

North Shore Public Health Collaborative

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, March 21st, 2024

2:00-2:45pm

Attendees

Name	Role	Community
Teresa Kirsch	Public Health Nurse	Beverly
Frank Giacalone	Director	Danvers
Judith Ryan	Public Health Nurse	Danvers
MJ Alexander	Public Health Nurse	Lynn
Norris Guscott	Coordinator	Lynn
Tracy Giarla	Public Health Nurse	Marblehead
Sharon Cameron	Director	Peabody
Chassea Robinson	Public Health Nurse	Peabody
Suzanne Darmody	Public Health Nurse	Salem
David Greenbaum	Director	Salem
Jeff Vaughn	Director	Swampscott
Neia Illingworth	Public Health Nurse	Swampscott
Laura Nash	Epidemiologist	NSPHC
Meg Dlusniewski	Coordinator	NSPHC
Kitzia Diaz	Public Health Nurse	NSPHC
Jeanne Butler	Public Health Nurse	NSPHC
Steven Kahn	Field Training Hub Coordinator	NSPHC
Hayden Fitch	Sanitarian	NSPHC

PHE Updates

- There are several new hires. Jeanne Butler is the new part-time Public Health Nurse for NSPHC, and Steven Kahn is the Regional Field Training Coordinator. The new Community Health Worker, Sathvika Kamani, will start on March 25th. An applicant for the Regional Social Worker position is scheduled for an interview. The next body art working meeting is next Thursday, and Meg will send out and post the agenda in advance. DPH recently released a strategic plan for achieving health equity; at the April meeting, we can discuss how to incorporate this into our NSPHC work. At the August 2024 meeting, the group voted to have Salem post NSPHC meeting information on behalf of all municipalities, per Open Meeting Law requirements. All municipalities should have information about their participation in the collaborative and where to find the meeting information. We are still waiting on one community to sign the IMA, but we have been posting the agenda as a best practice.

NS MVP Updates

- There is a new referral form on the NS MVP website that parents can use to request a visit (nsmvp.org)

NCOA Grant Final Report

- The project period for the NCOA Vaccine Uptake Initiative ended. Our target metrics were to host at least one vaccination clinic in each community, with at least 500 vaccines administered. Our final result was 31 clinics, 324 COVID-19 vaccines, and 1303 flu vaccines.

Epidemiology Updates

- There are no updates from DPH about changing COVID-19 isolation guidelines. Laura shared the BSAS dashboard with substance use overdose information.

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National Public Health Week (NPHW) Planning

- NPHW is the first week of April. The shared services team will attend a community event in Lynn on Tuesday. We will share daily social media posts. We will hold an in-person Narcan training in Peabody and a virtual one. We will also share information about IMPACT Melanoma and the North Shore Mother Visiting Partnership.

Opioid Settlement Funds

- Peabody's social worker started two months ago and recently started a support group for grandparents raising their grandchildren based on community feedback about the settlement funds. It is only open to Peabody residents, but we could look into a similar regional group once we hire a Regional Social Worker. Beverly recently posted their social worker position.
- Danvers purchased educational goggles for the Police Department to use at the middle and high schools. The goggles show the impact of alcohol, THC, and opioids. Danvers also had a successful event with a recent Danvers High School graduate who is in recovery from a substance use disorder. The school collected anonymous questions from all students, and Judith and the recent graduate answered them at an assembly. They received very positive feedback that students are more receptive to hearing from someone close to their age.
- Swampscott conducted a community survey and is now holding working groups. The groups learned about Safety First, a free evidence-based curriculum for high school students. They also learned about the Drug Story Theater, where students from a recovery high school put on plays for students and parents, with a question-and-answer session with a doctor after each performance.