

North Shore Public Health Collaborative

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, September 21st, 2023

2:00-2:45pm

Attendees

Name	Role	Community
Laura DelleChiaie	Director	Beverly
Lisa Tobin	Director	Lynn
Norris Guscott	Coordinator	Lynn
Andrew Petty	Director	Marblehead
Tracy Giarla	Public Health Nurse	Marblehead
Chasea Robinson	Public Health Nurse	Peabody
Suzanne Darmody	Public Health Nurse	Salem
David Greenbaum	Director	Salem
Neia Illingworth	Public Health Nurse	Swampscott
Laura Nash	Epidemiologist	NSPHC
Meg Dlusniewski	Coordinator	NSPHC
Kitzia Diaz	Public Health Nurse	NSPHC

Updates

- Lisa Tobin started as the new Director of Lynn Health Department.
- Meg dropped off most of the outreach kits to communities who requested them but needs to order additional supplies before Lynn's are ready.
- The [sun safety presentation](#) is available on our website and will be translated into Spanish and Portuguese.
- Meg is working on the translated versions of the Combat the Rat flyers in Spanish, Portuguese, and Russian.

Hiring updates for Regional Sanitarian and Regional Field Trainer

- Connor Galvin accepted the Regional Sanitarian position and will complete his onboarding paperwork shortly. David is in the process of checking references for the Regional Field Trainer candidate.

Regional vaccination clinic updates

- Thanks to the NCOA grant funding, we will be giving away Market Basket gift cards in varying amounts to eligible individuals (age 60+ or have a disability) who get vaccinated and complete a survey.

Epidemiology updates on respiratory illnesses (COVID-19, RSV, and flu)

- Laura applied to the NACCHO Infectious Disease Forecasting and Analytics grant; unfortunately, the application was not selected.
- USPS is offering free COVID-19 tests; Laura will create a flyer with the information.
- Laura shared a flyer that provided an overview of fall vaccination recommendations.

Community updates

- Local health departments have been encouraged to contact ORLH with some of their concerns about funding and resources for diapers, formula, and other essentials for recently arrived migrants living in hotels. Some hotels have stated that they don't want to house people under the state shelter system during weekends so that they can charge higher rates during the area's tourist season. The state is currently focused on vaccinating migrant children but plans to vaccinate adults as well in the long-term.

North Shore Public Health Collaborative

- Governor Healey signed an executive order that will prohibit state agencies from buying single-use plastic bottles. How this will impact local public health remains to be determined, particularly regarding emergency preparedness and response.
- [SAPHE 2.0](#) is a bill to fund public health shared services that the Massachusetts Public Health Association is advocating for.

FY24 work plan implementation

- The group discussed whether to require licensure for the social worker position and decided that it was not necessary, given the role will not be doing direct therapy. Meg will share the job descriptions with the group for review.
- ORLH will be amending contracts in October; once this is complete, the group can move forward with purchasing the inspection software and equipment. Meg will reach out in the meantime to confirm licensee names and equipment requests.
- Lynn launched a pilot program with A1 pest control company, where A1 did in-depth analyses and tailored outreach based on results. Lisa will share more about the process with the group, as it could be helpful for a regional rodent strategy.

Budget requests

- The group discussed hotel reimbursement for the MHOA conference; only Peabody has requested this so far, so there should be sufficient funds. Travel expenses are limited to \$750 annually for up to 5.0 FTE.