

Attendees: Barbara Farnsworth, Anna Hullinger, Taralyn Bielaski, Ellen Thompson, Rudy Fedrizzi, Andrea Smith, Kathleen Vasconcelos, Jeana Newbern, Bridget Mudge, James Esdon, Janet Hunt, Holly Gaspar, Stephanie Bergeron, Maggie Coleman, Rebecca Desilets, Dana Michalovic, Mary Stevens, Meghan Butts, Nadine Lamontagne, Roger Osmun, Ellen Hender, Wendy Walsh, Jessica Clow, Wendi Germain, Liz Swanton, Stacey Chiocchio, Havailah Arnold, Tony Strat-Cortez, Alice Ely

Alice Ely welcomed partners and Advisory Council Members to the meeting and reviewed the agenda.

Emergency Preparedness Updates on COVID, Monkeypox, and Flu Vaccine

Anna Hullinger with NH-based updates:

Anna shared a slide presentation as part of her updates; the presentation is being provided along with the notes.

- **Monkeypox**, also called orthopox, is most commonly spread through skin-to-skin contact, especially during sexual intercourse. It can also spread through contact with surfaces or fabrics that were touched by an infected person that have yet to be disinfected.
 - Signs and symptoms: Fever, headache, muscle aches, backache, swollen lymph nodes, chills, exhaustion, respiratory symptoms (sore throat, nasal congestion, or cough)
 - Rash that can look like pimples and is very painful.
 - NH has 16 cases currently (as of 8/17/22)
 - Sanitizing and wiping things down regularly is a good precaution.
 - Currently two vaccines- ACAM2000 (likely will not be used in NH) and JYNNEOS
 - See slide deck from Anna for more information.
- **COVID19**- NH is seeing an average 7-day case count of 222
 - UV has seen approx. 82 cases in 14 days.
 - Anna has COVID tests to give out to non-profits. Email Anna Hullinger at Anna.M.Hullinger@hitchcock.org for tests. Anna can order 2,300 a month.
 - Relative to providing vaccines, the RPHN's are running on 90-day emergency orders and the current one will run out on Sept 30. Until then, it is possible for them to conduct vaccine clinics. They are not able to vaccinate the youngest age group.
 - Vaccination locations can be found on the NH DHHS website.
- **School-Based Flu clinics**-
 - 44 schools signed up for fall flu vaccine clinics between UV and GSC
 - Clinics start Oct 3 and run until Thanksgiving with make-up dates built in.

Rudy Fedrizzi with VT-based updates:

- The State of Vermont is referring to Monkeypox as **HMPXV** as there is currently stigma associated with the term Monkeypox.
 - Testing-is available at providers office. 211 and HealthVermont.org are the best sources of information. Free health centers in VT are also sources for testing and treatment.
 - Currently there is a single case in VT. Vaccine strategy all being managed by central office. Only people being vaccinated currently are those who have had direct high-risk contact with a positive case.
- **COVID19** cases are under 100 in VT. Very small # of hospitalizations.
 - School and childcare guidance is being put out by VDH for upcoming school year. Gives a lot of discretion to school nurse.

- **Flu:** VDH will not be in the vaccine business this year for flu as that will be run by provider's offices and other clinics. They are providing grants to provider practices to run clinics.
 - Clinically speaking you can get a COVID booster and flu shot at the same time.

PHC CHIP Development Progress & Input:

Alice shared a slide presentation for the next two topics. It will be provided along with notes.

The proposed CHIP Outline:

1. CHNA Priority Crosswalk
2. Hospital CHIP Strategy Summary and Crosswalk
3. Priority sections
 - A. Data review
 1. CHNA Qual and Quantitative
 2. Highlight of disparities
 - B. Strategies and Indicators
 1. drawing from existing efforts in the region
 2. elevating work
 3. noting the gaps
 4. framing as part of a collective effort to improve health for all

Note on Child Wellbeing

- UV Strong childcare committee has evolved. Maggie Coleman has come on board to create a framework around what we need in our communities to address child wellbeing and what currently exists in our communities.

Note on Socio-economic conditions: housing and others

- Housing is connected to health. We need to frame the need as a matter of health and wellbeing in our communities.

Discussion:

Alice asked for thoughts on framing the CHIP as a reflection of the collective approach in our region.

- Each of these priority items are not siloes, they are all related. How can we tie these all to say that this is the "wellness landscape" if we do any of them well, we are likely supporting the others.
- Supporting care givers in any aspect. Grant for AmeriCorps to train 20-30 folks as respite providers. Meals on Wheels is a huge program for not only meals but also social connectedness and currently Meals on Wheels is looking at a 25% cut in funding.

UV Equity & Health Disparities Work:

- Alice reviewed highlights of the UV Equity/Anti-Racism Group (UVEAR).
- Alice and Tony shared a review of the UV Community Health Equity Partnership project, supported by the CDC health equity grant that ends May 2023.
 - Goal for this funding is to use the problem statement in the broadest way possible to build capacity among organizations (formal and informal) that serve traditionally marginalized groups.
- UVPHC Board of Directors is willing to provide up to 10% of an award amount to grantees up front so they have money to spend and then will work on spending down the money as reimbursement.

- The Haven also has a grant from this program to address homelessness. Good Neighbor is a partner in this grant and continues to do outreach and providing healthcare to homeless individuals. Make interface with healthcare system more seamless and easier for those experiencing homelessness.

Partner Updates & Announcements:

- **ALL Together** will be putting out their community survey the beginning of September. Asking partners to help share the survey. The target audience is primarily parents/ caregivers and any adult in the region.
- Deryn Smith (Dartmouth Health and Substance Misuse Prevention Coordinator for GSC) has been co-facilitating adult mental health first aid for Dartmouth Athletics Staff. Currently have trained 54 coaches, support staff with 2 more trainings in this pilot with the college. Looking to train more individuals at the college in adult mental health first aid.
- Number of ALL Together staff and Hartford Community Coalition staff are trained in Youth Mental Health First Aid and are always looking for more opportunities to train organizations and groups in youth mental health first aid. Currently these trainings are offered free of cost thanks to a grant with UNH Cooperative Extension, but dollars have been budgeted as part of the Drug Free Community's Grant to be able to offer these trainings free of cost when the UNH grant expires.
- WCBH also has staff trained in Mental Health First Aid. Will explore capacity to do Older Adult MHFA.
- **Community Health Workers for COVID-related Health Disparities:** State of NH sent some money through RPHNs and Dartmouth Health has subcontracted that money to LISTEN and they have hired Jessica Clows who is working with SDoH and connecting folks to COVID resources and vaccination info.

Hypertherm has a Recovery Network which consists of associates who are in recovery. This group has been a great asset to Hypertherm in helping them think about ways to support employees, how to address events etc.