

**Aroostook Public
Health Council**

Steering Committee:

**Dr. Rachel Albert, RN
Chair,**

Nursing Professor
University of Maine at Fort
Kent

**Susan Bouchard, RN
SCC Representative,**

*Director of Clinical Quality
& Risk Management*
Fish River Rural Health

Laura Turner

*Director of Community
Outreach*
NL AR Gould Hospital

Carol Bell

Hiring Manager
Penobscot McCrum

Leah Buck

*Dean of Continuing
Education*
Northern Maine Community
College

Ellen Bemis

Chief Executive Officer
Aroostook Mental Health
Center

Jane Rioux, RN

*Clinical Manager –
Aroostook North*
NL Home Care & Hospice

Stacy Boucher

District Liaison
Maine Center for Disease
Control and Prevention



Quarterly Meeting

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

Aroostook Public Health Council

In attendance: **Carol Bell**, Penobscot McCrum; **Rachel Albert**, UMFK; **Robin Beckwith**, Seniors Domestics; **Tanya Sleeper**, AHHS; **Leah Buck**, NMMC; **Judy Anderson**, AAAA; **Norman Fournier**, County Commissioner; **Heidi Warman**, KVHC; **Jesse Clark**, MDEP; **Maura Lockwood**, ME CDC; **Sue Powers**, ACAP; **Tim St. Peter**, CEO (Presque Isle); **Stacy Boucher**, MECDC; **Meghan Richards**, MECDC; **Leona Alvarado**, Tribal Liaison; **Elizabeth Singer**, CMC; **Harper Chance**, MYAN; **Tammy Hatch**, MECDC PHN; **Tessa Bartlett**, PHN; **Renee Chalou**, MECDC PHN; **Ellen Bemis**, AMHC; **Darren Woods**, AKEMA; **Todd McLeod**, KVHC; **Jessica Collin**, MECDC PHN; **Dawn Roberts**, AR Gould; **Jessica Fowler**, MECDC PHN; **Sarah Dymant**, EMMC; **Sue Bouchard**, FRRH

Minutes 2/2024

- Motion to approve Norman – second by Ellen.

District Operations – Maine CDC

Div. Public Health Systems Updates

- Public Health Emergency Preparedness received funding through FEMA for hospital preparedness planning, as well as other organizations. This was previously contracted out and is now in-house.
- HCC (Health Care Coalition) - Going to be set up by district chapters. Stacy will send out more info to partners.
- May 30th – virtual Hazard Vulnerability Assessment with HCC district partners.

Div. Disease Surveillance Updates

- Maine HAN sent out an avian flu update.
- Town of Caribou had its most northern case of raccoon rabies - make sure to vaccinate your pets.

Div. Public Health Nursing

- Aroostook has full team of public health nurses
- Current projects: CradleMe, setting up breastfeeding support group, setting up childhood vaccine clinics.
- Open to other partnerships!

Tribal Update – Leona Alvarado

- Preparing for Annual Health Fair on June 8th.
- Reach out to Leona if you'd like to attend.
- Weekly "Well-briety" meetings with the community

Committees

Healthy Aging

- Stacy sent out an ask – looking for objectives for awareness of domestic violence/sexual assault of older adults.
- Upcoming Events
 - [Healthy Aging Luncheons](#)

Emergency Planning

- About 98% through development of a power outage plan
- Working on cybersecurity campaign
- Worked with state to make handbook for EMA
- About 90% completed elected officials guide

Presentations:

Stacy Boucher

- Helpful Links for Emergency Preparedness
 - [EPA – Cleanups in My Community](#)
 - [Drought Monitor](#)
 - [Volcano Hazards](#)
 - [Maine Earthquake Tracker](#)
 - [Latest Earthquakes](#)
 - [Climate Monitoring](#)
 - [Space Weather Phenomena](#)
 - [Maine Climate Data](#)
 - [Comprehensive Preparedness Guide](#)
 - [Maine CDC](#)
 - [Flooding](#)
 - [Dams and Reservoirs in Maine](#)
 - [Versant Power Outage Map](#)

Maura Lockwood – Aroostook Field Epidemiologist

- Maura gave a “Tick Talk” and provided some background on various types of ticks and tick safety. [Check out the presentation here.](#)

Darren Woods – Aroostook Emergency Management Agency

- Darren shared how AKEMA ranks hazard events. You can find more info [here](#).

Partner Updates:

- ACAP – MCAP received diaper research and demo grant – orgs can distribute diapers and can offer other wraparound services to families. Received grant from Maine Cancer Foundation and in partnership with Versant, offering help with electricity/utilities to cancer patients in treatment. MCAP across the state working with hospital systems/CDC with SCHNA. Working on focus groups to gather community information – find more info [here](#) and [here](#).
- [Touch-A-Truck May 18th](#)
- County Update – Aroostook County awarded last batch of

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ARPA funds. Were able to fund 18 agencies. Funded 7 major sewer and water projects.

- AAAA: Memory care center open. Access point project winding down. New grant called community connections to tie together aging services network.

Next full committee meeting:

- August 7, 2024