

North Shore Public Health Collaborative

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, August 15th, 2024 2:00-4:00pm

Attendees

Name	Role	Community
Laura Dellechiaie	Director	Beverly
Lisa Tobin	Director	Lynn
Kitzia Diaz	Public Health Nurse	Lynn
Andrew Petty	Director	Marblehead
Tracy Giarla	Public Health Nurse	Marblehead
Sharon Cameron	Director	Peabody
Chassea Robinson	Public Health Nurse	Peabody
David Greenbaum	Director	Salem
Jeff Vaughn	Director	Swampscott
Neia Illingworth	Public Health Nurse	Swampscott
Laura Nash	Epidemiologist	NSPHC
Hayden Fitch	Sanitarian	NSPHC
Meg Dlusniewski	Coordinator	NSPHC
Kendra Harris	Public Health Social Worker	NSPHC
Jeanne Butler	Public Health Nurse	NSPHC
Steven Kahn	Regional Training Hub Coordinator	Northeast Training Hub

PHE and Training Hub Updates

- We are currently in the process of interviewing for the Regional Sanitarian and Community Health Worker positions. There were over forty applicants for the CHW position, so there will be second-round interviews. Many applicants found the position through LinkedIn. Nahant signed the IMA.

Workplan Updates

- The group reviewed the NSPHC feedback survey results. Based on feedback, we will increase the use of the Smartsheet request form, start “Media Mondays,” where the PHE team emails social media posts to the collaborative, and hold a hybrid meeting once per quarter.
- The group reviewed the types of assistance communities can request from shared services staff. These include identifying and applying for grant opportunities, reaching best practices, attending or organizing community events, supporting vaccination clinics in clinical and non-clinical roles, developing policy recommendations, reviewing or drafting regulations, and holding training for the staff or community members. Communities should feel free to submit any requests, even if they’re not sure whether a shared services staff member will be able to assist.
- Kendra has been working on a quarterly employee satisfaction survey and will use the results to develop employee wellness and recognition programs. She recently presented to NSMVP about rules and recommendations for working with DCF and met with Healthy Streets to discuss opioid settlement funds.
- The shared services team started using Box, which is a digital document management system similar to Google Drive, Dropbox, or Sharepoint. This will allow the group to edit documents together, and easily share files within and outside of the collaborative. The NSPHC folder includes a summary of the workplan and deliverables. You can view documents without an account and you can edit them after making a free account.
- The group discussed what information to include in the salary analysis, and agreed to include information about job responsibilities since people often have multiple roles. Responsibilities vary and may include waste

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management, emergency preparedness, and school health, among others. Factors like supervisory responsibilities and ratios of establishments to inspectors should also be taken into consideration.

Epidemiology Updates

- The COVID-19 dashboard from DPH is available again. The wastewater rates are a bit higher than this time last year but have mostly stagnated over the past month. In 2022, COVID-19 was the fourth leading cause of death and fell to the tenth leading cause of death last year. There is a listeria outbreak nationally, and there have been cases in Massachusetts. The CDC linked the outbreak to Boars Head meat. Pregnant women are advised to avoid deli meat. EEE and West Nile Virus remain a concern.

Regional letter to State Epidemiology Direct regarding pertussis protocols and pediatrician offices

- Laura drafted a letter expressing concerns about the increasing rates of pertussis as the new school year is about to begin. Others shared these concerns and agreed it is important to advocate for this, as not all physicians are aware of the issues and are not necessarily assessing for it.

Opioid Settlement Funds

- Kendra met with Mary Wheeler at Healthy Streets in Lynn. She will be going out with the team to speak with Healthy Streets clients about what they think the priorities for supporting people impacted by the opioid epidemic. Kendra shared information about the array of services Healthy Streets offers. Swampscott launched its podcast this week. The podcast will focus on a range of local public health topics as well as sharing the stories of people impacted by the opioid epidemic.

Workplan Breakout Groups

- The meeting ended, and members joined either an infectious disease working group or an environmental health working group.