

MAAG Meeting Minutes

Thursday, January 25, 2024

1:00pm – 3:00pm

Welcome & Introductions

This meeting was attended virtually or via a call-in option and led by BJ Biskupiak, Program Manager, DPHHS, Montana Asthma Control Program (MACP). Each person present was requested to state their name, their title if representing an organization and a quick item regarding how they enjoy spending their time away from work.

MACP Updates/Surveillance & Evaluation

2023 in Review

BJ Biskupiak provided MACP Updates. Please see the pdf of these slides attached with the emailed meeting minutes.

2024 Events

BJ Biskupiak reminded everyone that the annual Big Sky Pulmonary Conference will be held at Fairmont Hot Springs and will begin on February 29 continuing through Saturday morning, March 2, 2024. Be sure to get registered soon! To learn more and register, visit the conference website, <https://www.umt.edu/ces/conferences/bigskypulmonary/>.

Becoming An Asthma Educator and Care Manager Virtual Course: May 10-11, 2024

More details to come.

Surveillance and Evaluation

Courtney Geary provided a brief report on Surveillance and Evaluation and spoke about what she does for the Asthma Control Program in her position as the Epidemiologist/Evaluator. This included Healthcare QI evaluation reports, future evaluations such as ASME reimbursement through Medicaid among certified MAP home visitors, and linkages, or referral systems and resources in place. She added that evaluations will include interviews and feedback from home visitors. For more details, please access the MACP update slides.

SDOH

Margaret Mullins spoke briefly about Social Determinants of Health (SDOH) referrals for people responding positively to SDOH Screener questions. She encouraged people to provide warm hand-offs for better participation, suggested that both providers and home visiting program workers create lists of their community-based services for the more common SDOH needs since having those resources handy builds trust. She also suggested they have the MT 211 number and findhelp.org link on hand. Finally, the bi-directional referral systems allow provider and CBO to communicate directly, which is the very best action to help a patient navigate services. Currently, the State is building out a resource engine that will be called

Community CONNECT and will be both a resource search and a self-referral platform. The original CONNECT is being updated and will still be called CONNECT.

Montana 211 website: <https://montana211.org/about.php>

Influenza Tracking GIS Map

Sam Sayich, MPH | Communicable Disease Epidemiologist, DPHHS

Provided influenza tracking information. Please see the pdf of these slides attached with the emailed meeting minutes.

[Link to Montana Influenza Dashboard](#)

[Link to COVID-19, Influenza, and RSV Dashboard](#)

American Lung Association 2023 In Review & Looking Forward

Liz Hall, MIB, AE-C, CTTS, presented an overview of ALA 2023 activities and as well as an enthusiastic report of all their more recent activities and their plans for 2024. They have many activities in place, more with an emphasis on education for youth regarding asthma and the facts about the use of tobacco products. They also provide training aids and kits for adults in the schools who then work with the school children. ALA stated that they are planning another trip to Montana in 2024.

Confederated Salish Kootenai Tribes

- Trained one ONE Step facilitator trainer
- Scholarships for 2 staff members to complete Open Airways & Kickin' Asthma facilitator trainings
- Scholarships for 2 staff to complete the N-O-T youth cessation facilitator course
- INDEPTH ran in two schools with multiple students quitting!

Rocky Boy Health Clinic

- Trained 2 youth tobacco and vaping intervention and cessation facilitators
- Clinic staff working to schedule INDEPTH classes with local high schools

Crow Tribe

- ONE Step training for 20 staff at Hardin Primary School - Provided Asthma Action Plans, spacers, and asthma demo devices
- One staff member completing Freedom From Smoking adult tobacco cessation program as well as N-O-T program
- Coordinating spring visit to conduct ONE Step training for HeadStart staff
- Also work with Riverstone Health, Bozeman School District #7, and Browning Schools on asthma educational support and tobacco cessation

[Link to N-O-T On Tobacco- Proven Teen Smoking and Vaping Cessation Program website](#)

[Link to INDEPTH: An Alternative to Suspension or Citation website](#)

[Link to Open Airways for Schools Program](#)

[Link to Kickin' Asthma Program](#)

MT Asthma Priorities in 2024 / Focus Areas for New 5-year CDC grant

BJ Biskupiak spoke on Montana Asthma Control Program (MTAC) priorities, strategies, and novel partnerships. See the MACP update slides for details. He requested that those present share ideas they have which should/could be considered. Contact BJ to share ideas, wbiskupiak@mt.gov.

Partner Sharing: No participants volunteered ideas or thoughts to be considered at this time. Therefore, the meeting adjourned a little ahead of scheduled time.

MAAG Meeting Attendance:

Name	Organization
BJ Biskupiak	MT Asthma Control Program- Program Manager
Jillian Boll, RN	Flathead City County Health Department – Map Home Visitor
Megan Brunelle, RN	Cascade County Health Department- MAP Home Visitor
Juanita Bueter, RN	Park County Health Department- Home Visitor
Jessie Fernandes, MPH, CPH	DPHHS Health Improvement Section- Section Supervisor
Rachael Anderson, RDN	Premis Health/Community Representative
Carolyn Linden	MT Asthma Control Program- Administrative Specialist
Tracey Maruyuma	American Lung Association
Margaret Mullins, MS	DPHHS – Social Determinants of Health Program Coordinator
Courtney Geary, MPH	MT Asthma Control Program- Epidemiologist/Evaluator
Machenzie Gress, RN, BSN	Flathead City-County Health Department, MAP Supervisor
Will Gardner, MPH, CPH	DPHHS Health Improvement Section – Lead Epidemiologist
Liz Hall, MIB, AEC, CTTS	American Lung Association, Health Promotions Manager
LeAnn Harrison, RN	oneHealth (Custer County Health Department)- MAP Home Visitor
Rory Johnson, PharmD, AE-C	Shodair Childrens’ Hospital, Pharmacist, AE-C
Jason Kleinschmidt, RRT	St. Vincent Healthcare, Respiratory Therapy Neurodiagnostics Manager
Marion Kummer, MD	Health Professionals for a Healthy Climate- Co-Chair
Lauren Pokomo, DO	St. Vincent Healthcare
Amanda Rush, RN	Gallatin County Health Department, MAP Home Visitor
Sam Saycich, MPH	DPHHS Communicable Disease Epidemiologist
Mary Smith	St. Peter’s Health, Cardiopulmonary Rehabilitation Supervisor
Mary Sparks	Lewis & Clark County Health Department, MAP Supervisor
Jennifer VandeKop, LPN	Anaconda Deer Lodge Health Department- MAP Home Visitor
Jeri Zorn, RN-AE-C	Bullhook Community Health Center, MAP Home Visitor

