

# Cumberland District Public Health Council (CDPHC)

Full Council Meeting

January 16, 2009

Meeting location: Woodfords Family Services, Westbrook

**Attendees:** Julie Sullivan, Shane Gallagher, Mark Griswold, Dick Farnsworth, Toho Soma, Colleen Hilton, Bethany Sanborn, Lucie Rioux, Ted Trainer, Maryanna Arsenault, Carol Zechman, Kaki Dimock, Meredith Tipton, Tom Gordon, Betsy Sawyer-Manter, Deb Deatrack, Lisa Viola, Lynn Brown, Faye Daley, Rebecca Miller, Bernice Mills, Erica Schmitz, Steve Fox, Malory Shaughnessy, Amanda Walker, Anita Anderson, Jim Budway

## Key Points Discussed

### Introductions and Updates:

- Julie Sullivan informed the group to view the website
- Each attendee introduced self and discussed their role in CCPH.
- Highlights and areas of concern raised during the introductions included: Aging, access to healthcare, dental services, medication management, immigrant population health issues, alcoholism, misuse of alcohol by different age groups, emergency preparedness, health promotion, social determinants of health, environmental concerns, non-traditional housing, intersection between Public Health and Healthcare, preventive medicine, immunizations
- **Action:** The group found it helpful in our efforts to coordinate, collaborate, leverage and advocate to continue to be informed of area services.

### Legislative Update:

- Reviewed the handout: *An Act to Establish and Promote Statewide Collaboration and Coordination in Public Health Activities and to Enact a Universal Wellness Initiative*. There are two main components to the legislation. 1.) to codify Public Health Infrastructure and 2.) Proposed universal Wellness Initiative.
- Deb Deatrack discussed the need to transition from a Legislative Committee to an Advocacy Committee with the Committee goal of establishing a process to review current legislation and to recommend back to the CCPH either a support or oppose or other such ratings to keep the Council informed.
- Deb Deatrack reviewed current legislation that the Council should be considering such as 1.) PE for ME, a public schools Physical Education requirement. 2.) Fast Food chains to post nutritional information 3.) Prohibit sport drink sales to under age 18. 4.) A proposed change in the numbers of alcohol establishments allowed in a municipality. 5.) Smoking in cars, third hand smoke issues 6.) Beverage tax on soda for kids
- **Action:** Convened an Advocacy Committee who remained following the meeting to discuss next steps. Members volunteering included: Malory Shaughnessy,

Steve Fox, Carol Zechman, Shane Gallagher, Julie Sullivan, Mark Griswold, Erica Schmitz, Becky Miller, Ted Trainer, Deb Deatrack, and Anita Andersen. It was also recommended to enlist the support of Barbara Shaw who was not present at the meeting.

Updates from other District Councils from Mark Griswold:

- Decision to recommend members to the Statewide CC will occur at the March meeting.
- Mark indicated the infusion of the Universal Wellness Initiative was an effort to preserve funding for district Public Health Councils.
- Local Health Officer training is now available on line following beta testing
- Action may need to be taken on the Public Health Infrastructure prior to the full Council meeting again.

• **Action:** The Steering Committee will consider voting on the proposed legislation by electronic means following a more thorough review and recommendation from the Advocacy Committee

Chair Update – Julie Sullivan:

- Community TV will be running a series on Preventive Health Services. Julie is working with CTN Tom Handle. Julie encouraged the membership to be thinking of episodes they may want to feature.
- Julie asked the group to consider a web blurb or video stream for the CCPH website to help inform the public.
- Julie mentioned a good book read, Nudge by Cass Sunstein.

• **Action:** Members should be preparing video clips that will feature their respective agencies/organizations for inclusion on the website and possible use for CTN.

Future Meeting Locations:

- Dick Farnsworth was thanked for hosting the past few meetings, and it was suggested to rotate meetings to various sites. Members were encouraged to let Julie know if they could accommodate a group of this size.
- Full Council meetings are 10 am – 12 nn. Dates: March 20, May 15, July 17, September 18 @ St. Josephs College, November 20.
- Executive Committee meetings are at Portland City Hall, Rm 303 @ 2:30 -4:30 pm. February 23, April 27, June 22, August 24, October 26, December 14.