



# Statewide Coordinating Council for Public Health District Project Update

**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Template updated 03/2023

<b>District:</b> Aroostook	<b>Date:</b> June 2024
<b>** Division of Public Health Systems:</b> 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: 05/01/2024 APHC Quarterly Meeting</p> <p><b>Council Education Topic:</b> “Tick Awareness, Identification, and Prevention” “Aroostook County Emergency Operations Plan Hazard Event Ranking”</p> <p><b>Guest Presenters:</b>  <b>Maura Lockwood</b>, ME CDC, Epidemiologist  <b>Stacy Boucher</b>, ME CDC, District Liaison  <b>Darren Woods</b>, Aroostook Emergency Management Agency</p> <p>➤ Dates of note in Aroostook District:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Next DCC Meeting: August 7, 2024</li> <li>• Next APHC Emergency Planning Meeting: August 8, 2024</li> <li>• Next APHC Aging Committee Meeting: July 18, 2024</li> <li>• Next APHC Steering Committee Meeting: September 4, 2024</li> </ul> <p><b>Ongoing or upcoming Public Health Council projects or priority issues:</b></p> <p>➤ Continued review of LPHSA findings to determine next steps for priority.</p> <p><b>Ongoing or upcoming District projects or priority issues:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ PHE III completion of DHHS Lean Six Sigma Green Belt training and Certification.</li> <li>➤ Ongoing planning for a rabies information sharing event.</li> <li>➤ Monthly health topics awareness bulletin board in Caribou DHHS office.</li> </ul> <p><b>In-district or multi-district collaborations:</b></p> <p>➤ Completion of virtual Hazard Vulnerability Assessment within Healthcare Coalitions in each district on 5/30/2024.</p>	

strict Name: Aroostook

**\*\* Indicates the presence of Maine CDC Field Staff assigned to the District Public Health Unit**

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22 M.R.S. §412 (2011).

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

**Ongoing or upcoming District projects or priority issues:**

- 2 Cases of Rabies have been identified in Aroostook County. No human or domestic animal exposure.
- HANs 04/03/2024 – U.S. CDC: Increase in Invasive Serogroup Y Meningococcal Disease in the U.S.
- HANs 04/11/2024 – Travel- Related Diseases, Spring 2024
- HANs 04/16/2024 – U.S. CDC: Increase in Global and Domestic Measles Cases and Outbreaks
- HANs 04/19/2024 – HIV Cluster Update and Prevention, Testing, and Treatment Recommendations
- HANs 04/23/2024 – U.S. CDC: Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza A(H5N1) Virus
- HANs 04/25/2024 – U.S. CDC: Adverse Effects Linked to Counterfeit or Mishandled Botulinum Toxin Injections
- HANs 05/02/2024 – Health Risks from Browntail Moths
- HANs 05/13/2024 – 2024 Lyme and Other Tickborne Disease Information

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:**

- Working on collaborations with local schools to complete vaccines on school-aged children.
- Working with CradleME to help boost referrals.
- Creation of Mom Connections meeting group to help connect with new moms who may need support with breast feeding or other needs.
- Reproductive Health Education at Loring Job Corps is ongoing.
- Currently PHN staff is located in northern, central, and southern Aroostook.

**\*\* 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**

- Construction has now begun over the district.
- There have been changes in material compliance – contractors are having difficulty with that and legislation has changed regarding tracking materials and installations.
- Change applications for water systems have been coming in.

**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**

**Jan-April 2024:**

**Substance Use Prevention:**

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- Prime for Life Trainings: 11 conducted, over 40 participants.
- Restorative Circles: 187 students educated on social emotional learning and kindness through effective communication during talking circles.
- SEL Mind Matters “Stressed out?”: provided education to (12) 7<sup>th</sup> graders, (14) 6<sup>th</sup> graders, (20) 8<sup>th</sup> graders at Washburn Middle School and 8 students at Presque Isle Alternative Education
- NIH NIDA Mind Matters “Inhalants” – 80 middle schoolers at Van Buren Elementary/High School
- NIH Stress Management – (9) Sophomores & (13) Freshman at Washburn High School, (12) 8<sup>th</sup> graders & (10) 7<sup>th</sup> graders at Washburn Middle School.
- Materials Distributions:
  - 300 informational handouts regarding THC use in pregnant women.
  - 30 outreach folders regarding prime for life, lion’s quest, and DFA to local schools.
  - 176 lockboxes to local recreational cannabis shops, WIC, and community members
  - 122 Deterra Bags distributed to community members, ACAP offices, and PI/Houlton Family Planning
  - 41 copies of Prevention Post / Stall Talk distributed to local schools.
- Media Campaign
  - SUP radio spots designed with Townsquare Media targeting adults.
  - Developed 2 radio spots highlighting cannabis prevention for middle school students and youth.
- Sticker Shock:
  - Distributed letters to local alcohol retailers on the program.
  - Met with 15 alcohol retailers in the area to recruit them for the sticker shock program.
  - Successfully completed adhering stickers on alcoholic beverages at Hannaford in Caribou.

## HEAL:

March – May 2024

- MPN HEAL Lead facilitated a meeting linking School Nutrition Directors to a local, organic dairy producer located in Perham to raise awareness of the possible market for schools to begin purchasing dairy products. This specific farm is Aroostook County’s last dairy farm. Staff representing 11 schools attended and they have all agreed to contract with the farm during next school year once the ordering and delivery process is finalized.
- MPN HEAL Lead supported the Presque Isle Children’s Museum in a Farm to Table featured exhibit. The exhibit offers hands on experiences for children and the public that link growing, gleaning and preparing for home and commercial applications.
- The MPN Prevention Team hosted a very successful “Touch-A-Truck” community event in Houlton. Implementation of strategies such as physical activities from the lending library were utilized, hiking

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<p>trail rack cards within resource bags offered, and water bottles were distributed to encourage more water consumption at the event. More than 200 participants attended.</p>
<p><b>Maine CDC Administration:</b> CDC Operations, Medical Epidemiology, Communications, Office of Health Equity</p>
<p><b>Health and Environmental Testing Laboratory</b></p>
<p><b>Ongoing or upcoming District projects or priority issues:</b> ➤ No report this quarter.</p>

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## Statewide Coordinating Council for Public Health District Coordinating Council Update

District: Central	Date: June 20, 2024
<p><b>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:</b>  <a href="http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/boh/olph/lphd/index.shtml">http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/boh/olph/lphd/index.shtml</a> This quarter the District Coordinating Council (DCC) focused on planning for the 2024 Shared Community Health Needs Assessment (Maine SCHNA) and reporting on what’s happened since the last round, and started to organize a district Healthcare Coalition (HCC) to replace the former regional structure. The HCC held a Hazard Vulnerability Analysis(HVA) exercise.</p>	
<p><b>Ongoing or upcoming projects or priority issues:</b> 2024 Shared Community Health Needs Assessment (Maine SCHNA) organization; housing and utility needs; storm disaster damage resources assistance; Hepatitis A prevention outreach; rabies, avian influenza, browntail moth outreach/assistance; R-CHIP assistance; PFAS and lead testing and remediation assistance; 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; updating state Healthcare Coalition (HCC) contact list to reflect new district structure.</p>	
<p><b>Progress with District Public Health Improvement Plan (DPHIP):</b> <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"> <li>▶ Use Central District Public Health Unit updates to communicate important information to DCC, LHOs, chief municipal officials, and partners -- ongoing task.</li> <li>▶ Vaccination Coordination Workgroup has taken a break from monthly meetings but will reconvene when we have a new PHN Supervisor ready</li> </ul> <p><i>Successes achieved</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Report on District Health Equity funding awarded to Winslow Community Cupboard for expansion</li> <li>▶ District 211 reporting and cumulative analysis updated; resources updated to address unmet needs</li> </ul> <p><i>Barriers encountered</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Large amount of turnover in staffing at many organizations, and reduction in staff able to help with collaborative public health efforts</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Structural and Operational changes, including updates in membership:</b> Welcomed new Public Health Educator in January, PHN Supervisor left Maine CDC March 15, just hired replacement and another PHN.</p>	
<p><b>In-district or multi-district collaborations:</b> new round of SCHNA; HCC/HVA, 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><b>Other topics of interest for SCC members:</b> Pressing district needs right now for affordable housing, including recovery/supported housing, heating/utility assistance, and transportation services; along with food and healthcare and supports.</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 completed activities conducted by Maine Prevention Network Contractor/ Subcontractors during March-May 2024:
<p>Ongoing or upcoming District projects or priority issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Central District held their quarterly MPN coalition meeting focused on HEAL objectives. 20 individuals representing schools, early childhood education sites, municipalities, etc. attended and provided insight into possible partnerships/collaborations and needs/gaps.</li> <li>HCCA, in collaboration with the Kennebec County Youth Advisory Board (KC YAB), implemented their Youth Mattering StoryWalk Writing competition. The winning story, penned by a 7<sup>th</sup> grade student at China Middle School, is displayed via a StoryWalk at the Viles Arboretum, with 3 other locations confirmed throughout the Summer.</li> </ul> <p><u>Outreach and Health Promotion</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>HCCA tabled at Thomas College, which reached approximately 50 students, and at the Mid-Maine Chamber Business to Business Expo, reaching over 40 businesses with information on indoor &amp; outdoor trail guides, healthy eating on a budget, stress management, ParkRx, and the Healthy Us Scorecard.</li> <li>Attended Kennebec Valley Boys and Girls Club staff wellness day and presented “Staff Wellness: A Guide to Healthier Workplaces” to 45 participants.</li> <li>Supported Farm to Institution initiatives at two elementary schools in Somerset County as part of our ongoing collaboration between the Somerset County Jail, Madison Elementary School, and Bloomfield Elementary School.</li> <li>Provided support to Manchester Elementary with their Moving More Kids program, which had a total of 120 students participating.</li> <li>Co-facilitated monthly meetings for RFGH’s breastfeeding support and education workgroup. Devised an action plan aimed at improving discharge support for patients at Redington Fairview General Hospital and fostering best practices at the worksite.</li> </ul> <p><u>School Nutrition</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Convened monthly school nutrition workgroup (SNW) to support ongoing progress on improving school nutrition environments including work with Smarter Lunchroom.</li> <li>Continued progress on implementing Smarter Lunchroom objectives across three school districts.</li> </ul>

Commented [DL1]: Instead of Planted how about Supported or Collaborated with Schools and site to continue work on Farm to Institute strategies???

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# Statewide Coordinating Council for Public Health District Project Update

<b>District:</b> Cumberland	<b>Date:</b> 6/17/24
<b>** Division of Public Health Systems:</b> 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: <a href="https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/mecdc/public-health-systems/lphd/district2/council-main.shtml">https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/mecdc/public-health-systems/lphd/district2/council-main.shtml</a>	
<b>Ongoing or upcoming Public Health Council projects or priority issues:</b>	
➤ DCC Meetings:	
<b>May 8<sup>th</sup> 2024, CDPHC Priority-Setting Session</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The session built upon the results of an on-line survey completed by 33 members and interested parties. Twenty-seven participants took part in the virtual session</li> <li>• Top-ranked areas of focus identified for CDPHC were: Housing, Mental Health, and Access to Care</li> <li>• Health Equity will be embedded in each area</li> <li>• Other areas of concern noted included: Transportation, Safe School Community, Environmental Health, Childcare &amp; Youth, Pre and Post-natal Care, Workforce Development, and Substance Use</li> <li>• These priorities should guide CDPHC for 3-5 years (but can be re-visited)</li> </ul>	
<b>May 17<sup>th</sup>, 2024 Full Council Meeting</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reviewed priorities and process, planning for next steps</li> <li>• Discussed the possibility of having working groups for each focus area and/or special sessions by subject matter</li> <li>• Suggestion to connect with other public/private partnerships working on these issues</li> <li>• Iterative updates, including Ripple Effect Mapping, newsletters, website posting of documents on <a href="#">Council web page</a>, and distributed through listserv</li> </ul>	
➤ Candidates are being interviewed for the Cumberland Public Health Educator III position, which was recently vacated.	
<b>In-district or multi-district collaborations:</b>	
➤ City of Portland contacted DL regarding concerns related to community gardens and the presence of arsenic and benzo(a)pyrene, a type of polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbon commonly known as BaP, in the soil. DL connected City with Maine CDC Environmental Health team and Assistant State Toxicologist for consultation.	

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- Maine CDC PHNs, ID Epi team, and DL have engaged with local partners and patient and family around a case of active TB identified in a student at a greater Portland area school
- From May-June 14, DL responded to siteen direct constituent requests for referrals and assistance
- Cumberland DL is participating in the Maine CDC Maternal and Child Health Wellness Coalition
- Cumberland DL is participating in the Division of Environmental Health’s General Tracking Advisory Board
- Cumberland DL participated in community review for candidates for City of Portland HHS Director search

**\*\* 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 infectious disease reports as need
- 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
- ID/Epi held a Mosquito-borne Disease Town Hall on May 14<sup>th</sup>, at the MaineHealth Institute for Research in Scarborough

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:**

- Active TB cases continue to be a focus for our Cumberland PHN team.
  - The team is currently working on 21 active cases, with 3 more expected. The average number of cases for a typical year for the state is 16, and we are already past that mark this year
  - treatment for TB is 6-9 months, can take as long as 12-18 months with complicating factors (such as HIV), and PHNs follow and support each case until completion of treatment
  - Treatment for latent TB (LTBI) is a minimum of 4 months, but can last as long as 9 months
- PHN has hired a Community Health Worker who speaks English, French, and Lingala, for the Cumberland District, and he is helping to engage some previously TB and LTBI treatment resistant families, and helping to educate and lower taboos around the illness
- State of Maine and PHN Contractors provided 429 individual client visits from April to June 14<sup>th</sup>, to Perinatal and LTBI families for Cumberland County. (This # does not include active TB clients!)

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

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### Ongoing or upcoming District projects or priority issues:

- HIP continues to inspect area business, with a focus on summer camp inspections
- Since April 2024, one Do Not Drink order was issued for a business 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 March-May 2024:

##### HEAL:

- MPN HEAL lead collaborated with the Moving Maine Network and 13 partners to submit a grant application for Federal Transit Administration funding. This funding would be used for the planning and design of a program to address transportation insecurity for people with very low income in the Greater Portland area.
- MPN HEAL lead supported the Cumberland County Food Security Council and Food For All Services in working with Portland, South Portland, and Westbrook School Districts to launch certified halal menu items at one pilot school in each district.
- MPN HEAL lead facilitated four meetings of the Cumberland County Food Resources Coalition
- HEAL and Substance Use Prevention Team Leads supported a group of South Portland High School leaders in identifying key priorities to improve transportation systems and accessibility for youth in the city.

##### Tobacco and SUPs:

- The Restorative Practice Systems Specialist within the Tobacco and Substance Use Prevention Team hosted a Restorative Parents Circle at South Portland High School with 7 participants. The goals are to give parents the opportunities to connect with each other and to learn how to integrate restorative approaches into their parenting practices.
- The Tobacco Prevention Team provided prevention programming to 7 schools reaching 613 students. Staff facilitated conversations around commercial tobacco products, accessing quitting resources, and supporting peers without judgement.
- The new resource "Nursing & Nicotine" was developed, printed, and is in the process of being translated. The resource has been distributed to the Portland WIC office, Brunswick WIC office, and Mid Coast Hospital's Labor & Delivery Unit. Following this resource, the Portland WIC office engaged in professional development training on supporting clients who use tobacco and how to access quitting resources. This resource was developed after WIC expressed a need in supporting their clients, and the team has received positive feedback on the partnership.
- The Portland General Assistance office engaged in professional development training on supporting clients who use tobacco and how to access quitting resources.

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- MPN staff coordinated the strategic planning project in the Lake Region around youth well-being and vaping, which concluded this quarter. The process brought together Lake Region High School students alongside school staff and community members to establish a shared vision for well-being and co-create an action plan. Priorities include (1) development of “Third Spaces” to support belonging; (2) a clear restorative accountability process; (3) effective tobacco treatment resources; and (4) amplification of current out-of-school time offerings. MPN staff will be supporting implementation of the plan.
- MPN staff have coordinated with local ethnic community based organizations (eCBOs) to facilitate community-led focus groups. An RFP was put out during this quarter and 7 sites were selected for the project. With the recognition that eCBOs often have strong relationships with their community members and have already been doing important work to assess community needs, eCBOs on this project are leading and designing the focus group, including the structure, questions, recruitment strategies, and barriers to address. Technical assistance is provided by MPN staff as needed. Sites have launched focus groups and will be completing the work through the end of June. Following the conclusion of the data collection strategy, information gathered from this work will inform the development of a tailored tool, program, or engagement strategy based on identified needs. This project includes collaboration amongst the Tobacco and Substance Use Prevention Teams, including the Multicultural Prevention Specialist.

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

- OPHE will hold a 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Health Equity Conference, Wednesday, July 24th, 2024 from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. in-person at Bates College in Lewiston

**Ongoing or upcoming District projects or priority issues:**

- N/A

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# Statewide Coordinating Council for Public Health District Project Update

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**Template updated 03/2023.**

<b>District:</b> Downeast (Hancock and Washington Counties)	<b>Date:</b> June 20, 2024
<b>Division of Public Health Systems:</b> 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: <a href="https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/mecdc/public-health-systems/lphd/district7/publications.shtml">https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/mecdc/public-health-systems/lphd/district7/publications.shtml</a>	
➤ <b>Downeast Public Health Council Meeting Dates for 2024:</b> January 19, March 15, May 17, July 19, September 20, and November 15.	
<b>Topic:</b> Puthiery Va, Maine CDC Priorities; Overview of Downeast Health Care Coalition, Downeast Medical Reserve Corps, and Emergency Preparedness Planning for 2024; 2024 one-year district infrastructure improvement plan committee work: emergency preparedness, prevention, mental health, and older adult services. <b>(May 17)</b>	
<b>Site:</b> Zoom	
<b>Sponsor/Facilitation:</b> Executive Committee during breakout sessions.	
<b>Ongoing or upcoming Public Health Council projects or priority issues:</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Align district committee work with LPHSA, Shared CHNA, Healthy People 2030, and County Health Rankings.</li> <li>➤ Collaborate with Hancock County EMA, Washington County EMA, Health Care Coalition, and Downeast MRC to offer training, courses, and exercises with a focus on a radiological event and the operation of a point of dispensing site for medical countermeasures.</li> </ul>	
<b>Ongoing or upcoming District projects or priority issues:</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Facilitate assessment of maternal and child health services in Washington County.</li> <li>➤ 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.</li> <li>➤ Well Water Quality and promotion of well testing in communities and providing support to overcome barriers to it.</li> </ul>	
<b>In-district or multi-district collaborations:</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ 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.</li> </ul>	

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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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- 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.
- Working Communities Challenge focused on reducing child poverty in Washington County.

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

**Ongoing or upcoming District projects or priority issues:**

- Rabies activity reported.
- Increase in browntail moth infections in Hancock County, especially on islands and Mount Desert Island communities.
- Ongoing surveillance of higher rates of tick-borne infections: Lyme disease and anaplasmosis.

**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
- Building Case management for Maternal and Child Health Services
- Considering an older adult health assessment outreach program.

**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

- **Highlight completed activities conducted by Maine Prevention Network Contractor/ Subcontractors March to May 2024:** (Healthy Acadia staff provide the prevention work in Downeast)

**Healthy Eating, Active Living (HEAL)**

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## Statewide Coordinating Council for Public Health District Project Update

**Public Health**  
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- ❖ MPN HEAL partnered with Farm and Sea to School Institute on a USDA Innovation Grant application through Full Plates Full Potential (FPFP) to facilitate Farm to School Culinary Instruction at Hancock County Technical Center for seven (7) schools in 2026-2027. Notification of FPFP awardees is expected in June.
- ❖ As a result of attending our January School Nutrition Workgroup, Ellsworth School Nutrition Director, Greg Berry procured Maine Coast Fishermen's Association Local Seafood. Healthy Acadia's SNAP Educator helped facilitate related presentation and taste testing. We worked with Ellsworth Schools to encourage applying for Maine Farm and Sea to School Institute to which they were accepted for 2024.
- ❖ We offered Mini Grants to Early Child Care sites across Hancock and Washington Counties. Twenty-seven (27) sites applied and fifteen (15) sites were awarded grants up to \$1000.00 to fund Physical Activity equipment, Farm to ECE, and other nutrition related materials.
- ❖ We partnered with Maine Roads to Quality (Kellie Davis) and facilitated Farm to ECE training, provided attendees with free soil, seeds, Grow Kits, Farm to ECE resources and Self Assessments. Two sites who attended also were awarded our Mini Grants to support their Farm to ECE goals.
- ❖ Healthy Acadia HEAL staff launched the Lactation Pop Up Tent at Jewett Elementary School in Bucksport during a Family Day event. HEAL Coordinator provided support to Jewett Elementary School in reviewing Breastfeeding Policy. Activities included a site evaluation and implementation recommendations with the school principal and staff expecting to use space in the near future, locating a permanent breastfeeding space at the school and providing Policy Templates.
- ❖ Healthy Acadia HEAL staff collaborated to increase the number of Senior Farm Shares available to elders in the Passamaquoddy communities at Pleasant Point (Sipayik) and Indian Township (Motahkomikuk )to a potential twenty-five (25) each, for a total of fifty (50) shares as a result of working with new farmers and Healthy Acadia staff providing additional on-site support. Senior sign up is in process so final numbers allocated will be updated in future reports.
- ❖ We moved our Ellsworth Gleaning Shed to its new home at our recently purchased office building on Beechland Ave. This will serve as the Ellsworth area Gleaning Hub moving forward, offering easier partner access, more green space for washing and storage, and the option to start a garden.

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**Public Health**  
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## Statewide Coordinating Council for Public Health District Project Update

- ❖ **Substance Use Prevention:** no report provided this quarter.
- ❖ **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.
- State Health Improvement Plan process continues and draft report is being reviewed during May and June 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.

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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: June 20<sup>th</sup>, 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:**

The MPHCC meeting held on April 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024, featured Dr. Va and her vision for Maine CDC.

The Midcoast Public Health Council (MPHC) Meeting on June 11<sup>th</sup>, 2024, featured Greg Payne from the Governor’s Office of Policy, Innovation and Future and Charlotte Nutt, Midcoast Council of Governments (MCOG). They discussed housing priorities and current initiatives at the State and District level.

Midcoast Public Health Council (MPHC) Steering Committee Meeting meets August 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024, via Zoom.

Midcoast Public Health Unit (PHU) meeting was held hybrid on May 21<sup>st</sup>, 2024. Continued discussions occurring for opportunities for collaboration within the public health unit (PHU). Next meeting scheduled for July 16<sup>th</sup>.

**Ongoing or upcoming Public Health Council projects or priority issues:**

- The Midcoast Public Health District’s Public Health Infrastructure Improvement Grant work continues in Lincoln County. MCD Staff are working with Lincoln County stakeholders for a publication that will highlight the installation of the new emergency communication system.
- Midcoast Public Health Council will complete its Annual Membership Crosswalk in July 2024. This is completed to ensure that we have diverse cross-sector representation on the council.

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

**Public Health**  
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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 is wrapping up. Co-chairs presented the final updates at the June 11<sup>th</sup>, 2024, MPHCC meeting. Future focus will be placed on developing a strong public health infrastructure.
- The Midcoast Maine Community Shared Health Needs Assessment (SCHNA) planning team has been meeting. Stakeholder forums have been scheduled for November 2024.

## 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 Midcoast District.
- Midcoast Local Health Officers (LHO), Community Health Workers (CHW) and Public Health Nursing (PHN) met via Zoom on May 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2024, for an informal “meet and greet.” Discussions surrounding the new Community Health Worker (CHW) program for Knox and Waldo County residents. To submit a referral: [Community Health Worker Program - Maine Health - Pen Bay Medical Center and Waldo County General Hospital serving Rockland, ME | findhelp.org](https://www.findhelp.org)
- The first Hazards Vulnerability Assessment (HVA) was held virtually May 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024, under the new Health Care Coalition (HCC) structure.

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

- Megan Kelley, our District epidemiologist reports that there will be a team meeting for the Division of Disease Control Infectious Disease Epidemiologist team on Sept 19<sup>th</sup> in the Midcoast District.

## \*\* Division of Public Health Nursing

- Public Health Nursing (PHN) Supervisor Brooke Payne reports District 4 PHN, Nicole Dotson, has been promoted to the PHN Supervisor in District 5. District 4 is now hiring for a PHN I position, the job posting is [here](#)

District Name: Midcoast

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**\*\* 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

**Public Health**  
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➤ PHN attended the Community Baby Shower in Bath on June 1, 2024. The Community Baby Shower was a focused effort to connect mothers and caregivers to programs and resources available in Sagadahoc County.

➤ PHN continues building partnerships and coordinating care with local organizations, hospitals, and providers offices. As part of our Maternal Child Health work, and in partnership with the Rural Maternity and Obstetrics Management Strategies (RMOMS) grant, PHN is receiving referrals for clients enrolled in the Remote Blood Pressure Monitoring for Postpartum Patients pilot program at Pen Bay Medical Center and Waldo County General Hospital.

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

➤ The Health Inspection Program continues its search for a new Rockland-based Health Inspector. In the interim, other HIP inspectors are covering the District.

**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

- Mid Coast District MPN Healthy Eating and Active Living (HEAL) staff:
  - Sagadahoc County MPN HEAL staff supported the annual Brunswick/Topsham and Bath Bike Rodeo’s with opportunities for families to learn about bike safety skills and local biking opportunities.
  - Lincoln County MPN HEAL staff collaborated with a local Physical Activity Committee to explore the options of bringing bike racks to two towns within Lincoln County.
  - Sagadahoc County MPN HEAL staff supported Rainbow Week at local schools by providing fruit and veggie costumes as well as Healthy Kids Day at the Bath YMCA by tabling and bringing a mobile story walk.

District Name: Midcoast

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# Statewide Coordinating Council for Public Health District Update

**Public Health**  
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- Knox/Waldo County MPN HEAL Staff worked with Maine Sport Outfitters, The Bike Coalition of Maine and the city of Rockland to increase safe access to Rockland’s Bike to work/school events. The Knox/Waldo Team also planned and partnered with MaineHealth to offer a free bike tune-up event at the South School in Rockland (RSU 13).

### Midcoast Substance Use Prevention Activities:

- Healthy 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 the Maine OPTIONS Program Liaison Marshall Van Hallow at the April District Public Health (DPH) Staff meeting.

District Name: Midcoast

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# Statewide Coordinating Council for Public Health District Project Update

**Public Health**  
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Template updated 03/2023

<b>District: Penquis Public Health Council</b>	<b>Date: 06/18/2024</b>
<p><b>** Division of Public Health Systems:</b> District Public Health, Rural Health and Primary Care and Oral Health; PH Emergency Preparedness, Data, Research and Vital Statistics</p> <p>06/07/24          Maine Shared CHNA: Discussed collaborative effort for statewide health initiatives.          By-Laws Review and Elections: Reviewed by-laws and elected Steering Committee members/officers.          Christine B. Foundation Update: Presented initiatives supporting cancer patients in the region.          Cancer Trends and Data Insights: Presented statistics and trends in Penobscot and Piscataquis Counties.          Member Updates and Adjournment: Shared brief organization updates; meeting concluded.          Next Meeting: Fri 9/13/2024 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM</p> <p><b>Ongoing or upcoming Public Health Council projects or priority issues:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Maine Shared CHNA</li> </ul> <p><b>Ongoing or upcoming District projects or priority issues:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ HealthCare Coalition of Maine</li> </ul> <p><b>In-district or multi-district collaborations:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ HIV Cluster</li> <li>➤ Maine Shared CHNA</li> </ul>	
<p><b>** Division of Disease Surveillance;</b> Infectious Disease Epidemiology; Infectious Disease Prevention, Maine Immunization Program</p> <p><b>Ongoing or upcoming District projects or priority issues:</b></p> <p>Infectious Disease Epidemiology</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists conference in Pittsburg on June 9-13, 2024.</li> </ul> <p>Monthly Epi Symposium on June 20, 2024.          Field Epidemiologist, Stacie Poulin, is presenting Tick Talk at Save a Life Recovery Resource Center in Lincoln on June 26, 2024.          Ongoing multi-state Salmonella outbreak involving cucumbers.</p> <p>Disease reporting Contact Information: Phone: 1 - 800 - 821 - 5821 (24 hours a day)</p>	
<b>** Division of Public Health Nursing</b>	

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

**Public Health**  
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**Ongoing or upcoming District projects or priority issues:**

➤ N/A

**\*\* 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:

- HIP quarterly staff meeting held on April 9-10, 2024. Keynote speakers: James Becker, DMR licensing, closures and vibrio education. Pamela Ross-Kung, RS, MS Environmental Health Agent, Needham MA Public Health Division-ethnic restaurant inspections. Railey Guthrie, State of Maine ADA Coordinator-update on service animal law. Inspector presentations on the Maine HIP Emergency Action Plan.
- HIP webinar overview for Local Health Officer's May 1, 2024.
- HIP Inspector for Rockland District C had been re-posted. Closes June 12th.
- HIP Inspector vacancy for the Ellsworth District E. Hiring Request Form has been submitted.
- HIP's busy season has started with new applications and the opening of seasonal establishments like ice cream stands, seasonal lodging and eating places, mobile food vendors, campgrounds, youth camps, fairs and festivals, and pools and spas.
- October 2024 HIP staff meeting
- November 2024 Northeast Food Protection Seminar

**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: Penquis Maine Prevention Network HEAL March through May 2024.**

Food Systems Efforts:

- Piscataquis Food Access Alliance formed, meeting bimonthly
- Free Produce Pop-Up Market held at Northern Light Mayo Hospital, distributing 1,500 pounds of produce
- Highland Area Gleaners rescued 65 pounds of spinach for distribution
- District-wide school nutrition group meeting held, focusing on volunteer opportunities

strict Name: Aroostook

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# Statewide Coordinating Council for Public Health District Project Update

**Public Health**  
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- Farm to ECE Learning Collaborative organized for ECE professionals, focusing on local foods and gardening

### Increasing Physical Activity Access in Schools:

- The new Physical Activity Club at Piscataquis Community Elementary School was established
- Various Physical Activity Clubs continued in different schools with notable student participation
- Outdoor Play and Learning Self-Assessment and Action Plan completed at one ECE location
- Katahdin Elementary School's Afterschool Program continued Physical Activity Club

### Lactation:

- Baby & Me support group launched in Piscataquis County, meeting weekly
- The Mom Connection support group organized in Penobscot County, meeting bi-weekly
- State-wide Lactation Workplace Recognition Program developed by Penquis MPN HEAL coordinators, to be launched later with employer resources

**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:



strict Name: Aroostook

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# Statewide Coordinating Council for Public Health District Project Update

**Public Health**  
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Template updated 02/2024

<b>District:</b> Western	<b>Date:</b> 6/20/24
<b>** Division of Public Health Systems:</b> District Public Health, Rural Health and Primary Care and Oral Health; PH Emergency Preparedness, Data, Research and Vital Statistics	
Agendas and minutes available on <a href="#">district's webpage</a> .	
<p>➤ Dates of note in Western District:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Next DCC Meeting: Tuesday, July 30, 2024 9am-11am</li> <li>• July meeting will include presentations from Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Services (SAPARS), Center for Tobacco Independence, and Western District county's local Maine Shared Community Health Needs Assessment (MeSCHNA) planning teams</li> <li>• District Steering Committee is working to plan for larger in-person DCC meeting for October</li> <li>• Many Western Public Health Unit staff are attending School Nurses Conference to offer education</li> <li>• Governor Mills Opioid Response Summit will be Thursday, July 25<sup>th</sup> at Central Maine Community College in Auburn, ME</li> </ul> <p><b>Ongoing or upcoming Public Health Council projects or priority issues:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Continued education/speaking opportunities for community partners.</li> <li>➤ Continued outreach and growing DCC and steering committee membership.</li> </ul> <p><b>Ongoing or upcoming District projects or priority issues:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Working with public health unit to identify district needs.</li> <li>➤ SCHNA planning and facilitation with district partners.</li> <li>➤ Ongoing coordination with Lewiston school district to increase vaccination rates. Plans to engage with more partners throughout county to assist with vaccine access for school aged children.</li> </ul> <p><b>In-district or multi-district collaborations:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Infrastructure grant awarded to community partner, Sacopee Valley Health Center (SVHC). Working with MCD and partner to monitor project's progress through 2024. SVHC has used the grant funds to enhance their food pantry, vaccine storage capability, center security system, and radio communications system.</li> <li>➤ Hazard Vulnerability Assessment completed on Thursday, May 30<sup>th</sup></li> <li>➤ Department of Education's School Nurse Liaison for Western has been hired and will start 6/17</li> </ul>	

District Name: Western

1

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

### **Ongoing or upcoming District projects or priority issues:**

#### Epidemiology:

- New TB epidemiologist has been hired.

#### Infectious Disease Prevention:

- New Data to Care coordinator and PrEP Navigator
- Vacancy in HIV Care Manager
- Working on HIV cluster in Penobscot county – working with SSP for regular cleanups
- Church of Safe Injection and Tricounty/Spurwink staff and volunteers have been certified to test for HIV and Hepatitis C in Androscoggin County
- Uptick in HIV in Androscoggin due to new residents with previous HIV diagnosis moving in, not new infections. Program is continuing to monitor all other counties for any potential increases to HIV.
- Hep C Navigator doing outreach and education at Lewiston/Auburn Pride

#### Immunization:

- Launching Docket app that would assist constituents with their vaccine records as it's aligned with ImmPact
- New Cloud based Digital Data loggers
- Upcoming HPV social marketing campaign
- Back to school webinar for health care providers and school nurses regarding vaccinations
- 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:**

- Maternal health care working with community partners to develop postpartum support group in Norway
- Monitoring rise of TB cases
- One open position

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

District Name: Western

2

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# Statewide Coordinating Council for Public Health District Project Update

**Public Health**  
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**Ongoing or upcoming District projects or priority issues:**

Wastewater:



**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:**

- All Western District Maine Prevention Network Partners are assisting with the State’s Crisis Counseling Assistance and Training Program (CCP) grant to support communities impacted by December inland flooding and storms. Hiring for new staff and data collection to assess need are currently underway on this 9-month grant.
- Western District has participated in the first meeting of the Maternal Health & Wellness Coalition. The coalition is comprised of a diverse group of providers, community partners, and people of lived experience with the goal of improving maternal health and wellness for pregnant people and their families in Maine

**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:**

- Office of Population Health Equity (OPHE) will be hosting it’s second annual Health Equity Conference on Wednesday, July 24<sup>th</sup> at Bates College

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# Statewide Coordinating Council for Public Health District Project Update

**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Template updated 03/2023

<b>District:</b> York Public Health District	<b>Date:</b> 6/20/2024
<b>** Division of Public Health Systems:</b> 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: <a href="https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/mecdc/public-health-systems/lphd/district1/council-main.shtml">https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/mecdc/public-health-systems/lphd/district1/council-main.shtml</a>	
<p>➤ Dates of note in York District:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The DCC held a meeting on June 12<sup>th</sup> focusing on the recent accomplishments from the last Shared Community Health Needs Assessment. The meeting was well attended and presented the accomplishments of Maine CDC, York Hospital, Maine Health at Biddeford (formerly SMHC), AND York County Community Action. The larger presentation and forum will take place this fall, with more information to follow. For more information, please reach out to <a href="mailto:adam.hartwig@maine.gov">adam.hartwig@maine.gov</a></li> </ul>	
<p><b>Ongoing or upcoming Public Health Council projects or priority issues:</b></p> <p>➤ The council is working on how to optimize the potential and interesting within the public health community to act on emerging issues.</p>	
<p><b>Ongoing or upcoming District projects or priority issues:</b></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><b>In-district or multi-district collaborations:</b></p>	
<p><b>Public Health Unit:</b> 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. Recently the State and District Healthcare Coalitions held a hazard vulnerability analysis (HVA). The (HVA) is a systematic process that helps identify and prioritize potential hazards and risks that could impact a facility or community. HVAs can help organizations and facilities plan for emergencies, address resource gaps, and comply with regulations.</p>	

strict Name: Aroostook

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# Statewide Coordinating Council for Public Health District Project Update

**Public Health**  
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York and Cumberland Districts are working conjunctly on an initiative on women’s health. More information to follow.

### Rural Health and Primary Care

- HRSA is currently accepting applications for new National Health Service Corps (NHSC) approved Sites.
- 3RNET, NOSORH, and HRSA are holding a webinar on June 6, 2024 at 2:00 PM ET to describe how becoming an NHSC site will help you attract, hire and retain qualified clinicians. Register for the webinar here.
- The Northern Border Regional Commission Announces Availability of \$3 Million to Improve Access to Healthcare. New grants will be awarded within the Northern Border states to support the delivery of healthcare services to rural, underserved populations. Up to 12 new grants will be awarded, with annual award amounts of up to \$225,000 each. For more information, on the program, please visit the news release or visit the grants.gov webpage to find the NOFO.
- The Northern Border Regional Commission J-1 Program will start accepting applications for Specialist Physicians on April 1, 2024. Our office has updated our NBRC Guide to include the specialty care requirements. In general, the requirements are the same but there are a few additions for specialty applicants. You can read the press release here.

**\*\* 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. Recently the Public Health Unit produced a informatic flyer of the dangers of Vibrio. Vibrio is bacteria that can cause gastrointestinal illness in people who eat raw or undercooked oysters, clams or other shellfish, regardless of age or health history. For more information please contact Emille Caradonna. She can be reached at Emilee.Caradonna@maine.gov

<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**

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# Statewide Coordinating Council for Public Health District Project Update

**Public Health**  
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## 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.

- 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**.

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# Statewide Coordinating Council for Public Health District Project Update

**Public Health**  
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- The Health Inspection Program is excited to announce it is fully staffed for York Public Health District.

The Division is organized as follows:

Division Administration (internal support, review and planning of the Division)

Children's Licensing and Investigation Services (childcare facility licensing) (207) 287-5020

Drinking Water Program (regulates public drinking water supplies) (207) 287-2070

Health Inspection Program (inspection/regulation of restaurants and lodging places) (207) 287-5671

Radiation Control Program (inspection/regulation of radiation sources) (207) 287-5676

Subsurface Wastewater Team (plan review and approval of septic system installation) (207) 287-2070

**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 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

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**Public Health**  
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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 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.

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**Public Health**  
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## 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:

221 State St., Augusta, Maine 04333

Telephone:

207-287-2727

For more news please visit: <https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/news>

district Name: Aroostook

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