

Update on Selected Priorities and Activities since the 2022 Community Health Needs Assessment - Washington County

In response to the 2022 Community Health Need Assessment (CHNA) along with community input, hospitals and local public health districts developed their own three-year strategies and plans. The Community Action Programs developed their plans in response to community input and their 2022 Community Needs Assessment. Below are these organization's updates on their selected priorities and activities since the 2022 Community Health Needs Assessment. One full year of implementation has taken place to date in 2023, 2024 implementation work is currently underway with 2025 work on the horizon for implementation activity on these identified priorities.

For a number of organizations listed in this document priority work spans across multiple counties throughout Maine though their physical location may be in one county.

Priority	Activities	Partners	Key Accomplishments
Organization – Downeast Public Health District Infrastructure Plan			
Mental Health	Building off a model conducted in Oregon, the Downeast Public Health Council met with Aroostook Mental Health Center and the Maine CDC Prevention Program in 2023 to discuss a training and outreach to reduce the ideation of suicide. The focus based on data found that certain businesses are typically the last places an individual considering suicide would go--bank, hotel, animal shelter--and the program focus was to have staff at these locations trained in a suicide first aid approach, looking for signs and suggesting a referral before the individual went through with it.	Downeast Public Health Unit staff (district liaison), Aroostook Mental Health Center, Maine CDC Prevention Program (suicide program).	Review of current psychological first aid that banks, hotels and other establishments are provided. Considered curriculum for suicide first aid course. Put on hold for time being.
	Reviewing the data results from the Local Public Health System Assessment and 2022 Shared CHNA in 2023, this committee developed a one-year 2024 work plan with objectives focusing on the transition of crisis mental health services from hospital emergency departments to community-based crisis mental health services.	Aroostook Mental Health Center, Maine CDC, Hospitals, Federally Qualified Health Centers, EMS Providers, 911 Dispatch, Individuals with persistent mental health needs and services.	The committee focused on creating an outreach for educating hospitals and health care providers about the new model of crisis mental health. Short-term plan is to educate individuals with mental health needs to transition from automatically calling 911 and going to the emergency room to now call the crisis mental health community team, to minimize unnecessary hospital visits and minimize the crisis in the home and community environment.

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Priority	Activities	Partners	Key Accomplishments
Older Adult Health and Safety	Building off the work of the Healthy Aging Committee and reviewing the data results from the Local Public Health System Assessment and 2022 Shared CHNA in 2023, this committee developed a one-year 2024 work plan with objectives in coordinating home care and environment assessments, oral health assessments, and building a system that provided better access to services.	Community Caring Collaborative, The Connection Initiative, Beth Wright Cancer Resource Center, Maine CDC Public Health Nursing, Children's Oral Health Network of Maine, Downeast Community Partners, Community Health and Counseling Services, Northern Light Home Care Services, Sunrise Opportunities.	The committee focused on oral health assessments for older adults since there is limited access to those services in both counties. We are creating a baseline of research on types of oral health assessments, investigating telehealth techniques for basic oral health check ups, and analyzing costs and benefits of alternative forms of dental access, including emergency short-term clinics as done in the past by dental schools.
Prevention for Chronic Disease	Building off the work of the Health Literacy Committee and reviewing the data results from the Local Public Health System Assessment and 2022 Shared CHNA in 2023, this committee developed a one-year 2024 work plan with objectives in connecting data to health promotion. with a focus on increased screening of specific cancer types, educating on modifiable risk factors, and using the Know Your Numbers and districtwide media campaign to reduce the incidence and prevent chronic diseases.	Beth Wright Cancer Resource Center, Maine CDC Public Health Nursing, Federally Qualified Health Centers, Hospitals, Passamaquoddy Tribal Health Centers, Media (newspaper and radio).	The committee focused on three types of cancer with the highest rates--breast, colorectal, and lung, as well as cardiovascular disease, diabetes, and dementia. We are creating a media campaign that creates a revelation of the high rates of cancer, diabetes, and cardiovascular disease and connect it to education on modifiable risk factors, in order to build a healthier population.
Emergency Operations Preparedness	Building off the work of the Emergency Preparedness and Resiliency Committee and reviewing the data results from the Local Public Health System Assessment and 2022 Shared CHNA in 2023, this committee developed a one-year 2024 work plan with objectives in supporting healthcare organizations in meeting their CMS requirements for emergency operations plans, and the training and exercises that this entails.	Hancock County Emergency Management Agency, Washington County Emergency Management Agency, Downeast MRC Unit, Health Care Coalition Downeast, Eastport Healthcare, Mount Desert Island Hospital, Northern Light Blue Hill and Maine Coast Hospitals, Local Health Officers.	The committee focused on all organizations that must meet CMS requirements and set a goal of 100% of those to meet the requirements. One districtwide approach is to use a radiological event due to the nearby nuclear generating plant in New Brunswick Canada and build FEMA-course trainings followed by appropriate exercises as well as clarify infrastructure needs in SNS capabilities, Point of Dispensing Sites, and MRC operations.
Substance Use Disorder	During 2023 and 2024, the Downeast Public Health Council supported the work on substance use disorder to the Maine Prevention Services Network as well as several existing community-based collaboratives focusing on sections of the Governor's Opioid Response Strategic Plan, especially on treatment and recovery.	Maine CDC Prevention Services Network, Downeast Substance Use Collaboratives (in each county), Healthy Acadia, Aroostook Mental Health Center, Community Health and Counseling Services, Mount Desert Island Hospital, Hancock County Jail, Northern Light Blue Hill and Maine Coast Hospitals, Down East Community and Calais Community Hospital, Federally Qualified Health Centers, Passamaquoddy Tribal Health Centers.	Meeting deliverables of the Governor's Opioid Response Strategic Plan as well as each county's treatment-recovery services plans.

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Access to Care	<p>In 2023, the Downeast Public Health Council continued to look for appropriate connections on building palliative health and hospice services. With limited to no partnerships, the work was put on hold for the present time.</p>	<p>Partnerships were formed, ideas and strategies were generated, and work was put on hold.</p>	<p>We assembled baseline information of rural programs that meet palliative care and hospice services. We will continue to learn and become educated and build readiness for the import and future implementation of these services, once the infrastructure is ready.</p>
	<p>In 2023 and 2024, the Downeast Public Health Council brought together partners in Washington County to assess maternal and child scare services. During COVID, the strength of the partnerships was somewhat broken due to the lack of cohesive family planning meetings and the turnover of staffing at key partners.</p>	<p>Maine CDC Public Health Unit including district liaison, public health educator, and public health nursing, Community Health and Counseling Services, DHHS-OCFS Child Protective Services, Aroostook Mental Health Center, Community Caring Collaborative, Downeast Community Partners, Maine Families, Health Acadia Prosper, Sunrise Opportunities, WIC, St. Croix Regional Health Center, Maine State Police.</p>	<p>Three key points were identified: have a training to develop criteria for facilitating a family planning meeting by partners and the family; creating a positive interaction and communication between partners; and rebuild a working referral system that focused on a warm handoff approach.</p>
Social Determinants of Health	<p>In 2024, a new collaborative was formed to focus on housing issues, specifically on the lack of housing for those coming out of recovery services as well as those living without housing (e.g., homeless) and then the long-term planning for housing shortages.</p>	<p>Healthy Acadia, Downeast Community Partners, Aroostook Mental Health Center, Community Health and Counseling Service, Next Step Domestic Violence Project, Sunrise Opportunities, Community Caring Collaborative, Hospitals, Federally Qualified Health Centers, HOME Inc, and Emmaus Shelter.</p>	<p>Housing assessment was completed and strategic plan was developed.</p>
	<p>In 2023 and 2024, the Downeast Public Health Council continued its ongoing outreach to municipalities to consider the risks of drinking water and indoor air quality. Strategies included well water testing days, free radon air tests during the winter for screening for radon levels in the home, and education around the public health significance of well water maintenance and testing to prevent excess levels of natural contaminants like arsenic and radon, and to minimize the risk of exposures leading to disease.</p>	<p>Downeast Public Health Unit staff (district liaison), Town of Blue Hill LHO, Downeast LHOs, Mount Desert Biological Laboratory, Passamaquoddy Sipayik Health Center (Pleasant Point), Maine CDC Health and Environmental Testing Lab.</p>	<p>Well Water Testing Day in Blue Hill completed fifty well tests on December 4, 2023. Well Water Testing Day in Blue Hill completed forty well tests on February 27, 2024 Well Water Testing Day in Passamaquoddy Pleasant Point completed thirty-three well tests on April 29, 2024. Community Education Meeting at Pleasant Point on May 29, 2024.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Additional information on the Downeast Public Health Council can be found at: https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/mecdc/public-health-systems/lphd/district7/council-main.shtml Contact: Alfred J. May, Jr., Public Health Liaison, Division of Public Health Operations 207-255-2017 or Alfred.May@maine.gov</p>			

Priority	Activities	Partners	Key Accomplishments
Organization - Beth C. Wright Cancer Resource Center (BWC)			
Palliative Care	In 2023, BWC is part of the Hancock Palliative care advisory group. Developed tool kit, Death with Dignity Law, Holding public groups: sessions include death and dying; hospice and palliative care, life stories and advance directives. In 2024, BWC developed Peaceful Planning workshop and hold workshops within Hancock/Washington Counties.		
Health Aging	In 2023, BWC hold balance classes, and other aging classes in Hancock/Washington Counties.		
Emergency Preparedness	In 2023 and 2024, county level emergency preparedness plans (EPP) developed for Hancock County office. Washington County office's plan to be developed. Connected with emergency phone system to better prepare for emergencies & communications. Developed a call tree and lodge system with cancer patients logging who has devices.		
Cancer & Health Literacy	In 2023 and 2024, BWC continues to work with the cancer committee.		
Cardiovascular Disease	In 2023, BWC hosted an intern and developed program for cancer patients who have Cardio issues and diagnoses of cancer.		
Access	In 2024, BWC opened new office in Washington County to serve cancer patients and offer access to care and services. Developed chair side table program for cancer pt's, tablet lending program.		
Social Determinants of Health	In 2024, BWC developed the 7 pillars of cancer care and self-care that address social determinants of health for cancer patients.		
Physical Activity, Nutrition	In 2023, BWC developed a medically tailored food program, Home Cooked Healing meals for Cancer patients; partnered with local providers for complementary therapies for cancer patient and caregivers; medically tailored exercise programs.		
Additional information on Beth C. Wright Cancer Resource Center's priority activity can be found at: https://www.bethwrightcancercenter.org/ Contact: Angela Fochesato, Executive Director, angela@bethwrightcancercenter.org			
Organization – Calais Community Hospital			
Social Determinates of Health	In 2023 - National youth speaker for all 9-12 students in Washington County on the topic of mental health & substance abuse; Provide referrals/information on support services available in Washington County; Provide job shadowing and student clinical hours to assist with training for improved job access; support local food pantries.	Washington County High Schools, Eastern Area Agency on Aging, Sarah's House, Downeast Community Partners, Food Banks, Washington County Community College, other Maine Colleges.	Brought mental health message to students with an opportunity to connect with a professional in the field. Attendance included the majority of high school students in the County.
	In 2024 - National youth speaker for all 6-8 students in Washington County on the topic of mental health & substance abuse; Provide referrals/information on support services available in Washington County; Provide job shadowing and student clinical hours to assist with training for improved job access; support local food pantries.	Washington County Middle/Jr High Schools, Eastern Area Agency on Aging, Sarah's House, Downeast Community Partners, Food Banks, Washington County Community College, other Maine Colleges.	Brought choices/substance abuse message to students with an opportunity to connect with someone who overcame and achieved. Attendance included the majority of 6-8th grade students in the County.
Substance Abuse	In 2023 - National youth speaker for all 9-12 students in Washington County on the topic of mental health & substance abuse; Sponsored Skate 4 Life event to support mental health, suicide prevention education for the youth.	Washington County High Schools, Calais Skatepark.	Brought mental health message to students with an opportunity to connect with a professional in the field. Attendance included the majority of high school students in the County.

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Substance Abuse	In 2024 - National youth speaker for all 6-8 students in Washington County on the topic of mental health & substance abuse.	Washington County Middle/Jr High Schools.	Brought choices/substance abuse message to students with an opportunity to connect with someone who overcame and achieved. Attendance included the majority of 6-8th grade students in the County.
Cancer	In 2023 - Pink Zone Game to promote Breast Cancer Screening; Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month used to share education to community; Maintained Gold Star status with the Tobacco Free Hospital & Healthcare Gold Star Standards of Excellence Program.	Community high school girls basketball teams and schools, local radio stations, and general surgeons.	Promoted cancer screening info with large participation from community members.
	In 2024 - Pink Zone Game to promote Breast Cancer Screening; Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month used to share education to community; Maintained Gold Star status with the Tobacco Free Hospital & Healthcare Gold Star Standards of Excellence Program.	Community high school girls basketball teams and schools, local radio stations, and general surgeons.	Imaging department added Low Dose Early Detection Lung Cancer Screening service. Promoted cancer screening info with large participation from community members.
Cardiovascular Disease	In 2023 - Sponsored and supported a wide range of community activities, especially those aimed towards encouraging activity for our area youth; Maintained Gold Star status with the Tobacco Free Hospital & Healthcare Gold Star Standards of Excellence Program; Promoted/added wellness program for CCH staff; Health education articles/displays in the community.	Calais and Baileyville Recreation Departments, Calais Skatepark Committee, Little League, Tobacco Free Hospital & Campus Organization, and local papers.	Partnered for a permanent sign placed in Calais park with help lines info included regarding suicide help, substance abuse, and tobacco use.
	In 2024 Sponsored and supported a wide range of community activities, especially those aimed towards encouraging activity for our area youth; Maintained Gold Star status with the Tobacco Free Hospital & Healthcare Gold Star Standards of Excellence Program; Promoted wellness program for CCH staff; Health education articles/displays in the community.	Calais and Baileyville Recreation Departments, Calais Skatepark Committee, Little League, Tobacco Free Hospital & Campus Organization, and local papers.	
Access	In 2023 - Participated in Job Fairs; Hosted Medical Students for a Rural Health Immersion Visit; Offered free mammograms; Recruited a primary care provider and perm general surgeon.	Area high schools, colleges, University of New England, Down East Community Hospital.	A new primary care provider and permanent general surgeon were recruited in 2024.
	In 2024 - Applied for and was awarded grant for new primary care offices in Baileyville; Participated in Job Fairs; Offered free mammograms.		Awarded federal grant to enable plans to move forward with new primary care offices in Baileyville.
<p>Additional information on the Calais Community Hospital's priority activity can be found at: www.calaishospital.org Contact: DeeDee Travis, Director, Community Relations, Calais Community Hospital 207-454-9227 or deedee@calaishospital.org</p>			

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Organization - Community Caring Collaborative			
<p>Additional information on Community Caring Collaborative's priority activity can be found at: https://www.cccmaine.org/ Contact: Charley Martin-Berry, Executive Director, cmartinberry@cccmaine.org</p>			
Organization – Down East Community Hospital (DECH)			
Cancer	In 2023 - We will collaborate with and support area agencies who work to improve access to care for cancer patients such as Sarah’s House, Beth Wright Center, and Healthy Acadia. We will provide free screenings for two cancer concerns and provide education around two cancer concerns. We will continue to explore ways to increase services through our infusion clinic and will continue to explore ways to increase services through telemedicine. Down East Community Hospital will explore the prospect of sharing an Oncologist with Calais Community Hospital.	Sarah's House, Beth C. Wright Cancer Center, Healthy Acadia, Calais Community Hospital	We donated to Sarah's House and Beth Wright Cancer Center, and Cancer Crush. We offered 50 free mammograms.
	In 2024 - Same focus as 2023	Same partners as 2023	Our Imaging Department brought on the service of low dose early detection lung cancer screening. We have donated to Sarah's House and Beth Wright Cancer Center, and Cancer Crush.
Access	In 2023 - We will actively recruit providers for the Machias area to improve access to care and will actively explore ways to increase services through telemedicine. We will collaborate with area agencies that are also looking to improve access and improve health outcomes. We will work with area food pantries to provide glucose & cholesterol screenings and annual vaccinations.	Indian Health Services, Local Food Pantries, Down East Hospice	We were able to recruit Jordan Breau, PA-C to our ENT practice in East Machias which helps increase the number of patients seen and the time the Otolaryngologist can spend in surgery, Jennifer Quinn, MD who is a family practice provider who works at our practice in East Machias, Donna Waterman, CNM who works at the Women's Center in Machias , and Bradley Weitz, MD a Pediatrician who practices in Machias. We have two specialty services (ENT and Urology) that have a hybrid combination of in person and Telemedicine visits. Donated to the annual Down East Hospice fund raiser.

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Access	In 2024 - Same focus as 2023	Calais Community Hospital, Indian Health Services, Down East Hospice	We recruited Neurologist who has a hybrid practice in Machias that offers in person and telemedicine visits. We are sharing Pediatrician, Joann Kaplan, with CCH so the Calais area can have access to those services. We continue to have dialogue on pediatric services with Indian Health Services. Donated to the annual Down East Hospice fund raiser.
Cardiovascular Disease	In 2023 - We will address the correctable causes of cardiovascular disease, such as an unhealthy diet, lack of exercise, obesity, diabetes and smoking through education, sponsorship and collaboration with other agencies. We will work with local agencies to provide free glucose and cholesterol screenings to area food pantries. We will partner with, promote and sponsor area agencies that are providing access to exercise, education, and healthy eating. We will continue to explore ways to increase services through telemedicine. We will continue to provide and explore ways to expand our Clinical Care Coordinator services to manage high risk patients.	Area Schools, Down East Youth Soccer Association, Little League	Implemented Medical Health Record. Donated to school sports and sponsored Down East Youth Soccer Association, Machias Area and Harrington Area Little League. Sponsored the Wesley Fun Run and the Bad Little Trail Run.
	In 2024 - Same focus as 2023	Public Health, Area Schools, Down East Youth Soccer Association, Little League, Local Food Pantries	Medical Health Record - Patients are asked if they smoke or have a history of smoking. If the answer is yes we offer them a referral to the Maine Quit Link. Providers also talk to them about the low dose CT lung scans. Donated to school sports and sponsored Down East Youth Soccer Association, Machias Area and Harrington Area Little League and the Downeast Captains baseball team.
Substance Abuse	In 2023 - We will continue our MAT program at Arnold Memorial Medical Center. We will sponsor and work with Arise Addiction Recovery, Safe Harbor Recovery Home for Women and Children and other local agencies that have existing programs that provide counseling and therapy. We will work with organizations that provide events that focus on prevention for children like Down East Team Leadership Camp. We will collaborate with local businesses and agencies to bring awareness campaigns and events to local area schools to address depression and substance use.	Area Health Agencies, Community Action Groups, Arise Addiction Recovery, Safe Harbor Recovery Home, Local Area Businesses, Local Schools, Calais Community Hospital	We sponsored the work of Arise Addiction Recovery, Safe Harbor Recover Home for Women and Children and Down East Team Leadership. We brought in a Top Youth Speaker to speak on healthy behaviors, it's all about choices to area High School students throughout Washington County.

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Substance Abuse	In 2024 - Same focus as 2023	Area Health Agencies, Community Action Groups, Arise Addiction Recovery, Safe Harbor Recovery Home, Local Area Businesses, Local Schools, Calais Community Hospital	We brought in a Top Youth Speaker to speak on the power of choices and breaking free from your past to embrace what is possible to area students grades 6 - 8 throughout Washington County. We partnered with Machias Memorial High School to help them provide an event with Students Empowered to End Dependency where they provided a presentation on understanding high-potency marijuana and adolescent brain development.
Social Determinates of Health	In 2023 - We will develop strategic and financial plans to include food insecurity efforts to provide food security screenings at patient visits as well as entering screening information into the Electronic Health Record of the patient. We will partner with area food pantries and local schools to help address food insecurity and to provide health screenings DECH will collaborate with local businesses and agencies to bring awareness campaigns and events to local area schools to address depression and substance use.	Calais Community Hospital, Local Food Pantries, Public Health, Local Schools, Area Health Agencies	We brought in a Top Youth Speaker to speak on healthy behaviors, it's all about choices to area High School students throughout Washington County. Donated to the Turkey-A-Thon, Incredible Edible Milbridge and the Machias Food Pantry. We provided reduced costs sports physicals to area schools.
	In 2024 - Same focus as 2023	Calais Community Hospital, Local Food Pantries, Public Health, Local Schools, Area Health Agencies	We have begun the work in our EMR to address food insecurity and will have the structure in place this year to address food insecurities with our inpatients so we can provide them with information on local resources. We brought in a Top Youth Speaker to speak on the power of choices and breaking free from your past to embrace what is possible to are students grades 6-8 throughout Washington County. Donated to Maine Seacoast Mission. We provided reduced costs sports physicals to area schools.

Information related to Down East Community Hospital's priority activity can be found by contacting:

www.dech.org

Contact: Julie Hixson, Director Marketing & Communications, Down East Community Hospital 207-255-0433 or jhixson@dech.org

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Organization - Downeast Community Partners			
Climate Core	In 2023: Member Training (Book/Field/Equipment), Auditing, Energy Analysis and Modeling, Podcast Development and Launch, Community Outreach	IAQs, Build Green Maine, Community Outreach, Maine Housing, and WCCC	Rapid workforce development for members (neophyte --> journeyman in a matter of months), introduction to energy auditing and weatherization - Maine First Climate Corps
	In 2024: Member Training (Book/Field/Equipment), Auditing, Energy Analysis and Modeling, Podcast continuation and collaborations with community figures	WCCC, Rep. Morgan Rielly, and Build Green Maine	Podcast episodes and podcast development, auditing work, recognition by state legislative body for efforts due to collaboration with Rep. Rielly, collabs with other key figures/organizations such as Blue Hill Co-op, Jon Stein of Fogtown
Elder Services	In 2023: In January of 2023 two of our Elder Services programs began to merge. Our ADSP, Friendship Cottage and At Home, our aging in place program shared several of the same clients.		We increased our volunteer based so both programs could be served with just the existing FC staff, 2 full-time employees and a very part time RN.
	In 2024: By January 2024, 95% of transportation needs were delivered by volunteers. There was a need of increased opportunities for the At Home members to socialize.		At Home members have been attending our weekly BBQ's, special music and celebrations at FC. As their medical needs have increased we have expanded our nursing services.
Whole Family Approach	In 2023: DCP formed a committee to guide the agency in building a Whole Family Approach, building on the work already being done in Head Start/Early Head Start, and Family Coaching.		The committee met with the Senior Leadership Team to include them in the overall process and planning. Key frontline staff were trained to do a more comprehensive intake when customers began to seek services with DCP. That information is entered into empowOR and referrals are made to appropriate depts.
	In 2024: Committee work continues as well as participation in Whole Families COP.		More staff are being trained in intake and we are moving more programs to empowOR to increase interdepartmental communication and coordination of services.
Maine Climate Council	In 2023: DCP was invited by the Office of Policy and Innovation to be members of two committees: The Equity Subcommittee and The Buildings, Infrastructure & Housing Working Group	Hannah Pingree - Office of Policy Innovation & Future, Dan Burgess - Director, GOE Maine	Provide advocacy for LIDAC families & create/prioritize Maine's Climate Action Plan (CCAP)
	In 2024: DCP was awarded a Dept of Energy Grant and two State Grants to create jobs for disadvantaged communities	Dan Burgess - Director of Maine Governor's Energy Office	Create Energy Efficient jobs/Work Force develop for CJUST Census tracts of Maine
Additional information on Downeast Community Partners priority activity can be found at: https://www.downeastcommunitypartners.org/ Contact: Melissa Mattes, Director of Operations, melissa.mattes@dpcap.org			

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Organization - Eastern Area Agency on Aging			
<p style="text-align: center;">Additional information on Eastern Area Agency on Aging's priority activity can be found at: https://eaaa.org/ Contact: Tabatha Caso, Executive Director, tcaso@eaaa.org</p>			
Organization - Harrington Family Health Center			
<p style="text-align: center;">Additional information on Harrington Family Health Center's priority activity can be found at: https://hfhc.healthcare/ Contact: Demi Manchester, Chief Executive Officer, demi.manchester@hfhcme.org</p>			
Organization - Healthy Acadia			
<p style="text-align: center;">Additional information on Healthy Acadia's priority activity can be found at: https://healthyacadia.org/ Contact: Maria Donahue, Community Health Director, Healthy Acadia maria@healthyacadia.org</p>			
Organization - Maine Seacoast Mission			
<p style="text-align: center;">Additional information on Maine Seacoast Mission's priority activity can be found at: https://www.seacoastmission.org/ Contact: Simone Babineaux, Sunbeam Nurse, sbabineaux@seacoastmission.org</p>			
Organization - Northern Light Acadia Hospital			
Mental Health	In 2023, Northern Light Acadia Hospital educated and empowered others to recognize, support, and respond to mental and behavioral health needs of youth.	Bangor YMCA; Camp G. Peirce Webber; Camp Jordan; Northern Light Eastern Maine Medical Center's Emergency Department DEA (Diagnosis, Evaluation, & Assessment); Health Equity Alliance; School Administrative Unit (Leeds Central School/ Turner Elementary); Maine Pediatric & Behavioral Health Partnership Northern Light Acadia Hospital's new employees; Old Town YMCA; Penquis Community Action Program; Regional School Unit #34; Mental Health in the School Setting Project ECHO series; School Based Behavioral Health Rapid Project ECHO series; Southern Penobscot Regional Program for Children with Exceptionalities (SPRPCE)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 12 community organizations* trained in Psychological First Aid (PFA); 336 individuals trained in PFA. • Peer to Peer consults between Acadia providers and pediatric primary care providers (internal and external to Northern Light Health) • 21 peer-to-peer pediatric psychiatry and care coordination consultations done within the Maine Pediatric & Behavioral Health Partnership • Monthly webinars & Project ECHO sessions • CARES (Child-Adolescent Resource and Educational Series) surveys distributed statewide to stakeholders, educators, and community organizations. CARES 2.0 updated Maine version and new national version development in process. • RACES (Responding to Adverse Childhood Experiences) series; filming completed, curriculum in development.

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Mental Health	In 2024, Northern Light Acadia Hospital continues to educate and empower others to recognize, support, and respond to mental and behavioral health needs of youth.	Bangor Housing - Residence Services staff; Bangor Public Health; Equality Maine; Maine National Air Guard; Northern Light Acadia Behavioral Health Services staff & new employees; RSU 34 Old Town Schools; RSU 67 - Lincoln Schools; SAD 52 Greene Central School; SMCC Nursing Students; Thomas College Education Students; Turner Elementary School; UMA Nursing Students; YMCA of Southern Maine; Northern Light Transport Services; Bangor YMCA camp leadership and counselors; Army and Air National Guard Victim Advocates	Fiscal Year 2024 priority activity updates will be available at the end of the fiscal year and posted online via our Progress Report to Our Community.
Social Determinants of Health	In 2023, Northern Light Acadia Hospital connected individuals with community resources they need to improve their health and wellbeing.	Aroostook Mental Health Services (AMHC); Good Shepherd Food Bank; Heart of Maine, United Way; Wings for Children & Families; Health Equity Alliance (HEAL)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three community partners* added nine programs to the findhelp directory (AMHC: County Ride Program; HEAL: LGBTQ+ Youth Group, Community Food Pantry, Naloxone Distribution, Needle Exchange Program, Case Management, HIV/HCV Testing, Sexual Health Services; Wings: Wraparound Process Case Management) • 231 food bags distributed to individuals with behavioral health conditions in collaboration with Good Shepherd Food Bank • 44 gallons of milk given to clients in Addiction Care Services • 166 diapers and 112 Wipes distributed in collaboration with Heart of Maine United Way • 3153 lbs. of fresh produce to be given to patients/ clients/staff of Northern Light Acadia
	In 2024, Northern Light Acadia Hospital continues connected individuals with community resources they need to improve their health and wellbeing.	Good Shepherd Food Bank; Pittsfield Schools; University of Maine nutrition students; Bangor Housing; Christine B. Foundation; Bangor Public Health	Fiscal Year 2024 priority activity updates will be available at the end of the fiscal year and posted online via our Progress Report to Our Community.

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Substance Use	In 2023, Northern Light Acadia Hospital improved pathways to prevention, treatment, and recovery for individuals with substance use disorder.	Maine Pediatric & Behavioral Health Partnership; Maine Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Learning Collaborative; Reel Recovery Film Festival; The Prevent Prescription Drug/Opioid Overdose-Related Deaths Workgroup; TreatMe: Adolescent SUD conference	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 302 state-sponsored naloxone kits distributed • Addiction Care Clinic clients receive ongoing access to Narcan, access to resources, and individual meetings in groups receive ongoing information regarding pathways to prevention treatment in recovery. • Provided organizations within Northern Light, training on Trauma Informed Care
	In 2024, Northern Light Acadia Hospital continues to improve pathways to prevention, treatment, and recovery for individuals with substance use disorder.	Bangor Public Health and Community Services; Naloxone training at Acadia's Hope Day event	Fiscal Year 2024 priority activity updates will be available at the end of the fiscal year and posted online via our Progress Report to Our Community.
<p style="text-align: center;">Additional information on Northern Light Acadia Hospital's priority activity can be found at: https://northernlighthealth.org/Community-Health-Needs-Assessment/2022-Community-Health-Strategy Contact: Jennifer Laferte-Carlson, Manager, Community Health Programs, Acadia Healthcare 207-735-6252 or jlafertecarlson@northernlight.org</p>			
Organization - Northern Light Eastern Maine Medical Center (EMMC)			
Mental Health	In 2023, Northern Light Eastern Maine Medical Center educated and empowered others to recognize, support, and respond to mental and behavioral health needs of youth.	Bangor Public Library; BARN (Bangor Area Recovery Network); Challenger Learning Center; Northern Light Eastern Maine Medical Center's student volunteer program; Hilltop School; Shaw House Together Place	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three community organizations trained in Psychological First Aid (PFA); 28 individuals trained in PFA. • Shaw House - provide monthly clinic via Family Practice and Residency • Started Primary Care Depression Screenings for 12 year old's and older. • Trauma Informed Care - collaboration with Acadia, Together Place, and BARN (Bangor Area Recovery Network) • Five new staff members trained as PFA trainers
	In 2024, Northern Light Eastern Maine Medical Center continues to educate and empower others to recognize, support, and respond to mental and behavioral health needs of youth.	Bangor Area Homeless Shelter; EMMC Volunteers & Concierge Staff; Northern Light Acadia Hospital; Together Place Peer Run Recovery Center; NAMI; AFSP; Yellow Tulip Project; Maine Recovery Advocacy Project	Fiscal Year 2024 priority activity updates will be available at the end of the fiscal year and posted online via our Progress Report to Our Community.

Priority	Activities	Partners	Key Accomplishments
Social Determinants of Health	In 2023, Northern Light Eastern Maine Medical Center connected individuals with community resources they need to improve their health and wellbeing.	Bangor Area Homeless Shelter; Bangor Public Library; Bangor YMCA; Christine B. Foundation; Good Shepherd Food Bank; Hope House PCHC; Lafayette Family Cancer Institute; Penquis Community Action Program (CAP); St. Joseph Hospital	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three community partners added nine programs to the findhelp directory: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Bangor Area Homeless Shelter: Bangor Area Homeless Shelter, Food pantry o Bangor Public Library: Computer classes, Knit Night at the Library o Bangor YMCA: Camp Hope, Camp Jordan, Membership for All, Open Door Program, Summer Day Camp • Partnered with Good Shepherd Food Bank on Shelter and Nutrition for All Children Program • Community Closet for patients; undergarments for sexual assault victims • Partnered with St. Joseph Hospital, in Bangor, on a community garden located on St. Joseph’s property. • Thirty-six childbirth education classes were offered to the community in the last year with 510 enrolled participants. • Provided Irving cards/Taxi/Uber vouchers to patients and families in need to help traveling back and forth to EMMC
	In 2024, Northern Light Eastern Maine Medical Center continues connected individuals with community resources they need to improve their health and wellbeing.	Literacy Volunteers of Bangor; Community Health & Counseling (PATH program); Good Shepherd Food Bank; Boys and Girls Club; Eastern Area Agency on Aging; Partners for Peace; Together Place Peer Run Recovery Center; Local police departments, churches, and other organizations; Salvation Army	Fiscal Year 2024 priority activity updates will be available at the end of the fiscal year and posted online via our Progress Report to Our Community.

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Priority	Activities	Partners	Key Accomplishments
Substance Use	In 2023, Northern Light Eastern Maine Medical Center improved pathways to prevention, treatment, and recovery for individuals with substance use disorder.	Bangor Area Recovery Network (BARN); Bangor Public Health and Community Services; Co-Occurring Collaborative Serving Maine; Health Equity Alliance (HEAL); Hermon School District; Maine Substance Use Disorders Learning Community; OPTIONS; Project ECHO: Low Barrier MOUD for Maine	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 127 state-sponsored naloxone kits distributed • Staff trained in Trauma Informed Care • Family Medicine and Residency curriculum expansion to outreach the homeless population impacted by substance use disorder. A collaboration with community organizations. Peer to Peer consults between Acadia providers and pediatric primary care providers (internal and external to Northern Light Health). • Began planning for naloxone training with the Hermon school district. Training will take place in fiscal year 2024 on October 6, 2023. • Multiple Naloxone presentations provided
	In 2024, Northern Light Eastern Maine Medical Center continues to improve pathways to prevention, treatment, and recovery for individuals with substance use disorder.	Hermon High School; Brewer High School; Maine Recovery Advocacy Project Youth Caucus	Fiscal Year 2024 priority activity updates will be available at the end of the fiscal year and posted online via our Progress Report to Our Community.
<p style="text-align: center;">Additional information on Northern Light Eastern Maine Medical Center's priority activity can be found at: https://northernlighthealth.org/Community-Health-Needs-Assessment/2022-Community-Health-Strategy Contact: Laura Lacasse, Community Health Coordinator, Northern Light Eastern Maine Medical Center 207-275-2035 or llacasse@northernlight.org</p>			

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Priority	Activities	Partners	Key Accomplishments
Organization - Northern Light Maine Coast Hospital			
Mental Health	In 2023, Northern Light Maine Coast Hospital educated and empowered others to recognize, support, and respond to mental and behavioral health needs of youth.	Children’s Development Services; Community Health and Counseling Services; Curriculum Coordinators in Hancock County; Department of Health and Human Services; Downeast Community Partners; Downeast Family YMCA; Downeast Horizons; Downeast Partners & Friends; Downeast Partners Collaboration*; Downeast Restorative Justice; Eagles Nest Clubhouse; Eastern Maine Development Corp.; Ellsworth Public Library, Families First Community Center; Healthy Acadia; Help Me Grow; Homeless Provider Resource Network; Kids Peace; Maine Department of Corrections; Maine State Police Liaisons; Next Step Domestic Violence Project; Regional School Unit 24; Special Children’s Friends; WIC (Women, Infants, and Children)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Four community organizations trained in Psychological First Aid (PFA); 44 individuals trained in PFA. • Developed directory of behavioral health resources for youth and adults in the LGBTQ community. • Engaged in “Help Me Grow” with the Department of Health and Human Services • Engaged in the Overdose Prevention Through Intensive Outreach Naloxone and Safety (OPTIONS) initiative coordinated by the Maine Office of Behavioral Health (OBH) and Community Health and Counseling Services
	In 2024, Northern Light Maine Coast Hospital continues to educate and empower others to recognize, support, and respond to mental and behavioral health needs of youth.	AMHC; Community Health & Counseling Services; Down East Community Partners	Fiscal Year 2024 priority activity updates will be available at the end of the fiscal year and posted online via our Progress Report to Our Community.

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Priority	Activities	Partners	Key Accomplishments
Social Determinants of Health	In 2023, Northern Light Maine Coast Hospital connected individuals with community resources they need to improve their health and wellbeing.	Age Friendly Sullivan; Beth C. Wright Cancer Resource Center; Comfort Cases; Community Caring Coalition; Downeast Community Partners; Downeast Family YMCA; Downeast Partners for Children and Families; Downeast Substance Treatment Network; Ellsworth Chamber of Commerce; Friends in Action*; Good Shepherd Food Bank; Hancock/Washington County Homeless Providers Coalition; Healthy Acadia*; Hospice Volunteers of Hancock County; Inspire Warming Center; Maine Health Access Foundation; Loaves and Fishes; Medical Neighborhood Team; Next Step Domestic Violence Project*; Open Table MDI; Prosper Consortium; Restored Hope; Simmering Pot; Substance Use Prevention Council hosted by Healthy Acadia; Heart of Maine United Way; WIC (Women, Infants, and Children)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5 community partners added 16 programs to the findhelp directory • Food distributed to patients in need: 153 food bags (GSFB partnership); 941+ lbs. of fresh produce via GSFB and Mainers Feeding Mainers partnership • Sponsored of the Heart of Maine United Way's Hancock County Food Drive • Supported Downeast Community Partner's Thaw Fund to purchase heating fuel for people living in poverty. • Donated 43 gallons of homemade soup and other food via Inspire Warming Center, a partnership with Healthy Acadia • Sponsored Down East Family YMCA Healthy Kids Fair and Pridefest celebration (Health Acadia partnership) • Partnered with Comfort Cases to stock 16 personal care backpacks to have for babies-teenagers entering Foster Care. • See our FY23 Progress Report for more
	In 2024, Northern Light Maine Coast Hospital continues connected individuals with community resources they need to improve their health and wellbeing.	Acadia ATV Club; AMHC; Blue Hill Heritage Trust; City of Ellsworth; Community Health & Counseling Services; Down East Family YMCA; Downeast Community Partners; Downeast Housing Collaborative; Downeast Substance Treatment Network; Good Shepherd Food Bank; Hancock County Sherriff's office; Health Peninsula; Healthy Acadia; HOME; Hospice Volunteers of Hancock County; Next Step Domestic Violence Project; Open Table MDI	Fiscal Year 2024 priority activity updates will be available at the end of the fiscal year and posted online via our Progress Report to Our Community.

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Priority	Activities	Partners	Key Accomplishments
Substance Use	In 2023, Northern Light Maine Coast Hospital improved pathways to prevention, treatment, and recovery for individuals with substance use disorder.	Downeast Substance Coalition; Downeast Substance Treatment Network; Downeast Substance Use Prevention Council; Hancock County Sherriff's Office; Healthy Acadia; Hub and Spoke Clinical Advisory Council; Inmar/Northern Light Maine Coast Pharmacy; Inspire Warming Center; Restored Hope for Recovering Addicts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 37 state-sponsored naloxone kits distributed • Stocked Deterra medication waste bags, a program in partnership with the Hancock County Sherriff's Office and Healthy Acadia. • Assisted in the distribution of 452 kits of Narcan, 350 fentanyl test strips and 46 Xylazine test strips at the Blue Hill Fair in partnership with Opiate Free Island Project and others. • Distributed and provided education for 36 kits of Narcan at Ellsworth Pridefest with Healthy Acadia; 20 kits of Narcan at the Stonington Lobster Boat races. • See our FY23 Progress Report for more
	In 2024, Northern Light Maine Coast Hospital continues to improve pathways to prevention, treatment, and recovery for individuals with substance use disorder.	AMHC; Hancock County Sherriff's office; Healthy Acadia; OPTIONS	Fiscal Year 2024 priority activity updates will be available at the end of the fiscal year and posted online via our Progress Report to Our Community.

Additional information on Northern Light Maine Coast Hospital's priority activity can be found at:

<https://northernlighthealth.org/Community-Health-Needs-Assessment/2022-Community-Health-Strategy>

Contact: Janet Lewis, Community Health Specialist, Northern Light Maine Coast Hospital, 207-460-7511723-3349 or jllewis@northernlight.org

Organization - St. Croix Regional Family Health Center

Additional information on St. Croix Regional Family Health Center's priority activity can be found at:

<https://scrfhc.org/>

Contact: Theresa Brown, Quality Assurance, tbrown@scrfhc.org

Organization - Sunrise County Economic Council

Additional information on Sunrise County Economic Council's priority activity can be found at:

<https://sunrisecounty.org/>

Contact: Jennifer Peters, Assistant Director, scec@sunrisecounty.org

Organization - University of Maine at Machias

Additional information on University of Maine at Machias' priority activity can be found at:

<https://machias.edu/>

Contact: Meghan Walsh, Dean and Head of Campus, megan.walsh1@maine.edu