

Public Health Council of the Upper Valley

Partner Meeting

January 19, 2024

See list of attendees at the end of the notes.

PHC Partner Meeting: Advocating for Public Health Priorities

Welcome & Opening Remarks

- Future meetings will generally have first 1 hour driven by an agenda/topic, and last hour as an open sharing time between partners
- Future meetings will be hybrid and held at Hypertherm (71 Heater Road, Lebanon NH)
- New Futures is unable to attend today. Click [here](#) to learn more about their advocacy work

Updates on VTPHA Advocacy Work (see slides attached)

- The [VtPHA Policy Committee](#) meets the Second Tuesday of every month from 4:30-5:30 pm – contact Rudy at Rudolph.Fedrezzi@vermont.gov if you're interested in joining
 - Discuss topics on clinical and social issues of Public Health

ALL Together Advocacy Work, Andrea Smith (see slides attached)

- Andrea created a Weekly Advocacy Newsletter that focuses on various Public Health bills such as substance misuse, mental health, LGBTQ+, and more
 - To sign up for this newsletter, click [here](#)
 - Andrea encourages community partners to send out newsletter to community members
 - Contact Andrea at andrea.e.smith@hitchcock.org to learn more

PHC Advocacy Update (see slides attached)

- Connect with Advocacy Organizations [here](#)
 - If you know of organizations that focus on the PHC priority areas that are not on this list, please let Alice know
- *Question – If you were interested in taking any [New Futures advocacy-related trainings](#), what are the topics you'd be most interested in?*
 - Composing effective op-eds
 - Positive framework messaging (what sways elected officials the most and how best to get those messages across)
 - Get Out the Vote Training
- Jim Esdon – The Injury Prevention Center is following a couple of bills in New Hampshire: HB1467-FN would bring child passenger safety laws up to best practice. HB1440-FN would establish a life jacket loaner program along the Merrimack River.
- Bridgett Taylor – Common Good VT has a legislative advocacy day on January 25. To learn more, click [here](#)
- Stacey Chiochio – Susan Dewhirst is a good contact for voting advocacy resources. Susan's email is sdewhirst@nhdemocracyfund.org

Upcoming Meetings Discussion

- *Question – What are your thoughts on what a future meeting topic might be?*
 - Social isolation
 - Refugee welcome
 - Restorative justice (Greater Hartford Restorative Justice Center does this work)
 - Violence prevention without divisive side-taking (A dialogue about the root causes and what we can agree on to effectively move forward)

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- Intersectionality: Race, disability, LGBTQ+
- Assets – locally, regionally, and organization based
- Invite any persons accessing services at your orgs- certain focus of social driver- to generate ideas on reaching more or identifying true barriers – co-design.

Partner Sharing & Introductions

- Martha Tecca, Community Care of Lyme and SHARE
 - **CCL Mental Health Team Program:** We establish our dating patterns young! Come talk with WISE about how to model and establish healthy dating skills, recognize warning signs, and support young people in your lives.– Tues 2/6 6 pm Zoom
 - Click [here](#) for the Mental Health Team event link
 - Kate Rohdenburg of WISE will be facilitating and leading a community conversation about protecting against **Teen Dating Violence**
 - Feb is Teen Dating Violence Prevention Month – Teens who experienced abusive relationships in their youth were 4x more likely to experience as adults
 - **SHARE - CHANT** (Community Health Access Navigation Team) gathers monthly to talk about accessing systems
 - Each new individual has a support team
 - If you are interested in linking in with the CHANT team to share accessibility of the resources in your organization, contact Martha at martha.tecca@gmail.com
- Barbara Farnsworth, on behalf of Emily Zanleoni from **Hartford Community Coalition**
 - HCC received a small cannabis prevention grant and is working on capacity readiness to build a teen center in the Upper Valley
 - If people are interested in discussions around revitalization of a teen center and possible locations, email Amy from HCC at amiew@hccvt.org
- Kendra LaRoche, **Special Needs Support Center**
 - Center is based in White River Junction but covers Upper Valley area
 - Current initiative – Enabled Upper Valley
 - Working with organizations to create spaces that are more disability-friendly
 - Reach out to Kendra at kendra@sncs-uv.org if you're interested in your organization being a part of this initiative
- Rudy Fedrizzi, **Vermont Department of Health**
 - Kyla Jones was hired as School Nurse Coordinator and epidemiology support
 - GUVIST (Greater Upper Valley Integrated Services Team) is putting together some technical assistance to support the concept of integration and providing seamless services
 - If your organization is interested in discussing more around lead prevention and screening, contact Rudy at Rudolph.Fedrezzi@vermont.gov
- Michael Redmond – Upper Valley Haven
 - Constructed a **low-barrier shelter in Lebanon** with a ribbon cutting on 1/19
- Elena VanZandt – **HALO Educational Systems**
 - HALO provides direct services for mental health and substance use disorder
 - On Thursdays from 5-6 pm HALO offers an all recovery meeting for those in Canaan
 - On Mondays from 1-2pm HALO offers a SMART Recovery meeting for those in Lebanon
 - There is a hybrid component for these meetings. To obtain the meeting link, contact Elena at ElenaVanZandt@HALOEducationalSystems.com

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- Angela Zhang, LISTEN Community Services
 - The annual **Homeless Point In Time Count (PIT)** will happen on 1/24) and (1/25 to amp up data collection to advocate for more homeless shelters in Lower Grafton County
 - Volunteers needed for data collection, with a training component attached
 - [Here](#) is the sign-up for the Homeless Point in Time Count
 - [Here](#) is the interest form for new volunteers for the PIT Count and Angela will contact you with more information
- Andrea Smith, DHMC and ALL Together
 - ALL Together is holding a virtual Adult Mental Health First Aid training on February 28th from 9-5. Click [here](#) to learn more.
 - This is a free training with 2 hours of self-paced pre-work. Please share this training opportunity with your groups.
- Gregory Wilson, Vershire
 - Received a grant that focuses on people with a loved one using substances
 - Offers self-guided support groups every Thursday night 6:30-8 pm
 - Offers educational classes around addictive/non-addictive processes, trauma and grief, and what to do throughout process
 - In need a relationship with clinicians in the mental health field to have back-and-forth referrals between therapeutic and self-guided aspects
 - Reach out to Gregory at gwwilson2@gmail.com to learn more
- Kristin Barnum, **Community Nurse Connection**
 - Two new towns have accessibility to community nurses – Grantham and Enfield
 - CNC maps have been updated to incorporate these areas
 - Two introduced bills – Senate Bill 231 and House Bill 358 that focus on funding for Community Nurse programs
- Cara Baskin, **GUVIST**
 - Working with organizations in early childhood to improve social connection
 - If you want to learn more about GUVIST, contact Cara Baskin at GUVISTCatalyst@gmail.com or click [here](#)
- Brett Mayfield, PHC Board Chair and **Greater Hartford Restorative Justice Center**
 - Looking to expand social support for people in housing on the verge of being evicted
 - This program works with Twin Pines and other private landlords to do check-in supports on the emotional well-being of tenants
 - To learn more about the center, click [here](#)
- Beth O' Donnell, Alice Peck Day Hospital
 - New to APD Community Health
 - To connect with Beth and introduce yourself, email Beth at o'donnelle@apdmh.org
- Lyrica Stelle, Vermont Department of Health
 - Free Dental Day: February 9, 8 am to 5 pm at White River Junction Hartford State Office – 118 Prospect Street
 - Can see ~100 people in a day depending on the need
 - No extractions or other larger procedures, just dental exam/basic cleaning
 - Available for anyone at any age, though program was created to mainly support adults
- Tracey Hayes, Public Health Council
 - **Vermont Farm to Plate Network** is working on sustainability of the food system

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Next Meeting:

Friday, February 16, 2024, 9:00 to 11:00 am

Location: 71 Heater Rd, Lebanon at Hypertherm

Or Join with Teams on your computer, mobile app or room device:

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 230 801 632 164

Passcode: i5WSJu

PHC Partner Meeting, January 19, 2024

Attendees:

Barnum	Kristin	Community Nurse Connection
Baskin	Cara	GUVIST
Brooks	Hanna	DHMC
Canavan	Chelsea	Dartmouth Health
Chiocchio	Stacey	Hypertherm/HOPE Foundation
Coleman	Maggie	Dartmouth Health
Esdon	Jim	Injury Prevention Center, Dartmouth Health
Farnsworth	Barbara	DHMC
Fedrizzi	Rudy	VDH/WRJ
Hayes	Tracey	PHC
Kreis	Nancy	Dartmouth Health
LaRoche	Kendra	Special Needs Support Center
Mason	Peter	Headrest
Mayfield	Brett	PHC Board
Newbern	Jeana	LSRVNA
O'Donnell	Beth	Alice Peck Day Memorial Hospital
O'Neil	Peggy	WISE
Smith	Andrea	DHMC
Snow	Linda	DHMC/Moms in Recovery
Stelle	Lyrice	VDH/WRJ
Stocker	Kathy	DH CHAD
Sullivan	Cherry	Upper Valley Haven
Taylor	Bridgett	Vermont State University, Randolph Campus
Tecca	Martha	CommunityCare of Lyme
Van Zandt	Elena	HALO/Lebanon Middle School
Wargo	Dan	TLC Recovery Center
Wilson	Gregory	
Wnuk	Susan	Belknap Merrimack Community Action (WIC)
Zhang	Angela	Listen Community Services