



**Public Health**  
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Template updated 03/2012

# Statewide Coordinating Council for Public Health District Coordinating Council Update

**District: Aroostook District**

**Date: June 17, 2021**

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:

<http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/mecdc/public-health-systems/lphd/district8/council-main.shtml>

➤ May 5, 2021 – Board Education Topic: Cultural Sensitivity by John (Sa’n) Dennis, Cultural Coordinator, Aroostook Band of Micmacs; Presentation: National Digital Equity Center & Maine Digital Inclusion Initiative with Susan Corbett, National Digital Equity Center

➤ Dates of note in Aroostook District:

- Next DCC Meeting: August 4, 2021
- Next Steering Committee Meeting: July 7, 2021
- Next Shared Community Engagement Meeting: July 7, 2021
- Next Healthy Aging Committee Meeting: July 13, 2021
- Next Public Health Emergency Planning Committee Meeting: July 1, 2021
- Next Homebound Vaccination Workgroup Meeting: July 1, 2021
- Next COVID-19 Messaging Workgroup Meeting: June 22, 2021

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

- The Aroostook Shared Community Engagement Committee has been meeting regularly. The meeting is scheduled to be all virtual on Wednesday, November 3, 2021.
- The State Public Health Systems assessment is meeting regarding Invitees and Technology. The meetings are planned for August Mid-month.

**Progress with District Public Health Improvement Plan:**

- The Emergency Planning Committee meets bi-monthly to discuss COVID-19 Vaccinations efforts throughout all of Aroostook County.
- The Homebound Vaccination Workgroup has vaccinated over 100 people since the beginning of this effort.
- The COVID-19 Messaging Workgroup has come out with a “DON’T Wait, Vaccinate!” campaign. This is an omnichannel effort (Social Media, Television & Radio). Local Celebrities are discussion why they choose
- The Healthy Aging Committee is hosting monthly drop-in RoundTable meeting to facilitate any Healthy Aging related barriers or supports needed by partners.

**Structural and Operational changes, including updates in membership.**

- The United Way named Sue W as their voting Alternate.
- Aroostook DCC continues to offer Disability Rights Maine’s Relay Conference Captioning (RCC) during full council meetings for people with Hearing and Speech difficulties.

**In-district or multi-district collaborations:**

- An “Age Friendly Communities Informational Session” was put on by AARP, Aroostook Agency on Aging, the Four Aroostook Age Friendly Communities, on a virtual platform May 13, 2021. There

District Name: Aroostook

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22 M.R.S. §412 (2011).

A. A district coordinating council for public health shall:

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- (4) Ensure that the essential public health services and resources are provided for in each district in the most efficient, effective, and evidence-based manner possible.

A-1. The tribal district coordinating council shall:

- (1) Participate as appropriate in department district-level activities to help ensure the tribal public health system in the tribal district is ready and maintained for tribal public health accreditation; and
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were 20 attendees.

➤ The COVID-19 Messaging Workgroup has come out with a “DON’T Wait, Vaccinate!” campaign. This is an omnichannel campaign (Social Media, Television & Radio). Local Celebrities are discussion why they choose to be vaccinated.

### **Other topics of interest for SCC members:**

➤ June 8<sup>th</sup> as a collaboration with the Local Television Station WAGM, the COVID-19 Messaging Group, Sherry Locke, Chair, ACAP put on a live panel discussion - Aroostook: Don’t Wait, Vaccinate! Get your questions answered. This televised event had representation from all four hospitals. A YouTube link for the full program with the Don’t Wait, Vaccinate Testimonials included during the program. [Link](#)

District Name: Aroostook

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# Statewide Coordinating Council for Public Health District Coordinating Council Update

<b>District: Central</b>	<b>Date: June 17, 2021</b>
<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> The April quarterly DCC meeting was on ‘COVID-19 Vaccination Hesitancy and What We Can Do About It’ with Jennifer Gunderman, Director of the Maine Area Health Education Center (AHEC) at the University of New England. After the main meeting, we discussed plans and outreach assistance needed for the Waterville FEMA Mobile Vaccination Unit (MVU), and tips for finding vaccination appointments in our District.</p> <p>The Steering Committee had regular COVID-19 Situational Awareness updates on pandemic response, assisted with FEMA MVU outreach, and has continued to review 211 call and unmet needs data to help ensure that district resources are included in 211 and people are getting connected to the help they need.</p>	
<p><b>Ongoing or upcoming projects or priority issues:</b> COVID-19 response, infection prevention, PPE and testing supplies provision; vaccination clinic, appointment, and transportation assistance; assistance for organizations providing basic needs and connecting people to those resources. Limited work on the Partners for Recovery (PFR/HRSA) Grant and hospital HRSA grants; Harm Reduction/ Needle Exchange capacity building and Naloxone distribution; and ACEs-Resilience training and resources. Shared CHNA Community Engagement Forum dates set for November 16 and 18; browntail moth info and training.</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>▶ Workgroups have been less active this quarter to deal with COVID-19 pandemic response and infection prevention working conditions.</li> </ul> <p><i>Successes achieved</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ The ACEs-Resilience Workgroup has met bi-monthly to share toolkits, training opportunities, and resources; and to advise the MaineGeneral HRSA Substance Use Prevention grants. Members are working on ‘You Matter to Us’ materials and information initiative for schools.</li> </ul> <p><i>Barriers encountered</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Disruption in usual way of doing business and lack of staff time for other DCC tasks due to COVID-19 pandemic response.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Structural and Operational changes, including updates in membership:</b> none this quarter</p>	
<p><b>In-district or multi-district collaborations:</b> COVID-19 response with County EMAs and regional EMS; prevention/basic needs assistance for organizations serving vulnerable populations (e.g., shelters, long term care, congregate living, behavioral health providers, at-risk youth programs, food/meals programs, libraries, schools); COVID-19 vaccination information and assistance; transportation assistance; town vaccination clinics; HRSA grants and regional assessment; browntail moth information and workshops.</p>	
<p><b>Other topics of interest for SCC members:</b> Greatest need right now is for partner assistance with mainstreaming infection control practices and combatting vaccination hesitancy.</p>	

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# Statewide Coordinating Council for Public Health District Coordinating Council Update



**District: Cumberland**

**Date: 6/16/21**

For agendas and copies of minutes, please see district's website at:

<http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/mecdc/public-health-systems/lphd/district2/council-main.shtml>

## ***Brief review of decisions and outcomes from Executive Committee and DCC meetings held since last SCC meeting:***

**Informal CDPHC Coffee Zoom Meetings** were held in March and April, as a way to stay in touch, while many members of the CDPHC leadership are working directly in the Covid-19 response.

### **May DCC Meeting:**

25 persons took part in the May 21<sup>st</sup> DCC meeting at which Inza Ouattara, State Refugee Health Coordinator presented The Impact of COVID-19 on African Immigrants Living in New England: A Photovoice Project. To watch the photovoice project online, visit: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tCcAsaK\\_AZw](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tCcAsaK_AZw) We also had a presentation on the Maine Shared Community Health Needs Assessment (Shared CHNA) by Jo Morrissey, MSCHNA Program Manager; and Ellen Freedman, MaineHealth Program Manager.

**CDPHC will meet again on July 16<sup>th</sup>, 10am-12pm.**

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

The CDPHC Executive Committee and membership are closely involved in the Covid-19 Many members of response.

### *Progress with District Public Health Improvement Plan:*

### *Structural and Operational changes, including updates in membership:*

Along with the Vice Chair role, there are additional openings for members. Elections originally planned to take place in January will take place at a future date, currently tbd.

The position for SCC Representative is open too, and current SCC Representative has indicated that she will stand again for the position.

### *In-district or multi-district collaborations:*

Within Cumberland District, Maine Immunization Program, Public Health Nursing and District Public Health continue to convene bi-weekly Covid-19 vaccination coordination meetings with local community partners and

healthcare providers- with the major goal of ensuring vaccination equity, highlighting and addressing gaps collectively.

*Other topics of interest for SCC members:*

Planning for Portland area and Lake Region Shared Community Health Needs Assessments have begun.

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# Statewide Coordinating Council for Public Health District Coordinating Council Update

Template updated 03/2015 (CTG section removed)

<b>District: Downeast</b>	<b>Date: June 17, 2021</b>
<p>Brief review of decisions and outcomes from Executive Committee and DCC meetings held since last SCC meeting. SCC meeting materials and general information can be found at <a href="http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/mecdc/public-health-systems/lphd/district7/council-main.shtml">http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/mecdc/public-health-systems/lphd/district7/council-main.shtml</a>.</p>	
<p><b>District Public Health Council Meetings</b></p>	
<p><b>March 19, 2021</b> all Virtual Meeting: <b>34 Attendees</b></p>	
<p>Key Action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Deeper Dive: Maine Digital Inclusion Initiative with Susan Corbett, National Digital Equity Center</li> <li>• Creating Barriers to Active Suicidal Ideation in Rural Maine with Al May, Maine CDC</li> <li>• Maine Prevention Services Updates</li> <li>• Committee Updates (Emergency Planning, Palliative Care and Healthy Aging, Health Literacy, Cancer)</li> </ul>	
<p><b>May 21, 2021</b> all Virtual Meeting: <b>29 Attendees</b></p>	
<p>Key Action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Deeper Dive: Middle School Education in the State of Maine with Rowen Luuring, Washington Academy and Corrie Hunkler, Healthy Acadia</li> <li>• Maine Legislative Update, Becca Boulos, Maine Public Health Association</li> <li>• Early Mental Illness Identification and Intervention in Washington County: Building an Asset Map, Lois-Ann Kuntz and Jeffrey Hecker, University of Maine</li> <li>• Committee Presentation: Healthy Aging: Hancock County Triad Formation</li> </ul>	
<p><i>2021 Meetings: 1/15, 3/19, 5/21, 7/16, 9/17 and 11/19</i></p>	
<p><b>Executive Committee Meetings</b></p>	
<p><b>April 16, 2021</b></p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Executive Committee Leadership: Angela, Chair &amp; Meredith, Vice-Chair</li> <li>• Committee Work (Health Literacy, Palliative Care &amp; Hospice, Healthy Aging, Cancer and Emergency Preparedness)</li> </ul>	
<p><i>2020 Meetings: 2/19, 4/16, 6/18, 8/20, 10/15, and 12/17</i></p>	

Downeast District

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6/17/2021

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<sup>1</sup>Section 5. 22 MRSA c. 152

**A district coordinating council for public health shall:**

1. Participate as appropriate in district-level activities to help ensure the state public health system in each district is ready and maintained for accreditation;
2. Provide a mechanism for district-wide input to the state health plan under Title 2, section 103;
3. Ensure that the goals and strategies of the state health plan are addressed in the district; and
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# Statewide Coordinating Council for Public Health District Coordinating Council Update

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

- The Connection Initiative meets weekly. TCI has a soft COVID-19 Assistance start date and are live now.
- Disability Rights Maine's Relay Conference Calling (RCC) was offered to people with Hearing and Speech difficulties at the full council meeting in May.
- Washington County and Hancock County SCHNA Forums are being planned for Friday September 17 and Thursday September 30, respectively.
- The State Public Health Systems assessment is being planned for August.
- Newsletters: March (Colorectal Cancer Awareness, Epilepsy & Women in Science); April (Public Health Awareness Week, Workplace Violence Awareness & Women in Science); May (Lyme Disease Awareness, National Children's Mental Health Awareness & Women in Science)

## **Progress with District Public Health Improvement Plan:**

- Emergency Preparedness Committee continues to work on the development of a Downeast MRC Volunteers unit.
- Palliative Care/Hospice Committee is creating a Downeast Palliative Care resource, currently working with Maine 211.
- Healthy Aging Committee has been creating a Hancock County Triad with local organizations, seniors, and law enforcement.

## **Structural and Operational changes, including updates in membership:**

- Leadership: Angela Fochesato, Healthy Acadia was elected Chair of the Executive Committee and Meredith Alexander, ASTHO, was elected the Vice-Chair.
- Membership: New: Lisa Hanscom and Christine Day, Washington County EMA
- Websites being managed to provide meeting information for Executive Committee and Council Members.

## **In-district or multi-district collaborations:**

- The DEPHC is a founding member of the Hancock County Triad a partnership between law enforcement, community support organizations, and older adults. Objectives and purpose of Triad is being determined through discussions of what existing, Aging Well Communities are looking for in a regional umbrella support entity like a triad.

Downeast District

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6/15/2021

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## Statewide Coordinating Council for Public Health

### District Coordinating Council Update



<b>District: Midcoast</b>	<b>Date: June 17, 2021</b>
<p>Brief review of decisions and outcomes from Steering Committee and District Coordinating Council (DCC) meetings held since last SCC meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The June 8, 2021 DCC meeting included a panel presentation and group discussion about climate change and public health. Presenting were Sean Birkel, Research Assistant Professor at UM and Maine State Climatologist based at the Climate Change Institute; Nick Battista, Senior Policy Officer, Island Institute; Judy East, Executive Director, Land Use Planning Commission; and Anne Fuchs, Director of Mitigation, Planning and Recovery Division, Maine Emergency Management Agency. The moderator was Becca Boulos, Executive Director of the Maine Public Health Association, and member of the Maine Climate Council's Community Resilience Planning, Public Health and Emergency Management Working Group and Health Equity Subcommittee. Rebecca Lincoln, Maine CDC toxicologist, also provided an update on the Maine CDC BRACE program during the panel discussion.</li> <li>During the April 13, 2021 DCC meeting, attendees participated in a discussion led by presenter Greg Marley, LCSW, Clinical Director and Director of Suicide Prevention at NAMI, <i>Coping With COVID, Building Hope</i>.</li> <li>Planning for the 2021 Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) is ongoing; tentative dates have been identified: Waldo- 11/04; Knox- 10/27; Lincoln and Sagadahoc- 11/17.</li> </ul>	
<p>Ongoing or upcoming projects or priority issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Steering Committee is planning to hold another panel presentation in September, to perform a deeper dive into specific topics around climate change and public health, with a focus on public policy.</li> <li>The Council will be producing another newsletter over the summer and has continued publishing "notes and resources" documents, which are short, simple documents that allow the Council to distribute more time-sensitive information to MPHIC mailing list subscribers.</li> <li>Vaccination efforts, particularly the more FEMA-supported MVU clinics, school vaccination clinics, and the community-focused clinics, have been a high priority within the District.</li> </ul>	
<p>Progress with District Public Health Improvement Plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>COVID 19 response has been the highest priority for district members.</li> </ul>	
<p>Structural and operational changes, including updates in membership:</p>	
<p>In-district or multi-district collaborations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Via the newsletter and notes and resources publications, the Council has been providing regular updates on ongoing, COVID 19-impacted mental health and food security challenges, as well as helping to promote COVID 19 vaccination efforts.</li> </ul>	



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



<b>District: Penquis</b>	<b>Date: June 17, 2021</b>
<p><b>Brief review of decisions and outcomes from Steering Committee and DCC (District Coordinating Council/Public Health Council) meetings held since last SCC (State Coordinating Council) meeting.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The last Penquis DCC/Public Health Council meeting was held on June 4, 2021. Agenda items included a presentation by Robin Carr of Bangor Public Health and Community Services on alcohol use during COVID 19, called <i>Memes and Quarantinis</i>, and another by Stephanie Doore and Laura Hagelin on StrengthenME, as part of Maine’s behavioral health and resiliency response to the COVID- 19 pandemic.</li> <li>• Relay Conference Captioning, a free service for Maine residents, continues to be offered to increase participant inclusivity.</li> <li>• The next DCC meeting will be held on September 10, 2021.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Ongoing or upcoming projects or priority issues:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Similar to last quarter:</li> <li>• COVID 19 vaccination and clinic logistics challenges, particularly school vaccination clinics and the FEMA-supported MVU clinics</li> <li>• Housing, heating oil, and ongoing transportation needs/other SDOH initiatives</li> <li>• Rising overdose rates and mental health supports</li> <li>• Engagement of youth and workforce development needs, including the need for better broadband access</li> <li>• Shared CHNA planning</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Progress with District Public Health Improvement Plan:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• COVID 19 response is the highest priority for district members at the moment.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Structural and operational changes, including updates in membership:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Karen Hawkes, Vice President of Operations for Beacon Health/Northern Light Health and Kate Carlisle, Director of Mission Engagement, Penobscot Community Health Care, both joined the Penquis DCC/Public Health Council.</li> <li>• Sue Mackey-Andrews, Nicole Hammar, and Matt Donahue renewed three-year terms on the Steering Committee.</li> <li>• Sue Mackey-Andrews of the Maine Resilience Building Network/Helping Hands with Heart in Piscataquis County, former Penquis DCC/Public Health Council Vice Chair, replaced Father Augustine Nellary as the Chair of the Penquis DCC/Public Health Council. Jamie Comstock of Bangor Public Health and Community Services in Penobscot County replaced Sue Mackey-Andrews as Vice-Chair.</li> <li>• Members agreed to a change of name from the Penquis District Coordinating Council to the Penquis Public Health Council and approved the removal of the three-term limit from the bylaws for Steering Committee members. This was done to facilitate the participation of</li> </ul>	

people who need to remain on the DCC/Council Steering Committee because of their role in public health and is not intended to prevent new members from joining or current members who would like to leave from doing so. It will also change the bylaws to be in better alignment with existing DCC/Council practice.

**In-district or multi-district collaborations:**

- Shared CHNA: Local level planning is progressing. Save The Date's have been sent out for the finalized virtual forum dates: Penobscot County Forum, September 23, 2021, 10:00 am – 12:00 pm (noon), Zoom Meeting. Piscataquis County Forum, September 7, 2021, 1:00 – 3:00 pm, Zoom Meeting. The invitation list for forum attendance and recruitment for facilitator/scribes for the forum breakout groups is also progressing.

**Other topics of interest for SCC members:**

- An effort to coordinate vaccination clinics and their promotion so that vulnerable populations receive equitable access to vaccination opportunities is underway in both counties; flyers listing the currently available vaccination sites and some vaccination appointment tips/resources have been updated and re-distributed.

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

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**District: Western**

**June 17, 2021**

For agendas and copies of minutes, please see district's website at:  
<http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/boh/olph/lphd/index.shtml>

***Brief review of decisions and outcomes from Executive Committee and DCC meetings held since last SCC meeting:***

Last DCC meeting was held on December 16, 2020 and was reported out on the last SCC report. Western District DCC leadership has been extremely busy addressing COVID-19 outbreaks and vaccination clinics and has not had the necessary time to hold a DCC meeting. However, we do have an upcoming meeting scheduled for June 25, 2021 from 12-1:30PM.

Jamie is supporting the Maine CDC's Covid-19 efforts distributing PPE and test kits, outbreaks, and participating in a strike group with Public Health Nursing, the Maine Immunization Program, and others. For more information, please contact Jamie at: [Jamie.L.Paul@Maine.gov](mailto:Jamie.L.Paul@Maine.gov).

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

***Progress with District Public Health Improvement Plan:***

***Structural and Operational changes, including updates in membership:***

The Chair and the three County Representatives positions will be accepting nominations. Please look for a Doodle Poll from Emilee regarding nominations. Voting will be held electronically, and the new Officers will be welcomed at the next DCC meeting.

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

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***In-district or multi-district collaborations:***

***Other topics of interest for SCC members:***

All meetings are anticipated to be held virtually at this time. Participants agreed to schedule upcoming meetings as they come due to the ever-changing nature of Covid-19. Keep an eye out for a Doodle Poll from Emilee regarding upcoming meeting times. Ideas for upcoming speakers and topics, please contact Jamie at: [Jamie.L.Paul@Maine.gov](mailto:Jamie.L.Paul@Maine.gov)

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

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**District: York District**

**Date: 06/17/2021**

For agendas and copies of minutes, please see district's website at:  
<http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/boh/olph/lphd/index.shtml>

***Brief review of decisions and outcomes from Executive Committee and DCC meetings held since last SCC meeting:***

Due to leadership changes and the COVID-19 response the DCC did not meet, but will do so in July.

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

None currently, council work on a hold pattern as work of ME CDC focuses on Covid-19 response, and local partners focus on covid work and regular prevention work.

***Progress with District Public Health Improvement Plan:***

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

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***Structural and Operational changes, including updates in membership:***

***In-district or multi-district collaborations:***

The Executive Committee is working with community partners to plan for the SHARED CHNA in September. More information to follow

***Other topics of interest for SCC members:***

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