BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING

Date: May 13, 2020
12:30 PM

AGENDA

1. Call to Order – Board Member

2. Approve minutes— All Board Members

3. Director’s Report
   i. Requirement of Mask

4. Department Summaries
   a. Community Health
   b. Community Services
      1. Public Health Network Services
         i. PHAC
         ii. Emergency Preparedness Program
         iii. CoC Facilitator SUD Program
         iv. SUD Coordinator Program
      2. Epidemiologist
      3. Health Promotion Specialist
   c. Environmental Health
   d. Welfare

5. Public Comments

6. Adjourn – Next Meeting -
Director continues to lead staff of the Division of Public Health and Community Services in the role of the Chief Public Health Strategist. In this role DPHCS leads and convenes community partners to work collaboratively to meet maintain the health and well-being of the community. DPHCS performs the core functions of public health and deliver essential public health services to accomplish the vision and mission of DPHCS.

**Operational:** The Director provides oversight over four departments staffed by 30 employees. Each department has a mission and vision that aligns with the overall DPHCS mission and vision. Major highlights for the Director during the month of April 2020:

- Continue to maintain modified staffing at DPHCS
- Staff has been re-purposed in their job duties to support the response efforts.
- Public Health Task Force Response focused on providing mobile testing clinic to increase testing availability in the community
- Daily calls from 8:00 AM -8:30 AM with our Joint Partners including: hospital, community health centers, mental health, home health and hospice, fire, police, AMR and PSL
- Daily meetings with the City-Wide Unified Command Team occur at 10:00 AM led by the Office of Emergency Management.
- Meetings are scheduled with the Commissioner of DHHS twice a week beginning on Thursday, April 2, 2020.
- Internal Incidence Response Team meets on M-W-F at 8:45 AM.
- Meetings scheduled with LTC facilities and Public Health twice a week for a situation update on their status to inform surge timing
- Daily updates sent to our community partners to keep them informed of changes in case numbers and updates to guidance and recommendations in response to COVID-19 as reported from NH DHHS and the CDC.

**Major Initiatives:**
- CDC Foundation providing surge capacity support for Public Health COVID-19 Response

**Updates and Upcoming Events:**
- Strategy to hold clinics at Senior Housing Units
- Continue to provide opportunities for underserved populations to be tested to meet the Commissioner goal of addressing gaps in testing.
FACE COVERING REQUIREMENT

The Nashua Board of Health adopts and urges the Nashua Board of Aldermen approval this Emergency Public Health Order as follows:

1. Employees of all businesses shall wear a face covering over their mouth and nose when interacting with the public and whenever they are within six feet of a co-worker or a customer.

2. Members of the public entering any business, work site, or government building must wear a face covering, such as a fabric mask, scarf, or bandana over their nose and mouth.

3. Members of the public entering a restaurant for the purpose of picking up food for take-out or any other purpose must wear a face covering over their mouth and nose. Members of the public dining outdoors at a restaurant may remove face covering while seated at their table.

4. Residents, visitors, and members of the public entering or present at a residential or commercial building complex of greater than two (2) units must wear a face covering over their nose and mouth while in common areas and communal spaces.

5. As used herein “face covering” means a covering made of cloth, fabric, or other soft or permeable material, without holes, that covers only the nose, mouth, and surrounding areas of the lower face. A face covering may be factory made or homemade and improvised from ordinary household material.

6. Notwithstanding the above this order does not require children under 10 years of age to wear face covering (parents should make their own judgment). Face covering is not recommended for children less than 2 years of age.

7. A face covering is also not required to be worn by any person if said person can show a medical professional has advised that wearing a face covering may pose a risk to said person for health related reasons.

This order shall be effective immediately and shall continue in effect until rescinded by action of the Board of Health or the Board of Aldermen.
COVID-19

- Participated in daily meetings with the local hospitals, JIC, DPHCS IRT, and City Divisions/COVID-19 Task Forces. I facilitate the JIC meetings and report out any JIC updates to our City staff on the City Divisions call.
- Continued working with the JIC (includes communication representatives from Mayor’s Office, Fire, Police, AMR, Transit, Community TV, School District, DPW, OEM).
- Assisted with the development of our weekly City of Nashua COVID-19 Response press conferences, including choosing a special guest, assisting with talking points, creating the slides, and day-of help.
- Promoted the Nashua DPHCS testing information through our regional partner updates, weekly press conferences, created a ‘Testing’ page on the website, and social media posts.
- Participated as a presenter in a webinar for the International Association of Emergency Managers on April 21st to talk about our JIC’s best practices, including our hotline, FAQ, social media strategy, graphic design, coordination tools, translation support, etc.
- Assisted with the development and coordination of our ‘Health & Safety Guide’ update that was mailed to all Nashua residents with a water bill. This was sent out the last week of April.
- Distributed daily updates to regional community partners. We focused each week on a new topic, including Public Health Week & COVID-19, How to Protect Yourself & Others, and The Science of COVID-19.
- Helped setup a weekly FB Live with our SMP Coordinator and regional prevention specialists focused on how to talk to kids about COVID-19, activities to do at home, and support for parents. These take place every Tuesday at 2:30pm.
- Continued to make updates as needed to our COVID-19 FAQ guide and website.
- Worked with the JIC to create a video PSA focused on our City’s essential employees titled ‘We Are Here For You’.
- Created and ran a marketing campaign with OutFront Media to promote the Nashua COVID-19 website. In 4 weeks, we had 375,036 clicks to the website just from that campaign.
- Worked with our Mayor’s Opioid Task Force to create a billboard to promote the use of services during the COVID-19 pandemic.

2020 Public Health Week

- Kicked off the week with a video message from the Mayor and Bobbie. The video was shared on all of our social media platforms and with our partners in our daily update. The full video can be found on our YouTube page.
- Posted daily social media content and graphic related to daily themes and COVID-19. This information was also sent to our regional partners through our daily updates.
- Updated our website with information and virtual resources.

CHA/LiveStories

- Worked to finalize the Maternal and Child Health pages (including the main page, Healthy Babies, Healthy Kids, and Healthy Moms).
- Created a flyer and distribution plan for our CHA Community Survey.

Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention

- Worked with Intern to create and post messaging around lead poisoning during COVID-19.
- Worked with Intern to post messaging on lead and gardening along with a survey.
- Conference information is on hold, hoping to host it virtually in the fall.
Continuous planning with the Alternate Care Site at Nashua HS South
Daily ACS Sit Rep – This discontinued as of 4/10/20 as no new updates were being produced
Working with the Public Health Division to develop, set up, run and break down the various CoVid 19 testing sites around the city
Sponsored a state wide regional PHEP Coordinators meeting to develop plans for best practices, POD Planning, better communications and AAR/IP (After Action Report/Improvement Planning) development.
Daily Hospital/Long Term/Short Term Care facility Conference Calls
Daily Nashua EOC/City Wide Division Conference Calls
Weekly Conference Calls with various State of NH Division/Organizations
Continuous contact with regional partners
Continuous contact with facilities requesting and requiring PPE & material needs
Working with the city CERT to prepare them for future testing and POD needs
Set up Zoom Meeting with all PHO’s/EMD’s in the region to determine needs and possible testing locations
Assisting other regional PHEP Coordinators standing up ACS’s, volunteer management, volunteer recruitment – All via phone or Zoom
Reviewing/Updating Regional POD Plans

Should you have any questions for me, please do not hesitate to contact me at 589-4569 or Munroem@nashuanh.org

Respectfully Submitted
Mark Munroe
City of Nashua Epidemiologist, Angela Consentino  
Board of Health Report  
Report for Month of April 2020

COVID-19 Response

Surveillance

- Epidemiologist to provide current COVID-19 situational update.
- Provided daily situational updates to local healthcare partners, City Divisions, and COVID-19 Task Forces.
- Collaborated with the Communicable Disease Nurse and GIS Unit to develop a heat map of cases and contacts.

Testing

- Epidemiologist to provide current update on testing capacity at the state and local level.
- Served in the Controller role during April community testing clinics.
- Oversaw testing clinic appointments made via the COVID-19 Hotline, completed lab requisition forms, responded to COVID-19 Hotline calls, and assisted in returning calls with test results.

Surge Management

- Epidemiologist to provide current update on hospital surge.

Information Management

- Completed daily updates on the COVID-19 data dashboard with new cases, hospitalizations, deaths, testing rates and other COVID-19 related information. This dashboard can be accessed on www.nashuanh.gov/COVID19.
- Added several new features to the COVID-19 data dashboard, including charts and graphs on race and ethnicity, percent of tests conducted vs. percent positive, new cases per day, and GIS maps containing local information on city services.

Community Resilience/Essential Services

- In order to continue efforts associated with the development of the 2020 Community Health Assessment, we developed an online survey to serve as a primary data collection method of CHA 2020. This survey collects information on community health priorities and perception of health, COVID-19, and other division priorities. Take the survey here: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CGVDXDM
- Continued work on CHA LiveStories data with the Health Promotion and Communication Specialist and CDC Public Health Associate.
- Worked with the Division Director to complete the CDC PHAP 2021 application.
The Nashua Environmental Health Department remains busy during this current COVID-19 environment. Normal Board of Health reports will resume when the situation has stabilized and our routine is back to normal. Our current activities include:

- Preserving the health and well-being of our staff members by practicing good social distancing, working remotely when possible, and conducting virtual meetings;
- Reinforcing social distancing guidelines when working directly with the public;
- Outreach to licensed food service facilities regarding status, issues, food safety;
- Providing guidance to public food distribution efforts within the community;
- Responding to citizen complaints regarding unsafe practices in Nashua’s public places in conjunction with Nashua Police Department;
- Assisting Community Health by making calls to COVID-19 contacts to monitor temperature and symptom checks, providing negative results to people who have been tested;
- Providing coverage of COVID-19 hotline;
- Working on educational messaging with DPHCS staff;
- Participating in daily and regularly scheduled meetings to support Nashua’s COVID-19 citywide Emergency Operations Center’s efforts;
- Filling role as Safety Officer in overall citywide response;
- Participating in public testing sites;
- Serving as subject matter experts for personal protective equipment, safe reconstitution of City services, and other relevant issues;
- Continuing septic and site plan approvals;
- Working closely with New Hampshire Health Officers Association members to gain insight and help guide common efforts.

We anticipate a significant increase in duties as food service establishments and other facilities reopen. We remain committed to protecting the public’s health and safety.

Respectfully submitted,
Heidi E. Peek-Kukulka
1 May 2020