

## The Latest News From MCDPH - April 2018

Dear Colleagues;

We hope this April edition of the MCDPH newsletter finds you well! While spring may have taken its sweet time reaching many of us across the U.S., it seems that it may finally be here, and bringing a number of resources and opportunities along with it.

As with many health-centric organizations across the globe, technology has become the backbone of various MCDPH programs and projects, serving as an integral tool in reaching rural and underserved populations with key information, resources, and services, and expanding access to vital workforce training and development opportunities, which in turn have a positive impact on the nation's health.

MCDPH is home to the **Northeast Telehealth Resource Center (NETRC)**, which is funded through HRSA's Office for Advancement of Telehealth to provide technical assistance and resources for planning, implementing, and evaluating telehealth programs across New England, New York, and New Jersey. MCDPH has helped serve over 800 "clients" interested in leveraging digital health technologies to improve access to quality health care services.

**On June 5 – 6, the NETRC team will host its fourth annual Regional Telehealth Conference in Portland, Maine.** They've pulled together a phenomenal group of presenters, including international, national and regional perspectives. The keynote address will be given by Laurie Poole, RN, BScN, MHSA, Vice President of Clinical Innovation at the Ontario Telemedicine Network. Laurie will share experiences and impacts of one of the world's largest and most successful telehealth networks, with a focus on realizing value through innovation and collaboration.

The two day agenda also features plenaries by regional and national telehealth leaders, seventeen breakout sessions with a variety of practical topics, an exhibit hall featuring telehealth vendors and programs, and ample time to network. We encourage you to take a look at the conference agenda, and consider joining colleagues from across the Northeast and beyond, to learn more about how telehealth can help optimize value, enhance engagement and revolutionize access for those we serve, and gain hands-on experience for implementing telehealth within your organization!

On a related note, there are two technology focused funding opportunities we'd like to highlight, given their potential relevance to partners and stakeholders in advancing access to public health resources and services. USDA Rural Development recently announced two grant programs which will give priority to funding proposals which address opioid misuse in rural communities (see [press release](#)). USDA is reserving \$5 million in the **Community Facilities Grant Program** and is giving priority to **Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grant (DLT) Program** applications proposing innovative projects to address the opioid epidemic in rural communities. Funding for both programs was made available through the FY 2018 Omnibus spending bill.

As always, we hope you enjoy reading this month's newsletter.

Best Regards,  
*Danielle Louder & Elizabeth Foley*  
Co-Directors, MCD Public Health

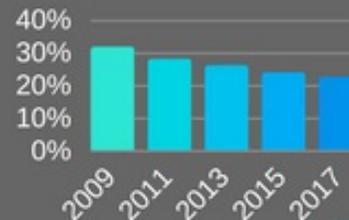
# April is Alcohol Awareness Month

## APRIL IS ALCOHOL AWARENESS MONTH



### INSIGHT:

Due to **prevention** strategies in Maine communities, the percentage of our high school students who report consuming alcohol in the last 30 days has dropped from 31.7% in 2009 to 22.5% in 2017.



As April is Alcohol Awareness Month, we wanted to highlight our own Reid Plimpton, for his work on the Maine Integrated Youth Health Survey (MIYHS) and his efforts to present the substantial amount of data to key stakeholders throughout the state. The MIYHS is a collaborative project of the Maine DHHS, and Department of Health to quantify physical health, health behaviors, and related attitudes of students. Reid recently presented the 2017 survey results at the Maine DOE Winter Wellness Workshop, sharing the historical backdrop of the MIYHS and how it came to be, a brief overview of what the survey is and what data/information it can provide to interested folks if they know how to use it and navigate the site. Reid also provided insights into emerging trends, and significant differences from the datasets in previous years and a breakdown of the new questions added in 2017 (such as the Adverse Childhood Experiences measure), along with next steps, and future plans for the 2019 MIYHS and beyond.

[Click here to learn more about the MIYHS or to see the data.](#)

## News From the Nation & Abroad



Kate Marone, alongside fellow accreditation experts attended a training session to prepare for upcoming reaccreditation reviews in public health departments across the United States.

(photo courtesy of PHAB)

### MCDPH Staff Recognized as National Public Health Accreditation Expert

MCDPH currently provides accreditation technical assistance and our in-house expert, Kate Marone, has worked directly with the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) as national site reviewer. Ms. Marone is currently serving as one of only six highly experienced PHAB site reviewers, in the establishment of Vital Records/Health Statistics Accreditation as the organization develops the accreditation criteria for vital data and statistics. Kate and her team are available if you

need help with your local, county or state public health accreditation.  
[kmarone@mcdph.org](mailto:kmarone@mcdph.org)



## USAID Awards Global Contract to PSI, MCDI and Partners to Advance Malaria Service Delivery in 28 Countries

We'd like to extend a huge congratulations to our partner division, MCD International (MCDI) as they have been awarded a new contract by USAID to support the President's Malaria Initiative through partnership with PSI, JHPIEGO, and University of California-San Francisco.

[Click here for the full press release.](#)

MCDI has worked to combat malaria for over a decade and continues to make significant strides in reducing the public health burden of the disease throughout the world.

## MCDPH Events & Opportunities



### MCDPH Events for 2018

[See All Upcoming Events](#)

## Northeast Regional Telehealth Conference

Optimizing Value. Enhancing Engagement. Revolutionizing Access.

NORTHEAST  
TELEHEALTH<sup>4</sup>  
RESOURCE CENTER



June 5+6, 2018  
Portland, Maine

[www.netrc.org/conference](http://www.netrc.org/conference) | 800-379-2021 | [Register or Save The Date!](#)

## Partner Events

### National Prescription Drug Take Back Day - April 28, 2018

This addresses public safety and the ongoing public health issue of prescription drug misuse by providing a safe way for community members to discard unneeded prescription medication. To find a drop off location in your area, [click here.](#)

### Annual Community Health Worker Conference- May 3, 2018 - Norwood, MA.

For more information or to register, [click here.](#)

**NIH Stroke Scale Training - Massachusetts Paul Coverdell Stroke Program (Earn 6.0 CE Credits!) May 10, 2018** Sheraton Framingham Hotel & Conference Center. This training will help participants become more comfortable in the performance and scoring of the NIH Stroke Scale. This May 10<sup>th</sup> training is being offered for Massachusetts participants only. For more information and to register [click here](#). Interested in NIH Stroke Scale training in your state please contact Diane Campbell [dianec@mcdph.org](mailto:dianec@mcdph.org)

**Healthy and Well Women's Conference: Journey to Health- May 19, 2018** - Point Lookout Resort and Conference Center, Northport, ME. For more information and to register, [click here](#).

**National Network of Public Health Institutes (NNPHI) Annual Conference and Public Health Workforce Forum - May 22-24, 2018** - New Orleans, LA. For more information and to register, [click here](#).

**Northeast Telehealth Resource Center's 2018 Regional Telehealth Conference - June 5-6, 2018** - Portland, Maine. To register, [click here](#).

**New England Rural Health Round Table's 2018 Rural Health Conference- November 7-8, 2018** - Sunday River Resort, Newry, ME. For more information, [click here](#).

**APHA Annual Meeting and Expo- November 10-14, 2018** - San Diego, CA. Theme - "Creating the Healthiest Nation: Health Equity Now." For more information and submissions, [click here](#). Registration will open on June 4th.

### Get In Touch

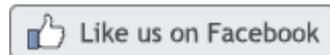
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