 3,000 people—a solid step toward healthier public environments.

What’s Working Well:

- Strong presence in schools and youth settings
- Consistent and credible reach estimates

Penquis PH District: Highlighted activities conducted by Maine Prevention Network Contractor/ Subcontractors February through April 2025

HEAL - Healthy Eating

In April, Penquis MPN HEAL hosted its largest-attended district-wide school nutrition group meeting to date. Participating schools included Greenville, Milford, MSAD 4, RSU 22, and RSU 68. These virtual convenings continue to serve as a vital platform for school nutrition professionals to share ideas, promote school meals, implement Farm and Sea to School initiatives, and strengthen healthy eating environments across K–12 settings.

In Penobscot County, one Early Care and Education (ECE) site completed the Go NAPSACC Child Nutrition self-assessment and action plan.

In Piscataquis County, one Early Care and Education (ECE) site enrolled in Go NAPSACC, completing a nutrition self-assessment and action plan.

Active Living

In Penobscot County, Abraham Lincoln School and Vine Street School continue to promote student wellness through their Mileage Club programs. Combined, 350 students have logged 3,509 miles so far this year.

In Piscataquis County, five schools—Greenville Consolidated, Milo Elementary, Piscataquis Community Elementary, Piscataquis Community Secondary, and SeDoMoCha—are actively participating in the 100 Mile

Currently, 312 students have logged 20,480 miles during the school year.

Lactation Support

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In Bangor, the Milk & Cookies Support Group meets weekly at the Bangor Public Library, supporting 7–18 mother-baby dyads each week. In April, guest speaker Deborah Weiskittel, RD, offered guidance on introducing solid foods and shared best-practice and evidence-based recommendations. Each baby received a new, long-sleeve, washable feeding bib.

In Piscataquis County, the Baby & Me Support Group meets weekly at the Thompson Free Library and consistently serves 6–8 mother-baby dyads. In April, the group partnered with nurses from Boston College to distribute free breast pump supplies, diapers, and baby clothes, providing meaningful support to new parents in the community

Maine CDC Administration: CDC Operations, Medical Epidemiology, Communications, Office of Health Equity

Expanded Cancer Screening Access: The Breast and Cervical Health Program has lowered the eligibility age to 21 (previously 35), allowing more women to access screening and treatment.

Browntail Moth Awareness: Ongoing collaboration with Maine Forest Service to inform residents about protecting against caterpillar hairs this spring.

Community Health Worker Integration: Ongoing efforts to strategically incorporate Community Health Workers to improve health outcomes across programs.

Health Inspection Program (HIP) Connecting with Communities

HIP recently attended two expos to provide education, answer questions, increase visibility, and improve working relationships with stakeholders, prospective applicants, and current licenses.

Maine Prevention Network Ripple Awards

The awards were given to individuals working in substance use prevention, tobacco prevention, healthy eating, and active living. It recognizes those who go above and beyond to create meaningful, lasting change in the communities. Their work sends ripples, impacting lives, shaping healthier futures, and inspiring others to act.

Remember ME Awards

The annual event, hosted by the Maine Health Care Association, celebrates pioneering, innovative and interesting residents living in Maine’s long-term care facilities. Since the project’s inception, MHCA has honored over 700 residents with historically significant backgrounds; unique or interesting

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accomplishments; and those who have served their community through volunteerism, civic organizations, and U.S. military service. It was so inspiring.

Health and Environmental Testing Laboratory

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Statewide Coordinating Council for Public Health District Project Update

Public Health
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Template updated 02/2024

District: Western	Date: 6/12/25
** Division of Public Health Systems: District Public Health, Rural Health and Primary Care and Oral Health; PH Emergency Preparedness, Data, Research and Vital Statistics	
Agendas and minutes available on district's webpage .	
<p>Dates of note in Western District:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Next DCC Meeting: Tuesday, July 15, 2025 9am-11am (Zoom) ➤ In-person DCC meeting in Oxford County on October 21, 2025 <p>Ongoing or upcoming Public Health Council projects or priority issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Continued education/speaking opportunities for community partners. ➤ Continued outreach and growing DCC membership. ➤ Steering Committee working on drafting District work plan <p>Ongoing or upcoming District projects or priority issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Working with public health unit to identify district needs and address cross cutting collaborations surrounding public health preparedness. ➤ HCC meeting quarterly. Set up leadership roles for Western District Chapter. Participated in medical surge exercise in May. Hazard Vulnerability Workplan created. ➤ Established Lewiston/Auburn Community Forums in partnership with OPHE, continuing quarterly. <p>In-district or multi-district collaborations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Assisting in Orderable Materials Project. End goal: streamline ordering process across MECDC programs. 	
** Division of Disease Surveillance; Infectious Disease Epidemiology; Infectious Disease Prevention, Maine Immunization Program	
<p>Ongoing or upcoming District projects or priority issues:</p> <p>Epidemiology:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Monitoring nationwide measles outbreaks and ongoing avian influenza outbreaks ➤ May was Lyme Disease Awareness Month and there was a great turnout for poster contest ➤ Infectious disease dashboard: https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/mecdc/infectious-disease/epi/publications/ 	

District Name: Western

1

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Infectious Disease Prevention:

- Andwell no longer providing HIV case management in Lewiston area. Frannie Peabody working to continue support in region.
- Two organizations in Franklin County were trained in rapid testing for HIV prevention (University of Maine-Farmington, and Oxford County Jail). Looking to increase education efforts in other counties in District.
- Still responding to HIV cluster in Penobscot County
- MPOX work continuing through summer.

Immunization:

- Changed monthly office hours to quarterly
- Monitoring legislative work on adult program that mimics Vaccines for Kids program.
- Updating provider agreements and program sites with cloud-based tags

Disease reporting Contact Information: Phone: 1 - 800 - 821 - 5821 (24 hours a day)

**** Division of Public Health Nursing**

Ongoing or upcoming District projects or priority issues:

- New parents support group “Bumps and Babies” started June 4th in Lewiston
- Schools in all three counties have submitted vaccine clinic requests for flu/covid vaccine through partnership with PHN and DOE

**** Division of Environmental and Community Health:** Drinking Water Program, Health Inspection Program, Radiation Control Program, Environmental and Occupational Health Program

Ongoing or upcoming District projects or priority issues:

- No reports received.

Division of Disease Prevention: Maternal Child Health Program, Chronic Disease Prevention, Tobacco & Substance Use Prevention and Control, Women, Infants and Children

Ongoing or upcoming District projects or priority issues:

- Tobacco Program at Healthy Androscoggin won an award

Maine CDC Administration: CDC Operations, Medical Epidemiology, Communications, Office of Public Health Equity

Ongoing or upcoming District projects or priority issues:

- No reports received

District Name: Western

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Statewide Coordinating Council for Public Health District Project Update

Public Health
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**** Maine Health and Environmental Testing Laboratory (HETL):**

Ongoing or upcoming District projects or priority issues:

- No reports received

District Name: Western

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Statewide Coordinating Council for Public Health District Project Update

Public Health
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Template updated 03/2023

District: York Public Health District	Date: 6/12/2025
** Division of Public Health Systems: District Public Health, Rural Health and Primary Care and Oral Health; PH Emergency Preparedness, Data, Research and Vital Statistics	
Agendas and minutes available on district's webpage: https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/mecdc/public-health-systems/lphd/district1/council-main.shtml	
<p>➤ Dates of note in York District:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The DCC is planning a meeting around the around organizational updates for social service providers and public health partners. 	
<p>Ongoing or upcoming Public Health Council projects or priority issues:</p> <p>➤ The council is still working to attract new members.</p>	
<p>Ongoing or upcoming District projects or priority issues:</p> <p>➤ The District Coordinatizing Council is working on the development of the Local Public Health Systems Improvement Plan.</p>	
<p>In-district or multi-district collaborations:</p> <p>Public Health Unit: The District Liaison continues to coordinate the public health unit quarterly meetings to discuss ongoing projects and current issues to ensure coloration when appropriate.</p>	
<p>The York District Liaison is working on the next meeting for the Healthcare Coalitions, June 6th which focused on communications infrastructure of York County.</p>	
<p>Rural Health and Primary Care</p> <hr/>	
<p>Stay Updated on the Latest Developments</p>	

istrict Name: Aroostook

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Statewide Coordinating Council for Public Health District Project Update

Public Health
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Welcome to the latest updates from the Rural Health & Primary Care Program! Here, you'll find the most current announcements, resources, and opportunities impacting rural healthcare in Maine. Recent highlights include the launch of innovative tools, funding opportunities, and event recaps. Check back regularly for the latest information as we transition older updates into the categorized sections below.

Featured Updates

Spring Newsletter

The RHPCP is pleased to release the 2025 Spring Newsletter (PDF). The newsletter lists various news, upcoming events, and resources including funding opportunities that will be valuable to your facility. If you have any questions please feel free to reach out to Erica at erica.dyer@maine.gov.

Introducing Our New Newsletter

We're excited to launch our Rural Health and Primary Care Program Newsletter, designed to keep you informed about the latest updates, initiatives, and resources aimed at improving healthcare access in Maine's rural communities. Each edition will feature important news, upcoming events, success stories, and insights into our ongoing work with healthcare providers, partners, and stakeholders across the state. Whether you're a healthcare professional, community leader, or advocate, our newsletter will provide valuable information to help you stay connected and engaged in the critical work of rural health. Here you'll find our first issue (PDF), and make sure to check back for future editions!

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Public Health
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NERHA Rural Data Analysis Dashboard Launched

The New England Rural Health Association (NERHA) has unveiled the Rural Data Analysis Dashboard, a powerful mapping tool designed to explore health disparities across New England. With nearly 200 data points covering demographics, social determinants, maternity services, and more, this tool is invaluable for rural health professionals, students, and researchers. Users can create customized maps, download data, and generate PDF reports for advocacy, research, and more.

[Learn More and Access the Dashboard](#)

FY2025 J-1 Conrad Waiver Season Open

The FY2025 J-1 Conrad Waiver season has officially begun! The preselection form opened on October 1st. Interested applicants and stakeholders can access resources below to learn more about the program and application process:

[J-1 Preselection Form](#)

[J-1 Guide for the 2025 Fiscal Year \(PDF\)](#)

[2025 J-1 Program Presentation \(PDF\)](#)

**** Division of Disease Surveillance; Infectious Disease Epidemiology; Infectious Disease Prevention, Maine Immunization Program**

Ongoing or upcoming District projects or priority issues:

The field epidemiologist is participating and bringing value to both the public health unit meetings and the Health Care coalition meetings. This has been a great opportunity to share information about what is circulating in York County.

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<https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/mecdc/infectious-disease/epi/>

Disease reporting Contact Information: Phone: 1 - 800 - 821 - 5821 (24 hours a day)

** Division of Public Health Nursing

Ongoing or upcoming District projects or priority issues:

- The Maine Public Health Nursing Program is fully staffed now.
 - Public Health Nurses from York and Cumberland Counties are still offering one-off catch-up vaccine clinics for school aged children.

Maine CDC Public Health Nursing: 207-287-4112

** Division of Environmental and Community Health: Drinking Water Program, Health Inspection Program, Radiation Control Program, Environmental and Occupational Health Program

Ongoing or upcoming District projects or priority issues:

- **Maine CDC Drinking Water Program (DWP)** works to ensure safe drinking water in Maine, to protect public health, by administering and enforcing drinking water and subsurface wastewater regulations, providing education and technical and financial assistance. Hours: Monday-Friday, 8am-5pm
- **NEWS: Capacity Development Learning Opportunity: *From Surviving to Thriving***
From Surviving to Thriving is a series of seminars for water utility operators that explores ways to increase their systems' technical, managerial, and financial capacity. Sessions will be held at locations around Maine between June and September, 2025. *From Surviving to Thriving* is co-hosted by the DWP and the Maine Public Utilities Commission (PUC), with support from the Maine Water Utilities Association (MWUA). [Click here to learn more.](#)
- **New Online Start-Up Procedures for Seasonal Public Water Systems**
The DWP is pleased to introduce a new submission option for the State-approved seasonal start-up procedure (SSUP). Seasonal water systems, using either groundwater or surface water, can now submit their SSUP information completely online. Certify completion of your SSUP easily to the DWP saving paper, time, and money. The paper SSUP forms will still be accepted, but PWSs should be sure to use the 2025 revision from our website. **Remember:** Seasonal water systems must perform a State-approved startup procedure and provide certification to the DWP that they have met that requirement. Certification must be completed and sent to the DWP *before* serving water to the public. [Click here to learn more or access the new online SSUP forms.](#)



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Statewide Coordinating Council for Public Health District Project Update

Public Health
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- **Health Inspection Program:** The Health Inspection Program exists to provide licensing and inspection services for several different types of businesses to protect the public's health. These businesses include restaurants, lodging, campgrounds, youth camps, public swimming pools and spas, tattooists, micropigmentation, body piercing, electrolysis, school cafeterias, and mass gatherings. To file a complaint, report a foodborne illness, or inquire about a Health Inspection Program-licensed establishment, please call our main number at 207-287-5671 during business hours. Our offices are open Monday through Friday from 8am-5pm excluding holidays. For emergency after hours calls, please call **1-800-821-5821**.
- The Health Inspection Program is excited to announce it is fully staffed for York Public Health District.

The Division is organized as follows:

- Division Administration (internal support, review and planning of the Division)
- Children's Licensing and Investigation Services (childcare facility licensing) (207) 287-5020
- Drinking Water Program (regulates public drinking water supplies) (207) 287-2070
- Health Inspection Program (inspection/regulation of restaurants and lodging places) (207) 287-5671
- Radiation Control Program (inspection/regulation of radiation sources) (207) 287-5676
- Subsurface Wastewater Team (plan review and approval of septic system installation) (207) 287-2070

Division of Disease Prevention: Maternal Child Health Program, Chronic Disease Prevention, Tobacco & Substance Use Prevention and Control, Women, Infants and Children

Ongoing or upcoming District projects or priority issues:

Maternal and Child Health Program: For over 75 years, the Federal Title V Maternal and Child Health Program has provided States with funding to ensuring the health of the Nation's mothers, women, children and youth, including children with special health care needs, and their families. The Title V Maternal and Child Health Block Grant (MCHBG) supports work in Maine including the following programs.

- Maine CDC Children with Special Health Needs
- Birth Defects Program
- Cleft Lip & Palate Program
- Partners in Care Coordination
- Newborn Hearing Program
- Genetics Program
- Newborn Bloodspot Screening Program
- Maternal, Fetal & Infant Mortality Review
- Perinatal Health
- Other Maine CDC Programs serving women, mothers and children and receiving support from the MCHBG and matching funds.

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Public Health
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- Women’s Health
- Adolescent and School Health
- Public Health Nursing
- Injury and Suicide Prevention
- Oral Health

Substance Use Prevention: The Prevention Team is committed to preventing and reducing substance abuse and mental illness and related problems by providing leadership, education and support to communities and institutions throughout Maine. The team works to ensure that Mainers can avoid both the personal and societal costs of substance abuse and mental illness. In collaboration with Maine Prevention Services initiative, Drug Free Community Coalitions, communities, consumers, and a variety of organizations in the state, the Prevention Team provides funding, technical assistance, data, and training and develops materials and resources to educate the residents of Maine. Wellness is the foundation of a healthy, long, and productive life, and is core to the work of prevention services.

Ongoing or upcoming District projects or priority issues:

Maine CDC Administration: CDC Operations, Medical Epidemiology, Communications, Office of Health Equity

Health and Environmental Testing Laboratory

Ongoing or upcoming District projects or priority issues:

The goals of the Health and Environmental Testing Laboratory are to isolate, identify, analyze and monitor any biological, chemical, or radiological hazards which are capable of causing harm. We will assist other agencies in the prevention, treatment, and control of such hazards which threaten the community or environment. These essential services shall be provided cost effectively through a fee schedule established with the flexibility of making them available regardless of the public’s ability to pay. Other roles include consultation with other agencies on state policy development and the quality assurance oversight of services provided by the public and private sectors.

Core functions:

RAPID RESPONDER TO SUSPECTED OUTBREAKS AND CONTAMINATION EVENTS:

- The HETL, in concert with public health agencies and other laboratories, will have the capability to rapidly identify, track and contain outbreaks and sources of biological or chemical public health threats.

INTEGRATED INFORMATION MANAGER:

- The HETL will provide an important link for the accumulation, blending, and distribution of scientific information in the support of public health programs. The HETL will also provide expert consultation on analytical data generated at the HETL and data generated elsewhere.

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Public Health
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ENVIRONMENTAL MONITOR:

- The HETL will be a leader in epidemiological surveillance and environmental testing. Laboratory data will provide necessary information to assess and monitor environmental health. Low detection level analyses will provide an indicator of change, before significant health effects can occur.

ADVOCATE FOR APPROPRIATE AND HIGH-QUALITY TESTING:

- The HETL will be recognized as the source of quality information and serve as the standard for municipal and private laboratory performance. Certification of other laboratories will be based upon standards set here and the federal standards defined by laws and regulations.

REFERENCE SERVICE PROVIDER:

- The HETL will expand its role as the reference testing site for Maine and provide a model of efficient, low cost, quality testing that assesses public and environmental health through appropriate testing.

TECHNICAL AND OPERATIONS RESEARCH LEADER:

- The HETL will be recognized as a source of state-of-the-art technology, both technical and operational. The HETL will have direct connectivity to technological advancement within the State.
- The HETL will assist the state in test selection for investigative research.

PUBLIC SAFETY ENFORCEMENT:

- The HETL will provide analytical, technical, and enforcement capability to help control the abuse of alcohol & drugs and the attendant public health consequences.

Maine Health and Environmental Testing Laboratory (HETL)

Central Office:

221 State St., Augusta, Maine 04333

Telephone:

207-287-2727

For more news please visit: <https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/news>

strict Name: Aroostook

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**** Indicates the presence of Maine CDC Field Staff assigned to the District Public Health Unit**

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