

## Western District Coordinating Council for Public Health

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, December 16<sup>th</sup>, 2020

Virtually held on Zoom

**Present:** Allie Burke, Emilee Caradonna, Carl Costanzi, Michelle Coulliard, Shannon Craig-McDaniel, Erin Guay, Steven Johndro, Laure Johnson, Katherine Lary, Nate Miller, Jamie Paul, Andrea Richards and Shawn Yardley.

**Introductions and Deepening Connections:** The group shared their introductions and their pets.

**Participant Check-In:** Nate Miller, Chair, opened the floor to participants to share their updates. Shawn Yardley shared the updates around the Wellness Shelter at the Ramada for Covid-19 positive community members who need to isolate away from home as well as information around a working group to continue discussions around public health, infrastructure and economics. Please contact Shawn at: [syardley@community-concepts.org](mailto:syardley@community-concepts.org) for more information.

Many participants acknowledged the demands around food insecurity during Covid-19 and shared their work to satisfy this need within the community. Participants on behalf of River Valley Healthy Communities Coalition, Catholic Charities, Spectrum Generations, Franklin Community Health Network, and SNAP-Ed all shared updates around their programs and the increasing food demands. Non-food needs such as diapers and wipes may be made available through WIC and Community Concepts Inc.

Seniors Plus' Meals on Wheels program has doubled, and is expanding outreach to Mainers over 60, and under 60 with disabilities or a high-risk of exposure. For more information, please reach out to Laure at: [ljohnson@seniorsplus.org](mailto:ljohnson@seniorsplus.org).

WIC has moved fully virtual except for the distribution and activation of the new cards. Please contact Katherine Lary for more information on WIC eligibility and outreach collaborations: [klary@wmca.org](mailto:klary@wmca.org).

As shared by Androscoggin Home Healthcare and Hospice, health checks are being done at the Covid-19 housing support, including a Covid-19 negative Winter Wellness Center that supports the homeless in the Lewison area.

Jamie is supporting the Maine CDC's Covid-19 efforts distributing PPE and test kits, outbreaks, and participating in a strike group with Public Health Nursing, the Maine Immunization Program, and others. For more information, please contact Jamie at: [Jamie.L.Paul@Maine.gov](mailto:Jamie.L.Paul@Maine.gov).

**SCC Update:** Erin is the Western DCC Representative to the SCC and she updated the Council on the Statewide Public Health Systems Assessment (SPHSA). Although the Local Public Health Systems Assessment (LPHSA) in the Districts has been paused due to the pandemic, the Statewide Assessment is still moving forward. The next SCC meeting is scheduled for March 18<sup>th</sup>. For more information on the SCC, please visit: <https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/mecdc/public-health-systems/scc/index.shtml>

**Western DCC Call for Officers:** The Chair and the three County Representatives positions will be

accepting nominations. Please look for a Doodle Poll from Emilee regarding nominations. Voting will be held electronically, and the new Officers will be welcomed at the next DCC meeting.

**Western DCC 2020 Meeting Dates and Locations:** All meetings are anticipated to be held virtually at this time. Participants agreed to schedule upcoming meetings as they come due to the ever-changing nature of Covid-19. Keep an eye out for a Doodle Poll from Emilee regarding upcoming meeting times. Ideas for upcoming speakers and topics, please contact Jamie at: [Jamie.L.Paul@Maine.gov](mailto:Jamie.L.Paul@Maine.gov)

The next DCC Meeting is anticipated to be held on or around March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2021.