

Preventing disease, promoting wellness, increasing access, and improving quality.



This Month at MCD Public Health



As the dog days of summer come to a close, we turn our attention to the many transitions that are taking place this fall. Back to school, off to school, and back to work all call for change. For those of us in public health it means reminding our family and friends to take good care of ourselves, to eat right, exercise, and be sure to get a good night's sleep. It also means making sure you're [up on your vaccinations](#) as we are reminded every August, National Immunization Month. This month we also recognize the great work of our MCDPH team members put into helping improve [Maine's Electronic Death Records System](#), a vital data collection tool for families, practitioners, and researchers. We're also reminded of our global connections this month as [MCD International](#) publishes on their innovative techniques to eradicate disease-carrying mosquitoes. As always, we bring you the highlights of [what's happening](#) in Maine and across the country.

Thank you for all you do to help our communities become healthier.

Be well,

Kate

Project Spotlight

Maine's **Database Application for Vital Events-Electronic Death Registration System** (DAVE EDRS) is an easy-to-use, time saving, secure, web-based application that allows medical certifiers to register both the fact of death and cause of death via the web.

MCD Public Health was contracted by the Maine CDC Data, Research, and Vital Statistics office (DRVS) to produce a series of trainings and tutorials intended to promote and increase the use of the DAVE EDRS. The project wrapped up this summer.

Launched in Maine in the spring of 2010, there are now over 900 medical providers who use DAVE EDRS. The mission of DAVE 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 project had three main goals: 1.) ability to receive at least 80% of all death records electronically in Maine; 2.) ability to transmit death information to the National Center for Health Statics (NCHS) in a timely manner, and 3.) ability to transmit cause of death to the State epidemiologist within one day of the cause of death certificate.

The benefits of this tool are many. Most importantly, it will allow families to get closure and finalize formal paperwork such as close bank accounts or file insurance claims

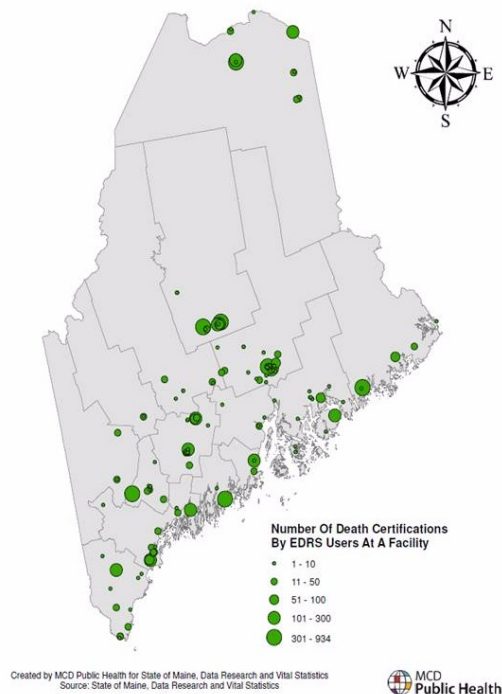
faster. In the future, the system will allow for the rapid matching of birth and death certificates to help guard against identity theft or identity errors by matching social security and date of birth, etc. For public health practitioners, the ability to assess causes of death can alert to the need to mobilize resources to keep the population healthy, such as immunizations or health education.

In order to support OVR efforts to reach these goals, the MCDPH team's objectives were to first learn the DAVE EDRS system so they could provide training on how to use it. Then they needed to analyze who wasn't using the system, why, and create a training geared toward the needs of medical certifiers around the state. Begun in 2014 there was an ongoing process of assessment, planning, and evaluation in order to continually reach out to engage the community in order to increase regular use of the system. [Click here](#) for a list of who is registered to use the system as of June 2016. There are lists for municipal clerks, funeral directors, medical certifiers, and medical examiners.

Stacy Meyer, MCDPH Project Coordinator and Trainer, and **Josh Frazee**, MCD IT with a dual role of Systems Administrator for the Corporate Services Division and Lead Web Design Consultant within MCD's Consulting business, 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 IT team members, **Matt McSpadden**, IT Trainer and Project Specialist and **Eric Dimbleby**, Director of IT, used existing data to map and identify targeted areas in need of EDRS training.

In all, Stacy Meyer provided over 50 in-person trainings to municipal clerks, funeral directors, medical certifiers, and medical examiners on who can and how to use the EDRS. [Click here](#) to see the training materials developed by MCDPH team.

Kudos to the team! The project raised awareness of how important using the EDRS is for their patients' families, as well as provided training and technical assistance assets for the State of Maine' Office of Vital records to use for years to come.



MCD IT team used GIS mapping technology to guide the team's work.

Around Town

It's **National Immunization Month**. Do you know if you and your family are up to date? You are never too young-or too old-to be checking your immunization status. There are a host of vaccine-preventable diseases such as Hepatitis, Influenza, Pneumonia, Tetanus, Diphtheria, Measles, Mumps, Rubella, Whooping Cough, Chickenpox, Polio and others that can be avoided with a quick visit to your doctor. [Click here](#) for easy to read schedules for all ages.



Here in Maine, we are so fortunate to have the ImmPact system, *the* Maine immunization information system staffed by Provider Relations Specialists **Sherri Dunton** and **Beverly Butterfield**. These remarkably knowledgeable staff answer up to

100 calls a day from clinicians and medical staff during their busy season to help them manage immunization scheduling, stock/product management, and provide the latest updates and information to improve their effectiveness and keep patients informed. In the field, Maine is also fortunate to have Quality Assurance Coordinators **Stephanie Gagne** and **Susan Greene** conducting site visits at provider offices ensuring vaccine protocol record keeping is up to date, vaccine storage is appropriate and other compliance checks essential to successful vaccination program implementation.

So what are you waiting for? We've got you covered! Time to get and stay up to date on your vaccinations today.

Around the World

Our associates in the **MCD International Division** just published a paper on the success MCDI and its partners have had in advancing malaria prevention. [A cluster randomized trial comparing deltamethrin and bendiocarb as insecticides for indoor residual spraying to control malaria on Bioko Island, Equatorial Guinea](#) as published in Malaria Journal has shown promise.

The study and subsequent paper was conducted by Medical Care Development International, Silver Spring, MD, USA in collaboration with MRC Tropical Epidemiology Group, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, London, UK; Department of Disease Control, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, London, UK; Texas A&M University, College Station, TX, USA; Department of Pathology, School of Health Sciences, University of Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa.

Their work could have a positive global impact on preventing vector borne disease. Stay tuned!

Mark Your Calendars!

National Association of Chronic Disease Director's monthly conference call, Thursday, August 25, 2016, 3:00-4:30 eastern, [Click here FMI](#).

Upcoming Rural Behavioral Health Webinars:

- Community Schools in Rural Communities, Wed., August 31, 3-4:30 p.m.
- Addressing Maternal and Child Health: A Rural Perspective," Wed., September 7, 3-4:30 p.m.
- [Click here FMI](#)

Previous Rural Health webinars can be found at [MCD Public Health](#) and the [National Organization of State Offices of Rural Health](#).

National Organization of State Offices of Rural Health Annual Meeting, September 7-8, Omni Parker House Hotel, Boston, MA. [Click here to register](#).

Substance Abuse Prevention Skills Training, Camden National Bank Ice Vault, Hallowell, September 19-22, 2016. This is a required component for the Maine Certified Prevention Specialist credentialing; intended for entry-level practitioners as well as professionals working in related fields. The course consists of a five hour self-paced online module followed by four day in-person training. [Click here to register](#)

Maine Public Health Association's 32nd Fall Conference, Tuesday, October 18th, Hannaford Lecture Hall, University of Southern Maine, Portland. Conference keynote by Dr. Camara Jones, current APHA President and a Senior Fellow at the Satcher Health Leadership Institute and the Cardiovascular Research Institute, Morehouse School of Medicine. [Click here to register.](#)

American Public Health Association's 144th Annual Meeting, October 29-November 2, 2016, Denver, CO. [Click here to register.](#)

Innovations in Managing Cardiovascular Disease (Maine Cardiovascular Health Council's 2016 Summit) Thursday, November 10, 2016. [Click here to register.](#)

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