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Governor

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Commissioner



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**Statewide Coordinating Council for Public Health  
Meeting Minutes of September 16<sup>th</sup>, 2021  
Held Virtually on Zoom  
10:30am – 12pm  
Attendees:**

Seat	Roll Call	Name	Organization	Representing
1	X	Betsy Kelly	Southern Maine Healthcare	York District
2	X	Courtney Kennedy	Good Shepherd Food Bank	Cumberland District
3	Absent	Erin Guay	Central Maine Healthcare and Healthy Androscoggin	Western District
4	X	Melissa Fochesato	Mid Coast Hospital	MidCoast District
5	X	Denise Delorie	Mid Maine Substance Use Prevention	Central District
6	X	Patty Hamilton	Bangor Public Health Department	Penquis District
7	X	Maria Donahue	Healthy Acadia	Downeast District
8	X	Susan Bouchard	Fish River Rural Health	Aroostook District
9	X	James Markiewicz	Maine CDC	State Government
10	Vacant			Department of Health and Human Services
11	X	Emily Poland	Maine Department of Education	Department of Education
12	X	Kerri Malinowski	Department of Environmental Protection	Department of Environmental Protection
13	Vacant			Essential Public Health Services
14	Absent	Kalie Hess	Partnership for Children's Oral Health	Essential Public Health Services
15	Absent	Elisabeth Snell	University of Maine	Essential Public Health Services
16	X	Susan Kring	Maine Medical Association	Essential Public Health Services
17	X	Abusana "Mickey" Bondo	In Her Presence	Essential Public Health Services
18	X	Erika Ziller	USM	Essential Public Health Services
19	X	Sue Mackey-Andrews	Maine Highlands Investment Partnership	Essential Public Health Services
20	X	Joanne LeBrun	Tri County EMS	Essential Public Health Services
21	X	Abdelkarim Said	New Mainers Public Health Institute	Essential Public Health Services
22	Vacant			Tribal District
23	X	Carol Zechman	MaineHealth	Essential Public Health Services

Attending: 17; Attending by Phone: 0; Zoom: 17; Planned Absent: 1; Absent: 2; Vacant Seat: \_  
Total Council Makeup: 21

Total Voting Members Attending: 17 out of 21 = 81%. Simple majority is defined as quorum. Quorum **Achieved**

Interested Parties and Stakeholders:

Nancy Birkhimer	Maine CDC, Public Health Performance Improvement
Stacy Boucher	Maine CDC, District Public Health
Rebecca Boulos	MPHA
Larry Clifford	MCoA M-Dash
Andrew Finch	Maine CDC
Jessica Fogg	Maine CDC, District Public Health
Maura Goss	Maine CDC
Adam Hartwig	Maine CDC, District Public Health
Kristine Jenkins	Maine CDC, District Public Health
Jess Maurer	Maine Council on Aging
Al May	Maine CDC, District Public Health
Dora Ann Mills	MaineHealth
Michelle Mitchell	Partnerships for Health
Jo Morrissey	Maine CDC, Maine Shared CHNA
Kelsey Robinson	Healthy Lincoln County
Effie Rorke	This Land Consulting; M-DASH, Data Manager
Kini Tinkham	MRBN
Drexell White	Maine CDC, District Public Health
Emilee Winn Caradonna	Maine CDC

<b>MEETING NOTES</b>		
<b>Agenda:</b>	<b>Discussion:</b>	<b>Actions/Resources:</b>
<b>Welcome and introductions:</b> James Markiewicz, MeCDC	James welcomed participants and gave an overview of the agenda for the day.	
<b>Council Business:</b> James Markiewicz	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Approval of June minutes – Patty Hamilton motioned to approve minutes and Sue Bouchard seconded the motion. The June draft minutes were approved with a count of 13 yeses.</li> <li>Review of selection process for new members – James sent an email to members regarding membership nominations. Members sit for a 3-year term and will start December 2021. Email your ballot to James by Friday, October 15<sup>th</sup> at: <a href="mailto:James.markiewicz@maine.gov">James.markiewicz@maine.gov</a></li> <li>Call for SCC Chair – Please consider approaching your fellow members to discuss nominating them to serve as Chair. Once you’ve approached a member and they have agreed to be put forward, please email James. Patty Hamilton is willing to share insight regarding the Chair position and may be reached at: <a href="mailto:patty.hamilton@bangormaine.gov">patty.hamilton@bangormaine.gov</a></li> </ul>	Chair may hold a one- or two-year seat. Please review SCC Bylaws to confirm.

**System Partner Update:**

- Rebecca Boulos, Maine Public Health Association (MPHA) – shared legislative advocacy efforts and upcoming trainings with the group. MPHA submitted testimony on about 90 bills this session, however noted the difficulties presented with lobbying due to the virtual nature of this session. Becca shared their work with bills including LD1423, LD1639, LD1626, LD1523, and LD1639. MPHA is also offering trainings for health professionals to combat Covid-19 misinformation as well as hosting their annual conference. For more information, please email Becca at: [executivedirector@mainepublichealth.org](mailto:executivedirector@mainepublichealth.org) or visit: [www.mainepublichealth.org/](http://www.mainepublichealth.org/)
- Emily Poland, Maine Department of Education (DOE) – shared an overview on the general statuses of schools in Maine in regard to Covid-19. The Maine DOE is bolstering their team of School Public Health Regional Liaisons to support schools. As of today, 78 schools have completed 1366 pooled tests, which help keep more students in school. To date, pooled testing has 11,000 students and staff members. Efforts to combat Covid-19 should not be done in isolation; a combination of masking, social distancing and testing will best support schools. Emily highlighted the wonderful work the school nurses have done, especially as the school year started with a surge of a variant that impacts youth.
- Jo Morrissey, Maine Shared Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) – shared slides reviewing the status of the Maine Shared CHNA efforts, as well as their piloted outreach for additional input to involve as many different perspectives. Please see attached slides, and visit [www.MaineCHNA.org/](http://www.MaineCHNA.org/) for more information or to register for events.
- Al May, Maine CDC, State Public Health System Assessment (SPHSA) – shared slides and reported out on the next steps for the SPHSA. After completing 10 sessions in August, a draft report out will be provided at the upcoming December SCC meeting for discussion before the report is submitted to the Legislature. There may be an opportunity after the December SCC meeting to discuss the report further.
- Nancy Birkhimer, Maine CDC, Preventive Health and Health Services (PHHS) Block Grant – shared that the 2020 block grant funding ends this month, and the 2021 workplan was approved as submitted. The final report will be sent out. Due to Covid-19, accreditation received an extension through next June. Nancy outlined the upcoming funding will support schools, telehealth, and local public health. There was discussion around future positions coming from this funding for Health Educators and support for Local Health Officers.

<p><b>Maine Council on Aging and M-DASH (Municipal Data Across Sectors for Health):</b> Jess Maurer, Maine Council on Aging and Effie Rorke, M-DASH, Data Manager</p>	<p>Jess Maurer, Executive Director for the Maine Council on Aging (MCoA), shared an overview of on the aging population in Maine – highlighting that Maine has the oldest population of any other state in the US: 54% of Mainers are over the age of 50, and 1:4 will statistically need a year of formal care/services. A third of older Mainers live just above the poverty line, often they “do without”. The effort to connect older Mainers to trusted support lead to the piloted program with municipalities. With Robert Wood Johnson Foundation funding, four communities were chosen to pilot this project: South Portland, Eastport, Hallowell, and Gray.</p> <p>Effie Rorke with This Land Consulting shared the data collected, comparing the different piloted areas. See slides for further details.</p> <p>From these piloted projects, MCoA noticed inconsistent falls reports, and EMS has since updated their reporting. Using these “fall calls”, South Portland has piloted efforts to provide a 2-day program on balance and fall-prevention.</p> <p>Future efforts to extend the piloted program to more towns in Maine.</p> <p>For more information, please contact Jess at: <a href="mailto:jmaurer@mainecouncilonaging.org">jmaurer@mainecouncilonaging.org</a> or Effie at: <a href="mailto:thislandconsulting@gmail.com">thislandconsulting@gmail.com</a></p> <p>MCoA is also working on a Power in Agism project as well as other opportunities to engage: <a href="http://www.mainecouncilonaging.org/">www.mainecouncilonaging.org/</a></p>	
<p>Adjournment</p>	<p>Next meeting: December 16th, 9:30am – 12pm.</p>	