



Maine Public Health Association

The Voice of Public Health in Maine for 30 Years

Maine Public Health Association

2014 Fall Conference

Breakout Session #1: 10:00-10:50 a.m.

How Research, Informatics, and Infrastructure Converged into a Public Health Initiative to Address Private Well Water Safety in Maine

Karyn Butts, MPH; Rebecca Lincoln ScD

Are you aware that more than half of Maine's households rely on a private, domestic well for drinking water? Join us for a discussion around private well water quality, with a special focus on arsenic, a carcinogenic and neurotoxic chemical that is naturally occurring at levels that exceed health guidelines in at least 10% of Maine wells. In this session, we'll share how ongoing research, relevant data, and expanding infrastructure have grown over the last 20 years so that Maine is now able to mount its first public health program dedicated to well water safety.

Using a Community Health Outreach Model to Promote Equal Access to Resources on Childhood Exposure to Violence

Barrett Wilkinson, MPP; Malual Mabur, MBBS

In 2010 Portland, Maine became one of eight "Defending Childhood" sites around the country funded by the U.S. Department of Justice. Aimed at addressing the effects of childhood exposure to violence, Portland Defending Childhood (PDC) blends innovative public and mental health strategies to address a national health epidemic. PDC strives to ensure equal access to resources addressing childhood exposure to violence. This breakout session will describe the partnership between PDC and the team of Minority Community Health Outreach Workers at the City of Portland and detail specific strategies for employing a health outreach model in order to promote health equity.

Making Rural Public Transportation More Than a Dream

William Primmerman; Jeff Hewett; Jim Wood

Rural Maine communities lack many things to support the health of their citizens one of these things is public transportation. Come view our you tube video and hear from a panel of our Somerset Transportation Committee members how we have developed the Somerset Explorer, a rural public transportation system in Maine.

Impacting Policy from Outside the Statehouse

Rep. Megan Rochelo Rep. Matt Pouliot; Sen. Colleen Lachowicz; Sen. Thomas Saviello (invited)

Moderator: Becky Smith

Join us for an informative dialogue with experience lobbyists and current legislators to learn more about promoting, creating and legislating public health policy. Experts will share their insights and helpful tips in navigating the legislative process and making the most of limited resources.



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Breakout Session #2: 11:00 - 11:50 a.m.

The Public Health Workforce: National Trends and Local Opportunities to Strengthen Our Capacity

Brenda Joly, PhD, MPH

This session will describe our public health workforce and identify several national trends. The presentation will focus on: 1) projected workforce shortages, 2) recruitment and retention efforts, 3) education, training and credentialing, 4) worker pay, promotion and job satisfaction and 5) recent calls to action for ongoing workforce research. Finally, the session will include a discussion on strategies for strengthening Maine's public health workforce.

State of Maine Public Health Infrastructure: Implications for Childhood Obesity Prevention

Rebecca Boulos, PhD, MPH; Nesly Metayer, PhD, MPA, EDM cand.; Toby Beckelman, MS, MPH

National and statewide public health infrastructures have a profound impact on the effectiveness of initiatives targeting various population level problems, including childhood obesity prevention. This session will discuss findings from key informant interviews held with several leaders in childhood obesity prevention in the State of Maine, drawing specifically on themes related to the state's public health infrastructure and its role in obesity prevention efforts, and informal and interpersonal collaborations that are leading to success. The session will provide an opportunity for attendees to work together to identify areas for further partnership in this area.

Teen Pregnancy, Family Planning and Maine: A Prospective Outlook

Jayce Keller, Kate Brogan, MeCDC representative (Invited)

Although Maine's overall rate of teen births (24/1,000) is below the national average, four counties in the state exceed the national rate. During this session, recent data will be reviewed, problems explored and current initiatives discussed. Past, present and future related legislation and access will also be reviewed. This session will provide an opportunity for those interested in maternal-child health to learn best practice strategies and how we can work together to face this public health issue.

Poster Session

Poster session will allow for the discussion of scholarly research and/or practice addressing public health concerns in Maine with conference participants in an informal scholarly environment. All posters will be displayed in one room during this breakout session. A complete listing of posters is included on page three.



Poster Session Listing:

The following are a list of projects represented during the poster breakout session:

- Treatment of Behavioral Health Problems and their Relation to Income Level, Gender and Insurance Coverage in Maine
- The Effectiveness of a Free Skin Cancer Screening Clinic: a 14 year Experience at Maine Medical Center
- Clandestine Methamphetamine Labs and their Effects on Immediate Air Quality
- Lewiston/Auburn New American Public Health Assessment
- Integrating Tobacco Treatment
- Alcohol Myopia: Use of a Smart Phone Intervention to Reduce Problem Drinking in College Students
- Finding the youth and family voice: focus group results inform a statewide initiative to increase access to adolescent substance abuse treatment
- Healthy Developments: How a Public Health Perspective is Transforming Downtowns
- Up & Running: Successes, Challenges, and Lessons Learned from the Implementation of the National Diabetes Prevention Program in Maine
- Using Emerging Best Practices and Data to Address Policy Change in Diverse Environments
- Assessing Collective Impact Tools: The Oxford County Experience
- Using a State-wide Structured Approach to Improve Supports for Physical Activity and Healthy Eating in Maine's Licensed Child-Care Programs