Setting Priorities

It’s that time again! Every three years, local health departments submit a report to the New York State Department of Health describing community health needs and outlining plans to address two Prevention Priority specific areas of concern. This is an exciting time for those of us committed to using health prevention strategies as an important tool for improving population health.

The first step in this process was conducted by PHIP and involved compiling and analyzing indicators and statistics from a multitude of data sources to provide a Health Indicator Matrix. This tool displays the data for over 150 public health indicators for the six Capital Region counties, the Capital Region, NYS, and NYS excluding NYC, with visual emphasis on county statistics that fall in the worst two quartiles of all NYS counties.

Each county in the Capital Region is in the process of identifying and prioritizing the health care challenges currently faced by their residents. Then, by working within the framework provided by New York State’s Prevention Agenda 2019-2024, the remainder of the three year cycle will be focused on developing programs and services targeted to improve the overall health and wellbeing of those who live in the Capital Region.

As public health professionals, and as Capital Region residents, your counties are requesting your assistance. Each county will hold two prioritization meetings for stakeholders and residents to advise and assist in choosing their priority health issues for the coming years. If you have local data, personal experiences, or insight into community needs or resource deficits regarding a specific health topic and are interested in participating in these meetings, please contact phip@hcdiny.org for more information.

Dylan Hall
Population Health Improvement Program, Manager
PRIORITIZATION PROCESS

What is the Prioritization Process?

As the Capital Region Population Health Improvement Program (PHIP) HCDI, supports the Prevention Agenda by providing up to date health data, facilitating the prioritization process, supporting the development of community health improvement plans throughout the region, developing measurement plans to monitor plan efficacy, and sharing information on evidence based practices to positively impact regional priorities. As part of the New York State Prevention Agenda Cycle, the six counties of the Capital Region (Albany, Columbia, Greene, Rensselaer, Saratoga, and Schenectady) convene every 3 years to select their county’s priority health topics. These chosen health issues will guide county initiatives, programs and resources for the remainder of the Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) Cycle.

Past Prioritization Success

For the past several years, HCDI has supported Capital Region health departments, hospitals and community organizations with support, resources and a process that uses community tables, public health data, and evidence-based practices to build integrated regional community health improvement plans to improve population health.

During the last Prevention Agenda Cycle, most counties chose to focus on: Mental Health and Substance Abuse and Chronic Disease Prevention. Each county implemented a Community Health Improvement Plans (CHNA) related to their priority areas. For a deeper dive into their goals, strategies, and outcomes view the success stories HERE.

You can find the key documents used to organize that process: Community Health Assessments, Community Service Plans, for Albany, Columbia, Greene, Rensselaer, Saratoga, and Schenectady counties HERE on our website.

2019 Prioritization

Data-Driven Process

Health issues impact all segments of society. Bringing together a broad array of community stakeholders around population data will provide valuable insight to the more nuanced health needs of our communities. Creating a robust data-driven process is important in helping to gain an understanding of population-level health issues. This understanding can be used to aid counties and their partners in decision-making and planning.
HCDI, in close collaboration with the Capital Region county health departments and hospitals, has streamlined and strengthened the Prevention Agenda prioritization process that is taking place over the course of the next 3 months. To better provide local health departments and hospitals with the comprehensible data they need to choose their priorities, we’ve created a new ranking system. Our new system provides a score for 30 public health issues based on size, seriousness, trend, disparity, and absolute number.

These Rankings provide a revealing snapshot of how health is influenced by where we live, learn, work and play and assist each county and their key stakeholders in selecting the public health issues they will focus on.

During HCDI’s quarterly Prevention Agenda Workgroup (PAWG) meeting, county health department and hospital stakeholders came together to review the top 30 health issues in their county(ies). After reviewing the most recent data provided alongside the health issues ranking, partners broke into county specific workgroups with the task to narrow down the top 10-12 topics that will be highlighted during the Prioritization Meetings for the final selection. This new method provides local health departments and hospitals with the comprehensible data they need to choose their priorities. HCDI’s new ranking system provides a score for 30 public health issues based on size, seriousness, trend, disparity, and absolute number.

We are happy to share that this ranking methodology has received notable acclaim from PHIP data teams across the state during the monthly NYS Health Research and Analytic Workgroup meeting. HCDI’s data team went on to submit an abstract highlighting this innovative strategy, which was later accepted and will be presented on at the Population Health Summit IV event later this month.

5 Step Prioritization Process

1. **DATA COLLECTION**
   - NYSDOH Prevention Agenda Dashboard
   - Common Grounds Data Portal
   - VS Annual Reports
   - 2016 CHNA

2. **DATA ASSESSMENT**
   - Identification of appropriate indicators for PH issues
   - Creation of Public Health Issue ranking methodology

3. **DATA ANALYSIS**
   - Summary calculations result in Public Health Issue ranking scores

4. **RANKING PRESENTATION**
   - Ranked Public Health Issues are presented to stakeholders with pertinent data

5. **PRIORITY SELECTION**
   - Stakeholders assess data, supply local antidotes, and vote on priority areas for their county
By creating this new methodology for the 2019 Prevention Agenda Cycle, we aim to:

- Provide clear, concise, and comprehensible data
- Be transparent in the health topic selection process
- Use community member's and organization’s insight to guide selections and subsequent strategies

In the upcoming months each county will hold two more prioritization meetings for stakeholders and residents to advise and assist in choosing their priority health issues for the coming years. If you have local data, personal experiences, or insight into community needs or resource deficits regarding a specific health topic and are interested in participating in these meetings, please contact phil@hcdiny.org for more information.

Want More Information on the 2019 Prevention Agenda Prioritization Presentations?
Click Below to View Your County’s Full Data and Resource Page

Albany County
Columbia County
Greene County
Rensselaer County
Saratoga County
Schenectady County

Community Health Needs Assessment

Along with the Prioritization Process Hospital Facilities are required by the IRS to conduct a Community Health Needs Assessment. The data we collect during prioritization will be assembled in a regional CHNA report coming out in June.

Learn more about the CHNA and view the CHNA Guide on our webpage HERE

You can also view the 2016 Community Health Needs Assessment containing county and zip code group level analysis for Albany, Columbia, Greene, Rensselaer, Saratoga, and Schenectady counties. Causes of death, hospitalization and emergency room use data are presented. Ten-year trends, gender, ethnicity and age patterns were also examined when available. HERE
THE LATEST IN NEW YORK STATE HEALTH INITIATIVES

Population Health Improvement Program (PHIP)

The Population Health Improvement Program (PHIP) was created 4 years ago to provide regional planning support for the advancement of the following statewide population health improvement strategies: the Prevention Agenda, DSRIP and the State Health Innovation Plan. The Capital Region PHIP has focused on assembling or developing tools and trainings that support the achievement of these initiatives in the region. These resources can be easily found at www.hcdiny.org.

Examples include, the Social Determinants of Health Resource Guide, chronic disease self-management resource guides, Community Health Liaison training directories, the regional Community Health Needs Assessment, Health Disparities reports, and Health Coach primary care engagement tools. While DSRIP and other partners created their initiatives to advance population health, the Capital Region PHIP developed these resources to support the workforce who implement them.

Unfortunately, PHIP funds were discontinued in the Governor’s proposed 2020 budget. Our hope is that the Governor and Legislation will reconsider and reinstate PHIP funding. We will keep you updated as we find out more information and should know more in April when the 2020 budget is finalized.

Delivery System Reform Incentive Payment (DSRIP) Program

DSRIP Stories of Meaningful Change in Patient Health

The New York State Department of Health has released a compendium of stories highlighting transformative care through DSRIP. The story book, which details fifteen examples of meaningful change in patient health, highlights successes in improving outcomes by putting the needs of the patient at the forefront of healthcare transformation. The Alliance for Better Health and Adirondack Health Institute are among the featured Performing Provider Systems (PPS). Check out the story book here.
Spotlight on VBP!
In the spirit of supporting the transition to Value Based Payment (VBP), the presentation from October’s VBP Bootcamp is now available online. VBP Bootcamps are a learning series created by the Department of Health with the goal to equip VBP contractors and interested parties such as Managed Care Organizations, Healthcare Providers, Associations and Community Based Organizations, with the knowledge necessary to implement payment reform. Click here for further information.

Save the Date
The Alliance for Better Health, Adirondack Health Institute, and Better Health for Northeast New York PPSs will collaborate for another VBP training event. The session, entitled “Volume to Value: Creating Funding Opportunities in Payment Arrangements” will take place on Wednesday, March 20 at the Queensbury Hotel in Glens Falls, NY.

State Health Innovation Plan (SHIP)
The State will continue implementation of the SHIP under the terms of a $100 million Federal award extended through 2020. Currently in the fourth year of a multi-year phase-in, SHIP is a multi-faceted approach that integrates care across all parts of the health care system, including behavioral and community health, by enhancing the capacity of primary care practices. SHIP complements and builds upon Medicaid reform efforts, including DSRIP, to achieve the “Triple Aim” for New York’s entire healthcare system of improving population health, improving patient experience, and reducing system costs. For further information, refer to Governor Cuomo’s Financial Year 2020 Executive Budget.
UPCOMING EVENTS AND RESOURCES

Wednesday, February 20, 2019
Rensselaer County Heroin Coalition
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Rensselaer County Department of Social Services, Administrative Building 2nd Floor
127 Bloomingrove Drive, Troy, NY 12180

Wednesday, February 20, 2019
Help Our Youth Community Fundraiser
5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
Glenn Peter Diamond Centre
1544 Central Avenue, Albany, NY 12205

Thursday, February 21, 2019
Albany Strategic Alliance Meeting
9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.
Albany County Department of Health, Basement Auditorium
175 Green Street, Albany, NY 12206

Friday, February 22, 2019
Schenectady Trauma Informed Community Work Group
10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
Ellis McClellan Street Health Center, Conference Center
600 McClellan Street, Schenectady, NY 12304

Friday, February 22, 2019
HCDI PHAB Accreditation Meeting
11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Healthy Capital District Initiative, 5th Floor Conference Room
175 Central Avenue, Albany, NY 12206

Tuesday, February 26, 2019
Saratoga County Health Priority Selection Meeting #1
9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Saratoga Hospital Campus Building D – Classroom 2A
59D Myrtle Street, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866
To attend, please contact php@hcdiny.org

Wednesday, February 27, 2019
Rensselaer County Wellness Committee
10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.
2nd Floor Conference Room
1600 7th Avenue, Troy, NY 12180
Thursday, February 28, 2019
Population Health Summit VI
8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Empire State Plaza
Albany, NY 12203

Friday, March 1, 2019
Albany & Rensselaer County Health Priority Selection Meeting #1
1:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.
St. Peter’s Health Partners, Mercy Auditorium
310 S. Manning Boulevard, Albany, NY 12208
To attend, please contact phip@hcdiny.org

Wednesday, March 6, 2019
Columbia and Greene Prevention Subcommittee Meeting
9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.
Twin County Recovery Services
350 Power Avenue, Hudson, NY 12534

Thursday, March 7, 2019
Saratoga Mental Health & Substance Abuse Coalition Meeting
8:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.
Saratoga Hospital
59D Myrtle Avenue, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866

Thursday, March 7, 2019
Schenectady County Health Priority Selection Meeting #1
1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Ellis McClellan Street Health Center, Auditorium
600 McClellan Street, Schenectady, NY 12304
To attend, please contact phip@hcdiny.org

Friday, March 8, 2019
Greene County M.A.P.P Meeting
1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Greene County Public Health
411 Main Street, Catskill NY 12414

Wednesday, March 13, 2019
HCDI Behavioral Health Task Force
8:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.
Healthy Capital District Initiative, 5th Floor Conference Room
175 Central Avenue, Albany, NY 12206
Wednesday, March 13, 2019
Schenectady Suicide Prevention Coalition
3:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Schenectady Public Library -- McChesney Room
99 Clinton Street, Schenectady, NY 12305

Thursday, March 14, 2019
Breastfeeding Coalition Meeting
8:45 a.m. – 9:45 a.m.
Greene County Department of Health
411 Main Street, Catskill, NY 12414

Thursday, March 14, 2019
Schenectady County Health Priority Selection Meeting #2
1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Ellis McClellan Street Health Center, Auditorium
600 McClellan Street, Schenectady, NY 12304
To attend, please contact phip@hcdiny.org

Thursday, March 21, 2019
Albany Strategic Alliance Meeting
9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.
Albany County Department of Health, Basement Auditorium
175 Green Street, Albany, NY 12206

Thursday March 21, 2019
Albany & Rensselaer County Health Priority Selection Meeting #2
2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Location TBD
To attend, please contact phip@hcdiny.org

Friday, March 22, 2019
Schenectady Trauma Informed Community Work Group
10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
Ellis McClellan Street Health Center, Conference Center
600 McClellan Street, Schenectady, NY 12304

Friday, March 22, 2019
Columbia & Greene County Health Priority Selection Meeting #1
1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Greene County Department of Health
411 Main Street, Catskill, NY 12414
To attend, please contact phip@hcdiny.org
Tuesday, March 26, 2019
HCDI Community Health Liaison Task Force
8:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.
Healthy Capital District Initiative, 3rd Floor Conference Room
175 Central Avenue, Albany, NY 12206

Tuesday, March 26, 2019
Saratoga County Health Priority Selection Meeting #2
9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Saratoga Hospital Campus Building D – Classroom 2A
59D Myrtle Street, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866
To attend, please contact phip@hcdiny.org

Friday, March 29, 2019
HCDI PHAB Accreditation Meeting
11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Healthy Capital District Initiative, 5th Floor Conference Room
175 Central Avenue, Albany, NY 12206

Tuesday, April 2, 2019
Columbia & Greene County Health Priority Selection Meeting #2
1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
1st Floor Conference Room
Columbia Memorial Hospital, Administrative Services Building
71 Prospect Avenue, Hudson, NY 12534
To attend, please contact phip@hcdiny.org

Wednesday, April 4, 2019
Columbia and Greene Prevention Subcommittee Meeting
9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.
Greene County Department of Health
411 Main Street, Catskill, NY 12414

Thursday, April 4, 2019
Saratoga Mental Health & Substance Abuse Coalition Meeting
8:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.
Saratoga Hospital
59D Myrtle Avenue, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866

Wednesday, April 10, 2019
Rensselaer County Wellness Committee
10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.
2nd Floor Conference Room
1600 7th Avenue, Troy, NY 12180
Thursday, April 11, 2019
Breastfeeding Coalition Meeting
8:45 a.m. – 9:45 a.m.
Greene County Department of Health
411 Main Street, Catskill, NY 12414

Monday, April 15, 2019
Columbia Leadership Meeting
1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.
Columbia County Department of Health
325 Columbia Street, Hudson, NY 12534

Monday, April 15, 2019
Columbia Chronic Disease Meeting
2:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Columbia County Department of Health
325 Columbia Street, Hudson, NY 12534

Thursday, April 18, 2019
Albany Strategic Alliance Meeting
9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.
Albany County Department of Health, Basement Auditorium
175 Green Street, Albany, NY 12206

Thursday, April 18, 2019
Schenectady Coalition for a Healthy Community
2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Ellis McClellan Street Health Center, Auditorium
600 McClellan Street, Schenectady, NY 12304

Wednesday, April 24, 2019
Saratoga Community Health Council
2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Saratoga Hospital Boardroom
211 Church Street, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866

Friday, April 26, 2019
Schenectady Trauma Informed Community Work Group
10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
Ellis McClellan Street Health Center, Conference Center
600 McClellan Street, Schenectady, NY 12304

Friday, April 26, 2019
HCDI PHAB Accreditation Meeting
11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Healthy Capital District Initiative, 5th Floor Conference Room
175 Central Avenue, Albany, NY 12206
Wednesday, May 1, 2019
Prevention Agenda Work Group
8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.
Healthy Capital District Initiative, 5th Floor Conference Room
175 Central Avenue, Albany, NY 12206

Thursday, May 2, 2019
Saratoga Mental Health & Substance Abuse Coalition Meeting
8:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.
Saratoga Hospital
59D Myrtle Avenue, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866

Tuesday, May 7, 2019
HCDI Obesity-Diabetes Task Force
8:15 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.
Healthy Capital District Initiative, 5th Floor Conference Room
175 Central Avenue, Albany, NY 12206

Wednesday, May 15, 2019
Rensselaer County Heroin Coalition
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Rensselaer County Department of Social Services,
Administrative Building 2nd Floor
127 Bloomingrove Drive, Troy, NY 12180

Thursday, May 16, 2019
Albany Strategic Alliance Meeting
9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.
Albany County Department of Health, Basement Auditorium
175 Green Street, Albany, NY 12206

Friday, May 24, 2019
Schenectady Trauma Informed Community Work Group
10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
Ellis McClellan Street Health Center, Conference Center
600 McClellan Street, Schenectady, NY 12304
Professional Development Opportunities

A Public Health Approach to the Opioid Crisis
Public health agencies play a key role in preventing opioid misuse and addiction. In the February session of Hot Topics in Practice, Mike Fraser, CEO of the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials, will review how public health professionals can take a lead in addressing the root causes of this crisis. This one-hour webinar is the second session in a two-part series exploring how leaders can use systems thinking to understand and find new solutions to complex problems. The presentation will highlight opportunities for public health agencies to bring epidemiological expertise and a systems perspective to addiction prevention efforts in their communities. Fraser will also share a comprehensive, cross-sector approach to substance misuse and addiction for adaptation at state and local levels.

Tuesday, February 26, 2019
3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Register here

Population Health Summit VI
“Becoming the Healthiest State for People of All Ages - Incorporating Health Across all Policies and Age Friendly Principles into the New York State Prevention Agenda 2019-2024”
The Population Health Summit seeks to deepen and extend the understanding of ongoing efforts in New York State and nationally that demonstrate effective collaboration between public health, health care and other sectors to advance population health.

In 2018, the NYS Public Health and Health Planning Council will complete its update of the Prevention Agenda, the state's health improvement plan for the period 2019-2024. This will be the third cycle of the statewide effort, and, for the first time, will incorporate a Health in all Policies approach across all State Agencies and a focus on Healthy Aging to reflect New York's designation as the first Age Friendly state. This summit will celebrate the progress made up to now and highlight the updated Prevention Agenda. Further, it will bring attention to how local coalitions that include health and non-health agencies and organizations have used the Prevention Agenda to achieve community health goals and opportunities for further progress during the next cycle.

Thursday, February 28, 2019
8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Register at https://www.eventbrite.com/e/population-health-summit-vi-becoming-the-healthiest-state-for-people-of-all-ages-incorporating-registration-52634877335
Her Health, Her Housing: Improving Services for Women Experiencing Homelessness
This is a free 2019 Spring Virtual Training running from March 6-28! Women and families are the fastest-growing segments of the American homeless population. Whether on the streets, doubled-up, or temporarily sheltered, women without homes face complex challenges such as increased risk of sexual assault, lack of access to preventive and prenatal care, and all-too-prevalent trauma. Learn how you can improve services for women experiencing homelessness through trauma-informed, quality care in these eight free, CME-accredited webinars. Featuring national experts, these sessions will explore the impact of violence, sex work, and racism on women without homes as well as best practices for medical respite care, cervical cancer screening, prenatal services, and more!

Wednesday, March 6 – Thursday, March 28, 2019
1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Register for individual sessions at [https://www.nhchc.org/virtual/](https://www.nhchc.org/virtual/)

The Role of Environment in Dementia Care
Eddy Alzheimer’s Services Presents: Topics in Dementia Care for Professional Caregivers, The Role of Environment in Dementia Care. Caring for individuals with dementia is rewarding and challenging work. We all want to do our best, but often have questions as to how to make things better for our clients, residents, and patients. Professional caregivers are invited to join Eddy Alzheimer’s Services for free programs where we will address some of these topics. This is a free program, however registration is required.

Thursday, March 7, 2019
8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.
Standish Community Center, Eddy Village Green
421 Columbia Street, Cohoes, NY 12047
To register, call (518) 238-4164.

GRANTS

Provider’s Clinical Support System - Medication Assisted Treatment Grant
The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), Center for Substance Abuse Treatment (CSAT) is accepting applications for fiscal year (FY) 2019 Provider’s Clinical Support System - Medication Assisted Treatment (Short Title: PCSS-MAT) grant. The purpose of this program is to expand the number of Drug Addiction Treatment Act (DATA) 2000 waived...
providers, increase understanding of the importance of medication-assisted
treatment and ultimately increase access to MAT through expanded prescribing
of FDA-approved medications for the treatment of opioid use disorders. Although
the current initiative has provided multiple trainings and mentoring support,
there still remains a significant need to increase the number of healthcare
providers to address the nation’s lack of adequate access to care and treatment
for opioid and other substance use disorders. The PCSS-MAT program will
continue to provide up-to-date and evidence-based information to support the
training of health professionals and to address the complex issues of addiction.

Application Due Date: Tuesday, February 26, 2019
www.samhsa.gov/grants/grant-announcements/ti-19-005

Community Health Grants
The American Medical Association Foundation (AMAF) announces the availability
of funds through our Community Health Program. AMAF seeks to financially
support innovative programs targeting the prevention and reduction of type 2
diabetes and hypertension. Grant funding will support community-based
organizations such as free health clinics that provide services to vulnerable and
underserved populations.

Application Due Date: Friday, March 8, 2019 at 11:59pm CST
www.amaf.smapply.io/prog/community_health_grants/

Suicide Prevention Lifeline Crisis Center Follow-Up Expansion Grant
Program
The purpose of this program is to provide an integrated hub that: (1) ensures
systematic follow-up of suicidal persons who contact a NSPL Crisis Center; (2)
provides enhanced coordination of crisis stabilization, crisis respite, and hospital
emergency department services; and (3) enhances coordination with mobile on-
site crisis response. In effect, with the resources provided, the hub should not
lose track of a person in a suicidal crisis as they interface with crisis systems. It is
expected that this program will promote continuity of care to safeguard the well-
being of individuals who are at risk of suicide.

Application Due Date: Monday, March 11, 2019
www.samhsa.gov/grants/grant-announcements/sm-19-008

Strategic Prevention Framework – Partnerships for Success
The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA),
Center for Substance Abuse Prevention (CSAP) is accepting applications for fiscal
year (FY) 2019 Strategic Prevention Framework - Partnerships for Success grants.
The purpose of this grant program is to prevent the onset and reduce the
Dylan Hall, PHIP Manager

I am happy to join HCDI as the PHIP Manager. With a background in social welfare, community development, and creating cross-sector collaboratives that tackle complex social issues, I am able to help our team and partners work together to reduce health disparities and implement public health approaches for population level change. I have been a Capital Region resident my whole life and along with over a decade of professional experience focusing on social impact, I have personally experienced and seen both the growth and the challenges our communities face. In my previous position I helped design and implement the Empire State Poverty Reduction Initiative in the city of Troy.