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Penquis Public Health Council

September 8th, 2023

9:00am – 11:00am

Zoom

(Zoom information included on the next page)

AGENDA

9:00 – 9:10am

Welcome

Agenda Review and Introductions

Sue Mackey-Andrews, Council Chair

Stacy Boucher, Maine CDC

Sue Mackey Andrews, Helping Hands with Heart/Maine Highlands

Jen Carlson, Community Health Manager, Northern Light Acadia Hospital

Hillary Starbird, Director of Community Outreach NL Mayo/NL CA Dean

Jane Danforth, Director of Grants and Community Wellness, Millinocket Regional Hospital

Heidi LeBlanc, Chief Operating Officer, Penquis, hleblanc@penquis.org

Bill Robinson, LCPC Director of Behavioral Health Services for Androscoggin Home Healthcare + Hospice bill.robinson@ahch.org

Nicole Hammar, Mgr, Community Health Improvement, Northern Light

Laura Lacasse, Community Health Coordinator, EMMC,

Yolanda Brooks, Wastewater surveillance epidemiologist, Maine CDC

Matt Donahue, VP & Chief Impact Officer, Heart of Maine United Way,

Roxane Dubay, Bangor Public Health, Tobacco Prevention

*Edie Smith, Senator Angus King's office in Bangor
edie_smith@king.senate.gov*

patty Hamilton Bangor public health

Jamie Comstock, Health Promotion Manager, Bangor Public Health

Stacie Poulin Field Epidemiologist based out of the Bangor office.

9:10 – 9:44am

HUD Update

Patty Hamilton will overview the process of closing the Kenduskeag Stream encampment following HUD technical assistance team guidance.

Need to offer them housing. Need to identify the structures, the people, the pets (behind Valley Avenue). Created a bi-name list. Once the people are identified, i.e. do they have a license, do they have a social security card, all these things need to be done before they can get housing. Fill out applications to get identified, letter for ADA needs, etc. Did this for a month or more. At this same time there was a landlord liaison. City kicked off a landlord liaison program, met with the secretary of the state (fast tracked a process to redo ids) while keeping a process for next time if needed. Got all the outreach workers laptops. Arranged with case worker to go see apartments. Emergency preparedness engagement. 15 people left when the encampment closed. Shelter Plus Care Vouchers, bridging rental assistance or social security, disability, general assistance (mandated service in the state, if you can get them to apply and go to the appointments). Housed 80%. Were able to put some into hotels, rooming houses, transition housing. Fast moving process and labor-intensive process. Purchased moving kits from Ann Sweeney (beds, small refrigerators, pots and pans, washcloths. Purchased phones so we could connect with them and maintain, i.e. vouchers. So far, this space has been kept unused, have not had any problems since this this. People are using for fishing. Now we have a robust system. Partners and supports. Even medial visits, MA to be able to take of their needs from suboxone to treating open wounds. Next step forward behind Hope House, larger encampment, higher levels of substance use disorders. Harder to get ready to close it.

Note: Bangor Area Action Team – mental health visit, ED, goes to dispatch to determine if it needs a police officer or not.

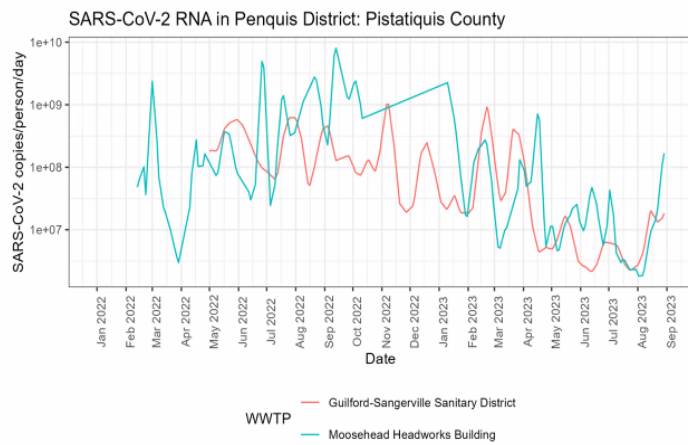
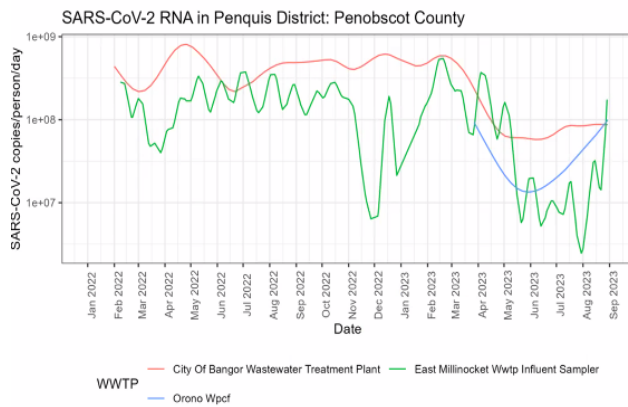
9:45 – 10:30am

Wastewater & Surveillance Data

Yolanda Brooks will present on wastewater and the collection of surveillance data and its use in the community. She will cover a basic overview of the program, how the community can use the data using an example and the future collection that will help monitor other disease in our communities.

[Please see the saved presentation.](#)

Data: Sites in Penquis District



Next steps in wastewater surveillance

U.S. CDC: New pathogen measurements

- Normalization and Process Controls

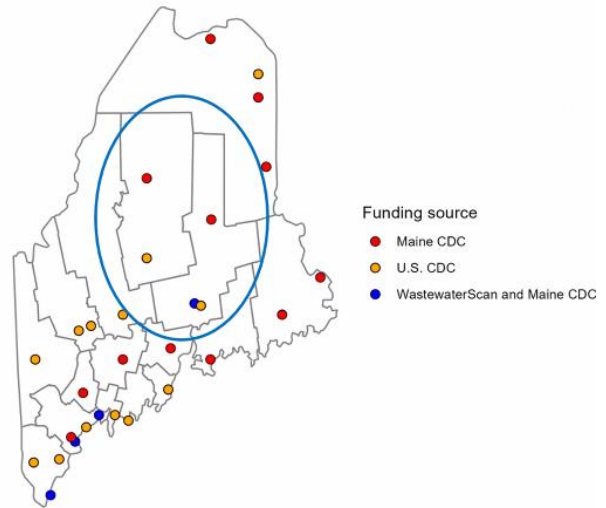
- ★ Pepper Mild Mottle Virus
 - Crassphage
 - Bovine Coronavirus

- Antibiotic resistance genes

- Carbapenemases
- ESBLs
- Colistin resistance
- Vancomycin resistance

- Pathogen targets

- ★ SARS-CoV-2
- Influenza A and B
- Respiratory Syncytial Virus
- Adenovirus 40/41
- Shiga-toxin-producing *E. coli*
- *Campylobacter*
- Norovirus
- *Candida auris*
- ★ Mpox (non-Variola Orthopox)



<https://data.wastewaterscan.org/>

<https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#wastewater-surveillance>

<https://biobot.io/data/covid-19>

Community specific on how you would like to engage with the data. Awesome

10:30 – 10:35am **Break**

10:35 – 10:45am **Member Updates**

Jamie Comstock prevention services, i.e. tobacco money, SCC update from Matt from the June, etc.

Jamie - Work plans have been approved. Stumbling blocks with invoicing. Tobacco Innovation Funding have made a proposal to Maine CDC to implement restorative practices (alternatives to suspension). This would provide an opportunity for them to provide education and support rather than out of school. Trying to get approval. As soon as we hear we will move forward or update.

Sue – SCC. Found out more about the LHOs need for technical assistance and training. Many of them have no health backgrounds and are titled as code enforcers.

10:45 – 11:00am **Sharing, Wrap Up & Adjourn**

Sue - Maine highland Integrated Response Network, reviewing public health and critical issues. Plan to Conduct an October one, need to get a better idea of how many people require housing. Need to work with commissioner. Over the last year, families as large as 10 individuals who are unhoused.

Zoom connection Information:

Penquis Public Health Council Meeting Dates
Topic: Penquis District Coordinating Council Meeting Time: Sep 8, 2023 09:00 AM Eastern Time (US and Canada)
Please download and import the following iCalendar (.ics) files to your calendar system. Monthly: https://mainestate.zoom.us/meeting/tZlIc-ygrT4vE9C1VK7Fw6VKHf1lItCZdT63/ics?icsToken=98tyKuGurj8vEteQtRCDRpwAAo-gZ_zztiVYj_p-zSnOVAZENDXdHuQTPptrM-LU
Join Zoom Meeting https://mainestate.zoom.us/j/86045835594
Meeting ID: 860 4583 5594
Find your local number: https://mainestate.zoom.us/u/kcUiuSmQrV

Source Links:

<https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/mecdc/infectious-disease/epi/airborne/coronavirus/wastewater-reports.shtml>