



Quarterly Membership Meeting
August 21, 2015
9:00 to 11:00 am

Thank you to Chief Kasten for hosting this meeting at the Hartford Safety Complex, in White River Junction, VT.

Meeting Notes

The meeting opened with a welcome from Chief Kasten and introductions.

Community Health Improvement Planning

Emergency Preparedness

Wes Miller presented a proposed set of goals, objectives, and strategies for improving the region's emergency response capacity over the next three years. Questions and discussion included the following:

- Do we know who are vulnerable populations are? How do we compare with Sullivan and Windsor Counties? Where does Medical Reserve Corps recruitment fit into the plan? Is the Upper Valley region part of someone else's "emergency relocation plan"? [e.g., is Boston planning to send people our way in case of a case evacuation?]
- Members approved this proposed plan for EP.

Substance Misuse Prevention

Aita Romain presented a proposed set of goals, objectives, and strategies for reducing substance abuse in the region, along with supporting data. Questions and discussion included the following:

- Should we be looking at issues of older adults, prescription medication, and driving – perhaps provider education? Can we look to pharmacies to partner? Do we have enough DRE's (drug recognition experts)?
- Members approved this proposed plan for EP.

Cancer Prevention

Alice Ely explained the decision not to include Cancer Prevention in this iteration of the CHIP. Reasons include: changing guidance about what appropriate screening practices should be, little local control over practices, and insufficient time to explore fully.

Valerie Thompson, of the Breast and Cervical Cancer Screening Program (out of Dartmouth), talked about screening rates for this free mammography program. It appears that fewer women are eligible for the program because of the Affordable Care Act; however, there are still women who need this coverage but they may be harder to find. The BCCP does have funding for outreach and education and is looking for partners. Someone suggested that Valerie connect to the ServiceLink monthly wrap-around meeting.

Falls Prevention

The Dartmouth Center for Health and Aging has received a grant to increase falls prevention programming throughout the D-H system. Greg Norman and Alice Ely will meet with grant staff in early September to determine what the Upper Valley can expect. We will discuss the CHIP at the September meeting.

Oral Health

At this point, the partnership of the Ottauquechee Health Foundation, Dartmouth-Hitchcock, and Alice Peck Day Memorial Hospital is pilot testing a Community Dental Hygienist program at two senior centers in Hartford. Based on lessons learned, they hope to pilot the program in New Hampshire in the fall.

In general, our region's goals around oral health include increasing access to restorative care and flipping the investments we make from emergency care to preventive care. We will discuss the CHIP at the September meeting.

Other Projects

Crisis Intervention Team Training

Alice and Chief Kasten provided an update on plans to host a CIT in Hartford in October.

Data Briefs for Falls and Suicide

Approved with changes as discussed in the meeting.

Health Effects of Climate Change

Mike McCrory presented the framework for our region's plan. The focus is on resiliency (our resident's and community's ability to bounce back). Some discussion and questions included the following:

- Look at how Hudson, NH, handled last October's snow storm. Meals on Wheels interacts with over 200 seniors daily. When looking to identify vulnerable populations and get information out, we need to remember to go to them as they are not likely to come to us.