

From: [Office of Local & Regional Health <localregionalpublichealth@mass.gov>](mailto:localregionalpublichealth@mass.gov)
To: [Ellen Lufkin <lufkine@manchester.ma.us>](mailto:lufkine@manchester.ma.us)
Date: 1/25/2024 2:59:46 PM
Subject: [EXTERNAL] - The Pulse on Local Public Health: An Office of Local Regional & Health Bulletin

[View this email in your browser](#)



Thursday, Jan. 25, 2024

We want to hear from you!
[Submit newsletter feedback here.](#)



Click on each icon to jump to that section



Announcements



Webinar



Resources



Hot Topics



Equity



DPH



Careers



Funding



Events



Contact Us



Announcements

Local Public Health Monthly Webinar: NEW LINK

The Local Public Health Monthly Webinar will have a NEW SCHEDULE and a NEW LINK starting in February. The webinars will now be held on the FIRST TUESDAY of every month from 3 – 4 p.m. via Zoom. The next webinar will be on Tuesday, Feb. 6, from 3 – 4 p.m.

Click on the following link to register for the 2024 monthly webinars:

https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_H65FsvtPQc28tMP4dqp4Bw

Please note this is a recurring event. YOU ONLY NEED TO REGISTER ONCE. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email from Zoom with YOUR UNIQUE LINK to attend the webinar and import the events into your calendar ([how-to guide](#)). If you want to forward the event to someone, please send the registration link.

[Back to top](#)



Local Public Health Webinar

The Office of Local and Regional Health provides monthly webinars on various topics relevant to local public health.

- The next monthly webinar is scheduled at 3 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 6.
- Submit your questions and recommended topics for the next webinar to localregionalpublichealth@mass.gov by Wednesday, Jan. 31.
- We value your input and welcome your suggestions for future webinar topics.

We want to ensure that our webinar is accessible to our audience. If you need accommodations, such as American Sign Language (ASL) or Closed Caption, please email us at localregionalpublichealth@mass.gov.

[Back to top](#)



Local Public Health Resources

WINTER WEATHER

- [Warming Centers Guidance](#) | Mass.gov
 - [Extreme Cold Safety Tips](#) | Mass.gov
 - [Indoor Safety During and After Winter Storms](#) | CDC
 - [Climate and Health](#) | Mass.gov
 - [Community Health Data Tool](#) | Mass.gov
 - [Community Profile](#) | MA Environmental Health Tracking
-

MAVEN

- ***NEW LINK*** [Infectious Disease Tools for Local Health Webinar Series](#)
 - 11 a.m. Tuesday, Feb. 13: Pivot Table Introduction for MAVEN Users
 - [MAVEN Help](#)
 - ***UPDATED*** [MAVEN Guidance Document Series](#)
 - Top 10 Tips for Local Public Health
 - Workflows
 - Reports and more!
 - State Epidemiologist Line (24/7): 617-983-6800
-

COVID-19 RESOURCES

Vaccine

- [CDC COVID-19 Vaccination Clinical & Professional Resources](#)
- [CDC Recommends Updated COVID-19 Vaccine for Fall/Winter Virus Season](#)
- [Vaccine Equity Initiative Mobile Vaccine Clinics](#)

K-12

- [Department of Elementary & Secondary Education](#) [Help Center (781) 338-3500]
- [Massachusetts Department of Public Health](#)

Test Kits

- [COVID-19 Statewide Contract Resources for Antigen Test Kits](#)
 - [MassHealth Coverage for Testing and Treatment](#)
 - [How to Get Test Kits Covered by Insurance](#)
-

EMERGENCY SHELTER ASSISTANCE

- Check out [FindHelp.org](#) to search by ZIP code for a list of resources.
 - [Screening and vaccination](#) resources
 - Guidance for municipalities on [Shelter Requirements and Exemptions in the Housing Code](#)
-

COLOR

- [Color Vaccine Resources page](#)
 - Questions related to billing can be emailed to vaccine@umassmed.edu.
 - Reach out to the DPH Color team with any questions about at ColorHelp@mass.gov.
-

OPIOID SETTLEMENT FUNDS

- [G.L. c. 44, § 53 Clause 4: Opioid Settlement Receipts](#)

[Back to top](#)



Local Public Health Hot Topics

Toolkit: A Happy and Healthy Winter

From gatherings with loved ones to healthcare appointments, make this winter your happiest and healthiest yet. In this [FREE toolkit](#), you'll find a curated collection of tips from the Public Health Communications Collaborative to protect your mental and physical health this season. These include a resource flyer and social media posts in both English and Spanish.

A Happy and Healthy Winter

- Seek out social connections.
- Embrace physical activity.
- Visit your primary healthcare providers.
- Travel with a “safety first” mindset.



[Back to top](#)



Equity Corner

The 'A' in DEIA: Accessibility

Most people have heard of DEI: diversity, equity, and inclusion. Recently, an ['A' was added for accessibility](#). DEIA represents a comprehensive approach to creating a space that's safe, fair, respectful, and inclusive for all individuals. [Learn more about DEIA.](#)

Accessibility refers to an environment that's accessible to all individuals, including those with disabilities. Accessibility can be implemented in many ways, including providing accommodations, creating accessible websites and documents, and implementing assistive technology.

DPH is conducting the [Massachusetts Disability Community Health Needs Assessment](#) to help identify and address the needs of people with disabilities throughout the Commonwealth. The online survey is available in 12 languages, including American Sign Language (ASL). Please share with your community!



DPH Office of Health Equity's Health and Disability Program has resources available on their website for public health professionals including the following:

- Planning accessible meetings and events
- Facts on smoking among people with disabilities in MA
- Promoting physical activity among people with disabilities in MA

[Find the Health and Disability Program resources here.](#)

[Back to top](#)



DPH Updates



Office of
Local and
Regional
Health

TRAIN MA Learning Management System Implementation

TRAIN Massachusetts is live!

TRAIN Massachusetts (TRAIN MA) is now available to all local public health professionals in Massachusetts.

What is TRAIN MA ?

TRAIN MA is an online learning management system which provides quality training opportunities for professionals who protect and improve the public's health. TRAIN MA will be replacing the Local Public Health Institute hosted by Boston University (BU/LPHI). The LPHI course catalog, which is currently hosted and managed by BU/LPHI, will be migrated to TRAIN MA.

Reminder to Save Your BU/LPHI Transcript

You will have full access to your course transcript and completion certificates on LPHI through March 31, 2024. We highly recommend you download and save all your LPHI transcripts and course completion certificates by March 31, 2024 for any future reference. This proactive step will ensure your professional achievements remain easily accessible to you. While BU-LPHI and OLRH will retain course records following all pursuant course provider regulations as outlined in state guidelines, please be aware you will no longer have access to your course transcript or completion certificates through BU/LPHI after March 31, 2024.

How do I get a TRAIN MA account?

Please reach out to amy.e.tisdell@mass.gov for assistance in setting up an account.

Local Public Health Internship Program - Host an Intern!



The Local Health Internship Program provides an excellent opportunity for local health departments and state partners to collaborate with enthusiastic and talented students seeking hands-on experience in the public health field. These interns bring fresh perspectives, innovative ideas, and a strong desire to contribute to the improvement of public health in our communities.

To apply as a host for the 2024 summer intern , please fill out this [application](#). The application will remain open until Monday, Feb. 4, allowing ample time for careful consideration and response.

We understand that the selection process is an important aspect, and to provide timely updates, the local boards of health will be notified of their application status by Friday, Feb. 9. Should you have any additional questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact Julie Coco, Internship Coordinator at julie.coco@mass.gov.

[Back to top](#)



Career Opportunities

OLRH Job Opportunity : Local Health Data System Analyst

The Office of Local and Regional Health seeks a Local Health Data System Analyst. This role will serve as the primary point of contact for local public health entities, facilitating seamless integration and operation of the new data collection system. Strategic problem-solving skills are crucial in addressing intricate challenges, providing frontline support to users, and ensuring the system functions optimally for efficient data analysis. [Learn more and apply here.](#)

All job openings can be found on the [MassCareers](#) website. First consideration will be given to those that apply within the first 14 days.

Find Your Future with the Commonwealth

[Find job opportunities](#) across industries including health and human services, transportation, IT, finance, housing and economic development, energy and environmental, public safety and security, and education. First consideration is given to those who apply within the first 14 days.

DPH Bureau of Climate and Environmental Health (BCEH):

- [Health Inspector](#)
- [Surveillance Epidemiologist](#)
- [Code Enforcement Lead Inspector](#)

MA Tobacco Cessation and Prevention Program (MTCP):

- [Epidemiologist II](#)

DPH Bureau of Community Health and Prevention (BCHAP):

- [Director](#), Injury Prevention and Control Program

Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP)

- [Program Coordinator III](#) - NERO's Communications and Outreach Programs
- [Environmental Analyst IV](#) - Data Manager, Bureau of Air and Waste
- [Environmental Analyst IV](#) - Bureau of Water Resources, Wastewater

Great Meadows Public Health Collaborative is Hiring!

The Town of Sudbury is seeking candidates for two open positions. These positions will service the towns of Sudbury, Wayland, Weston, Concord, Carlisle, Lincoln, and Bedford, otherwise known as the Great Meadows Public Health Collaborative.

- Regional Health Inspector (FT) This position primarily conducts inspections which includes, but is not limited to: housing, lead paint, food establishments, tobacco permit holders, septic, rubbish haulers, swimming pools, summer camps, nuisances, body art, and facilities that use or store hazardous materials. [Learn more and apply here.](#) Resumes accepted until noon on Friday, Feb. 9.
- Regional Health Communications Specialist (PT) This position will develop, implement, and evaluate communication materials and programs to effectively communicate resources, information, events, and education to Great Meadows residents. [Learn more and apply here.](#) Resumes accepted until noon on Friday, Jan. 26.

North Shore Public Health Collaborative is Hiring!

The Town of Salem is seeking candidates for four open positions. These positions will service the towns of Beverly, Danvers, Lynn, Marblehead, Nahant, Peabody, Salem, and Swampscott, otherwise known as the North Shore Public Health Collaborative.

- Regional Public Health Social Worker (FT) Providing individual care coordination and referral to community resources. [Learn more and apply here.](#)
- Regional Community Health Worker (FT) Organizing community forums and outreach events to provide health education and seek community input on public health issues and projects. [Learn more and apply here.](#)
- Regional Public Health Nurse (PT) Conducting home visits to provide maternal health screening through the North Shore Mother Visiting Program. [Learn more and apply here.](#)
- Regional Field Training Hub Coordinator (PT) The RFTH Coordinator will coordinate between Regional Field Hub Trainers, and local public health officials across our shared service program and will work in partnership with OLRH. [Learn more and apply here.](#)

MetroWest Shared Public Health Services Group is Hiring!

The Town of Hudson is seeking candidates for an open position. This position will service the towns of Hudson, Ashland, Framingham, Maynard, Medway, Milford, Millis, and Natick, otherwise known as the MetroWest Shared Public Health Services Group.

- Shared Services Coordinator (FT) The Coordinator will work on a regional basis to ensure coordination, support and delivery of shared nursing, inspectional and epidemiological resources for the participating health departments and lead efforts to secure resources for ongoing work of the shared service initiative. [Learn more and apply here.](#)

Student Opportunities: Practicums, Internships, and More!

Are you a current student looking to build your experience, find a practicum or internship, network with other public health professionals, and help build healthier communities? Find opportunities from the [Academic Public Health Corps](#):

- [Jobs in Local Health](#)
- [Join The Corps \(for student interns\)](#)

APHC interns need projects!

Could your health department use support with a health communication, data analysis and visualization, community outreach, or research/admin project?

Request free intern support today!

<https://bit.ly/APHC-Request>



Academic Public Health Corps
academicpublichealthcorps.org

[Back to top](#)



Funding Opportunities

Don't Miss Future Funding Opportunities!

Apply for the Municipal Master Services Agreement (MSA) RFR

The purpose of this [Request for Responses \(RFR\)](#) is to establish a pre-qualified list of approved vendors, namely local and regional public health entities, to be eligible for potential future funding from the Department of Public Health DPH. This approach will provide a simplified process for eligible entities to access DPH funding, consolidate multiple sources of funding from DPH, and create a more efficient process for how certain funding is distributed.

All municipalities, regional planning agencies, regional council of governments, or regional health districts are strongly encouraged to apply as many future DPH grants will be distributed through this municipal master services agreement (MSA).

NOTE: PHE lead grantees are already in the MSA and do not need to apply.

To apply, please find the COMMBUYS link to the RFR posting [here](#). The application consists of:

- Application form
- Confidentiality Agreement (can be found in the REQ zip file on COMMBUYS)

Please return the completed forms to Brian.W.Sheehan@mass.gov along with any other questions.

[Back to top](#)



Events & Trainings

Public Health Nursing Guide to Emergency Preparedness and Response

A prepared community is a resilient community! This one-hour webinar will provide an introduction into three areas of concentration for public health nurses (PHNs) in MA: Infectious Disease, Immunizations, and Emergency Preparedness with resources clearly identified through membership in the Massachusetts Association of Public Health Nurses (MAPHN). [Register for this webinar](#) from 12 - 1:30 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 30.



Inclusive Public Health Preparedness Planning Webinar Series

This webinar series will be hosted by the World Institute on Disability (WID) and NACCHO and supported by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Webinar Dates and Times:

- 2 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 30: [Disabilities and Access and Functional Needs](#)
- 2 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 13: [Disability Culturally Competent Public Health Emergency Planning](#)
- 2 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 27: [Public Health Emergency Preparedness Capabilities](#)

[Register for Inclusive Public Health Preparedness Planning Webinars.](#) By registering, you will automatically be registered to all three webinars in the series.

The Western MA Public Health Association and
the Franklin-Hampshire Field Training Hub present:

PUBLIC HEALTH POWER HOUR TRAININGS



AFTER A HOUSING INSPECTION: HOW TO WRITE THE ORDER TO CORRECT

Paul Halfmann will give an overview of how to write an Order to Correct after conducting a housing inspection. Learn how to correctly set timelines, document conditions deemed to endanger, and how to properly serve the Order in accordance with 105 CMR 410

Monday, February 12, 2024

3:00 PM - 4:00 PM

Presenter: Paul Halfmann, Retired Assistant Director,
Community Sanitation, DPH, & Halfmann Public Health
Consulting, LLC

CEUs for REHS/RS: 1.0

Registration required: <https://tinyurl.com/bdds36u6>



Click on the image to register for Public Health Power Hour at 3 p.m. Monday, Feb. 12.

Registration Open: MEHA Title 5 Seminar 2024

The Massachusetts Environmental Health Association (MEHA) has announced their 2024 Title 5 Seminar. Registration is now open! The agenda, speaker sessions, and CEU details are being finalized. More information to follow!

- Date: Wednesday, Feb. 21, 2024
- Location: Clarion Hotel, Taunton /Foxboro
- Time: 8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.
- Cost: \$100 – \$150 (Member vs. Non-Member)



[Register here](#) and check back for more details

Registration Open: MEHA SAVA Workshop

The Massachusetts Environmental Health Association (MEHA) has announced their 2024 FDA National Retail Food Regulatory Program Standards Self-Assessment and Verification Audit (SAVA) Workshop. Registration is open through February 16 ! Limited spaces are available and participants must attend all 2.5 days.

- Date: Thursday, April 2-4
- Location: Hyatt House, Waltham, MA
- Cost: \$150
- [Register to attend](#) the SAVA workshop

MassDEP/MHOA 2024 Seminars - Save the Dates!

- Tuesday, Feb. 27 - Virtual Day 1 (without Title 5)
- Thursday, Feb. 29 - In-person at Devens Common
- Tuesday, March 5 - Virtual Day 2 (with Title 5)
- Thursday, March 7 - In-person at Delaney House in Holyoke

[Registration will open soon!](#)

[Back to top](#)



Contact Us

If you have any comments, questions, or feedback, please email:

localregionalpublichealth@mass.gov

Office of Local & Regional Health
Massachusetts Department of Public Health
67 Forest Street
Marlborough, MA 01752
(617) 753-8018
[Visit our website!](#)

[Follow DPH on X \(formerly Twitter\)](#)

This email was sent to lufkine@manchester.ma.us

[why did I get this?](#) [unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)

Office of Local and Regional Health, Massachusetts Department of Public Health · 67 Forest Street · Marlborough, MA 01752 · USA