



Attendees:

Liz Blackwell-Moore (CCPH), John Brennan (Scarborough LHO), Anna Bullet (WIC), Eilish Carpenter (CCPH), Mufalo Chitam (MIRC), Matthew Cohen (MeCDC/PHN), Tammy Diaz (MeDOE), Michael Durkin (CCEMA), Rachel Gallo (USM), Barbara Ginley (MH), Kirsten Goodrich (ME HHS), Alice Gormley (MH), Leslie Gould (MH), Cassie Grantham (GPH), Samantha Grela (CRI), Susie Guthro (TOA), Allie Harvell (MeCDC), Lori Huot (MeDOE), Amanda Hutchins (PPH), Kristine Jenkins (MeCDC), Josephine Kamagaju (QHC), Katie Karr (NL/Mercy Hospital), Courtney Kennedy (GSFB), Sofia Licht (MeCDC/DWP), Maggie McCoughlin (HHS), Erin McGann (MeCDC/DBH), Nina Misra (UWSM), Darcy Pomelo (BCC), Bridget Rauscher (PPH), Katie Rutherford (FPC), Amy Sassi (GSFB), Joshua Shean (Brunswick LHO), Hannah Siladi (UNE), Lane Simsarian (MeCDC), Matthew Simpson (MeCDC/PHN), Shaza Stevenson (HHS), Racheal Sylvester (*Bridgton Library*) Anne Tucker (GPH), Matt Wellington (MPHA), Puthiery Va (MeCDC)

Executive Committee

Chair:

Bridget Rauscher
City of Portland

Vice Chair:

**Council Representative to
SCC:**

Courtney Kennedy
Good Shepherd Food Bank

Barbara Ginley
MaineHealth

Susie Guthro
The Opportunity Alliance

Kristine Jenkins
District Liaison, Maine CDC

Hannah Siladi
University of New England

Ann Tucker
Greater Portland Health

Andrew Volkers
Preble Street

Mission

The Council's mission is to promote the health of all our communities by providing information, coordination, collaboration and advocacy.

Vision

The Council's vision is that communities in the Cumberland District are among the healthiest in the state.

Meeting Agenda Item	Notes	Additional Material(s) and Link(s)
Legislative Updates Amy Sassi , Vice President of Government Affairs, Good Shepherd Food Bank	-The Agriculture Committee, House and Senate passed the budget now waiting for Appropriations committee -Good Shepherd had federal cuts. -The Local Food Purchasing Assistance Program was cut in October. -Federal funding used for Mainers Feeding Mainer got cut in February -TFAP, the Emergency Food Assistance Program was cut in half in April -SNAP may also experience cuts -States cannot afford to fund SNAP without federal funding -SNAP eligibility will likely change. We should expect things like work requirements may increase -Federal cuts are expected to the CSFP- Senior Food Boxes.	Mainers Feeding Mainers Local Food Purchasing Assistance Program Emergency Food Assistance Program CSFP- Senior Food Boxes
Legislative Updates Matt Wellington , Associate Director, Maine Public Health Association	-MPHA mission is to advance the health of all people and places in Maine. -Advocacy- MPHA active in the statehouse on policy issues -Multi-sector collaboration. MPHA has 850 members across the state. Representing 70 organization. -Training and workforce development. MPHA provide training for public health workforce and for other stakeholders.	MPHA Newsletter and website
Public Health Landscape Dr. Puthiery Va , Director of Maine CDC	-Two parallel conversations happening at the federal level public health; restructuring and budgeting -Restructuring HHS in general. This restructuring also includes a reduced footprint and parts of HHS that are being absorbed and collapsed into the Administration for a Healthier America. -Second is the budget itself- hoping to get an improved budget by Memorial's Day -The large impact is with the restructuring itself -Important to keep open communications with our organizations, our healthcare systems, our primary care association, but professional associations as well -Concerned about sharing data in an intentional way. For example, sharing only the information that us required to be shared.	
Panel Q&A	-Sofia Licht shared information about the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Program- over 90% of the DWSRF budget is federally funded, cuts would be devastating for public drinking water. \$2.3 trillion in budget cuts have been proposed, and the regular budget is 2.6 trillion. Such cuts would hinder enforcement of the Safe Drinking Water Act.	

**Cumberland District
Public Health Council**



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<p>Dora Mills Talking Points: Kristine Jenkins</p>	<p>-Public health funding is threatened. The federal administration has repeatedly said it wants to move responsibility for many issues from the federal to the state and local levels – e.g., public health, FEMA type of emergency response, K-12 education for those with disabilities, etc.</p> <p>-There are lawsuits against some of the cuts (since Congress decides appropriations, not the Executive Branch), and some of those are making their way through the court system, and some of them are successful.</p> <p>-We should have a better idea by sometime this fall what the outcomes are of the federal congressional budget process and the judicial process and the possible impacts on public health.</p> <p>-Since so many public health organizations are reliant on government funds, they are unable to advocate. However, individual people can, even within those organizations (in most cases, so long as they're not advocating on behalf of the organization). The APHA is taking on a very strong advocacy role. I'd refer people there for ideas on what people can do.</p>	
<p>Updates</p>	<p>Nina Misra- Naloxone training video available. Quick one minute video on our website. It's translated into six different languages.</p> <p>Barbara Ginley- MaineHealth Food Pantry will be able to supplement some of the local farms that were impacted by the loss of funds through LFPA and to purchase produce directly from them. They are still seeing predominantly 85 to 90% immigrant.</p> <p>Ann Tucker- Observing slight decline in medical, behavioral health, dental appointments.</p> <p>Maggie McCoughlin- Seen decreased number of people who are new Mainer, an increase of calls from long-time Mainers (mostly families) trying to find shelter. Thus far increase due to of York County shelter closing</p> <p>Eilish Carpenter- Need for more inclusive spaces outside of school for LGBTQ+ and BIPOC students. Safer Schools held a Conference in March 2025, partnered with Equality Maine and Equality Community Center. It became very popular and turned into a statewide conference; seven counties were represented. Looking forward to continuing the event. Planning is starting now for next year. Contact Eilish to help start a community spaces for youth. carpenter@cumberlandcounty.org</p> <p>Josephine Kamagaju- 2024 Report is out. Assisting people who are facing eviction</p> <p>Kristine Jenkins- CDPHC held an election new members: Mufalo Chitam, Samantha Grela, Josephine Kamagaju, Miranda Shorty, Racheal Sylvester. Bridget Rauscher was elected CDPHC Chair. We will be having another election soon for a Vice Chair and new members. A New Member Orientation will be held soon- open to all.</p>	<p>Naloxone training video</p> <p>MaineHealth Food Pantry Portland</p> <p>Quality Housing Coalition</p> <p>Project HOME Trust Impact Report</p>

Next CDPHC Meeting:

September 19th, 2025

10am-12pm

In-person/ Hybrid

Location TBD

July 2025 CDPHC meeting will be cancelled