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National Health Observances

August

National Breastfeeding Month

National Immunization Awareness Month

National Health Center Week (13-19)

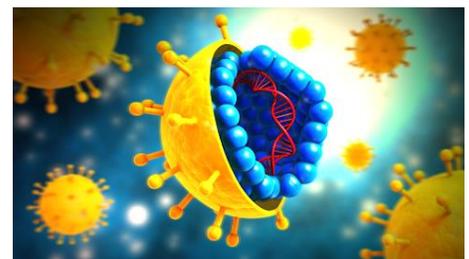
The Pennsylvania Breastfeeding Awareness and Support Program

The **Pennsylvania Breastfeeding Awareness and Support Program** provides education and resources to mothers and their families so they have the necessary tools available when deciding how to feed their baby. In honor of National Breastfeeding Month this August, the program recognizes the Keystone 10 Initiative (K10). K10 was developed by the Department of Health to assist Pennsylvania birthing hospitals adopt and implement evidence-based maternity care practices aimed at improving breastfeeding care rates and the health of mothers and babies. This voluntary initiative focuses on the adoption and implementation of the 10 evidence-based steps to successful breastfeeding. Participating hospitals focus on breastfeeding initiation, exclusive breastfeeding, skin-to-skin contact, rooming-in and other elements. Currently, 87 of Pennsylvania's 94 birthing hospitals are engaged in K10. Sixteen of these hospitals have completed all 10 steps and are now K10 designated. By educating hospital staff and new mothers, breastfeeding initiation rates have never been higher!

2017 Pennsylvania Breastfeeding Initiation Rates		
	# of Hospitals	Initiation Rate
K10 Designated (Completed all 10 steps)	16	84%
K10 participant (Completed 1-9 steps)	56	81%
Non-Participant (Not engaged or zero steps completed)	22	73%

Viral Hepatitis Elimination

The department hosted the 2019 PA Viral Hepatitis Elimination Planning Stakeholder meeting on May 1, 2019 to discuss viral hepatitis elimination planning strategies. Presentations were provided from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Pa. Department of Human Services, Pa. Office of Medical Assistance Programs, Pa. Department of Corrections, Philadelphia Department of



September

National Childhood Obesity Awareness Month

National Recovery Month

National Suicide Prevention Week (8-14)

Events

Public Health 3.0

Meeting

August 1, Harrisburg PA

PACHC

Medical/Dental Integration Summit

August 7 and 8, Harrisburg PA

PACHC Annual Conference and Clinical Summit

October 15 through 17, Lancaster PA

American Mental Wellness Conference

November 21 and 22, Camp Hill PA

Transforming Women's Health Symposium

September 24, Pittsburgh

Public Health, Allegheny County Health Department and Harm Reduction Coalition.

Stakeholders had networking opportunities to learn about the elimination campaigns of other states including New York and Washington. More than 100 stakeholders attended the event including academic researchers, addiction specialists, clinicians, corrections health officers, community health workers, harm reduction advocates, health department employees, industry representatives and patient advocates. The Department of Health is accepting applications for the Viral Hepatitis Elimination Planning Committee that will provide direction to establish a viral hepatitis elimination coalition and elimination campaign. For more information, contact [Suzanna Masartis](#) of the Community Liver Alliance.

Monitoring PFAS in Pennsylvania

The department's environmental health team monitors and responds to environmental public health issues. Recently, the department conducted a [biomonitoring study](#) for perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS). PFAS are a group of chemicals used in commercial and industrial processes that can increase the risk of cancer and other health problems. Blood serum samples were collected from 235 randomly selected people living in areas surrounding two military bases in Bucks and Montgomery counties with known PFAS contamination in drinking water supplies. Four of 11 PFAS compounds were consistently detected in the serum samples and the levels exceeded national averages in 59 to 94 percent of study participants, depending on the compound of interest. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the [Association of State and Territorial Health Officials](#) is expanding the project to include further testing of potential exposures in the community. This will include urine, water and household dust analyses.

Public Health 3.0 Update

The Department of Health is holding regional convenings across the commonwealth to bring together different sectors, including business, education, housing and transportation, to discuss how we can create conditions that allow all members of our communities to live healthy lives. Event locations have been chosen based on an analysis of health risks and outcomes in counties across the state, especially in the five selected health priority areas of obesity, diabetes, oral health, substance use and tobacco use. These health issues were prioritized during a stakeholder- and data-driven State Health Improvement Plan (SHIP) process undertaken in 2014. Local coalitions are encouraged to adopt and implement the [SHIP](#) strategies to work towards the 2020 targets. Strategies include nutrition and fitness programs in schools, community improvements to enhance outdoor activities, healthy eating promotions, decreasing smoking, and reducing behavioral health stigma while increasing health literacy, among others.

2019 Public Health 3.0 Coalition Updates

Northeast (Carbon, Columbia, Northumberland, Schuylkill, Snyder, Union)

In the Northeast, there are close to 100 stakeholders engaged. On May 10, **Public Health 3.0** fostered a collaboration at the Geisinger Medical Center in Danville. Topics discussed at the event included trauma and Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs). Presenters included the Greater Susquehanna Valley United Way, LLC, Lehigh Valley Health Network, Schuylkill United Way, Schuylkill Vision, St. Luke's University Health Network and the Pennsylvania Department of Health.

West (Indiana, Cambria, Blair, Fayette, and Greene County)

In the West, there are close to 75 stakeholders engaged. Public Health 3.0 recently met on June 12 at the Penn State University campus in Fayette County. Collaborations to combat substance use disorder and improve wellness and youth collaborations to reduce obesity were discussed at the event. Presenters included Fayette Living Well Coalition, Healthy Blair County Coalition, Cambria County Drug Coalition and the Pennsylvania Department of Health. A networking and resource fair also took place at adjournment of the meeting, and a few organizations shared helpful resources with the group.

Central (Dauphin and Perry County)

Dauphin and Perry County Public Health 3.0 focuses on three of the five health priorities: oral health, obesity and substance use. Each action team has been meeting on a regular basis to discuss topics such as access, education and making connections throughout Dauphin and Perry County. The Dauphin and Perry County Public Health 3.0 collaborative will hold a meeting on August 1. If interested in attending, please contact **Andrea Murray**.

National Health Center Week 2019



The Pennsylvania Association of Community Health Centers (PACHC) has announced that National Health Center Week is August 4-10 with the theme of "America's Health Centers: Rooted in Communities." Community Health Centers in Pennsylvania will host a variety of community events to promote positive public health issues and awareness of health centers in

Disclaimer

The information provided in this newsletter is intended to be of general information to Pennsylvania's HIPP partnerships. It is not intended as an endorsement or recommendation of any specific process, service, product, company, or funding source outside of the Department of Health auspices. Further examination and research of information is recommended.

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their neighborhoods. See a [list of events and details](#) throughout the state and the United States.

PACHC is the Primary Care Association for the Keystone State representing Community Health Centers and other like-mission providers. Pennsylvania's Community Health Centers, or Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs), is the largest primary care network in Pennsylvania and are unique, nonprofit primary care facilities that provide a wide array of services to vulnerable populations in underserved areas. Health centers have more than 300 sites in 52 counties throughout Pennsylvania.

Food Bucks Program

Food Bucks is a healthy food incentive program that encourages Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) recipients to purchase fresh fruits and vegetables at participating farmers markets, corner stores and grocery stores. For every \$5 spent using SNAP at a farmers market, customers receive a \$2 Food Buck coupon for fresh fruits and vegetables. The Food Bucks program and network is managed by The Food Trust, one of several organizations across the commonwealth that is spearheading food incentive programs. Funding is provided in part by the USDA Gus Schumacher Nutrition Incentive Program (GusNIP/FINI). Participating locations include Philadelphia, Pittsburgh and southwest Pennsylvania, Reading, Perry County and a [few other locations](#). The Food Bucks Network partners with nearly 100 participating retail sites in Pennsylvania. To learn more about the program, please visit the website or contact the [Food Trust](#). The Food Trust hopes to continue growing the Food Bucks Network across the commonwealth.



York Fresh Food Farms Food Bucks Program



The Healthy York County Coalition with York Fresh Food Farms (Y3F) has adopted [Food Bucks](#) to promote fresh fruits and vegetables. As an urban farm, Y3F works to directly revitalize and sustain York City through a mobile produce market by providing fresh fruits and vegetables to areas with limited access to healthy foods. Available at all Y3F-Mobile Produce Market stops, SNAP customers receive \$2 back in Food Bucks for every \$5 spent on fresh produce. Y3F is reimbursed for all

redeemed coupons and is responsible for tracking the success, usage and implementation of the program. Since its launch at the beginning of June, more fresh vegetables have already been purchased by Food Buck recipients and a successful season is anticipated with an increase in purchasing power for SNAP shoppers. [Selah Phillips](#) is Assistant Farm Manager and Mobile Market Manager for Y3F, [Jonathan Delp](#) is Project Coordinator for The Food Trust.

Public Health Department Accreditation

The Chester County Health Department received initial national accreditation from the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) on June 11. To receive national accreditation through PHAB, a health department must undergo a rigorous, multi-faceted, peer-reviewed assessment process to ensure it meets or exceeds a set of public health quality standards and measures. The Chester County Health Department became Pennsylvania's fifth local health department along with the Pennsylvania Department of Health to achieve accreditation through PHAB. Congratulations Chester County!



Grant Opportunities

- **Community transportation grants:** The [Federal Transit Administration](#) is providing funding for grants for \$25,000 plus technical assistance to support communities in creating mobility solutions that improve access for low-income residents to increase health and well-being. Applications are due August 1.
- **Kids Run the Nation grants:** [Kids Run the Nation](#) is a program that assists schools and communities to implement or host youth running programs. Grants are available between \$500 and \$1,000 to support running programs including marketing and advertising, track and park fees for events, hydration supplies and snacks, awards and other program material. Applications are due August 1.
- **Mental health service professional demonstration grants:** The [Department of Education](#) is offering funding up to \$500,000 renewable over five years for innovative partnerships to train school-based mental health service providers to address the shortages of mental health service professionals in schools served by high-need local educational agencies. Applications are due August 5.
- **Health care transportation access grants:** The [National Center for Mobility Management](#) is providing grants of \$75,000 to fund transportation solutions that provide improved access to health care services. Applications are due August 5.
- **Hearst Health Prize for Excellence in Population Health:** The [Jefferson College of Population Health](#) is coordinating the \$100,000

Hearst prize to promote promising ideas in the field of population health that help to improve health outcomes and proliferate best practices more rapidly. Two additional finalists will also receive a \$25,000 prize for outstanding achievement in managing or improving population health. Applications are due August 9.

- **Child sexual abuse treatment and training grants:** The Pa. Commission on Crime and Delinquency is offering four **Endowment Act - Treatment Training** grants of up to \$50,000 to support the training of medical and mental healthcare providers who treat children and/or adults who were sexually abused as children. The grant will also help to provide topic specific training to therapists previously trained and who are currently implementing trauma focused-cognitive behavioral therapy with child sexual abuse victims. Applications are due August 16.
- **Child Advocacy Centers and victim service grants:** The Pa. **Commission on Crime and Delinquency** is offering grants of \$50,000 from the "Endowment Act" to fund support for child sexual abuse programs and training for mandated reporters. Funding is available to Child Advocacy Centers and victim service organizations that are National Children's Alliance members. Funding can support medical services for child victims of sexual abuse, coordination and collaboration such as information sharing and joint service planning, and mental health services. Applications are due August 16.
- **Cross-jurisdictional sharing in public health grants:** The **Center for Sharing Public Health Services** is offering grants of up to \$10,000 to support cross-jurisdictional sharing arrangements that address social determinants of health, implement foundational public health services, improve collaboration among health departments and implement community health improvement plans. Applications are due August 16.
- **Health center service area competition grants:** The **Health Resources and Services Administration** is offering grants for up to three years to provide access to affordable, quality primary health care services for communities and populations currently served by the Health Center Program. Organizations that provide primary care in communities such as community health centers and Federally Qualified Health Centers are eligible to apply for grants to serve populations and for amounts up to the total funding listed in the **Service Area Announcement Table**. Applications are due August 26.
- **Health professional education grants:** The **Josiah Macy Jr. Foundation** is accepting applications for grants for innovation in health profession education. Their priorities are interprofessional education and teamwork, new curriculum content, new models for clinical education, care for underserved communities and career development. Applications are accepted on an ongoing basis.