

Attendees: Alice Ely, Lauren Chambers, Andrea Smith, Hanna Brooks, Meghan Butts, Cherry Sullivan, Taralyn Bielaski, Kelli Ross, Rudy Fedrizzi, Barbara Farnsworth, Holly Gaspar, Bridget Mudge, Chris Dugan, Rebecca Desilets, Peggy O'Neil, Lyrica Stelle, Ruth Storey, Bridgett Taylor, Angela Zhang, Roger Osmun, Stephanie Bergeron, Liz Swanton, Margaret Drye, Peter Mason, Havailah Arnold, Lindsey Boisvert, Lisa Champagne, Laurie Harding, Martha Tecca, Kristin Barnum, Steve Atwood, Matthew Dean, Stacey Chiochio, Hilary Schuler, Susan Wnuk, Lexi Bly, Wendi Germain, Mark Boutwell, Janet Hunt

New Training Opportunity (Angela Zhang)

“Cross-Class Collaboration for Action on Poverty and Inequality”

Conducted by Think Again Consulting and sponsored by Listen Community Services, Dartmouth Health, Upper Valley Haven, Vital Communities, and Public Health Council
September 19th, 9:30 am-4:30 pm

Piloting this training in the Upper Valley to bring people to together from different sectors and backgrounds, of varying levels of influence and leadership. An organization could send 2-3 people at varying levels to bring different perspectives. Hope to offer this several times a year, learning community with follow up sessions to continue to build on the conversations. Hope to have local facilitators. Official invite coming soon! If you have questions, email Angela at angela@listencs.org

- Learning objectives:
 1. Understand how poverty and wealth work at individual, community and systemic levels, and how poverty and wealth intersect with other parts of our lives like race, ability, etc.
 2. Identify the differences between individual, organizational, and systemic root causes and symptoms of poverty and oppression, and how they work together and separately
 3. Learn some concepts and frameworks about equity vs equality, bias and de-biasing practices, and solidarity vs helping
 4. Practice cross-class communication skills
 5. Identify your own spheres of influence and make realistic and collaborative goals for effective action

The Phoenix, offering sober, active events (Amanda Christiano, Volunteer)

The Phoenix is a sober active community for people in recovery. There are programs across the country and a NH wide office with paid staff. Local groups are largely volunteer run. Upcoming events (**flyers**) include skateboarding and yoga. Partnered with local skate shop that donated equipment to borrow and taught skateboarding 101. Geared towards those in recovery but open to allies and supporters. New Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/uvcommunityrecovery> [facebook.com]

PHC Updates –

- Annual Meeting date/time has changed – NEW plan is **via Zoom on Thursday, November 10th from 5:00 to 7:00 pm**. Guest speaker still to be announced.
- Flu Clinics – information sent out by email recently, also see information on PHC blog. Need volunteers for clinic logistics, traffic flow, and registration. <https://uvpublichealth.org/2022-community-flu-vaccine-clinics/>
- Legislative Breakfast, November 14th, 8:00 to 11:00 am: Bringing legislators together from VT & NH to talk about priority issues that emerged from Community Health Needs Assessments. There are rarely opportunities for representatives from the two states to discuss relevant, cross-state issues so this provides an opportunity for this. There will be topic area experts, facilitators, and recorders. Looking for people to fill these roles.

- UV Community Health Equity Partnership – CDC grant to State of VT, moving forward to get an RFP out by October 3rd to provide funding up to \$150k to community organizations (especially mental health and substance use related issues among marginalized populations). Hoping to approve applications by early November. Will need a team of reviews to make decisions; let Alice know if interested.

Partner Updates:

WRJ District/VT Dept of Health

- Rudy Fedrizzi welcomed Kelli Ross and Lyrica Stelle. Kelli is the new Public Health Emergency Preparedness Coordinator and Lyrica is moving from her role as COVID Epidemiologist to Chronic Disease Specialist.
- Covid boosters and monkey pox vaccines – all information is at www.healthvermont.gov for eligibility, availability, etc. Clinics happening in Woodstock, Hartford, Springfield areas.
- Rudy also reported that GUVIST (Greater Upper Valley Integrated Services Team) will have a new FT paid staff member, supported by Couch Family Foundation, to help the coalition transition into a service organization. Job posting coming soon.
- There is a School of Cartoon Studies in WRJ. Rudy is interested in exploring creating a cartoon/comic to address health equity issues. Would need a project team to lead an application for the CDC funds. Contact Rudy to talk more about this

Dartmouth Health, Population Health

- Barbara Farnsworth welcomed Hanna Brooks to the Community Health Team. Hanna is supporting youth substance misuse prevention in the Upper Valley and Greater Sullivan County.

Lake Sunapee Region VNA & Hospice

- Matthew Dean introduced himself as a new clinical social worker with the LSRVNA.

Community Care of Lyme

- Martha Tecca shared information about the upcoming Health & Wellness Fair on Saturday, September 24th, from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm. Will have over 40 organization booths, variety of wellness demonstrations and events. contact shelby@gmail.com; <https://www.cclyme.org/health-wellness-fair-2022>
- Mental Health Team is looking to provide more opportunities for community education and information about mental health. Listening to what's needed in the community. October 5th session on Coping Skills for Managing Stress (geriatric-psych focus). Recording of recent program on mental health issues of trans and gender- diverse individuals is available: <https://www.cclyme.org/mental-health-considerations-for-transgender-and-gender-diverse-folks-wellness-wednesday> More info, ideas, upcoming programming, contact mentalhealth@cclyme.org

WIC Update (NH-UV Services, by Belknap-Merrimack Community Action Program)

- Susan Wnuk reported that they are resuming in-person WIC clinics for certification/re-certification appointments, but this is also still available online or by phone. Can start doing measurements, blood work, and lead screening again. Have an online pre-application process that can be started and someone from the clinic will follow up to complete the application. All

pregnant women or children under 5 enrolled in Medicaid are automatically eligible for WIC programming. Small increase in cash-value benefit for fruits/vegs. USDA looking at food insecurity differently (Nutrition Security) making sure people have access to healthy foods. Will share infographics and intro paper about this new approach to hunger.

- BMCAP operates clinics in Lebanon twice each month and in Enfield once each month.
- Rudy added that VT WIC continues to operate remotely. They plan to start a soft reopening in November.

FYI: White House Conference on Hunger, Nutrition and Health on September 28, 2022. This is the first time in over 50 years that we have had a national forum on hunger and food insecurity. You can find the information on their website at <https://health.gov/our-work/nutritionphysical-activity/white-house-conferencehunger-nutrition-and-health>

DH Community Health

- Barbara Farnsworth shared that currently the RPHN's do not have medical direction to offer COVID vaccine clinics. People are encouraged to use pharmacies or PCP's. RPHN staff will be offering over 40 school-based flu clinics this fall.
- Lauren Chambers announced an All Together meeting on September 28th at 2:00 pm at which they will be focusing on sustainability post-DFC grant. They are entering year 9 of a 10-year grant. Join us to be part of the conversation. The meeting will be facilitated by Kelli Keck from Epiphany Community Services who serves as our evaluator for the grant.
- Our bi-annual Community Survey is live and this is intended for adults/parents in our regions to share their thoughts on substance misuse in the community and informs our prevention planning – link here and clickable PDF: [Upper Valley & Greater Sullivan County Community Survey 2022 \(research.net\)](#)

Community Nurse Connection

- Kristin Barnum announced they are expanding Community Nurses to more communities. CNC will be offering access to a patient satisfaction survey so they hope to have that data beginning next year. Anyone interested in getting a community nurse in their area reach out to Kristin.

Dartmouth Health Children's Family Advisory Board

- Ruth Storey is recruiting parents or caregivers of kids who receive healthcare at Dartmouth Health Children's and are interested in working with staff and leaders on supporting and improving care and communication for all kids. Commitment is a 2-year term, meetings held for 2 hours monthly on a Thursday morning. For more info contact: chadfab@hitchcock.org. Members have to become volunteers of DH and therefore cannot receive compensation for time; however, some support may be available for transportation and/or childcare.

Senior Solutions

- Mark Boutwell shared that VT is creating a Master Plan on Aging to cover the next 5 to 10 years. He participates in an 11-state learning collaborative to support creating such plans.