



Statewide Coordinating Council for Public Health District Project Update

Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Template updated 03/2023

District: Aroostook	Date: March 2024
** Division of Public Health Systems: District Public Health, Rural Health and Primary Care and Oral Health; PH Emergency Preparedness, Data, Research and Vital Statistics	
<p>Agendas and minutes available on district’s webpage: 02/07/2024 APHC Quarterly Meeting</p> <p>Council Education Topic: Meet your Resources: Aroostook Mental Health Center Treatment and Prevention Experts Share Information about Programs and Services</p> <p>Guest Presenters:</p> <p>Rebecca Fournier, Site Manager, Residential Treatment Facility (RTF), AMHC Marshall Van Hollow, Overdose Prevention through Intensive Outreach, Naloxone & Safety (OPTIONS) Liaison, AMHC Christina Wall, Clinical Supervisor, Emergency Services and Adult Crisis Stabilization Unit (ACSU), AMHC</p> <p>➤ Dates of note in Aroostook District:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Next DCC Meeting: 05/01/2024 • Next APHC Emergency Planning Meeting: 04/04/2024 • Next APHC Aging Committee Meeting: 04/16/2024 • Next APHC Steering Committee Meeting: 03/06/2024 <p>Ongoing or upcoming Public Health Council projects or priority issues:</p> <p>➤</p> <p>Ongoing or upcoming District projects or priority issues:</p> <p>➤</p> <p>In-district or multi-district collaborations:</p> <p>➤ Emergency Planning in coordination with AKEMA and local hospital and city officials for preparedness surrounding the ECLIPSE event in April.</p>	
** Division of Disease Surveillance; Infectious Disease Epidemiology; Infectious Disease Prevention, Maine Immunization Program	
Ongoing or upcoming District projects or priority issues:	
➤ HANs 12/14 – U.S CDC: Human-to- Human Transmission of Mpox Virus Clade 1 in the Democratic	

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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Republic of the Congo

- HANs 12/26 – Increased Influenza, COVID-19, and RSV Disease Activity, Immunizations, and Therapeutics
- HANs 01/18 – Masking and Vaccination in Health Care Facilities During Increased Respiratory Virus Activity
- HANs 02/26 – Increase in HIV Diagnoses among People who Inject Drugs in Penobscot County

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:

- Conducted training on TST / TB with staff at Northern Maine Medical Center and looking to conduct more training for additional organizations and staff.
- Tessa Roshto (PHN 1) hired for the Southern Aroostook area.
- Presenting hiring for PHN 1 & 2 positions for central and northern Aroostook areas.
- Seeking additional referrals for new moms or seniors that need additional medical intervention.

**** 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:

DWP:

- Hired a new Environmental Engineer, Joshua Gildert.
- Aroostook District has 63 Sanitary Survey Inspections due this year (2024).
 - As of 02/26/2024, 14 have been completed and reports submitted. 49 remain to be completed, 3 scheduled for week of 02/26/24.
- As of 02/26/24, 3 new well approvals are in the works for new systems, with 4 water systems in the process of new treatment.
 - (1) is in the process of installing treatment for PFAS (Hodgdon Elementary School & Hodgdon High School). Currently both of those schools are providing bottled water.
- New PFAS regulations should be coming out this year with new MCL's.
- Community water systems must complete a service line inventory before October 2024. State and EPA are looking for Lead.

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**

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Oct – Dec 2023:

Substance Use Prevention:

- Oct 2023
 - *Media campaign promotion* – Several “Intervention Aroostook” episodes were filmed and aired on WAGM-TV.
 - 3 Maine DHHS “+ Influence” poster messages were shared to 550 students and 29 adults of Region 2 schools on “Plan Your Future” day on Oct 20.
 - Attended career fairs at Presque Isle High School (Oct 17) and Caribou High School (Oct 19) and shared available resources over 300 local students in attendance.
 - Attended Cary Medical Center health fair and distributed lock boxes, Naloxone, gun locks, and materials on safe storage and Naloxone use.
 - Held a Prime for Life class in the Aroostook County Jail.
- Nov 2023
 - Created an outreach flyer for distribution to recruit additional members for the DFA coalition.
 - Assisted in updated the existing ACAP Drug/ Cannabis Policy. Helped to educate ACAP administrators on harms, new forms, cannabis-infused beer, and increased THC potency.
 - Conducted the first “Teen Event/Prevention Day” for 12 participants from the Hope and Justice Project, AMHC, AMHC Youth Prevention and Sexual Assault, Aroostook Teen Leadership Coalition, Out Maine, and ACAP Prevention Team.
 - Delivered lock box to training participant.
 - Completed a grief support group to 6 participants in the Aroostook County Jail.
 - Held a Prime for Life class for 6 participants in the Aroostook County Jail. Due to overcrowding and COVID in the jail, only one presentation was able to be held.
- Dec 2023
 - Shared resources at a TABACCO talking circle.
 - Completed interview with WAGM-TV for the morning news program on Prime for Life and drug intervention in Aroostook County
 - Distributed a survey to collect data based on SEL curriculum to 7 in the central, 5 southern, and 3 northern Aroostook schools who serve grades 6 through 8 to gain information about what schools may be need for resources in prevention, social emotional learning, and creation health connections. Will also provide information about assistance with integrating SEL curriculum.

Aroostook PH District projects or priority areas during December 2023-February 2024:

- **Healthy Eating Active Living (HEAL)**
 - Aroostook PHD MPN Healthy Eating Active Living (HEAL) lead collaborated with the local

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master gardener and Van Buren Community School to implement a container garden education event for 80 students and 5 staff.

- Aroostook County HEAL Lead worked with Francis Malcolm Science in Easton by providing a mini grant to support opportunities to improve trails with a new bog trail and improved story walks.
- Aroostook PHD MPN HEAL Lead collaborated with McCrum Farm Maine Food Network and Catholic Charities to increase the number of popup food stands in stands in the county by 3.

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:



District Name: Aroostook

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Statewide Coordinating Council for Public Health District Coordinating Council Update

District: Central	Date: March 21, 2024
<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 This quarter the District Coordinating Council (DCC) met virtually on January 25, where we met our new (first) Central District Public Health Educator, heard a district infectious disease report from our Field Epidemiologist, a public health nursing report from our PHN Supervisor, and then an SCC update from our district SCC representative. We then had Maine CDC Director, Dr. Puthiery Va, go over Maine CDC 2024 Priorities and take questions; and used the rest of the meeting time for updates and collaboration asks from the group.</p>	
<p>Ongoing or upcoming projects or priority issues: 2024 Shared Community Health Needs Assessment (Maine SCHNA) organization and reporting what’s happened since the last round; Storm disaster damage resources assistance; Hepatitis A prevention outreach; rabies, avian influenza, browntail moth outreach/assistance; R-CHIP assistance; Eclipse emergency planning; PFAS and lead testing and remediation assistance; housing and utility needs; DCC membership updates; PPE and testing supplies navigation; vaccination clinic, appointment, and transportation assistance; assistance for and connection to organizations providing basic needs and resources; new LHO assistance and updated contact list.</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, chief municipal officials, and partners -- ongoing task. ▶ Vaccination Coordination Workgroup has met monthly to address district needs and coordinate efforts <p><i>Successes achieved</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ District Health Equity funding awarded to Winslow Community Cupboard for expansion and other potential grant research done/info given to unsuccessful applicants ▶ District 211 reporting and cumulative analysis updated; resources updated to address unmet needs <p><i>Barriers encountered</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Large amount of turnover in staffing at many organizations, and reduction in staff able to help with collaborative public health efforts ▶ End of financial supports due to federal funding running out 	
<p>Structural and Operational changes, including updates in membership: Welcomed new Public Health Educator in January, PHN Supervisor left Maine CDC March 15.</p>	
<p>In-district or multi-district collaborations: new round of SCHNA; storm damage and flooding assistance; Rural Community Health Improvement Partnership (R-CHIP) grant awarded to Spectrum Generations; COVID-19 and Influenza vaccination and testing information and assistance; prevention/basic needs assistance for organizations serving vulnerable populations; EMS service and non-profit organization infectious disease testing assistance; transportation assistance; avian influenza, PFAS, lead, rabies, and browntail moth information and workshops.</p>	
<p>Other topics of interest for SCC members: Pressing district needs right now for affordable housing, including recovery/supported housing, heating/utility assistance, and transportation services; along with respiratory illness prevention and supports for essential workers and their families.</p>	

In addition, this report was sent to us about the Maine Prevention Network (MPN) Contract Healthy Eating Active Living (HEAL) work accomplished during this quarter by the Maine CDC/DHHS Obesity Program Manager:

Division of Disease Prevention: Chronic Disease Prevention HEAL Updates

Central Public Health District projects or priority areas during December 2023-February 2024:

- HCCA MPN HEAL Lead is supporting implementation of 100 mile club at RSU 38. Schools currently have 120 students participating in the 100 Mile Club, with 10 students already at 25 miles since January! All grades K-5 are participating, with most daily progress being made by the 3rd and 4th grade students.
- The HCCA MPN HEAL team collaborated with the Maine General's Community Health Improvement Plan Committee to review Physical Activity programming in northern Kennebec County. The committee, made up of 10 partners within MaineGeneral and HCCA, discussed branching this program out to the Waterville School District for a pilot. Meetings with this group will continue to happen on a monthly/bi-monthly basis.
- HCCA MPN Heal team attended the Community Preschool Winter Event at Lithgow Library, hosted by Literacy for ME and provided a StoryWalk for students and their families. 20+ families participated in the Story Walk and over 20 Indoor & Outdoor Trail Guides were distributed to families.
- In collaboration with Augusta Adult Education and The Parks & Recreation Department, HCCA's MPN HEAL Team hosted a StoryWalk & Snowshoe event at The Bicentennial Nature Park in Augusta, which was set up along with Squirrel Alley Trail. Six families attended the event.
- In collaboration with Thomas College's Student Health Center, HCCA MPN HEAL lead tabled in the residency halls over the month of February, reaching approximately 100 students with information on physical activity, reading nutrition labels, healthy eating on a budget, and Rethink Your Drink.
- Coordinated and facilitated meeting with Somerset County Nutrition Directors to finalize Somerset School Nutrition Training
- Three schools in Somerset County are implementing Smarter Lunchroom strategies (MSAD54, MSAD59, and MSAD74).
- SPH Coordinated meeting with Somerset County Jail with plans to lay the foundation for the 10 by 20 greenhouse Mid-March.
- SPH has successfully established 10 indoor walking clubs in Somerset County.
- The Village Design Committee supported the completion of the Master Trail Plan in December 2023. The Plan presents a collaborative vision for improving and enhancing trails to bolster outdoor recreation, community health and wellness, and economic growth.
- SPH coordinated and facilitated meetings with breastfeeding support and education workgroup at Redington Fairview General Hospital.

Central District

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3/21/24

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District: Cumberland	Date: 3/20/24
<p>** Division of Public Health Systems: District Public Health, Rural Health and Primary Care and Oral Health; PH Emergency Preparedness, Data, Research and Vital Statistics</p> <p>Agendas and minutes available on district’s webpage: https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/mecdc/public-health-systems/lphd/district2/council-main.shtml</p> <p>Ongoing or upcoming Public Health Council projects or priority issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ DCC Meetings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ January 19th ➤ Cathy Bean Kelley presented on Vaccinating Vulnerable Populations during Covid-19. A “Year in Review” document for the Council in 2023 was shared <p>Some Highlights:</p> <p>The CDPHC held 6 Bi-Monthly meetings Elected 3 Executive Council members and 6 Voting members Awarded \$80,400 in Health Equity Funding to Preble Street Hosted over 220 participants to discuss 15 key PH topics Issued a Statement on Health Risks for People Experiencing Homelessness</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Bridget Rauscher, Portland Public Health and Deputy Chief John Kooistra, Windham Fire Rescue, and Cheryl Brewer, Dispatch presented on Narcan and Hands-Only CPR. ➤ March 15th ➤ Focus of the meeting was prevention: tobacco cessation and substance use prevention, with presentations from Maine Prevention Network awardee, Cumberland County Public Health, the Center for Tobacco Independence, and other local prevention partners- Westbrook Partners for Prevention, and Be the Influence (Windham and Raymond). <p>Ongoing or upcoming District projects or priority issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Selected Dates of note in Cumberland District: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ February 7th, Briefing on TB and Schools for Brunswick Partners ➤ March 4th, Wastewater Surveillance Briefing ➤ March 5th, Birthing Doula Services in Maine Briefing ➤ March 8th, LHO Networking and Information Session ➤ March 11th, District Data Pot-Luck 	

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In-district or multi-district collaborations:

- Cumberland District Vaccination Coordination meetings, with DPH, MIP, PHN, healthcare providers, and community partners, have been paused and will be called on an ad-hoc basis. Regular updates continue to be shared via mailing list.
- A Maine CDC Cumberland District Public Health Unit meeting was held on 3/12/24, with participation from HIP, PHN, DPH, ID/EPI, and Director Va
- Maine CDC Director and DL conducted a site visit to the SBHC at Portland High School, on March 12th, where health, mental health, and oral health services are available to a diverse population of students and parents/caregivers
- Maine DEP contacted DL on 3/14/24 regarding community concerns about potential negative health impacts from a 46,000 ton pile of coal, and the resulting coal dust exposures to residents. DL is following up with Maine CDC EH team, Portland Public Health, and other partners.

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

Ongoing or upcoming District projects or priority issues:

- ID/Epi is responding to on-going Hepatitis A cases, including exposures at two Westbrook restaurants in February, with many potential community exposures
- Wastewater surveillance shows high levels of norovirus in Cumberland District
- Cumberland DIS continues to call for sustained education for the public and providers to include syphilis testing in routine health exams, especially for pregnant people.

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:

- 5 PHNs plus Supervisor are currently assigned to Cumberland District. 2 additional FTEs are yet to be filled.
- Recruitment is going well, and no turnover in the past 5 months
- District MCH PHNs are being trained to conduct car seat checks
- PHN continue to respond to a large number of TB and LTBI cases in Cumberland District.
- Reminder from PHN that referrals can be made for prenatal visits too.
- The State of Maine and PHN Contractors provided 403 individual client visits in February to Perinatal and LTBI families for Cumberland County. This # does not include active TB clients!

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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:

- HIP provided education and assistance at the January 11th Maine Ag Trades Show Agritourism Summit.
- HIP staff attended EPI Ready course for outbreak investigations February 14 & 15
- HIP staff conducted on-site inspections at the Maine Tattoo Convention in Portland February 16-18
- Since January 2024, 9 Boil Water Orders have been issued in towns in Cumberland County, as a result of presence of E. Coli or pump failures.
- Since January 2024, two Do Not Drink orders were issued for businesses in Cumberland County.

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 October 2023:

HEAL:

- The HEAL and SUPS team leads, in collaboration with local Drug Free Communities Coalition SOPO Unite, established a team of 8 South Portland High School students to develop a transportation advocacy initiative in their community.
- The HEAL team began a landscape analysis for swimming and swim lesson opportunities in Cumberland County, conducting key informant interviews with 8 partners across schools, Parks and Recreation Departments, and nonprofits.

Tobacco and SUPS:

- Cumberland County Public Health approach combines tobacco and SUP work, and the TSUPs team presented at the 3/15/24 DCC meeting.
- The TSUPs team is focusing on relationship building, and GTSA scans with local schools.
- A planning process for vaping and cannabis has been started with Lake Region schools.
- Cumberland County Public Health is conducting a search to fill a vacant Multi-cultural Specialist position.

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

- The OPHE office held a Regional Communities Forum meeting for greater Portland on 3/14/24, with a presentation from MANA

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Ongoing or upcoming District projects or priority issues:

➤ N/A

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Template updated 03/2023.

District: Downeast (Hancock and Washington Counties)	Date: March 21, 2024
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 2024: January 19, March 15, May 17, July 19, September 20, and November 15.	
Topic: Review and Prioritize LPHSA and Shared CHNA Data to develop a one-year district infrastructure improvement plan. (January 19)	
Site: Zoom	
Sponsor/Facilitation: Executive Committee during breakout sessions.	
Topic: Extreme Temperature Response Plan Focus Group / District Infrastructure Improvement Plan Committee Objectives: Emergency Preparedness, Chronic Disease Prevention, Mental Health, and Older Adults Services (March 15)	
Site: Zoom	
Sponsor/Facilitation: Rebecca Lincoln and Consultants facilitate focus group and survey; Executive Committee during committee breakout sessions.	
Ongoing or upcoming Public Health Council projects or priority issues:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Local Public Health System Assessment (LHPSA) Report Review and Determine Priorities. ➤ Align district committee work with LPHSA and national/state outcome measures. ➤ County Health Rankings on March 20. 	
Ongoing or upcoming District projects or priority issues:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Facilitate assessment of maternal and child health services in Washington County. ➤ 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. 	
In-district or multi-district collaborations:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 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. 	

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- 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.

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

Ongoing or upcoming District projects or priority issues:

- HAN: Influenza, Covid-19, and RSV Guidelines (03/14/2024)
- Statewide Hepatitis A, B, and C Planning Committee Strategic Planning
- HAN: Measles Activity, Populations at Risk, and Prevention (03/07/2024)
- HAN: New cases of HIV with comorbidity with hepatitis C in people who inject drugs (02/26/2024)

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:

- Maternal and Child Health Services
- Conducted Covid and Influenza Vaccine Clinics in Washington County
- Building Case management for Maternal and Child Health Services

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
- Considering 2024 public health training and exercises in relation to New Brunswick Canada Point LePreau Nuclear Power Plant in collaboration with Radiation Control Program.

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 December 2023 – February 2024:** (Healthy Acadia staff provide the prevention work in Downeast)

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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Healthy Eating, Active Living (HEAL)

- ❖ We hosted a School Nutrition Workgroup meeting with sixteen participants. “Think Kids Don’t Like Fish” guest speakers were well received.
- ❖ We facilitated PALS virtual training through Downeast Community Partners that reached seven sites with fifteen providers in attendance resulting in three new GoNAPSACC registered guests.
- ❖ We attended the School Wellness Summit where new school contacts were established including Blue Hill, MDI, Tremont, Cave Hill and Ella Lewis. Identified opportunity to support School Wellness Policy updates needed at fifteen Downeast schools: Baileyville, Bar Harbor, Blue Hill, Brooksville, Castine, East Range, Kids Peace, Mount Desert Public, MSAD 76, Mt Desert CSD, Princeton, Southwest Harbor, Surry, Tremont, and Trenton.
- ❖ We collaborated with Healthy Acadia’s Community Outreach Coordinator to present to sixty students and five staff at Hancock County Technical Center (HCTC) on work-life balance topics, including Re-Think Your Drink, Mindful Eating, Mindful Exercise, and What Matters Most.
- ❖ In support of the Gleaning Initiative, Healthy Acadia used MPN HEAL funds to develop, operate and promote the remote produce storage space on Mount Desert Island. During this reporting period, the storage space helped increase fresh food availability at three food security organizations: Bar Harbor Food Pantry, Common Good Soup Kitchen, and Open Table MDI. These organizations collectively serve 2,724 individuals on a monthly basis.
- ❖ We followed up with the farmers and the organizers for the Senior Farm Shares at the two tribal communities in Washington County. Both farmers are excited to continue with the collaboration in the 2024 growing season and to potentially increase the number of shares available.
- ❖ We provided ongoing support to the Machias Area Food Pantry to get a community meal launched. We were able to secure a grant from the University of Southern Maine’s Mitchell Center to upgrade their kitchen and offer weekly community dinners.

Substance Use Prevention

- ❖ Researched community partners with existing cannabis policies and outreached to municipalities around their interest in adding/updating cannabis language to their policies.
- ❖ Worked with two businesses on the tobacco mini-grant application that includes language around cannabis.
- ❖ Worked on a draft Op-Ed related to safe storage and disposal of prescription medication. When this is ready for distribution, the intent is to include information related to Deterra bag distribution.
- ❖ Worked on prescription safe storage and disposal planning and resource development for realtors during open-house events. This included speaking with several realtors, workshopping real estate needs, and creating a list of contacts for future implementation.
- ❖ Communicate risks of cannabis consumption by kids and pets and promoted safe storage of cannabis and cannabis edibles via newsletter, website blog, and social media (Facebook & Instagram).

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Statewide Coordinating Council for Public Health District Project Update

Public Health
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- ❖ Regarding coalition meetings, sent an email to certain police departments in Hancock County, explaining the coalition, expressing compassion for the challenges of their public service, and inviting first responders to join for meetings as their busy schedules allowed.
- ❖ Met by phone with the Coordinating Nurse of Downeast Community Partners' (DCP) Maternal/Child Home Health Nursing Program to discuss her work with pregnant women in the Downeast District and aligning with possible needs coming from substance use, transportation, and mental health.
- ❖ Met by Zoom with three members of HA's Prosper Team to discuss ideas related to preventing substance use in pregnant women in the Downeast District. Staff discussed stigma, transportation, healthcare, connection, and myriad other factors.
- ❖ Barriers for putting RBS training on the books include being at the disposal of local businesses and their schedules. Businesses often have many competing demands and must accommodate and coordinate large numbers of staff members as well as meeting space for training.
- ❖ Stickers were posted to alcohol products at multiple business sites in both counties.
- ❖ Promoted responsible celebrations, keeping substances (alcohol, cannabis, prescriptions) out of reach of children and pets, impaired driving prevention – via newsletter, website blog, and social media (Facebook, Instagram).
- ❖ Multiple youth resilience training and ongoing support for youth leadership programs at high schools.
- ❖ Participated in planning with Cobscook Institute, MYAN, and Hardy Girls for Days of Learning Youth Matters sessions.

Tobacco Prevention: no report provided.

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

- Maine CDC is proceeding with the re-accreditation process with submission to the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) scheduled for June 2024.
- Maine CDC has created an operational strategic plan that will be implemented by divisions and programs during 2024.

Health and Environmental Testing Laboratory

- Ongoing collaboration with lab for securing appropriate well testing kits for municipal-based well water testing days.

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.

22 M.R.S. §412 (2011).

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Statewide Coordinating Council for Public Health District Update

Public Health
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Template updated 03/2023

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

Date: March 21st, 2024

**** 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/district4/publications.shtml>

Dates of note in the Midcoast District:

- Midcoast Public Health Council (MPHC) Meeting: April 9th, 2024 via Zoom. Dr. Va is the featured speaker on Maine CDC’s future vision and goals.
- Midcoast Public Health Council (MPHC) Steering Committee Meeting via Zoom on May 14th 2024
- Midcoast Public Health Unit (PHU) meeting was held on March 13, 2024.

Ongoing or upcoming Public Health Council projects or priority issues:

- The Midcoast Public Health District’s Public Health Infrastructure Improvement Grant to the County of Lincoln ran into delays early in this quarter due to the radio systems contractor needing to focus on statewide emergency repairs resulting from winter storms. Upgrades to the County Emergency Communications System are now back on track.
- The MPHC meeting held on February 9, 2024, focused on the concept of resilience building through positive social relationships in adolescence through the lifespan. Speakers included Delvina Merimadi-Belvino from Maine Resilience Building Network (MRBN) and Lee Ann Dodge from City of South Portland.
- Annual Membership election for the Midcoast Public Health Council was completed at our Feb 2024 meeting. The Council has elected a new Co-Chair Jemma Penberthy from Waldo County General Hospital (WCGH) and Penobscot Bay Medical Center (PBMC). Jamie Lovley from Penobscot Bay Community Health Partnerships and Larissa Hannan from Healthy Lincoln County joined the Council and its Steering Committee. Patrick Walsh from the Belfast Climate Committee was voted in as a new member, Chris Lyman was re-elected as the District representative to the Statewide Coordinating Council, and several current Council members renewed their membership.

District Name: Midcoast

**** 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 Update

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Ongoing or upcoming District projects or priority issues:

➤ MPHCC committee work concerning the Council priorities of Social Determinants of Health, Access to Care, and Mental Health continues. During the next MPHCC meeting in April committee chair's will be providing an update on the progress of their workplans with district council members.

In-district or multi-district collaborations:

- Work continues by an ad hoc District group to prepare for requests from New Mainers who relocate to the District.
- Midcoast Public Health Unit (PHU) meeting held on March 13th focused on opportunities to collaborate within the unit.
- Public Health Educators (PHEs) and Local Health Officer Coordinator Heather Sneff have created a robust internal public health library and resource page designed to be easily accessible and shared across the Division of Public Health.

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

➤ Megan Kelley, our District epidemiologist is recommending Hepatitis A (HAV) and Hepatitis B (HBV) vaccines as many Maine cases have not been vaccinated or fully vaccinated.

** Division of Public Health Nursing

➤ Public Health Nursing (PHN) Supervisor Brooke Payne reports that Betsey Shell, RN joined the Midcoast Public Health District in March 2024.

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

➤ The Health Inspection Program has advertised for a new Rockland-based Health Inspector. Dean Jackson, our long-time Health Inspector has retired.

District Name: Midcoast

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Statewide Coordinating Council for Public Health District Update

Public Health
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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 December 2023-February 2024

- Mid Coast District MPN Healthy Eating and Active Living (HEAL) staff:
 - Have been working with Maine State Breast Feeding Coalition (MSBC) and MaineHealth to create and distribute a workplace toolkit for breast/chest feeding parents. They are also working with local WIC coordinators and health systems champions to review data and identify barriers to breast/chest feeding.
 - Lincoln County MPN HEAL has engaged more than 600 plus students and community members in the Winter Physical Activity Challenge to promote opportunities for winter physical activity alongside local YMCA's and the Local Coastal Rivers Land Trust.
 - MPN HEAL Staff attended the 2024 Fisherman's Forum and promoted the 2024 Winter Physical Activity Challenge that included an Outdoor Recreational Digital Map and attendees received promotional business cards with a QR Code to the map. Sagadahoc County MPN HEAL staff collaborated with Maine Fisherman's Association to create healthy eating resource with meal planning and snack ideas.
 - Knox/Waldo County MPN HEAL Staff worked with both Mt View Elementary and Middle schools and Union Elementary School (Knox) to offset the lack of accessibility of walking or biking to school to encourage schools to implement a 100 Mile Club or Winter Kids Program.

Midcoast Substance Use Prevention Activities:

- Mid Coast Hospital: September was a busy month for SUPS staff at MCH, especially as attendance at back-to-school events in our local school districts were in high demand. We attended both middle and high school open houses at Mt. Ararat, Richmond, and More school districts. Staff also attended learning opportunities with MYAN, webinars regarding various substance related topics, and community events and coalition meetings that allowed for networking.

District Name: Midcoast

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22 M.R.S. §412 (2011).

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Statewide Coordinating Council for Public Health District Update

- Health Lincoln County (HLC): HLC’s focus in September was the return to school and working with educators to plan and schedule primary prevention education in middle and high schools in Lincoln County. We kicked off the month with a film screening at the Lincoln Theater and the wrap up of our International Overdose Awareness Day event, 716 Candles. Post-event cleanup and preparation for an October 11th Community Debriefing for 716 Candles were required after the event. Planning meetings were held with educators from Lincoln Academy, Medomak Valley High School, Medomak Middle School, Wiscasset Elementary School (5th & 6th grade), South Bristol School, Great Salt Bay School, Boothbay High School, CLC YMCA, and Bridging Education. We resumed our Parent Newsletter Partnership with Lincoln Academy and continued our efforts to raise awareness around Narcan availability and training. As we turned toward October, we began planning our promotional campaign for National Drug Take Back Day.
- OUT Maine: OUT Maine is developing systems to deliver content and best meet the needs of the communities we are working in. By partnering with the Midcoast we will be able to cater our work to those specific needs in each community. The OUT Maine programming team is looking forward to working with the Midcoast to host parent/family events and to support schools and other youth serving orgs in the Midcoast in adopting recommendations from the Best Practices guide.

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

- District Public Health Staff received a presentation from Janine Bonk from Maine CDC Breast and Cervical Health Program.

District Name: Midcoast

4

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Statewide Coordinating Council for Public Health District Project Update

Public Health
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24 Template updated 03/2023

District: Penquis	Date: 03/23/24
** 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 the district’s webpage:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Dates of note in Penquis District: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Next DCC Meeting: June 7, 2024 	
Ongoing or upcoming Public Health Council projects or priority issues:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Presentation on Ticks, Tickborne Diseases, and Browntail Moths - Browntail Moths: Forest Health Perspective - Maine Integrated Youth Health Survey (MIYHS) Key Findings 2024 	
Ongoing or upcoming District projects or priority issues:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Continued Progress on the Health Equity Funding Project Northern Light/EMMC ➤ Shared SHCNA ➤ HIV/ HEP C Intervention ➤ Health Care Coalition of Maine 	
In-district or multi-district collaborations:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ HIV/ HEP C Intervention ➤ Shared SHCNA 	
** Division of Disease Surveillance; Infectious Disease Epidemiology; Infectious Disease Prevention, Maine Immunization Program	
Ongoing or upcoming District projects or priority issues:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Highlight completed activities conducted by HIV/STI/Viral Hepatitis Prevention Program: From October 2023 through February 23, 2024, the HIV/STI/Viral Hepatitis Prevention Program has identified three new HIV diagnoses among people who inject drugs (PWID) in Penobscot County. Two of the individuals were unhoused and reported sharing or reusing injection drug equipment. All three individuals 	

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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Statewide Coordinating Council for Public Health District Project Update

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were co-infected with hepatitis C virus (HCV). In response to this increase in HIV diagnoses among PWID, a health alert network (HAN) message was distributed on 2/26/2024 with additional recommendations for healthcare providers and organizations serving PWID. The HIV/STI/Viral Hepatitis Prevention Program is working with community partners to increase access to HIV and HCV testing among people at risk.

****Field Epidemiologist: No update provided*****

**** Division of Public Health Nursing**

Ongoing or upcoming District projects or priority issues:

➤ -In partnership with Northern Light Mayo Hospital we re-established the in-person “Baby & Me Support Group.” This support group is for prenatal and postpartum mothers and babies and is held each Wednesday from 12:30 p.m.-1:30 p.m., at Mayo Hospital.

-In partnership with Maine Families we started “Mom Connection Support Group”, which provides in-person pre-natal and postpartum support to families of the Northern Penobscot area at the Millinocket Memorial Library every other Thursday from 1:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m.

-Penobscot & Piscataquis counties have seen 213 referrals since January 1, 2024, with 16.33% of the state’s referrals. This is an increase of 73 referrals and 5.33% in total state referrals from last year at this time.

-Partnering with UMA nursing students to allow them to shadow in the PHN role.

-Attended Nurture ME conference.

-Attended the UMaine Job Fair.

**** 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:

➤ Health Inspections

· HIP quarterly staff meeting February 28-29, 2024, and April 9-10, 2024.

· HIP webinar overview for Local Health Officers scheduled for February 27, 2024.

· HIP provided education and assistance at the January 11, 2024, Maine Ag Trades Show Agritourism Summit.

· HIP staff to attend EPI Ready course for outbreak investigations February 14 & 15, 2024.

· Maine Tattoo Convention Portland Maine February 16-18, 2024. Health inspectors will be on site to inspect and approve the license.

strict Name: Aroostook

2

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Statewide Coordinating Council for Public Health District Project Update

Public Health
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- EXPO Hospitality Maine March 27, 2024. This is a food service expo. Health Inspectors will be on-site providing education and assisting restaurant owners with their questions.
- December 2023, Tobacco Licensing was moved from HIP’s Tracker database to ALMS which has more efficient features to include online applications, emailing renewals, and allowing licensees to print their licenses.
- Health Inspector Karen Jacobs transferred back to Aroostook County District A.
- HIP Inspector for Rockland District C has been posted.
- Stacy Boudreau was hired in November 2023 as the health inspector for Augusta District F.

Ongoing or upcoming District projects or priority issues:

- Maine DWP

America Rescue Plan (ARP) funding continues to be used for the PFAS treatment approval process, installation, and inspection of PFAS removal systems throughout the state. Installations have successfully been done at Community classified systems such as elderly apartment complexes, as well as other housing facilities. There is now also in the planning stages, a PFAS removal treatment system installation for a large state institution. Many more PFAS removal treatment installations are in the planning stages. PFAS removal systems also have successfully been done for Non-Transient/Non-Community classified public water systems, which are usually predominantly public schools. These institutions are operating on private well water and through extensive testing, require a PFAS removal treatment installation.

Lead Line Service Inventories for all Community, Municipal, and Non-Transient/Non-Community classified water systems (such as schools as one example) are commencing now. The purpose is to identify lead in this portion of the potable water system supply to the facilities and replace any lead and lead-associated fixture components identified with safe non-lead materials.

The Public Water System Inspection team of the DWP has a new Supervisor of Inspections Manager. Maraquita Hollman came over from the Maine CDC from the Division of Disease Prevention and has filled that position for our Drinking Water Program. We all welcome Maraquita to the Maine Drinking Water 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 conducted by Maine Prevention Network Contractor/ Subcontractors during December 2023-February 202Chronic Disease Prevention HEAL Updates:**

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Statewide Coordinating Council for Public Health District Project Update

Healthy Eating

- In Penobscot County, the January meeting of the Food AND Medicine Food Council (FAMFC) featured a guest speaker who delivered a one-hour talk about implementing Community Fridges. A total of 16 people attended the meeting, some of whom had not attended FAMFC before. MPN HEAL staff promoted the meeting so that five new people representing three organizations attended the talk.
- In Piscataquis County, the Piscataquis Food Access Alliance (food council) was formed. Ten partners attended this first meeting with plans to meet bi-monthly. MPN HEAL staff has conducted outreach to increase partner attendance.
- In Piscataquis County, one Free Produce Pop-Up Market was held at Northern Light Mayo Hospital in December in partnership with Piscataquis Regional Food Center. A total of 1,600 pounds of fresh produce was given at no cost to employees and community members.
- Penquis MPN HEAL staff convened a meeting of the district-wide school nutrition group. A presentation was given by three guest speakers on the procurement and incorporation of local seafood in school meals. Three school nutrition staff from the Penquis district (Bangor, Millinocket, and RSU 68) attended the one-hour training. This group has representation from six school districts (AOS 94, Bangor, Millinocket, RSU 22, AOS 94, and RSU 68). These meetings provide opportunities for school nutrition staff to share ideas for promoting school meals,

strict Name: Aroostook

4

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utilizing initiatives such as Farm and Sea to School, and other opportunities that increase healthy eating in K-12 schools.

Active Living

- In Penobscot County, the Physical Activity Club at Katahdin Elementary School’s Afterschool Program has continued with seven students completing a total of nine and one-half miles.
- In Piscataquis County, the Physical Activity Club at SeDoMoCha’s Afterschool Program has continued with 14 students completing a minimum of 30 miles and the highest achiever completing 55 miles.
- In Piscataquis County, the Physical Activity Club at Piscataquis Secondary School has continued with 143 students completing at least 10 miles and the highest achiever completing 105 miles.
- Penquis MPN HEAL staff, in collaboration with Maine Roads to Quality, presented professional development for ECE providers on “Best Practices for Physical Activity for Toddlers.” In attendance from the district were eight providers representing four ECE locations.

Lactation

- In Penobscot County, a prenatal, postpartum, and lactation support group (The Mom Connection) was started for families in Northern Penobscot County. The group is a collaboration between HEAL and WIC staff at Bangor Public Health along with Penquis Maine Families and Maine State Public Health Nursing. The group will meet every other week at the Millinocket Memorial Library. The first meeting convened on February 29 with two staff and two participants in attendance.
- In Piscataquis County, NLH Mayo, WIC, and Maine State Public Health Nursing started a prenatal, postpartum, and lactation support group (Baby & Me). The group launched on January 14 and meets weekly with virtual and in-person options available.

strict Name: Aroostook

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Statewide Coordinating Council for Public Health District Project Update

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● Penquis MPN HEAL is collaborating with the Maine State Breastfeeding Coalition to assist in developing a state-wide Workplace Lactation Recognition Program for workplaces as part of a Toolkit for Employers to support lactation in the workplace.

➤ **Highlight completed activities conducted by Maine Prevention Network Contractor/ Subcontractors:**
November 2023

- Emphasis on Community Action Plan, FY24 Work Plan, and logic model update.
- Striving for improvement in programmatic and financial reporting.
- Block Grant Activities:
 - Educational sessions and social media posts on cannabis and addiction.
 - Attendance at meetings, webinars, and trainings related to prevention efforts.
- PFS Activities:
 - Participation in cannabis-related events and webinars.
 - Outreach to afterschool programs and youth-serving entities.
- SOR:
 - Not currently utilizing SOR funding.
- ARPA1513 and ARPA 15SP:
 - Distribution of safe storage items and informational material.
 - Social media campaigns on substance misuse prevention.
- Prevention & Treatment Fund (OP&T):
 - Planning sessions and outreach to schools for Prevention Plus Wellness program.
 - Research on evidence-based practices and engagement with school districts.

November 2023 Report Overview

- Penquis District: Focused on Community Action Plan, FY24 Work Plan, logic model.
- Emphasize improved programmatic, financial reporting.
- Block Grant Activities:
 - Bangor Public Health (BPH): Trainings, social media outreach.
 - Mayo: Planning meetings, events, substance use prevention.

PFS Activities:

- BPH: Cannabis-related events, outreach to afterschool programs.
- Mayo: Student sessions, RBS training, webinars, LGBTQ+ meetings.
- SOR: BPH not using funding, Mayo planning Narcan training, harm reduction guide.
- ARPA1513:
 - BPH: Planned training on cannabis use during pregnancy.
- ARPA 15SP:

strict Name: Aroostook

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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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- BPH: Distribution of lock boxes, social media posts.
- OP&T:
 - BPH: Planning Prevention Plus Wellness workshops in schools.
 - Barriers: School capacity, staff turnover.
 - Mayo: Researching new evidence-based practices, outreach to schools.

December 2023

- Strategies targeted retailers, healthcare providers, social services, youth, and adults in rural areas of Penobscot and Piscataquis counties.
- Achievements included educational sessions, community meetings, and resource distribution.
- Challenges included reporting and invoicing issues, holiday observance, and power outages.
- All staff participated in programmatic and financial reporting despite these challenges.
- Initiatives covered various grants including Block Grant, PFS, SOR, ARPA1513, ARPA 15SP, and Prevention & Treatment Fund (OP&T).
- Activities involved education, training, community engagement, and program planning.
- Future plans include continued program development and collaboration efforts.
- Overall, despite obstacles, significant progress was made in December 2023.

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

None provided.

Health and Environmental Testing Laboratory

None provided

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Statewide Coordinating Council for Public Health District Project Update

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Template updated 02/2024

District: Western	Date: 3/21/24
** 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, May 7, 2024 9am-11am <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 membership. <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. ➤ SCHNA planning with district partners. ➤ Coordinating solar eclipse logistics with Franklin County EMA. ➤ Ongoing work with Office of Behavioral Health surrounding Lewiston shooting recovery response. ➤ Support continued outreach efforts regarding December flood recovery and disaster response in Franklin, Oxford and Androscoggin Counties. <p>In-district or multi-district collaborations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Infrastructure grant awarded to community partner, Sacopee Valley Health Center. Working with MCD and partner to monitor project's progress through 2024. 	
** 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 flu and norovirus in Androscoggin County. ➤ Epi team will be doing "Tick Talks" for tick season. <p>Infectious Disease Prevention:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Lot of work currently steered to spike in HIV in Penobscot County. General awareness, health checks, and outreach in Western District, etc. 	

District Name: Western

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Immunization:

- Many covid vaccines left, working to get those distributed. Working with OPHE partners through Bridge program. Assisting with Hep A vaccination when needed and keeping 100 doses on hand.
- Working on translating school vaccine records for New Mainer students with foreign medical records to support any catch-up vaccines.

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:

- Now fully staffed in District 3.
- Training on rapid HIV Testing for staff.

**** 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:

Wastewater:

- Trying to hire a new position for private well water.

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:

- Public Health Educators training providers on asthma self-management
- New data initiative for asthma from EPA available
- Maine Cervical and Breast Health program is working on outreach to district partners.

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:

- OPHE hired a new program manager.
- Monthly community forum in Androscoggin County on third Thursdays to coordinate community partners.

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: 3/21/2024
** 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"> • Next DCC Meeting: March 18th and the meeting will focus on the Maine CDC Diabetes Program and the working of the Maine Prevention Network contractors on Healthy Eating and Active Living work. For more information about diabetes please see the link below. • https://rethinkdiabetesmaine.org/ 	
<p>Ongoing or upcoming Public Health Council projects or priority issues:</p> <p>➤ The district has been working to finalize the Local Public Health Systems Assessment (LPHSA). The LPHSA will then be utilized to help plan future activities.</p>	
<p>Ongoing or upcoming District projects or priority issues:</p> <p>➤ The District Coordinating Council will work with the Shared Community Health Assessment planning team to conduct a stakeholder forum before the fall.</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 a membership gap analysis for the Healthcare Coalitions of York District to help revitalize the emergency preparedness efforts of public health and healthcare systems.</p>	
<p>York and Cumberland Districts are working conjunctly on an women's health initiative. More information to follow.</p>	
<p>Rural Health and Primary Care</p> <p>➤ The New England Rural Health Association (NERHA) is inviting you to join a three-part webinar series presented by 3RNET. This series is called "Recruitment for Retention Strategies for Rural and</p>	

strict Name: Aroostook

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Statewide Coordinating Council for Public Health District Project Update

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Underserved Communities". It will follow 3RNET's recruiting for retention guiding principles and best practices. It will evaluate current workforce trends driving today's job market and discuss how this impacts your hiring abilities. The first webinar will be held on February 2, 2024 from 10:00 - 11:30 AM EST. For more information on the other webinars and for information on how to register, please see this [NERHA & 3RNET Webinar Series Flyer \(PDF\)](#)

- The Department of Health and Human Services Office of Climate Change and Health Equity (OCCHE) is leading a program over the next couple of months to assist safety net healthcare organizations take advantage of tax credits and grant programs created by the Inflation Reduction Act. They are offering a series of webinars and break out sessions to help hospitals, health centers and other providers learn how to successfully access and take advantage of these programs. Please go to Catalytic Program on [Utilizing the IRA | HHS.gov](#) to learn more about this program and to sign up for the webinars if this is of interest to your hospital.

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

Ongoing or upcoming District projects or priority issues:

1. <https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/mecdc/infectious-disease/epi/publications/index.shtml>
 - a. The section on Annual Reports breaks down disease surveillance by county, York included.
2. <https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/mecdc/newhan.shtml>
 - a. Every HAN we send out is a direct link to every major pre/post investigations/outbreaks we engage in.
3. The Infectious Disease Program continues to monitor Hepatitis A in York County. Also seeing prevalence of covid, RSV, and flu circulating within York County.

<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 continues to add staff who provide essential services in Maine communities. In October and early November, new hires in Augusta, Portland, Rockland, and Bangor have continued to increase the statewide number of Public Health Nurses.

strict Name: Aroostook

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Statewide Coordinating Council for Public Health District Project Update

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- Public Health Nurses from York and Cumberland Counties are continue to offer 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:** Lead & Copper Rule Revision/Lead Service Line Inventories: All Community and Non-transient, Non-community (NTNC) public water systems must develop and submit a comprehensive and accurate inventory of every service line in their distribution system, regardless of whether any lead is present. Inventories must be completed by October 16, 2024. Lead Service Line Inventory templates are now available for download. The DWP encourages all applicable PWS to begin work on their Service Line Inventories as soon as possible.
- Voice: (207) 287-2070
- Emergency: (207) 557-4214
- TTY: Maine relay 711
- **Health Inspection Program:** The Health Inspection Program exists to provide licensing and inspection services for several different types of businesses to protect the public 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.

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

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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.
- 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

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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.

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:

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221 State St., Augusta, Maine 04333

Telephone:

207-287-2727

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