



**Carroll County Public Health Advisory Council  
Executive Committee Meeting  
Thursday, March 22, 2022: 9:00-10:30am**

**Notes**

**Attendance:** Valeda Cerasale, Sue Ruka, Sandy Ruka, Chuck Henderson, Kera Favorite, Deb Bunting,

**1. Updates and Discussion – CHIP Priorities:**

- Public Health Emergency Preparedness Across the Lifespan

Sheltering 101 with American Red Cross was held in early March. About 30 people attended. Turning focus on expanding shelter training and services for interested parties in the county.

COVID: Response has really wound-down. Continuing to standby for any changes in the future. Both Huggins and Memorial are working to integrate COVID responses into primary care and other. Huggins and Memorial COVID accessibility. 2<sup>nd</sup> booster

- Access to Comprehensive Physical Health Services

Hospitals are seeing a return to more routine types of services and census. Still seeing ebbs and flows of patients accessing ED and other hospital services. Transfer restrictions are starting to loosen up since the peak of Omicron. Seeing some issues related to delayed care for chronic conditions (chronic conditions seem to have progressed further than they may have pre-COVID times). Virtual Diabetes Management class (through MaineHealth). Still being impacted by staffing shortages (hospital, homehealth, etc.). MaineHealth has applied for a Chronic Disease Management (will hear in April perhaps).

CHW at Children Unlimited.

Wolfeboro Lions has helped with vision screenings and eyeglasses in the past (have done some screening this year), but they have suspended funding for eyeglasses assistance.

- Access to Comprehensive Behavioral Health Services

NHS – a hold for new intakes – Hopefully this will lift for Conway in April and May in Wolfeboro. Staff shortages! School Liaison project is going well. MCU is up and running in Conway/Carroll County, moving to Littleton and rest of the North Country. CIT and CTI.

Moultonborough -Getting to Y using YRBS data and identifying priorities- Dating Violence, Suicide Ideation, and Substance and Nicotine Use (e.g. Vaping).

Youth Suicide Prevention

ICare and other Social Media.

Youth SMP Leadership Team: Connected with BreatheNH. MyLifeMyQuit (resources to help youth with health).

- Healthy Aging

Staffing shortages are impacting homehealth – more for caregiving services, less than with hospice and palliative care. CFI = Choices For Independence. (positive response from MCU). VA clinic closure and impact on services for Veterans.

Dementia Capable Community Grant through Memorial, Adult Day Center, and Gibson – Caregiver Support Training has been offered (REACH intervention for caregivers), VNHCH components are up and running. Virtual Dementia Tour – starting with Gibson Center Volunteers and will be spreading to other partners (NHS, etc.). Opening minds through Art at MWV ADC. Early detection at Wellcare visits – facing some challenges, but working through them. Palliative Care for Dementia – Jennifer Greiss is seeing around 25 individuals. ADC Scholarships (subsidies to get individuals w/out benefits started).

Granite State Challenge (summer challenge).

- Healthy and Thriving Early Childhood Experiences

CHW Services at Children Unlimited.

Services for VISA/New American Families.

Choose Love for SAU 49

## **2. Emerging Trends or Issues not yet discussed**

Dental and Eye Care.

Congressional direct Discretionary Funds being disbursed to approved projects (Shaheen.gov website).

## **3. Wrap-up & Adjourn**

**Next PHAC EC Meeting:** Next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 17<sup>th</sup> at 9am