




**Cumberland District Public Health Council
Full Council Meeting
November 17th, 2023
Hybrid Meeting Zoom & In-Person**

Present: Hamda Ahmed, Peggy Akers, Georges BudaguMakoko, Anna Bullett, Eilish Carpenter, Deqa Dhalac, Emma Donnelly, Janet Dosseva, Ellen Freedman, Barbara Ginley, Angela Giordano, Leah Givhan, Alice Gormley, Leslie Gould, Alexis Guy, Erica Harris, Helen Hemminger, Tina Holt, Lori Huot, Amanda Hutchins, Kristine Jenkins, Courtney Kennedy, Nina Misra, Julie Orrego, Leesah Patt, Darcey Pomerleau, Leanne Pomeroy, Hannah Ruhl, Abdulkerim Said, Blake Shepherd, Shaza Stevenson, Grace Tezo, Puthiery Va, Andrew Volkers, Kristina Wilson (*some who participated virtually did not sign in, apologies for any omissions)

Topic	Discussion	Notes/Actions
<p>Welcome and Council Update: Courtney Kennedy, CDPHC Executive Committee Member</p>	<p>Courtney Kennedy, CDPHC Executive Committee Member, Welcome, Introduction and funding update: a selection committee from the Council reviewed 5 proposals for \$80,400 in health equity infrastructure funding. There were 5 very good proposals from around Cumberland District, ultimately, the committee felt that Preble Street’s proposal to fund infrastructure improvements for food distribution was the best fit for this funding. Maine CDC staff and CDPHC members agreed to work with others to brainstorm alternate sources of funding.</p> <p>We are holding member and executive committee elections in December: If you would like to be a CDPHC member, or would like to join the Executive Committee, please contact Kristine at Kristine.L.Jenkins@maine.gov, or call 207-485-0541</p>	
<p>Reverse Q&A with the Office of New Americans</p>	<p>- An executive order was issued to establish the Office of New Americans with a focus on long-term economic and civic integration of immigrants.</p>	

Topic	Discussion	Notes/Actions
<p>Erica Harris and Georges BudaguMakoko</p> <p>Governor’s Office of Policy, Innovation, and the Future</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The office is directed to engage various stakeholders, including immigrant communities, experts, schools, colleges, lawyers, and state agencies for input on its mission, structure, and timing. - The plan for the office's establishment and work must be delivered to the governor by January 19, 2024. - Maine is the nineteenth state to join the National Network of Office of New Americans, which focuses on economic development and workforce for immigrants. - Offices of New Americans in different states have varying sizes and missions, including language access, legal representation, and workforce pathways. - The plan for the office's establishment is in progress, with a goal to have it passed into legislation next year. - Stakeholders, especially those in Cumberland County with a high immigrant population, are encouraged to provide input and suggestions for the office's direction. 	 <p>CDPHC NOVEMBER ONA Planning Webinar</p> <p>ONA webpage, which includes an email subscribe option and the slides shared today: https://www.maine.gov/future/ona Detailed feedback form with ONA’s 3 key questions: https://forms.office.com/g/aMKxRQFxNJ</p>
<p>Public Health Directions for Maine</p> <p>Dr. Va</p> <p>Director of Maine CDC</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dr. Va emphasized the importance of being part of the public health community and the responsibility to understand gaps in public health. - Three priorities were highlighted: strengthening local public health infrastructure, addressing health equity, and recognizing the impact of collective trauma, related to the pandemic, or in light of events in Lewiston - Dr. Va emphasized the importance of communication, partnerships, and timely coordination in public health responses - The significance of fostering human connections for public health and well-being was stressed. 	
<p>Public Health Structures in Maine</p> <p>Kristine Jenkins</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -The CDPHC public health structures were reviewed, with a focus on the historic developments, a an overview of current public health infrastructure in Maine -Post election orientation for new members will be held in the new year 	

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Member Updates:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Planning for the Maine Shared Health Needs Assessment (CHNA), which occurs every 3 years, is underway - the next assessment will take place in 2025. - There's a new oral health clinic opening at WIC, based on the success of UNE's clinics to date - A new Riverside Shelter for single asylum seekers is opening on 11/29/23 	
	<p>The next Cumberland District Public Health Council Meeting is scheduled to be held on January 19th, 2024</p>	