

Piscataquis Public Health Council
Joint Meeting of the Executive Steering Committee and the HMP Action Team
March 31, 2009
1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Piscataquis Room

Attendance: Dawna Blackstone, Tom Lizotte, Sharon Foster, Susan Parker, Cheri Snow, Bonnie Irwin, Patricia Kelleher, Valerie Heal, Diane Rosell, Jamie Padham, Catherine Cody, John Spieker, Emily Poland, Robin Mayo, 2 student nurses

Welcome and introductions

Shannon Bishop provided updates on American Legacy Theater Grant at Dexter Regional High School, production in May 2009, Every 15 Minutes update, happening in May 2009, Alcohol Seller/Server trainings have been very well attended. Over 40 trained over the last 2-3 months, compliance checks by Piscataquis SO 33 checks, 11 violations in the Jan 1-March 31 quarter. Underage drinking prevention grant going well. Meeting March 18th included all police departments and the Piscataquis County sheriff's office, in addition to state police, forestry and game wardens on best way to collaborate to effectively tackle underage drinking. PPHC had a display at Moving Forward Day, Penquis Higher Learning Center to serve unemployed, underemployed. Good way to be visible in the community.

Diane Rosell talked about clinical outreach projects, connection with school nurses, best practices, tobacco treatment. Star Store-partnering with youth to talk to retailers about reducing tobacco signage on the exterior of the business. Daycare training was provided to local daycare providers in Piscataquis and surrounding communities that covered physical activity, nutrition, second hand smoke, and sun safety, the first training occurred this past week covering physical activity. The 1st of 3 modules was about physical activity and sun safety, next nutrition, then secondhand smoke. Diane is beginning work on smoke free recreational areas with the primary focus on Hudson, Corinth, Bradford, and Kenduskeag, primarily because these were areas that we previously did not cover.

Jamie Padham covers worksite wellness, specifically for small businesses. Jamie is currently actively working with Tillson's True Value of Dexter and Maine Highlands Credit Unions with branches in Greenville, Dover, Dexter, and Corinth. Roll out of \$500-\$1000 worksite wellness minigrants are underway. She also has plans to work with Piscataquis County, businesses in Milo, Dover, and Corinth.

Bonnie Irwin, District Tobacco Coordinator has worked on making presentation materials available, asthma fact sheets for childcare providers, working with PTM in conjunction with the Bangor Daily News to create awareness for anti-tobacco public policy. She's an executive board member of Smoke Free Housing Coalition (SFHC). The SFHC is working to educate and create awareness for available smoke free apartments for Penobscot, Hancock, Piscataquis, Aroostook and Washington counties. SFHC created print ads and send postcards to landlords to promote. A conference is planned in Bangor

to target allied health professionals, landlords, property managers on the importance of smoke free homes, especially multi-units.

PPHC is now in a new location on the 2nd floor of the Basket House located at 883 West Main Street. We plan to hold an open house in May or June.

District Coordinating Council met 4 times to discuss policy and procedure. Jessica Fogg, will be the Penquis District State Coordinating Council representative. State Coordinating Council executive steering committee has met several times with the entire SCC meeting on March 26, 2009 to discuss the Public Health Infrastructure, Universal Wellness Initiative. Talking points were provided. The State of Maine plans to submit an application for accreditation in 2011 this will increase expectations at the local level. Robin provided a handout that covered frequently asked questions related to Public Health National Accreditation.

Healthy Policy Partners minutes from 1/14/09 were reviewed. The PPHC may see a reduction in funding by 5.5%. The new contracting cycle for the PPHC will begin March 20 and wrap up on or around May 15, with contracts expected out by June 1.

A copy of the MAPP Required Health Indicators draft list was provided. Mandatory and optional indicators were reviewed. The State of Maine will be providing us with the Mandatory indicators optional indicators would have to be gathered independent from the State mandate. Some optional indicators that individuals identified as possible indicators to be included were pregnancy, elementary dental, and Chlamydia. Robin reviewed the focus groups matrix and the 6 groups identified were being broken down within the District to allow for a more urban setting like Bangor and a more rural setting like Piscataquis and Northern Penobscot Counties. A question was raised with regards to "How do you reach adults not in the workplace, not elderly, not disabled, but unemployed and discouraged. The thinking was that some of these individuals would be captured in the 18-25 age group, young parents, and to some extent with underemployed in worksite settings.

The group reviewed Vision Braining Storming session results from May 28 and proceeded to brainstorm Values. The notes will be compiled and forwarded to Tom Lizotte who agreed to develop a Vision and Values Statement for the groups review.

Robin reviewed and asked for suggestions of organizations and support groups that could be added to 211 system. The State's goal is to have the 211 system be the go to site for individuals to identify local resources associated with chronic disease management.

Robin reviewed the Obesity Initiative in relation to the 5-2-1-0 Let's Go. The Penquis District through Eastern Maine Health System has a coordinator, Erin Whitehouse, M Ed she is willing to work with us on funding opportunities and any initiative that helps tackle the youth obesity problem. The program is intended to be very similar to the www.lets-go.org initiative that is in Southern Maine and we have utilized many of the tools that they had developed, i.e. 5-2-1-0 Goes to School Tool Kit, Physician Tool Kits,

and they have plans to develop a Daycare Provider Toolkit. The Physician Tool Kit was provided to all Mayo Regional Hospital physicians as well as Seabrook Family Doctors' office in Dover. Robin is working to distribute Physician Toolkits to C.A. Dean and Sunbury Family Medicine.

Cathy Cody indicated the 5-2-1-0 Initiative is a struggle in schools, because 5-2-1-0 conflicts with US federal nutrition standards, the State doesn't back it up. The Federal standards were established decades ago and they are not current with today's nutritional needs. The battle exists between more exercise vs. more academics, and it's a battle promoting nutrition. Sue Parker asked for additional assistance with food service challenges. Timing is good with school consolidation to collaborate with joint menu planning and prep, identify what other school districts are doing well locally, support from superintendents and principal's is very important, look to identify training opportunities for food service personnel. The suggestion was made to ask Lynn Nelson from MSAD #68 to hold a couple of meetings with food service directors to identify challenges and opportunities.

Robin highlighted three new web-sites that included the new PPHC site, the new Penquis District site, and the State's Office of Local Public Health site.

Dawna Blackstone reviewed briefly the School Substance Abuse Policy guide book. Copies are available through the PPHC for any schools that may not have a copy. Call Shannon Bishop at 564-4184 if you need a copy. Dawna is available for questions related to the development of school substance abuse policies.

Robin briefly reviewed additional funding recently received and indicated that the PPHC will likely have extra Healthy Maine Partnership funds available and ideas for valid projects that fit within the HMP workplan would be encouraged to utilize those funds. Much of the excess funds was related to the time Robin was out of the office and unfilled positions during the 22 month funding cycle.

Dawna Blackstone shared the "What is public health?" initiative. Many individuals do not have a good understanding of what public health is and this initiative was a way to educate individuals on the many aspects of public health.

Pat Kelleher from Charlotte White expressed all the great work that they are doing with employee wellness and shared the Food Coop concept that is being promoted by Charlotte White Center.

Next meeting scheduled for Tuesday, June 30, 1:00-3:00 p.m. in the Piscataquis Room at Mayo Regional Hospital.

Submitted by Shannon Bishop