

Public Health Council of the Upper Valley

Partner Meeting

June 20, 2025

See list of attendees at the end of the notes.

PHC Partner Meeting Topic: Greater Upper Valley Integration Services Team (GUVIST) and West Central Behavior Health (WCBH) Partnership

Cara Baskin, GUVIST

- Reminder that GUVIST is available to assist with building collaborative projects.
- Based on interest from last PHC Partner Meeting, Cara connected with Stephanie Bergeron (WCBH) to discuss a project.
- Stephanie presented at a GUVIST meeting and shared 4 needs for WCBH:
 - Increase visibility of what WCBH provides
 - New and strengthened relationships with organizations offering social support
 - Creating a referral pathway
 - Platform for referrals that encourages bidirectional flow of communication
- Next step for WCBH:
 - Building a proposal for change for GUVIST Executive Council to review
- If organizations are interested in navigating a change process, reach out to Cara:
GUVISTCatalyst@gmail.com
(603) 276-0355
[Book time to meet with me.](#)
Access the GUVIST website [here](#)

PHC Partner Meeting Topic: Catchafire

Alice Ely, Public Health Council of the Upper Valley

- Slide presentation attached.
- The NH Endowment for Health has purchased a plan and offered about 150 NH nonprofits access.
- Volunteers have skillsets in many areas. You can explore their project areas and details at [Catchafire](#).
- Alice is willing to post projects for other organizations and projects. Reach out to Alice to discuss. You will need to work with Alice to post the project and select a volunteer; however, most projects move to external email and google drive communications, so Alice can move aside once you are in process.

PHC Partner Meeting Topic: CHIP Planning Process

Alice Ely, Public Health Council of the Upper Valley

- PHC will focus on simple strategy goals that provide an opportunity for all PHC partners to get behind it and identify ways they can be a part of the work.
- We will also add capacity-building strategies– PHC partners should think about what they offer in abundance that can support capacity, such as offering a meeting space or skills.
- CHIP plan should also articulate ways gather learning from the community, incorporate more listening sessions, talk to those with lived experience and bring in their voices.

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- Suggestion of bringing in Executive Directors to speak on their experience and expertise, including successes and challenges within their organization, to PHC meetings.
- Using August, September, and October meetings to have facilitated discussions to select CHIP strategies.
 - These meetings will be in-person only.
 - Alice will update partners prior to each meeting on the topic.
- Thank you to those who have completed the Partner Survey. Results will feed into the CHIP as well as PHC's strategic plan.

Partner Sharing

Cara Baskin - GUVIST

- GUVIST meets virtually the first Thursday of the month, 9:00-10:30 am. All are welcome.
- If you're looking to talk through your idea with an audience of various sectors, reach out to Cara for remote meeting details.

Rudy Fedrizzi - VDH/WRJ

- Capacity to support vaccination clinics and other initiatives will be extremely limited as the person in this role is retiring, and there are no funds to replace them.
- Encourages us to think of vaccine confidence in the community.
- Encourages partners to join the Vermont and New Hampshire Public Health Associations
 - Costs ~\$40 a year to be a member
 - Vermont Public Health Association has doubled in size - access the link [here](#)
 - Focuses on evidence-based public health

Kerry Artman -- CCBA

- Finished 1st year of state-license afterschool program. Has gone very well.
- Looking to add after-school staff. Please spread the word.
- Many of the youth using the program come with complex needs. Staff needs training and support (e.g., trauma-informed practices). Kerry is looking for someone to help. (BF will make a connection for her.)

Barbara Farnsworth - DHMC Population Health

- July 18 and 19 - NH Medicaid dental van will be behind City Hall
 - Not a walk-in service, need to call for an appointment prior
 - Will be in Lebanon on a recurring basis
 - Requirements: 21 and older, NH Medicaid

Martha Tecca, SHARe

- Hired an Executive Director who will be full-time July 1
 - If you're interested in meeting with her, reach out to Martha

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- Opening for immigrants who are pre-approved to come to the United States. Share is helping through an organization called No One Left Behind.
 - There are families being welcomed to the Upper Valley beginning next week
 - SHARe has set up housing for these families
 - Reach out to Martha if you'd like to be involved.
- Encourages partners to inform community members of their legal rights and connect them to trainings.

Andy Grenier, TLC

- TLC is coming to end of Recovery Friendly Workplace Initiative, with Hypertherm being an RFW, but are looking to get more RFWs before the end of June.
- Block Party at Colburn Park on September 6 from 11 am to 2 pm (rain day September 7)
 - If you're interested in supporting, reach out to Andy
- TLC provides 1:1 peer support group Monday, Wednesday, Friday
- If folks need clothing to access workforce, TLC provides support
- Offers summer packages for those who are unhoused – includes clothing and additional resources

Thomas Hohmann, Dartmouth College

- Working as an intern with PHC and will focus on projects over next 10 weeks, including updating the PHC dashboard and CHIP planning process
- PHC will have 4 interns total this summer – if partner organizations need an intern to work on a project but don't have the capacity to manage them, Alice may be able to support.

Next Meeting:

Friday, August 15, 2025, 9:00 to 11:00 am

Location: 71 Heater Rd, Lebanon at Hypertherm

In-Person Only

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PHC Partner Meeting, June 20, 2025

Attendees:

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| Artman | Kerry | CCBA |
| Baskin | Cara | GUVIST |
| Bergeron | Stephanie | WCBH |
| Brooks | Hanna | DHMC |
| Chiocchio | Stacey | Hypertherm/HOPE Foundation |
| Cote | Neva | VDH |
| Ely | Alice | Public Health Council of the Upper Valley |
| Esdon | Jim | Injury Prevention Center, Dartmouth Health |
| Farnsworth | Barbara | DHMC |
| Fedrizzi | Rudy | VDH/WRJ |
| Grenier | Andy | TLC Recovery Center |
| Griffin | Heather | Listen Community Services |
| Griffin | Suellen | PHC Board of Directors |
| Harper-Schiehl | Ella | VDH/WRJ |
| Jackson | Sarah | Vital Communities |
| Kollisch | Donald | Community Nurse Connection |
| Kreis | Nancy | Dartmouth Health |
| LaRoche | Kendra | Special Needs Support Center |
| McKaig | Courtney | MAHHC |
| Newbern | Jeanne | LSRVNA |
| Tecca | Martha | SHaRE |
| Thibealt | Jeremy | City of Lebanon, Community Paramedic |
| Vasconcelos | Kathleen | GCSCC |
| Wnuk | Susan | Belknap Merrimack Community Action (WIC) |