

## Public Health Council of the Upper Valley

Partner Meeting

January 17, 2025

See list of attendees at the end of the notes.

### PHC Partner Meeting Topic: Open Forum for Partners to Share Upcoming Initiatives, Events & Needs

Rebecca Desilets – Lebanon Human Services/City of Lebanon

- Lebanon Winter Shelter opened up on January 8
  - Filled to capacity every night
  - Not opened to children, but service animals can come
  - Located at 160 Mechanic Street
  - Show up at 5 pm for a bed
- Point in Time (PIT) Count
  - Lebanon Human Services and LISTEN are having volunteers in groups of 2 support outreach in the community
  - Outreach would occur on January 22 evening and January 23 morning
  - Volunteer interest form [here](#)

Rudy Fedrizzi – Vermont Department of Health

- Involved in Hope Project, that is hosted by organizations in town of Windsor, and encourages people to put anonymous hope wishes into a chest
  - Hope wishes are shredded and turned into art by a school art class
  - Would love to replicate this in Upper Valley
  - Chest rotates to different public places in community every 2-3 months
  - Public Health Council will pay for the box
  - If interested in learning more and getting involved, contact Rudy

Nancy Kreis – DHMC Population Health

- Has access to a limited amount of COVID vaccines
  - Has restrictions – for completely uninsured individuals
  - If folks know who it can go towards, contact Nancy

Jim Esdon – DHMC Injury Prevention Center

- Bill in NH legislature that targets personal electronic vehicles and includes safety precautions
  - This includes e-bikes and e-scooters
  - As these vehicles become faster and heavier, injuries are rising
  - No date yet on when it will go to legislature

Barbara Farnsworth – DHMC Population Health

- Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) report will be finished late February
  - Barbara will present CHNA results at next March meeting
- Hartford Community Coalition is posting a Director of Operations position
  - Completely remote and focuses on financial support
  - Share this role with anyone you know

## Public Health Council of the Upper Valley

Partner Meeting

January 17, 2025

### Mark Boutwell – Senior Solutions

- Case management services have been shifted to district Area Agencies on Aging, which includes Senior Solutions
  - If you know someone who is eligible for long-term care and Medicaid, contact Mark
  - Have taken on an additional 130 clients and 5 staff
  - Have seen a low referral rate in Upper Valley, so if you have thoughts to share on why this is, contact Mark at [mboutwell@seniorsolutionsvt.org](mailto:mboutwell@seniorsolutionsvt.org)
    - A 2-page fact sheet could be helpful for folks to access information
    - Suggested he connect with Elder Forum (Beth O'Donnell)
- Mark would love to talk with different organizations on presentation of services
- Senior Solutions is looking to grow their board – if interested, contact Mark
- Senior Solutions will be sending out a 4 - 5 question survey to solicit input on the needs of older Vermonters for their new 3-year area plan similar to the hospital community needs assessments
  - This plan gets rolled up into a comprehensive state plan that gets submitted to the federal Administration on Community Living
  - If you receive this survey, please take a few minutes to complete it

### Neva Cote – VDH

- Reconvening Upper Valley Oral Health Workgroup
  - Workgroup will be remote and meet quarterly
  - Goal of having another oral pop-up health clinic and focus more broadly on how to be consistently provide access to dental care
  - If you want to join the workgroup, contact Neva at [Geneva.Cote@vermont.gov](mailto:Geneva.Cote@vermont.gov).

### Martha Tecca – Community Care of Lyme and SHARe

- SHARe is supporting a refugee initiative in the Upper Valley
  - People are arriving with different immigration statuses, which requires different services
  - Important to make sure people know their rights as immigrants and rights as folks supporting immigrants
  - **Red cards** are being printed out from organizations that have information on what immigrants should know, including:
    - You have constitutional rights:
      - DO NOT OPEN THE DOOR if an immigration agent is knocking on the door.
      - DO NOT ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS from an immigration agent if they try to talk to you. You have the right to remain silent.
      - DO NOT SIGN ANYTHING without first speaking to a lawyer. You have the right to speak with a lawyer.
      - If you are outside of your home, ask the agent if you are free to leave and if they say yes, leave calmly.
      - GIVE THIS CARD TO THE AGENT. If you are inside of your home, show the card through the window or slide it under the door.
  - Martha would love to connect folks supporting immigrants with information
  - Know your rights resource [here](#). Also, <https://www.cfiaus.com/rights/know-your-rights-3/>
  - If interested in connecting further, email Martha Tecca at [martha.tecca@gmail.com](mailto:martha.tecca@gmail.com)
- SHARe is hiring a full-time Executive Director role

## Public Health Council of the Upper Valley

Partner Meeting

January 17, 2025

### Sarah Cain – New Futures

- New Futures offers advocacy action alerts – sends emails based on interest areas
  - Currently looking at NH Alcohol Fund
- Looking for information for prevention professionals to share stories as New Futures plans to create a storybook
- If interested in connecting further, email Sarah at [scain@new-futures.org](mailto:scain@new-futures.org)

### Jeana Newbern – Lake Sunapee VNA

- Improv for Caregivers – February 12 at New London Playhouse
  - For folks caring for people with Alzheimer's or dementia
- Respite program – meets on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10-3 in New London
  - For folks caring for people with Alzheimer's or dementia
  - Have a scholarship program for people where finances are a barrier
  - For more information, visit [here](#)

### Andrea Smith – DHMC/ALL Together

- Virtual Youth Mental Health First Aid Training – January 28<sup>th</sup> from 9-4 pm via Zoom
  - Sign up [here](#)
- Vaping Education Webinar for Caregivers – February 11<sup>th</sup> from 6-7 pm via Zoom
  - Sign up [here](#)
- Lunch and Learn – February 19 from 11-2 at 71 Heater Rd, Lebanon (Hypertherm)
  - Learn about Recovery Friendly Workplace Initiative
- Community Survey will go out first week of February
  - For community members to share their perceptions of youth substance use in our community
  - Please push this out to your networks

### Kendra LaRoche – SNSC

- Disability-Friendly Certification
  - Working currently with Hartford, Lebanon, and Hanover
  - Offering for free to all organizations in Upper Valley
  - Goal is to make people with disabilities feel like they belong in their community
  - If you would like someone with a disability to use their voice for your organization, let Kendra know
  - If interested in connecting further, email Kendra
- Fear around Medicaid changes
  - If you are someone that Kendra can connect folks to, reach out to Kendra

### Gregory Wilson – VerShare Wellness

- Considering changing name to Northern Upper Valley Care Center
- Made two different tracks in program – direct support and group facilitation training

## Public Health Council of the Upper Valley

Partner Meeting

January 17, 2025

Michael Redmond – Upper Valley Haven

- “Just Getting By” documentary - February 2 at 2 pm at St. Paul’s Episcopal Church, next to the Haven
  - 5 organizations supporting this film, including Upper Valley Haven, CARHE, and LISTEN
  - Speaks to challenges of relying on Public Housing Emergency in VT
  - Teaches people how to take action at state and federal level
- Haven has recently purchased property with the intention to build a permanent low-barrier shelter of 20 beds and a resource center to connect folks with services
  - Still fundraising for this initiative
  - Hope to break ground in Spring, with the building available a year later
  - In response to a question, "low barrier" means that we try to remove any barriers that could prevent someone from accessing the services of the shelter. These include a requirement for sobriety, ID, immigration status, where you're from, having a pet.

Ella Harper-Schiehl – VDH, Division of Substance Use Programs

- Recovery Day – February 19 in Montpelier
- Prevention Day – April 3 in Montpelier
- Annual Substance Use Conference – May 20 and 21 in Burlington
  - Would love anyone’s thoughts for this conference
- New campaign with Green Peak Alliance targeting alcohol in older adults
  - Please share this social media campaign with your networks
  - Cannabis campaign will also be shared out
- VT HelpLink is now 24/7, 365 days of year, with text/call/online chat accessibility
- VT YRBS 2023 data is released
  - State and county data are out, with school supervisory union data coming out shortly
  - Potentially present with Andrea Smith on YRBS data at upcoming PHC meeting
- Looking for supporters that can contribute thoughts to regulating alcohol
- Reach out to Ella if you have questions or need support: Ella.Harper-Schiehl@vermont.gov

Katie Keating – DHMC/CARHE

- Working with a group in Windsor, VT, that is seeking a partner in VT to serve as a fiscal sponsor for a recovery center
  - Have very limited services in the community
  - In the early planning stages with an advisory group of peers and do not yet have funding or a center
  - Have reached out to a few non-profits with no luck yet
  - Contact Katie at [katie.m.keating@hitchcock.org](mailto:katie.m.keating@hitchcock.org) if you know of a partner

Biyanka Patel – Bavarian Nordic

- Medical Science Liaison at Bavarian Nordic – make portfolios of vaccines
- Can do clinical presentations/educational webinars to raise awareness of diseases so people are better prepared and aware
  - If you are interested in connecting further, contact Biyanka at [bipa@bavarian-nordic.com](mailto:bipa@bavarian-nordic.com)

Hanna Brooks – DHMC/ALL Together

## Public Health Council of the Upper Valley

Partner Meeting

January 17, 2025

- January 27 – TLC Connections Social, supporting LGBTQ+ youth and allies, and supportive adults of LGBTQ+ youth
  - Join us in Claremont and learn about our upcoming drop-in groups!

Kerry Artman – Lebanon CCBA

- Can offer a space for presentations, so if you are interested in presenting at CCBA, contact Kerry at [kerry.artman@joinccbba.org](mailto:kerry.artman@joinccbba.org)

Beth O'Donnell – Alice Peck Day Memorial Hospital

- Partnering with Lebanon Opera House to offer free Come as You Are Film Series
  - 2/2 — E.T. The Extra-Terrestrial
  - 2/13 — City Lights (Silent Film)
  - 3/20 — RENT
  - These events are FREE; registration is appreciated. To learn more, visit [here](#)
  - CCBA will offer childcare during these events
- Second year as Director of Community Health at APD
  - Supporting UV Smiles program to provide services to local schools
  - If you want to connect further to identify urgent care dental needs for youth, reach out to Beth

Alice Ely – Public Health Council

- Will be busy in 2025 with wide-ranging initiatives and smaller projects, including a Strategic Planning Process for PHC as an organization
  - Over course of next 5 months, there will be a survey going out to attendees and 1:1 interviews will be solicited to be sure we are doing the right things
- We will also update the CHIP with all partners' input
- PHC will be doing development work, including grant writing, to ensure they have the resources needed to support organizational growth

### Next Meeting:

Friday, March 21, 2025, 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:

Link: [Microsoft Teams](#)

Meeting ID: 229 460 036 413

Password: JBi4b5

## Public Health Council of the Upper Valley

Partner Meeting

January 17, 2025

### PHC Partner Meeting, January 17, 2025

#### Attendees:

Artman	Kerry	Lebanon CCBA
Barnum	Kristen	
Baskin	Cara	GUVIST
Bergeron	Stephanie	WCBH
Bielaski	Taralyn	DHMC
Boutwell	Mark	Senior Solutions
Brooks	Hanna	DHMC
Butts	Meghan	Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Regional Planning Commission
Cain	Sarah	New Futures
Caudill-Slosberg	Margaret	
Chambers	Lauren	NHPQC
Champagne	Lisa	
Cooper	Regina-Anne	State of VT
Cote	Neva	VDH
Desilets	Rebecca	Lebanon Human Services/City of Lebanon
Ely	Alice	Public Health Council of the Upper Valley
Esdon	Jim	DHMC Injury Prevention Center
Farnsworth	Barbara	DHMC Population Health
Fedrizzi	Rudy	VDH/WRJ
Harper-Schiehl	Ella	VDH/WRJ
Hayes	Tracey	Public Health Council of the Upper Valley
Hender	Ellen	Vital Communities
Keating	Katie	DHMC/CARHE
Kreis	Nancy	DHMC
Langille	Mary	
Labelle	Zach	West Lebanon CTC Programs
LaRoche	Kendra	SNSC
Lenart-Rikert	Kristi	LISTEN
Mason	Peter	Headrest
Mayfield	Brett	
Mudge	Bridget	Town of Hanover
Newbern	Jeana	Lake Sunapee VNA
O'Donnell	Beth	Alice Peck Day Memorial Hospital
O'Neil	Peggy	
Patel	Biyanka	Medical Science Liaison at Bavarian Nordic
Porreca	Lyndsay	Mascoma School District
Redmond	Michael	Upper Valley Haven
Smith	Andrea	DHMC
Taylor	Bridgett	VTSU-Randolph
Tecca	Martha	Community Care of Lyme and SHARe
Wheatley	Jim	Lebanon Fire Chief
Williams	Kym	
Wilson	Gregory	VerShare Wellness