



YORK DISTRICT PUBLIC HEALTH COUNCIL

Quarterly Full Council Meeting

Monday, June 12<sup>th</sup>, 2023

10:00am – 11:00am

Virtually on Zoom

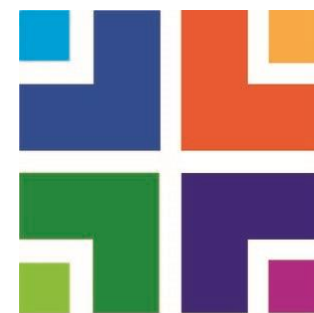
Present: Cathy Bean, Joy Berube, Pamela Buck, Emilee Caradonna, Mufalo Chitam, Alexa Christie, Olivia Dubois, Bethany Fortier, Lisa Gatti-Arnold, Charlie Gauvin, Clay Graybeal, Adam Hartwig, Reegan Hebert, Kristine Jenkins, Annie Karim, Betsy Kelly, Bob MacKenzie, Casey Marcotte, Nina Misra, Mary Powell, Cassie Ring, Kelly Roberts, Eden Silverthorne, Diane Small, Abigail Smallwood, Michelle Surdoval, Melissa Tabak, Ted Trainer, Norma Willis, and Haley Wood.

	Item	Details	Next Steps
1.	Welcome and Introductions: Adam Hartwig, Maine CDC District Liaison	Adam Hartwig, York District Liaison with Maine CDC, welcomed participants and introduced today's agenda.	
2.	Maine CDC Updates: Adam Hartwig, Maine CDC	Maine CDC is currently recruiting for a new director. LPHSA reports are nearing their final edits – please stay tuned.	
3.	Maine Prevention Network Updates: Betsy Kelly, SMHC	Betsy shared slides of updates regarding the Maine Prevention Network funding.	
4.	Community Care Referral System: Eden Silverthorne, Office of Population Health Equity (OPHE)	Eden shared a presentation regarding the Community Care Referral System. *See attached slides*	
5.	Immigrant, Refugee and Asylum Seekers in York County: Mufalo Chitam and Charlie Gauvin with Maine Immigrants' Rights Coalition (MIRC)	Mufalo discussed the history and background of immigrant, refugee and asylum seekers welcomed in Maine, and highlighted some of the wins that York County has seen during this past month – specifically their coordinated efforts to support the community. Mufalo highlighted some experiences with resettling. Charlie shared information about shelter in Portland, and some of current needs.	
6.	Adjournment: Adam Hartwig, Maine CDC	The full Council will be meeting again in September – the Executive Committee will continue to meet and look forward to connecting soon.	Questions and comments? Please email: <a href="mailto:Adam.Hartwig@Maine.gov">Adam.Hartwig@Maine.gov</a>

**Vision:** We envision a comprehensive, well-coordinated, accessible, and equitable public health system for all in York County.

# 2023 Community Care Referral System

Eden Silverthorne – Coordinator  
Hamda Ahmed – Navigator  
Grace Tezo – Navigator  
Office of Population Health Equity, Maine CDC  
Department of Health and Human Services



**OPHE**  
Maine Office of  
Population Health Equity

# Referral System Background

Community Care Referral System is an iteration of COVID-19 Social Supports Referral System:

- COVID-19 Social Supports Referral System was housed in Commissioner's Office at ME DHHS & operated from June 2020 through the end of December 2022
- Utilized federal funding to provide COVID-positive Mainers with urgent COVID-related supports including grocery and household supplies delivery, support accessing tests, vaccines, and therapeutics, and support understanding CDC quarantine & isolation (Q&I) guidelines

# Community Care Referral System

Community Care Referral System is housed in the Office of Population Health Equity (OPHE) at Maine CDC and went live in January 2023.

## **Goals:**

- Increase access to social services for individuals statewide who might otherwise be unable to access them, or who might not know what services they're eligible for, especially services that are culturally and linguistically appropriate
- Enable community partners to collaborate with one another to better meet the diverse needs they encounter
- The referral system also provides DHHS with insight into the services organizations statewide provide and offers community organizations data to document and support their work

# Community Care Referral System Process

- The Community Care Referral System engages with services organizations *already* provide; does not establish any new social services
- Referrals received through system are assessed and forwarded onto one or more organizations who can meet needs expressed
- Organization(s) expected to make initial contact in 1-3 days
- Referral System is capable of meeting culturally and linguistically specific needs by connecting Mainers seeking support with ethnic community-based organizations (ECBOs)

# Community Care Referral Form Process, cont'd

- Community Care Referral Form is located online at <https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/mecdc/equity/community-care-referrals.shtml4>
- Anyone can submit a referral for themselves or others seeking social service supports
- Community Care Team engages in communication with organizations and individuals seeking support to ensure service provision follow through

# Referral Form: A Look Inside

3. What services are needed? Please select all that apply and check the "Other" box to provide more detailed information. \*

- Interpretation, cultural brokering, and/or connection with community health workers (CHWs)
- Resources for mothers, pregnant people, babies, children with disabilities
- Behavioral support for young children
- Assistance navigating the healthcare system
- Health and wellness education, information for living with an illness
- Support applying for MaineCare, TANF, or transitioning to CoverME
- Options for food resources
- Options for transportation assistance
- Options for accessing heating assistance
- Support for stress and anxiety
- Legal support for immigration
- Essential (non-emergency, one-time) household items
-

# Referral Form: A Look Inside, cont'd

## COVID-19 Services

*Some of our partner organizations still have the capacity to support with COVID-specific needs.*

4. Do you or the person being referred need COVID-related supports? \*

- Yes, someone in the household is COVID-positive
- No, COVID-related supports are not needed
- Maybe, someone has symptoms, was exposed, or needs to be tested

5. What COVID-related supports are needed? Please select all that apply and check the "Other" box to provide more detailed information. \*

- Help understanding COVID-19 isolation guidelines
- COVID-19 testing (home test kits, assistance scheduling testing appointment)
- COVID vaccination assistance (assistance scheduling appointment)
- COVID vaccination assistance for homebound person
- Help accessing COVID-19 treatment
- Transportation for COVID-positive person
- Other



# Organizations in York County

- Maine Access Immigrant Network (MAIN)
- Maine Association for New Americans (MANA)
- New England Arab American Organization (NEAAO)
- Unified Asian Communities (UAC)
- York County Community Action Corp (YCCAC)

# CDC Community Care Partners Meetings

- Bi-weekly virtual meetings via ZOOM every other Tuesday from 3-4:30 pm; next meeting tomorrow 6/13
- Resource sharing among community organizations and organizations within DHHS
- All are welcome! Email [eden.silverthorne@maine.gov](mailto:eden.silverthorne@maine.gov) for calendar invitation

# Questions?

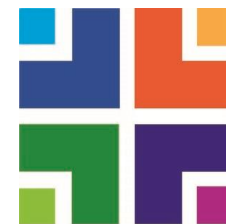
- **Community Care Program webpage:**

<https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/mecdc/equity/community-care.shtml>

- **Community Care Team email:**

[CDC-CommunityReferrals@Maine.gov](mailto:CDC-CommunityReferrals@Maine.gov)

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