

# North Shore Public Health Collaborative

## Meeting Minutes

Thursday, November 21<sup>st</sup>, 2024, 2:00-3:00 pm

### Attendees

Name	Role	Community
Teresa Kirsch	Public Health Nurse	Beverly
Laura Dellechiaie	Director	Beverly
Judith Ryan	Public Health Nurse	Danvers
Lisa Tobin	Director	Lynn
Kitzia Diaz	Public Health Nurse	Lynn
Andrew Petty	Director	Marblehead
Tracy Giarla	Public Health Nurse	Marblehead
John Coulon	Director	Nahant
Sharon Cameron	Director	Peabody
Jeff Vaughan	Director	Swampscott
Neia Illingworth	Public Health Nurse	Swampscott
Laura Nash	Epidemiologist	NSPHC
Kendra Harris	Public Health Social Worker	NSPHC
Meg Dlusniewski	Coordinator	NSPHC
Jeanne Butler	Public Health Nurse	NSPHC
Steven Kahn	Coordinator	Northeast Training Hub
Terry Kennedy	Regional Food Trainer	Northeast Training Hub
Steve Casey	Regional Housing Trainer	Northeast Training Hub

### PHE and Training Hub Updates

- The new Community Health Worker, Caitlyn Matykiewicz, will start on November 25<sup>th</sup>. The uniform order will arrive sometime in January. PHE funds can cover hotel reimbursement if needed. SAPHE 2.0 was signed by the governor, which is positive for the PHE grant. With uncertainty about future federal funding, it will be increasingly important to demonstrate the impact of the grant to advocate for continued state funding. The group discussed inviting state representatives to a future meeting.
- The Northeast Training Hub held a food training for inspectors in the region, which went well. Terry plans to hold regular trainings like this. The hub also has a new logo.
- The group voted to change one of the 1.0 FTE Public Health Nurse positions to a second 1.0 FTE Epidemiologist position. Beverly, Lynn, Marblehead, Nahant, Peabody, and Swampscott voted in favor. Danvers and Salem were not present at the time of the vote.

### Workplan and Budget Updates

- Meg will send the salary analysis survey to everyone in the group. The group decided to divide the survey into two parts, focusing on salary information for now and gathering information about benefits in a future survey. The first part of the analysis will be completed by the end of the year to help inform departmental budget requests. The employee recognition program is up and running, and there have been nine submissions so far. Kendra and Caitlyn will be attending a train-the-trainer de-escalation session.

### Epidemiology Updates

- Laura shared updates about influenza, Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI, also known as H5N1 or bird flu), and the statewide drought. The state vaccination rate for influenza is 28.3%, and the rate for NSPHC

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communities ranges from 24% to 37.8%. As of November 20<sup>th</sup>, there were 53 confirmed human cases of HPAI, 549 dairy herds affected, and over 108,400,000 poultry affected. There is a critical drought across the state due to unprecedented low precipitation over the past three months. State officials recommend aggressive indoor water conservation to maintain a sufficient supply and pressure in public water systems. There have also been more wildfires, contributing to poor air quality. Laura shared a social media post she developed with information about the drought.

### Body Art Updates and Opioid Settlement Funds

- Beverly's Board of Health is voting on the updated body art regulations on November 27<sup>th</sup>. Once adopted, Meg will make a document comparing the final version to the last version the group reviewed together. Hannah and Meg will work on developing and updating the supporting documentation. Communities shared their activities related to opioid programming, and Kendra will be going out with Healthy Streets on December 2<sup>nd</sup>.