

Perspectives in Public Health-SCC

Last legislative session, a Resolve was passed that directed Maine DHHS to “use a process that includes stakeholder participation and feedback, including from the Maine Public Health Association, to review the State’s public health infrastructure and develop recommendations to strengthen the efficiency and effectiveness of public health service delivery.” The Resolve also empowers the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services to report out legislation, based on the DHHS report, so what is submitted could potentially inform future legislation to support Maine’s public health infrastructure.

MPHA has been working with MCDC on plans to conduct a local and state public health systems assessment, and despite the implementation being delayed due to COVID-19, there are still plans to move that work forward in 2021. In the spirit of meeting the request of the Resolve, and to potentially inform future assessment efforts, we are piloting a process with the SCC. For those in attendance at the meeting that aren't members of the SCC, or other interested parties, we ask that you please share your feedback in this form instead of in the live discussion. Thank you.

1. From your perspective and position, what public health roles or functions are working well right now, despite the pandemic? [In this context, “public health functions” means the jobs, resources, and/or the partnerships that help us make progress on essential public health services in the state.]

2. What are some public health roles or functions that have emerged because of the pandemic that are filling an important role, either directly related to the pandemic or to keeping other public health efforts alive? [In this context, “public health functions” means the jobs, resources, and/or the partnerships that help us make progress on essential public health services in the state.]

3. What are some functions that would be helpful for you to continue to do your work most effectively (at any “level” of public health)? [In this context, “public health functions” means the jobs, resources, and/or the partnerships that help us make progress on essential public health services in the state.]

4. At what “level” of public health (state district, local, other) would these functions be most helpful? [In this context, “public health functions” means the jobs, resources, and/or the partnerships that help us make progress on essential public health services in the state.]

- 5. Are there any forms of partnership that would be helpful to replicate or develop? For example, a collaborative effort instead of a staff position.

- 6. Who else would we need at the table to identify any areas we are missing?

- 7. Is there anything else you'd like to share?

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