

North Shore Public Health Collaborative

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, February 15th, 2024 2:00-3:30pm

Attendees

Name	Role	Community
Laura DelleChiaie	Director	Beverly
Teresa Kirsch	Public Health Nurse	Beverly
Frank Giacalone	Director	Danvers
Judith Ryan	Public Health Nurse	Danvers
Lisa Tobin	Director	Lynn
Andrew Petty	Director	Marblehead
Tracy Giarla	Public Health Nurse	Marblehead
Sharon Cameron	Director	Peabody
Chasea Robinson	Public Health Nurse	Peabody
Suzanne Darmody	Public Health Nurse	Salem
David Greenbaum	Director	Salem
Jeff Vaughn	Director	Swampscott
Neia Illingworth	Public Health Nurse	Swampscott
Laura Nash	Epidemiologist	NSPHC
Meg Dlusniewski	Coordinator	NSPHC
Kitzia Diaz	Public Health Nurse	NSPHC
Terry Kennedy	Regional Field Trainer	NSPHC
Marli Caslli	Public Health Commissioner	Quincy
Suzanne Connelly	Consultant	Quincy

Quincy Body Art Skin Course

- Suzanne Connelly shared how the Quincy Health Department developed their skin course for body artists. The course was developed in partnership with the BU School of Medicine, particularly their dermatology department. They also worked with the state Community Sanitation Program and the BU School of Public Health. The course was suspended in 2021, and recently resumed; they met with these same stakeholders to update the course prior to resuming. The course is consistent with a college-level class, and they included input from local artists when developing it. The department's Public Health Nurses teach the class. Prior to teaching, they completed the Foundations for Local Public Health Practice courses on Body Art and Medical or Biological Waste Programs for Regulators. The course emphasizes dialogue and focuses on integumentary systems. Classes are limited to 20 people, but they haven't had to turn anyone away so far. They aim to hold the class monthly. Participants take a test at the end of the course and receive a certificate. The cost is \$300 per participant. Anyone is allowed to participate, but body artists are encouraged to check with their Board of Health to confirm that the course will be accepted.

PHE Updates

- The new Regional Field Training Hub Coordinator started, and David is in the process of checking references for the Community Health Worker and part-time Public Health Nurse. The Regional Field Training Hub should be starting its field training in April. Kitzia has been working in Lynn as MJ retired and is working on DOT. There is about \$1700 left in the NCOA grant budget.

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Epidemiology Updates

- Laura shared an [article](#) highlighting the success of a person in recovery from a substance use disorder. She was nominated to be on the MHOA advisory committee that is working to integrate the Foundational Public Health Services into DPH's performance standards. COVID-19 cases are starting to trend downwards, and the CDC is considering changing the isolation guidance to permit people to return to work or school 24 hours after they stop having symptoms. The measles outbreak is getting worse in Europe, with over 1,000 confirmed cases. The CDC doesn't update the measles data frequently, but it's likely increasing in the United States as well.

Body Art Regulations

- Beverly is looking to pass updated body art regulations soon, as there has been an increase in permanent cosmetics practitioners, including a school. They are considering separating their regulations into two separate regulations, one for permanent cosmetics and one for conventional tattooing and piercing. The group discussed the importance of standardizing regulations across the region, and how to best achieve this in a timely manner. The group will meet in person to revisit the regional model regulation and how to align it with Beverly's.
- There are several main concerns with the current body art regulations that are in place:
 - Most regulations require a college-level Anatomy and Physiology course for body piercers, but some practitioners have a difficult time meeting this requirement and cannot take a course without being enrolled in a college. The group will discuss acceptable alternatives.
 - Many regulations don't address apprenticeships or have unclear standards for them. Apprenticeships look very different for permanent cosmetics (typically measured in hours) versus conventional tattooing and piercing (typically one to two years). Just requiring a set number of hours or years may be too loose, as actual experience can vary based on working part-time versus full-time, and what types of work they're completing. The group will discuss detailed requirements for apprenticeships.