

## The Latest News From MCDPH - August 2019

Dear Colleagues,

Communities and families across the country are gearing up for our children to head back to school. As we plan for the start of another school year, there are a number of important public health topics relevant to our children. August is Immunization Month, a national observance highlighting the importance of getting recommended vaccinations. In addition, children's oral health is a big program on our radar. The State of Maine has an established school oral health program that MCD Public Health has been a proud partner in implementing for a number of years. [Click here to learn more about it.](#)

The School Oral Health Program (SOHP) provides grant funding, training and technical assistance to eligible public elementary schools with activities being focused in Grades K through 6. Each program is locally designed to meet the needs of the individual students. Within the limits of available funding, schools receive small grants to help them purchase needed supplies, educational materials and support other aspects of their programs. Eligibility for funding is determined according to criteria that help focus these grants on schools where children are more likely to be at increased risk of tooth decay and have greater difficulty in accessing regular ongoing oral health care. This month we introduce the new coordinator for the School Oral Health Program, and we encourage you to reach out to her for more information regarding this program. Sherry can be contacted at [slaliberte@mcdph.org](mailto:slaliberte@mcdph.org).

Want to learn more about national school oral health initiatives? Visit the [American Dental Association](#).

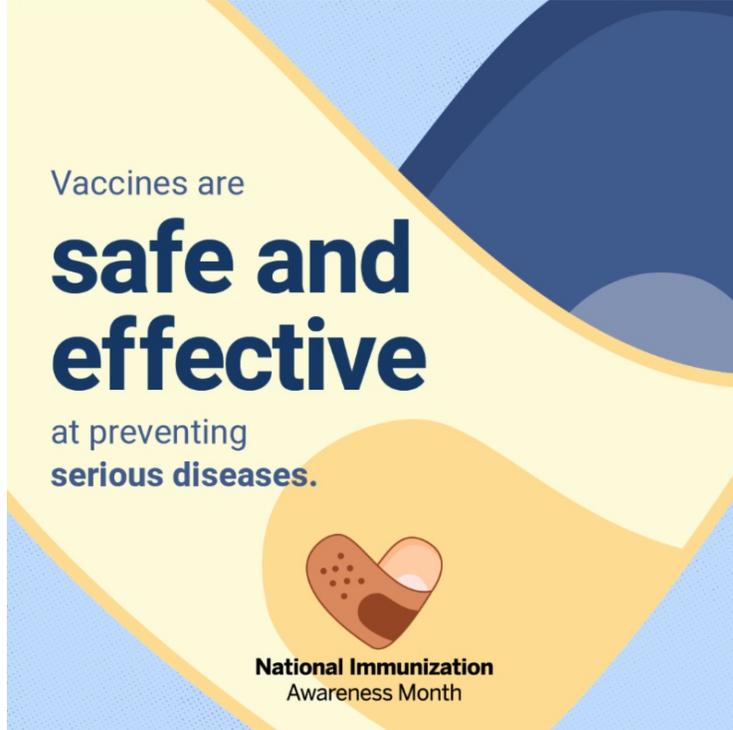
Rural communities are implementing school-based oral health programs across the nation as well. Learn more by [clicking here](#).

As always, we hope you enjoy this edition of our newsletter (and the rest of your summer!)

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

## National Immunization Awareness Month

August is National Immunization Awareness Month (NIAM). This annual observance highlights the importance of getting recommended vaccines throughout your life. You have the power to protect yourself and your family against serious diseases like whooping cough, cancers caused by HPV, and pneumonia with vaccines.



healthy. Use CDC's [adult vaccine assessment tool](#) to see which vaccines might be right for you.

During NIAM, we encourage you talk to your doctor, nurse, or other healthcare professional to ensure [you, your child, your family] are up to date on recommended vaccines.

We also encourage you to visit CDC's [Interactive Vaccine Guide](#), which provides information on the vaccines recommended during pregnancy and throughout your child's life.

As your children head back to school this fall, make sure vaccination is at the top of your checklist. August is also a key time to make sure you are up to date on all the vaccines you need to stay

## MCD Presents at World Congress

Not one, but two, MCD Public Health team members were invited to speak at [World Congress](#) events in Boston this summer!

### National Health and Well-Being Summit



Erica Brown, Project Manager for WellStarME and Shonna Poulin-Gutierrez, State of Maine Office of Employee Health and Benefits (pictured left) were honored to have the opportunity to present their work at the 2019 National Health and Well-Being Summit in Boston. Through this presentation they were able to share the unique collaboration between the State of Maine and MCD and how they are able to work together to create a successful employee health and wellness program. While in

attendance, they were able to speak with many other companies and organizations to hear about the work they are doing in employee wellness. Erica and Shonna are excited for future work together, as they continue to strive to bring quality employee wellness programming to members on the State of Maine's health plan.

### Annual mHealth and Telehealth World Congress

Danielle Louder, MCDPH Co-Director and Program Director for the Northeast Telehealth Resource Center (pictured right), presented at the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual mHealth and Telehealth World Congress. The mHealth19 agenda highlighted how leaders in digital health incorporate

technology into their clinical workflows to enhance access to high quality care. From an opening address by Dr. Don Rucker of U.S. Health and Human Services on Interoperability, demonstrations of connected care, tips on developing strong “web-side” care, and exploration of a fully integrated digital health care platform at New York Presbyterian, the two-day event was jam packed with inspiring and practical content. Danielle shared regional and national perspectives around the telehealth policy landscape, and how innovative approaches outside traditional reimbursement structures can be utilized in “Addressing Telehealth Reimbursement Challenges and Achieving Financial Success”, along-side Sherene Schlegel, Telehealth Director at Providence Health & Services.



## Meet Our Team

### Julie Daigle - Maine CDC



Julie Daigle is a Project Coordinator with MCD, providing support to Maine’s District Coordinating Councils. Julie has been working as a public health employee for the last six years, but began with a degree in environmental science, monitoring water quality and ensuring client compliance with the Clean Water Act. In the non-profit world, Julie has advocated for health equity as a public health educator for several organizations in Maine and also in North Carolina, and served briefly as the director of a Healthy Maine Partnership in Maine’s northernmost county. Julie is particularly excited about MCD’s focus on both domestic and

global public health.

### Sherry Laliberte - MCD Office

Sherry Laliberte is a Registered Dental Hygienist, with authorities as an Independent Practicing Dental Hygienist. Sherry is joining us as the Project Coordinator for the School Oral Health Program at MCD, in collaboration with the Maine CDC. She has worked in pediatric dentistry for the past 26 years, both in private practice and the public health setting. She was a graduate of Westbrook College/University of New England’s class of 1993. She graduated again in 2014 with her Bachelors of Science from the University of Maine at Augusta. Sherry is passionate about preventing tooth decay in children and her main focus in her professional life is to decrease the prevalence in childhood tooth decay.



## Join Our Team

MCD is seeking talented individuals for both domestic and international positions:

**Domestic Public Health**

**International Public Health**



[Click here](#) to see current opportunities.



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## Upcoming Events

**Maine Harm Reduction Conference - October 4, 2019** - Portland, ME. For more information, [click here](#).

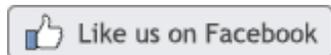
**Prevention Professionals Days - October 29-30, 2019** - Freeport, ME. For more information, [click here](#).

**2019 American Public Health Association (APHA) Annual Meeting & Expo - November 2-6, 2019** - Philadelphia, PA. For more information, [click here](#).

**New England Rural Health Association's 2019 Rural Health Conference - November 6-7, 2019** - Newry, ME. For more information, [click here](#).

**2019 Maine Cardiovascular Health Council Summit - November 7, 2019** - Rockport, ME. For more information, [click here](#).

Get In Touch  
MCD Public Health  
11 Parkwood Dr.  
Augusta, ME 04330  
P: 207-622-7566  
Email: [info@mcdph.org](mailto:info@mcdph.org)



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