

Sainath A. Palani

palanisainath@gmail.com

Dear Town of Needham/Needham Public Health Division,

I am writing to apply for the position of Assistant Public Health Shared Services Manager Charles River Health District and MetroWest Local Public Health Training Hub hosted through the Town of Needham. I want to continue to grow professionally into the public sector related to environmental health and disease prevention as I believe it is the most effective at aiding vulnerable local populations and communities through enforcement and outreach. I am experienced in performing all types of environmental health inspections, responding to the needs of the public, investigating nuisances, managing a grant, hosting trainings and assisting with the creation of new programs. In addition to this, I have worked in local public health departments in Massachusetts in full-time roles for over 4.5 years including in a role within an established health district.

I have found over time that I particularly have a passion for training others after performing inspections for many years now, especially as I encounter new inspectors. My journey in local public health started when I went through a formal health inspector training program within the State of New Jersey in 2017 which covered the entirety of the job and received my license to practice. After several years and more schooling, I started in local public health again, this time in Massachusetts in 2021. There was no standardized training program present at that time and had to rely on what I had learned from previous training and experiences. However, I was able to come across some important mentors with decades of lived experience in this field and as trainers who were able to provide some one-on-one mentoring and pass on their knowledge. To me they were living legends. Their knowledge base and networks were immense, and I wanted to be in their shoes one day. This is an opportunity for me to be closer to being a guidepost for other individuals in that same way. It will also help fulfill my passion for educating others, developing new programs and continuing to learn from others, while also staying in touch with my passion for all things Environmental Health including the field work and protecting the health of people and environment.

I would bring many qualities that would fit well based upon your needs.

- Performed inspections, enforced state and local regulations and issued permits related to food establishments, septic systems, housing, pools, body art, tanning, tobacco, nuisances, marijuana dispensaries, body works, biotechnology, well, beaver trapping, bathing beaches, camps, industrial sites, etc.
- Worked in conjunction with many local departments such as parks, animal control, housing, police, engineering & public works. Excelled at enforcing and communicating violations of regulations to the public. Have worked well amongst teams and also independently.
- Went through an existing and established training program that had success in training local public health officials.
- Experienced in many aspects of environmental health through working with four different towns each of which were different politically, demographically and had various

levels of resources which presented varied situations. I can draw from these experiences to help design a more board training program and can connect to city, suburban and rural environmental health issues.

- Have experience presenting environmental health topics to groups and excel in doing individual outreach and educating.
- Experienced in serving the needs of Boards of Health and have attended Board meetings for a district board and for all individual towns that I have served for.
- I already work within one of the shared serves Towns and worked along with the Charles River Public Health District on many existing projects over the past 2.5+ years. I have completed my MAPHIT training in Food and finished Tier 2 training in Housing. I am also in the process of studying and taking the exam to be a Registered Sanitarian/Registered Environmental Health Specialist with the hope of being licensed in early 2026.

Given my relevant academic and work experience in environmental sciences and public health, I will be a reliable worker and driven individual for this grant funded positions of Assistant Shared Services Manager for the Charles River Health District and the North Central Metrowest Local Public Health Training hub.

Thank You,



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SUMMARY

Working professional seeking an opportunity related to environmental health. Have experience with managing projects that required field work, site inspections, professional report preparation, code enforcement, coordination with external contractors, data analysis, and literature reviews. Have a strong background and passion for challenging detailed orientated projects, performing investigations and interacting with the public.

EDUCATION

Boston University - Boston, MA

May 2021

School of Public Health, MPH in Epidemiology & Biostatistics and Chronic & Non-Communicable Diseases

Rutgers University-New Brunswick, NJ

May 2017

School of Environmental and Biological Sciences, BS in Environmental Science-Summa Cum Laude

GRADUATE-LEVEL COURSEWORK

Health Systems, Law and Policy; Individual, Community and Population Health; Concepts and Methods in Epidemiology; Intermediate Statistical Computing; Environment & Public Health; Environmental Toxicology; Environmental Fate & Transport; Soils and Water; Analysis of Emerging Infections Using One Health

RELEVANT WORK EXPERIENCE

Needham Public Health Division-Needham, MA

April 2023 – Present

Environmental Health Agent

- Managed and performed most of the Environmental Health inspections and permits (food, pools, etc.)
- Assigned inspections for part-time inspectors, managed summer interns
- Managed Voluntarily FDA Retail Standards grant work

Quabbin Health District-Ware, MA

July 2021 – April 2023

Health Inspector

- Routinely inspected food establishments, pool, tanning, and body art facilities
- Responded to housing/nuisance complaints, sent out reports and letters to responsible parties
- Witnessed percolation testing, reviewed all septic and well plans and performed final inspections for three towns (100+/year)

Atlantic Environmental Consulting Services-Warren, NJ

June 2017 – Jan. 2019

Environmental Scientist

- Supported Remedial Activities and Site Assessments on industrial, commercial, and residential properties
- Conducted soil, groundwater and waste classification sampling; Handled and Managed laboratory samples
- Performed environmental Due Diligence work & Prepared miscellaneous environmental reports, plans, permit applications, and forms following the appropriate state, federal and industry regulations

PERSONAL CERTIFICATIONS, SKILLS

Certified Pool Operator, Licensed Soil Evaluator, Licensed Septic Systems Inspector, Certified Food Protection Manager, Certified in Allergen Awareness, MA PHIT Food, Licensed Lead Determinator