

Inter-Island Public Health Collaborative



Regular Meeting Inter-Island Public Health Excellence Collaborative Advisory Board **MINUTES**

Wednesday, 25 September 2024

14:00 PM

REMOTE

OPEN SESSION:

Present: Mike Hugo, Shared Service Coordinator (SSC); Lenore Maniaci, Health and Human Services Director of Dukes County; Marina Lent, Health Agent, Town of Aquinnah; Fernando Lana, Assistant Health Agent, Town of Edgartown; Brice Boutot, Health Agent, Town of Edgartown; Roque Miramontes, Director, Town of Nantucket; Jericho Mele, Health Agent, Town of Nantucket; Alexa Arieta, Health Agent, Town of Oak Bluffs; Drew Belsky, Health Agent, Town of Tisbury; Alex Lam, Health Agent, Town of West Tisbury; Sarah Toste, Assistant Health Agent, Town of West Tisbury; Elizabeth “Betsy” VanLandingham, RN, Public Health Nurse Reportable Disease Investigator; Lea Hamner, Epidemiologist, Patrick Roden-Reynolds, Biologist.

Call to Order

Announcement: Meeting facilitator and (SSC) Mike Hugo announced that THERE WILL BE NO PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD DURING THIS MEETING, ONLY THOSE RECOGNIZED BY THE CHAIR/CONVENOR.

Mike welcomed Roque to the team and introduced him to the other Board members who warmly welcomed his arrival at the helm of the Nantucket Health Department. Mike noted the opportunity for Roque to join with Lea to develop a comprehensive epidemiology program for the region.

FY25 IIPHEC Work Plan:

Mike discussed the workplan which will be reviewed for final approval by DPH with a hard deadline of September 30th. He described the challenges he faced with the DPH format for the workplan and expressed gratitude for the offer of assistance from Drew and Sarah, acknowledging that he might need to reach out to someone more proficient in Excel for future projects. Drew suggested that Mike could benefit from having one of them attend a meeting with Bethany for a general overview. The Board then went through all listed activities of the work plan and determined designated point persons for each activity.

The Board also discussed one of three “elective” focus areas of the workplan, Maternal and Child Health. This is also one of the focus areas of the public nursing contract between IHC and five of the six towns on Martha’s Vineyard. Agents designated public health nurse Lila Fischer as the person most involved in this focus area. Mike noted that this focus area was chosen to potentially include a software program that Island Healthcare and DPH are interested in piloting. He informed the Board that, so far, he has not heard back from Island Healthcare and that therefore, IIPHEC cannot yet proceed to commit support for the ComCare tablet-based public nursing system introduced at our previous meeting, but also suggested the possibility of attracting more funding for this pilot program due to the island's high immigrant and migrant population.

- **The Board unanimously approved the FY25 IIPHEC Workplan as presented by Mike and amended by the Advisory Board.**

The team discussed their access to MAVEN and MIIS, both of which contain sensitive patient information. It was confirmed that Erin, Jerico and Betsy VanLandingham have access to both MAVEN and MIIS, and, Lea, Marina, Fernando and Drew have access to MAVEN.

- With assistance of legal staff at MAHB, Mike will prepare a guidance document on HIPAA in relation to boards of health and health department staff as requested by Lea Hamner.

Training opportunities for staff members: Mike proposed Drew to take the lead on all training questions with Brice as his support staff. He offered that he could attend meetings on Drew's behalf and report back. The team also discussed the potential use of the Food Code Pro tablet for inspection purposes. Martha’s Vineyard towns have entered into a contract with Food Code Pro, and offered to lend an iPad to Jerico's inspection team for testing. Alexa mentioned visiting for a hockey game that weekend and could liaise with Jericho to deliver the tablet.

Mike also mentioned that he was collecting anecdotes about NEWIPCC septic system training practices for an upcoming meeting with the coalition for local public health. Brice sharing his current experience in taking the NEWIPCC courses.

Tobacco Control Program: Mike Hugo reminded Board members that we will have Sheryl Sbarra of MAHB and Bob Collet, who runs the Barnstable County Tobacco Control Program for the Cape & Islands to attend our next scheduled meeting on October 2nd. This will provide an important opportunity for Agents to become fully informed about state requirements for Tobacco Control, and to determine any needed changes to come into full compliance.

- All agents will prepare tobacco-related questions for next week's meeting with Cheryl and Bob.

Adjournment. Unanimous.