



MCD Public Health

Insight Innovation Impact

May 2015

Director's Note

Being a National Public Health Institute means focusing on data driven decisions to track progress and improve practice. In this month's newsletter I would like to take the opportunity to highlight one of the ways in which we are collaborating to improve the communities in which we work by encouraging state wide participation in vital records keeping. Prevention is practiced throughout the lifespan and often we learn most by looking backwards in order to see the way forward. As prevention professionals we strive to remain current in our research and in our practice in order to deliver innovative and impactful programming. This would not be possible without our partners in healthcare, government, and communities. Thank you.

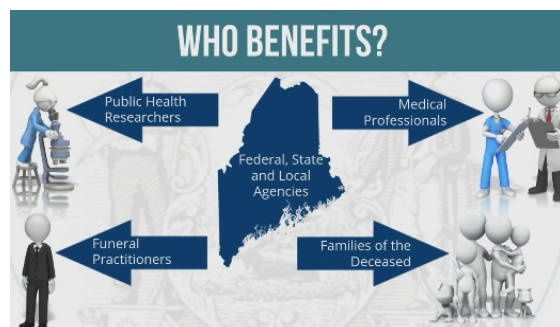


Project Spotlight

EDRS

Maine's Electronic Death Registration System (EDRS) is an easy-to-use, time saving, secure, web-based application that allows medical certifiers to register death certificates via the web. Launched in Maine in the spring of 2010, there are now nearly 700 medical providers who use EDRS. The mission of EDRS is to improve the timeliness and accuracy of death certificate information for use in public health surveillance, the administration of law, and the protection of individual rights.

The goals of the project are to be able to track and assess mortality due to influenza and other causes of death. In the future, the rapid matching of birth and death certificates, a feature of the system, will help to guard against identity theft by those attempting to obtain and use birth certificates to assume the identity of the deceased.



MCD Public Health is partnering with the Maine CDC Data, Research, and Vital Statistics office (DRVS) to produce a series of trainings and tutorials intended to promote the EDRS and increase its use. The ultimate goal is that 80% of all death records are electronically filed in Maine. MCD Public Health Stacy Meyer, MCDPH Project Manager and Trainer, and Josh Frazee, MCD I.T. Specialist, helped to create web-based tutorials, webinar courses and in-person trainings for medical certifiers and their staff who certify deaths throughout the state. Additionally, MCD's I.T. team members, Matt McSpadden and Eric Dimpleby, used existing data to map and identify targeted areas in need of EDRS training.

In Maine, the law requires that the entire death registration process be completed within five days. Medical Certifiers are also required to complete their part within 48 hours of the death. Paper death registrations can take 6 weeks to process, but the EDRS processes them in 24-48 hours.

Kudos to the team! The project would not be a success if not for their innovative approach in design, creative animation, data crunching and their mapping skills.

21 Reasons Prevention Team

April was alcohol awareness month and the 21 Reasons Prevention team was in full swing. From learning about adolescent brain development, launching another needs assessment in Portland, or a prom and graduation awareness campaign, to Chalking it Up to Prevention in Monument Square- they got it covered. Learn more: www.21reasons.org

Call to Action

Donate to the American Red Cross:



Whether it is in response to devastating tornadoes in the Midwest, the upcoming hurricane season or to the earthquakes in Nepal, the American Red Cross is there when you need them. Will you be there for them? Donate today.

<http://www.redcross.org/news-events>

Emergency Preparedness is your best protection. Learn how you can prepare for the unexpected by visiting the Centers for Disease Control Emergency Preparedness pages. Learn more: <http://emergency.cdc.gov/planning/index.asp>



National Health Observances

Mental Health Awareness Month: Visit SAMHSA's Resource Center to Promote Acceptance, Dignity and Social Inclusion Associated with Mental Health (ADS Center)

<http://www.promoteacceptance.samhsa.gov> for more information on how you can promote acceptance.



Concerned about someone's Mental Health or have concerns about your own? There are resources available here in Maine: Dial 211 Maine, NAMI Maine- 1.800.464.5767, The Warm Line- 1.866.771.9276, In a Crisis- 1.888.568.1112.

Hepatitis Awareness Month: Leading cause of liver cancer and need for liver transplants. Learn more about the different forms of Hepatitis, risk factors and prevention: <http://www.cdc.gov/hepatitis>

May 10-16th is National Women's Health Week. Get active! Eat Healthy! Get health screenings! This year's kick off is on Mother's Day and is celebrated all week. Learn more at

<http://www.womenshealth.gov/nwhw/about>

Mark Your Calendars!

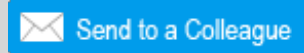
New England School of Addiction Studies and School of Prevention Studies: Worcester State University from June 8-11, 2015. Learn more: https://neias.site-ym.com/?SS_About

143rd APHA Annual Meeting & Exposition: Health in all Policies: Chicago Oct. 31 - Nov. 4, 2015. Registration and abstract notification June 2. Learn more: <https://www.apha.org/events-and-meetings/annual>

2015 Annual Minority Health Conference: Bates College, Lewiston, June 3, sponsored by the Portland

Minority Health Program and the Maine Aids Training and Education Center. FREE and open to the public. Register: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/RQ3MKDM>

Rural Health: 4th Monday each month, 2pm eastern, Rural Population Health Learning Community Webinar

 Send to a Colleague

STAY CONNECTED

