



HEALTHY CONNECTICUT 2020

ADVISORY COUNCIL

Meeting Summary
March 29, 2017
1:00 pm - 3:00 pm

Meeting Purpose and Outcome:

To discuss the 2017 SHIP Policy Agenda Update and to discuss key questions from select Action Teams.

Attendees:

Patricia Baker, CT Health Foundation/Advisory Council Chair; Mehul Dalal, CT Dept. of Public Health; Judy Dicine, Chief State's Attorney's Office; Phyllis DiFiore, CT Dept. of Transportation; John Frassinelli, CT Dept. of Education; Jordana Frost, March of Dimes; Robyn Gulley, North Central Area Agency on Aging; Lynne Ide, Universal Health Foundation; Patrick McCormack, Uncas Health District; Elaine O'Keefe, Yale School of Public Health; Scott Sjoquist, Mohegan Tribal Health; Janet Storey, CT Dept. of Mental Health and Addiction Services; Kathi Traugh, Connecticut Public Health Association; Nancy Yedlin, Donaghue Foundation; Rose Swensen, Health Resources in Action; Donna Burke, Health Resources in Action; Joan Ascheim, CT Dept. of Public Health; Sandy Gill, CT Dept. of Public Health, Kristin Sullivan, CT Dept. of Public Health; Chantelle Archer, CT Dept. of Public Health; Melissa Touma, CT Dept. of Public Health; Brie Wolf, CT Dept. of Public Health; Marijane Carey, Carey Consulting; Takisha Everette; Mario Garcia, CT Dept. of Public Health; Madie Granato, Connecticut Women's Education and Legal Fund; Heidi Jenkins, CT Dept. of Public Health; Lindsey Kelley, CT Dept. of Public Health, Krista Veneziano, CT Dept. of Public Health, Stan Zazula

Welcome, Introductions and Updates (SHIP Annual Report and SHIP/CHIP Alignment and Strategies Crosswalk):

Kristin Sullivan acknowledged CT DPH's recent accreditation from the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB), and thanked partners for their contributions. She also noted that the 2016 SHIP Annual Report is now complete. Additionally, an updated version of the CHIP alignment document has been completed that now includes 7 CHIPs that are part of the crosswalk. The majority of CHIPs include a focus on Chronic Disease, Health Systems and Mental Health and Substance Abuse (MHSA). There is general alignment among a subset of strategies within those focus areas in Chronic Disease and MHSA, but not Health Systems where there is no alignment at the strategy level. The full document is now available.

2017 Policy Agenda Update:

Tobacco

- Proposed [HB 7089](#), which included increasing age to purchase and use to 21 years; and removing pre-emption, did not pass out of committee. Proposed [HB 5384](#), which also addresses increasing the age to purchase and use, did pass out of committee; however, concerns have been raised about the fiscal note.

Community Health Worker

- Proposed [SB 126](#) has passed out of the committee; licensure and certification issues are topics of discussion. Clarifying information has been provided on the current bill and some legislators have changed their vote in support of the bill.
- April 7th is *Community Health Worker Day*. Health Equity Solutions will be featuring stories on their website on why CHWs are important. Individuals can follow them on Twitter, Facebook, and contact their legislators about supporting the bill.



CONNECTICUT HEALTH IMPROVEMENT COALITION

Partners Integrating Efforts and Improving Population Health

Seatbelt Use/Motorcycle Helmet

- Proposed [HB 7055](#), originally included passenger seatbelt use for all passengers. It also included language to require all motorcycle operators and passengers to wear a helmet; however, when the bill passed out of committee those two items had been removed from the bill. There may be opportunities for substitute language and amendments from the floor.

Paid Family Medical Leave

- Proposed [SB 1](#), and the similar proposed [HB 6212](#), have been voted favorably in March; waiting on further action. The fiscal note came out and they are looking at creative ways to deal with the fund; expecting a vote in April/May.

Property Maintenance Code (PMC)

- The status of proposed [HB 5177](#) is unclear. The bill as written was opposed so they proposed substitute language for the bill. Many organizations filed in favor of the bill but it did not get voted out of the committee. They need continued support for the bill; it will take at least a year and a half to adopt the code. Judy Dicine will advise the Advisory Council as soon as she has clarification.

HPV Vaccinations

- Funding for HPV Vaccine was included in the Governor's Proposed Biennium Budget [HB 7027](#). DPH is continuing to educate legislators about the important role of the HPV Vaccine in preventing cancers and the need for funding. Individuals who support the bill can contact the chairs of the Health Subcommittee.

Integration of Local Health Districts

- Proposed [HB 7170](#) received much opposition. As an alternative they have proposed adding an 11th Essential Service to the *10 Essential Public Health Services*. This 11th Essential Service would require every district to have a community health assessment and community health improvement plan.

Key Questions from Select Action Teams:

Maternal, Infant and Child Health

- Being a part of the SHIP has validated and consolidated their work. Through SHIP they have connected with individuals including Judy Dicine and Maddie Granato. Internally they have been able to support the coalition and have connected with DMHAS. They have found entities doing similar work and have brought them together. In terms of feedback from the Advisory Council, the AC can continue to do what it has been doing.

Health Systems

- Health System's role is to act as a convener of partners that connect across public health and health care systems as well to other focus areas.
- They have been the most impactful in bringing focus to the health workforce, community health assessments, and relationships to the SIM project.

Environmental Health

- The SHIP has brought in many non-traditional partners including building inspectors, property owners, individuals from zoning, housing authority etc.



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- The *Air Quality Subcommittee* has been successful in finding a champion (Ruth Canovi). The American Lung Association is currently refining strategies and recruiting partners.
- The *Lead* and *Healthy Homes Subcommittees* have been impactful by keeping the social determinants at the forefront. The *Healthy Homes Subcommittee* has been successful in reinvigorating the plan at DPH; they will have a new data book from their health assessment. The *Lead Subcommittee* has been successful at keeping the issue of lead at the forefront.

Next Steps

- Members need to start thinking about forming the 2018 policy agenda. There may be opportunities to get input on priorities from a broad range of partners by leveraging and linking to large groups that are already planning annual meetings or other gatherings. Members were asked to also give their opinion about what worked and what they would change in relation to the policy agenda development and process this year.
- *What was helpful about the process used to develop the policy agenda?*
 - Elevated visibility and knowledge of public health
 - Having a one-page policy agenda
 - Process for prioritizing policies (i.e. voting, clickers)
 - Process forced members to think about what they care about and connected it to policy.
 - Process was empowering
 - Having individuals such as Judy Dicine and Maddie Granato come to the meeting was helpful
 - Leveraging advocacy power across interests, and then focusing on priority areas
- *What would they change?*
 - Provide written communication as legislative process unfolds (leads)
 - Clarify education vs. lobbying roles, individuals vs. agencies
 - Get the word out to non-public health advocacy organizations and legislators (i.e. engage people outside of the legislative process)
 - Recognize notable achievements, and accountability to home agencies
 - Recognize members may be accountable to positions on policy for the multiple organizations they may represent

Next Advisory Council Meetings:

- May 23, 2017, 9:30 am-11:30 am
- DPH Lab, 395 West Street, Rocky Hill CT