



State and Partner Report 2006*

State: Maine

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Projects/Issues Addressed This Year:

The State of Maine Public Health Nursing Program:

- Celebrated 85th Anniversary of Public Health Nursing in Maine- honoring the past, celebrating the present, and looking to the future with the 10 essential public health services
- Completed implementation of a Central Referral Process for all referrals for PHN services across the entire state
- Expanded the use of the Omaha System, a standardized nursing language, from individual clients to population focused clients
- Developed a volunteer nurse registry with over 320 participants with our supervisor in the Office of Emergency Preparedness
- Collaborated with the Department of Corrections to train all nursing staff at the state correctional facilities to administer and interpret TB skin tests accurately
- Collaborated with the Maine Farm Bureau and the University of Maine Cooperative Extension to provide educational materials on noise induced hearing loss to adolescents in an annual tractor safety certification course
- Provided an educational program to all PHN staff on perinatal substance abuse including the use of methadone
- Collaborated with the Division of Disease Control to provide education to county correctional facilities on MRSA and methods to control outbreaks
- Developed an interactive self-assessment program for PHN staff on blood borne pathogens and latex safety
- Transitioned to new leadership in director's position

Projects/Issues Pending:

- In preparation of CHAP accreditation project, rollout of self study programs
- Revising Client satisfaction surveys
- On going challenge to fill vacancies in the organization
- Positioning for increased involvement in department and state IT initiatives towards public health surveillance and Maine health information network



Issues and Special Concerns for Public Health Nursing:

- Meeting the needs of our expanding refugee and 2nd migrant population
- Providing the training and drilling in Emergency Preparedness & Response
- Remaining competitive in attracting qualified staff in a climate of mounting workforce shortages and budget restraints resulting in less than competitive wages

*Reports must be sent electronically to Justina Novak (justina.novak@doh.wa.gov) by April 15, 2006 in order to be included in packets. If your form is not received by then, you need to bring 50 copies of your report to the meeting.