



**Carroll County Public Health Advisory Council
Executive Committee Meeting
Thursday, March 26, 2020: 9:00-11:00am
Remote Only (COVID-19)**

Notes

Quick Introductions & Updates

- Once around the table:

Discussed volunteer opportunities, as there has been an increase in individuals reaching out wanting to help with the COVID-19 response in the county. Due to distancing protocols to help slow spread of the virus, in-person volunteer opportunities are not feasible. How can people help? Discussed pairing up volunteers to individuals at risk for isolation (Fryeburg Age-Friendly Task Force has begun an informal process to pair individual using Google forms).

Personal Protective Equipment for medical personnel continues to be a concern (masks, gowns, etc.). There have been some efforts in the county to have people make this equipment, but questions about the efficacy of this remain.

Northern Carroll County Providers Network is hosting a Zoom meeting at 1pm 3/26/20 to strategize about COVID-19 response.

Check-In: COVID-19

- Updates and Group Discussion

Vulnerable populations becoming more vulnerable in the face of COVID-19 restrictions. What are restrictions doing to our populations and how do we respond? Gibson Center is conducting calls to guests to maintain social connection and help identify any needs. Church outreach is an important tool to utilize in order to maintain social connection (Marianne has been working with Sue Davidson & Catalina has been working with faith-based institution in Madison). Technology to connect people remotely has become increasingly more important during these times. This may also further highlight issues of broadband access and access to other technological tools.

Memorial Hospital update (Sue R.): Working to increase the number of available negative pressure rooms to isolate potential virus patients and additional training is being provided to staff at the Hospital. Mass casualty plan is being utilized to prepare in the case it needs to be enacted. Hospital is using Nordx labs for testing and have results pending. Elective surgery and PCP/preventive care has been postponed. Discussed concerns about backlog for these services once virus subsides.

Discussion focusing on current risks: Shelter in place or stay at home order may be beneficial, but this is a sensitive topic for much of the public. Are SUD groups still meeting in person? Catalina is still conducting outreach to SUD providers and will help to find out more information about practices. Discussed that DHHS should provide guidance to SUD providers about services during this time.

Food bags (e.g. End 68 Hours of Hunger) and food pantries are facing increasing pressure and have an elder volunteer force. How are these programs ensuring they are protecting volunteers and people accessing services?

Update from Jarrid Pike, C3PH PHEP Coordinator:
COVID-19 Update (as of 3/26/2020)

- 137 cases throughout the entire state
- 712 COVID19 tests pending, so do not be alarmed if / when more positive cases come to light. The people who have tests pending are already self-quarantined, as well as their contacts.
- 7 cases are in Carroll County (all patients in Carroll County, have been isolated, and all of their contacts have been notified to do the same.)
- The state is looking to set up 8 Alternative Care Sites (ACS) throughout the entire state. To support hospital overflow. They will be coordinating with the PHEP Coordinator as well as Huggins and Memorial Hospital to ensure the best centralized location to support Carroll County. The national guard will also be providing resources for the ACS, Carroll County Coalition for Public Health will also be a supporting role. We have two trailers in the county full of cots, blankets and other material to help support an ACS. Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) and Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT) volunteers have been contacted in supporting an ACS.
- The state also has requested Disaster Medical Assistant Teams (DMAT) through FEMA for supporting the ACS.
- The state has received part of their 2nd personal protective equipment (PPE) supply from the strategic national stockpile (SNS), they are waiting on the rest of it as well as their 3rd PPE order.
- Small amounts of PPE from private vendors are also starting to trickle in.
- As always for more resources visit www.nh.gov/covid19/

Group suggested debriefing meetings with County partners after the virus subsides to discuss lessons learned and preparedness for future outbreaks.

CHIP Priorities:

- **COC:** waiting to hear back from SUD providers about changes to their services due to COVID-19 and what support they may need. Sharing pertinent information to County providers as it becomes available.
- **SMP:** DEA Spring drug take back day canceled, please refer people to local police departments to dispose of unused/unwanted Rx drugs.
- **Emergency Preparedness:** See update from Jarrid above.
- **Aging:** MWV Adult Day Center is conducting outreach to guests, as it remains closed indefinitely. Increasing the use of County “Good Morning” programs may also help to reach these vulnerable

populations. MWV ADC is moving support groups to remote platforms. ServiceLink has moved to remote operations. MWV Age-Friendly library kiosk is complete. Krista from Memorial Primary Care is pulling together resources for people they serve. Tom Eastman: walkable trails in his column in the [Conway Daily Sun](#). North Conway Community Center has received AARP Challenge grant renovate land. VNHCH is still in operation, with some staff reduction. Prioritizing patients. Office work is being done remotely. Screening before visits.

- **Chronic Disease:** Memorial Population health in-person classes are on hold; VNHCH in-person programs on hold. Still working to integrate at-risk CD patients into 100 Days of Wellness, through MWV Age-Friendly Health Domain.

Updates on County Events:

- Delegation Luncheon originally scheduled for 3/13/2020 Postponed.
- Building Resilience MWV: April MWV Chamber Business Expo presentation postponed,
- Lead Project still slated to start in April. Caleb will be conducting work to be prepared to “hit the ground running” once virus subsides and in-person work resumes.
- Huggins Summit in May: Stay tuned.
- Sandwich Forum in June: Stay tune.

Next PHAC EC Meeting: Next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, June 26th