

Healthy Connecticut 2025 State Health Improvement Plan Advisory Council Meeting

August 24, 2022
2:00-3:30 PM
Virtual via ZOOM



How to Rename Yourself in Zoom

- Click on the “...” in the corner of your Self View.
- Click on “Rename” from the options that appear.
- Enter your name and your pronouns (optional)

Welcome & Introductions

Name, Title, Organization, Favorite Joy of Summer

Agenda

2:00	10	Welcome & Introductions	<i>Manisha Juthani, MD Vicki Veltri, AC Chair</i>
2:10	10	Commissioner's Remarks	<i>Manisha Juthani, MD</i>
2:20	60	Action Team Updates	<i>Action Team Lead Conveners</i>
3:20	10	Updates	<i>Sandy Gill, DPH</i>
3:30	-	Next Steps & Adjourn	<i>Vicki Veltri</i>

Commissioner's Remarks

Manisha Juthani, MD

Action Team Updates

A. Access to Health Care

B. Economic Stability

C. Healthy Food and Housing

D. Community Strength and Resilience

Access to Health Care

Lead Convener

Nancy Hamson, Yale New Haven Health
Co-Lead - pending

• Progress to Date

- Group reviewed proposed data indicators to identify data sources that would address the intent of the objectives and the components of the proposed activities, as well as refinement of definitions.
- ***A1 - Access to technology –***
 - Easily accessible training in multiple languages is important
 - Consideration of telehealth technology should address use with oral health and mental health services
- ***A2 & A3 - Best Practices and Standards in clinical and community settings –***
 - Screening tools that address the health priorities in the SHIP
 - Screening networks such as UniteUS CT
- ***A6 - Spending more than 10% on net income on health care services and coverage***
 - Group is seeking additional information on organization that track or address this issue
 - This objective may be revised to reflect existing reliable data collection.

Access to Health Care

Lead Conveners

*Nancy Hamson, Yale New Haven Health
Co-Lead - pending*

• Plans Moving Forward

- Members have opted for the sub-committee format and have set the high-level goals for the remaining meetings in 2022
 - September – Determine Subcommittee Chairs
 - October – Update action plan timelines through December 2023
 - November – Identify any additional initiatives that align with the work of the action team
 - December – Assess meeting frequency, length and format

• Asks of the Advisory Council

- In follow up to membership recommendations from June – we are still looking for a contact from Connecticut Council of Municipalities & internet provider company
- Regarding A6 – We are looking for contacts/organizations that advocate for controlling medical expenses.



Economic Stability

Lead Conveners

Supriyo Chatterjee, Independent Consultant

Tim Larson, CT Office of Higher Education

• Progress to Date

- Group reviewed proposed data indicators to identify data sources that would address the intent of the objectives and the components of the proposed activities
- ***B1.2 – Promote participation in and the extension of ALICE Saves***
 - United Way of Western CT – provided a brief update on ALICE (Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed) Saves Partnership. The program’s current funding is coming to an end – action team members will discuss how the SHIP network could assist
- ***B1.4 – Policies and systems that address income insecurity***
 - The first action item under this strategy was to gather information about existing systems and policies to explore effectiveness, sustainability, and possible ripple effect on low-income populations. (i.e. eviction moratorium, Baby Bonds Program, interconnectedness of local systems and resources)
 - An example shared by a team member - With the ending of the eviction moratorium, local courts are overwhelmed with volume of cases and local health departments are struggling to coordinate social services to residents being pushed out.

Economic Stability

Lead Conveners

Supriyo Chatterjee, Independent Consultant

Tim Larson, CT Office of Higher Education

• Plans Moving Forward

- Members will continue to recruit participation from the economic/business sector
 - September – Focus discussion on Objective B4 Strategies and begin the formation of sub-committees
 - October – Focus discussion on Objective B5 Strategies and continue formation of sub-committees
 - November – Update action plan timelines through December 2023
 - December – Assess meeting frequency, length and format

• Asks of the Advisory Council

- During the June SHIP Advisory Council meeting someone recommended to recruit participation of an organization that addresses financial literacy – is there a specific partner that someone from the group has worked with that could be recommended?
- Is there a partner that you have worked with in the banking or small business sector that you could assist with recruiting their participation in the Economic Stability Action Team?



Health Food & Housing

Lead Conveners

*Robyn Gulley, North Central Area Agency on Aging
Erin Windham, CT State Department of Agriculture*

• Progress to Date

- ***C1 – Enhance partnerships, improve communication and navigation of assistance programs***
 - Members invited a guest speaker from the Massachusetts Food System Collaborative to learn more about how their state addresses coordination of services at a systems level
 - The group is also researching existing referral networks to identify how networks are accessed, how residents get referred, how referrals are tracked, and how information is kept current.
- ***C4 – Re-convening partners to identify gaps and challenges related to a statewide property maintenance code (PMC).***
 - We have proposed convening a subcommittee of previously engaged advocates to define a student project, which would objectively lay out what regulation currently exists at both the state and local levels, and what gaps exist across these regulations. The project will also include researching how this issue is addressed and funded in other states.

Health Food & Housing

Lead Conveners

*Robyn Gulley, North Central Area Agency on Aging
Erin Windham, CT State Department of Agriculture*

• Plans Moving Forward

- The group will continue to recruit new members to join the work of the action team and will move forward with the development of sub-committees for each objective in the action plan.
 - September – Focus discussion on Objective C2 Strategies and will convene the PMC sub-committee
 - October – Focus discussion on Objective C3 Strategies and continue formation of sub-committees
 - November – Update action plan timelines through December 2023
 - December – Assess meeting frequency, length and format

• Asks of the Advisory Council

- Are there any specific contacts that you would like to make sure we invite to participate in the PMC discussion/sub-committee?
- Prior to the October SHIP Advisory Council, we will be discussing housing and food access needs of persons formerly incarcerated. Are there any contacts that you currently work with, that you would suggest we invite to the discussion?



Community Strength and Resilience

Lead Conveners

Andrea Duarte, CT State Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services

Adrianna Ramirez, CT Family Support Network

• Progress to Date

- Group reviewed proposed data indicators to identify data sources that would address the intent of the objectives and the components of the proposed activities
- ***D2 – Barrier free, trauma informed, transparent aid to the public***
 - Members have been identifying training program providers and first responder networks already set up with training services to identify gaps and recruit participation in action team efforts.
- ***D3 – Access to safe affordable technology including cost effective telehealth for services***
 - Members are researching the role of libraries in providing a point of access to technology-based services including telehealth services; this effort also includes looking at what other states
- ***D4 – Aligning existing multi-sector communications networks to provide easy access***
 - Members have been researching various systems in use in the state including, but not limited to 211, UniteUS CT and the Health Alert Network
 - Information was shared with members on the newly launch of the 988 crisis line for Suicide Prevention in Connecticut

Community Strength and Resilience

Lead Conveners

Andrea Duarte, CT State Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services

Adrianna Ramirez, CT Family Support Network

• Plans Moving Forward

- The group will continue to recruit new members to join the work of the action team and will move forward with the development of sub-committees for each objective in the action plan.
 - September – Focus discussion on Objective D5 Strategies and will identify sub-committee members
 - October – Focus discussion on Objective D6 Strategies and continue formation of sub-committees
 - November – Update action plan timelines through December 2023
 - December – Assess meeting frequency, length and format

• Asks of the Advisory Council

- Our September discussion will focus on youth-centered strategies to improve social and community connectedness. Are you aware of any local, or state level organization, that is effective at engaging youth, that you could help us to recruit their participation in the September action team meeting?



Updates

Sandy Gill, CT DPH

Kevin Borrup, CT Children's

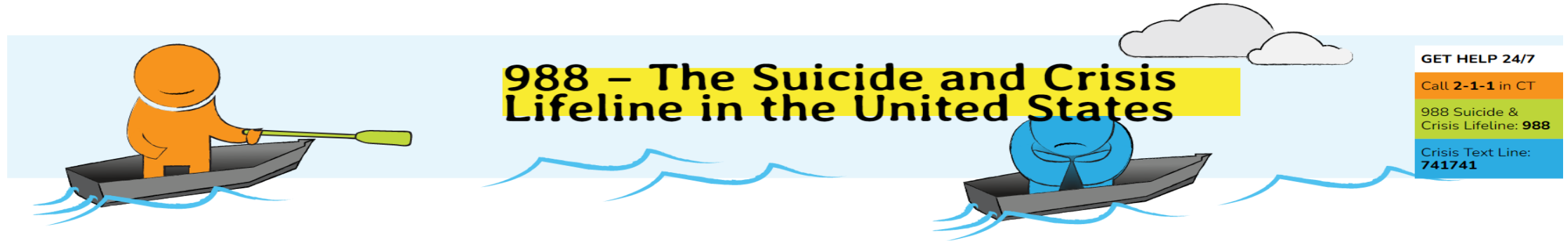
Andrea Duarte, CT DMHAS

Fall Prevention Week – September 18th-24th

- Call to Action – What you can do to prevent falls:
 - Evaluate your risk
 - Review your medications
 - Join a regular exercise program
 - Get your vision and hearing checked
 - Wear proper footwear
 - Remove fall and trip hazards from your home
- More information can be found:
 - [National Council on Aging](#)
 - [CDC MyMobility Plan](#)



Suicide Prevention



GET HELP 24/7

Call 2-1-1 in CT

988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline: 988

Crisis Text Line: 741741

988 - The Suicide and Crisis Lifeline in the United States

Make Connections/Get Help Start the Conversation

The 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline (formerly known as the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline) is a network of more than 200 state and local call centers funded by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) through Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) and administered by Vibrant Emotional Health. In Connecticut, the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services and Department of Children and Families fund the Connecticut 988 Contact



[988 - The Suicide and Crisis Lifeline in the United States - Prevent Suicide CT](#)



*In honor of National Suicide Prevention Week 2022,
the **Connecticut Suicide Advisory Board** presents:*

A Comprehensive Public Health Approach to Suicide Prevention

When: Thursday, September 8, 2022 from 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM

Where: Virtual Zoom Meeting; Meeting ID: 845 8622 4783; Passcode: 404692

- Keynote Speaker: Julie Ebin, EdM, Suicide Prevention Resource Center*
- Special presentation on the Comprehensive Suicide Prevention in CT Initiative from the CT Department of Public Health, and the Uncas, Bristol-Burlington, and Torrington Health Districts*

**For more information or to join the CTSAB, please visit:
www.preventsuicidect.org**

**1 WORD
VOICE
LIFE**
Be the 1 to start the conversation
PREVENTSUICIDECT.ORG

Next Steps

- +/- (in Zoom Chat)
 - + What did you like? What worked well?
 - - What would you change or add? What didn't work so well?
- Upcoming Advisory Council Meetings
 - Wed, Oct 19th, 2:00-3:30
 - Wed, Dec 14th, 2:00-3:30
- Contact Sandra Gill (HCT2025.DPH@ct.gov) with any additional recommendations or feedback on the topics discussed today. Please include "AUG AC MEETING" as the subject line of your message.

Thank You!



CONNECTICUT HEALTH IMPROVEMENT COALITION

Partners Integrating Efforts and Improving Population Health

HEALTHY CONNECTICUT 2020 ADVISORY COUNCIL

Meeting Summary
August 24, 2022
2:00 pm – 3:30 pm

Meeting Purpose: Meet new Advisory Council Chairperson, Action Team implementation updates and requests for Advisory Council assistance

Attendees

Commissioner Manisha Juthani, CT State Dept. of Public Health; Vicki Veltri, Malta House of Care Clinic; Mark Abraham, DataHaven; Dr. Fred Browne, MD, Physician Representative; Claudio Gualtieri, CT Office of Policy and Management; Robyn Gulley, North Central Area Agency on Aging; Andrea Duarte, CT State Dept of Mental Health and Addiction Services; Ken Lalime, Community Health Center Association of CT; Brad Richards, CT State Dept of Social Services; Brenetta Henry, Consumer Representative; Brenda Bergeron, CT State Dept of Emergency Management and Homeland Security; Jorge Moreno, Physician Representative; Michael Santoro, CT State Dept of Housing; Sailaja Puttagunta, Physician Representative; Adrianna Ramirez, CT Family Support Network; Shannon Yearwood, CT State Dept of Education; Supriyo Chatterjee, Independent Consultant; Tanya Barrett, United Way of Connecticut; Tiffany Donelson, CT Health Foundation; Kevin Borrup, CT Children’s Hospital; Rose Swensen, Health Resources in Action; Mario Garcia, CT Dept. of Public Health; Sandy Gill, CT Dept. of Public Health; Vidya Ganesan, CT Dept. of Public Health; Miriam Miller, CT Dept of Public Health

Welcome and Introductions

The group welcomed Vicki Veltri (Malta House of Care Clinic) as the new Chairperson for the SHIP Advisory Council. Members introduced themselves and shared their favorite joy of the summer season.

Action Team Updates and Key Points of Team Discussion

Action Teams have been meeting monthly since the last SHIP Advisory Council meeting June 1, 2022. The groups have mainly been focusing on information collection and recruitment of new cross-sector members. Discussions have been robust and enthusiastic, and often challenging to fit in during the 1-hour time allotment for the monthly meetings. As a result, each of the action teams is moving toward a subcommittee format to address more focused discussions between meetings on specific objectives. This will allow more effective use of the monthly full Action Team meetings. Each action team co-lead shared Progress to Date, Plans Moving Forward, and specific “Asks” for SHIP Advisory Council input. The Action Team slides can be found on slides #6-#13 in the attached slide deck.

Access to Health Care

Access to technology – members have been identifying providers of trainings on how to use tablets and cell phones to access telehealth technology, and specifically looking for trainings in multiple languages and their reach into neighborhood level access. Additionally, members have stressed the importance of including access to oral health and mental health services.

Best Practices and Standards in the clinical and community settings – members are identifying screening and referral tools currently in use in both the clinical and community settings as they relate to the SHIP priority health outcomes (obesity, drug overdose, suicide, sexual violence/domestic violence, the use of Emergency Departments for care, and insurance coverage)

Spending more than 10% of net income on health care services and coverage – members are seeking additional input from organizations that currently track this information to align our progress targets with existing work going on in the state. This objective may be refined to match wording to existing measures being tracked.



Asks for SHIP Advisory Council Members:

- ***In follow up to recommendations from the June meeting, is there someone specific from the Connecticut Council of Municipalities and/or a specific internet company contact that members could share.*** Members suggested:
 - Rick Porth (CCM) - Andrea
 - Doug Casey (Executive Director of CT EdTech)
 - <https://portal.ct.gov/DAS/CTEdTech/Commission-for-Educational-Technology/Initiatives/Digital-Equity>
 - Telehealth is now covered for Medicaid & Medicare - <https://telehealth.hhs.gov/providers/health-equity-in-telehealth/>
- ***Identify additional contacts/organizations that advocate for controlling medical expenses.*** Members suggested:
 - WNPR did some research in this area and may have some ideas
 - Comptroller's office is working on health care portability index and identifying better value out of our health care spend
 - State work going on in this space – Office of Health Strategy working on Healthcare Benchmarks – where are the drivers of costs? Are we getting the best return; the group is looking at the data and letting the data be their guide in looking at possible policy changes and evidence-based practices that stakeholders can put into place on their own to save consumer costs

Economic Stability

Promote participation in and extension of ALICE Saves – members invited UW of Western CT to present additional information about this program, which is coming to the end of its funding. This is an example where we can utilize the collective input of action team and advisory council members to identify strategies to leverage resources to improve sustainability.

Policies and systems that address income insecurity – members are collecting information on existing systems & policies addressing income insecurity and the ripple effect of this issue across sectors.

Asks for SHIP Advisory Council members:

- ***In follow up to a recommendation from the June SHIP Advisory Council meeting, is there a specific partner that addresses financial literacy that someone from the group has worked with that could be recommended?*** Member suggestions:
 - Advancing Connecticut Together (ACT) has a division focused on financial insecurity and part of that focuses on financial literacy
 - <https://www.cahs.org/financial-coaching.html> ;
 - Lt Governor's Council on Women and Girls has a group working on financial literacy – information should be available on their website with lists of organizations
- ***Is there a partner that you have worked with in the banking or small business sector that you could assist with recruiting their participation in the Economic Stability Action Team?*** Members suggested:
 - <https://portal.ct.gov/Financial-Literacy-Portal>

Healthy Food & Housing

Enhance partnerships, improve communication and navigation of assistance programs – Members invited a guest speaker from the Massachusetts Food System Collaborative to learn more about how their state addresses coordination of services at a systems level. The group is also researching existing referral networks to identify how networks are accessed, how residents get referred, how referrals are tracked, and how information is kept current.



CONNECTICUT HEALTH IMPROVEMENT COALITION

Partners Integrating Efforts and Improving Population Health

Re-convening partners to identify gaps and challenges related to a statewide property maintenance code (PMC) – Members have proposed convening a subcommittee of previously engaged advocates to define a student project, which would objectively lay out what regulation currently exists at both the state and local levels, and what gaps exists across these regulations. The project will also include researching how this issue is addressed and funded in other states.

Asks for SHIP Advisory Council members:

- ***Are there any specific contacts that you would like to make sure we invite to participate in the PMC discussion/sub-committee?*** Members suggested:
 - Local Health Departments oversee code enforcement
 - Brenda – the Fire Marshall’s Office
 - Schools of Public Health students, such as Yale School of Public Health
- ***Prior to the October SHIP Advisory Council, we will be discussing housing and food access needs of persons formerly incarcerated. Are there any contacts that you currently work with, that you would suggest we invite to the discussion?*** Members suggested:
 - Prisoner Advocacy Group – not sure of name
 - Legal Aid Offices
 - Hartford has a re-entry center – Community Partners in Action
 - SEICHE Center for Health Justice (Emily.wang@yale.edu & Benjamin.howell@yale.edu)
 - Katal Center
 - Governor’s Prevention Partnership

Community Strength & Resilience

Barrier free, trauma informed, transparent aid to the public – Members have been identifying training program providers and first responder networks already set up with training services to identify gaps and recruit participation in action team efforts.

Access to safe affordable technology including cost effective telehealth for services – Members are researching the role of libraries in providing a point of access to technology-based services including telehealth services; this effort also includes looking at what other states

Aligning existing multi-sector communications networks to provide easy access – Members have been researching various systems in use in the state including, but not limited to 211, UniteUS CT and the Health Alert Network. Information was shared with members on the newly launch of the 988 crisis line for Suicide Prevention in Connecticut

Asks of the Advisory Council

- ***Our September discussion will focus on youth-centered strategies to improve social and community connectedness. Are you aware of any local, or state level organization, that is effective at engaging youth, that you could help us to recruit their participation in the September action team meeting?***
Members suggested:
 - CT Youth Services Association
 - YMCA
 - Boys & Girls Club Association of CT
 - Girl Scouts
 - COMPASS Youth Collaborative
 - Hartford Communities that Care
 - Department of Children and Families (DCF)



CONNECTICUT HEALTH IMPROVEMENT COALITION

Partners Integrating Efforts and Improving Population Health

- Play2prevent@Yale.edu Suite 515, 2 Church Street South, Yale School of Medicine, New Haven, CT 06519. This program uses video games to engage teenagers on various topics – they may be interested in participating

Additional Updates

September 18-24 is Fall Prevention Week

Falls are a leading cause of Death for 65+ age group. If the individual survives the fall, it can be life altering. Individuals are encouraged to take a look at their medication side effect and fall risks. Sometimes health benefits, such as Medicare, home health benefits, services programs. Many organizations will be hosting events and showcasing programming. Look for local public health districts, all of the hospital systems in the state, Senior Centers, and don't overlook the valuable resource of the Area Agencies on Aging, which also offer Chronic Disease Self-Management Programming. CT has a long history of focusing on falls and injuries across the life span. Senior Centers great local place to start

September is Suicide Prevention Month

The new [988 Crisis Line webpage](#) has a wealth of resources available for Suicide prevention. Connecticut had previously promoted services through the National Crisis Line 1-800-273 TALK, as well as through the 3-digit 211 United Way number. Connecticut is implementing a no wrong door approach and residents will be able to access services through all three of those access numbers. Locally we are still standing up text and chat; however, that is available at the national level. Members are encouraged to spread the word. State Suicide Prevention Plan available on DMHAS website. Comments from members:

- Suicide rates in the elderly population appear to have increased during the pandemic compounding the concerns for a population already at risk for social isolation. Partners are working to make services accessible to this group.
- HB 5001 - anticipates including 988 on student ID cards once the resources can be promoted (per feds). For children in grades 6-12, as well as UCONN and state University Systems all need to have promotion of 988 on student ID cards. DMHAS working with school systems to put this in place. They have added a QR code to webpage and ID cards which can be utilized to track/measure usage.
- It was mentioned at the last Racial Equity in Public Health Commission meeting, a resource was shared about potential lack of trust in 988 resources among historically marginalized groups. Any cross-cutting strategies SHIP Can help with, in conjunction with other state partners and Racial Equity in Public Health Commission? It was acknowledged that the data often show distrust of the medical model type of interventions among marginalized groups. Efforts are being made to implement the public health model to reach all populations.
- 988 services are available in all language, including Spanish

Next Meeting: October 19, 2022, 2:00 pm – 3:30pm

Meeting Feedback

- + Great to hear specific updates. - would consider how to best involve the advisory council to maximize impact
- +Liked the specific requests from workgroups of the Advisory Committee. Great, immediate way for us to give contribution to the work
- ++Vicki as co-chair!! WOOOHOO