

Northeast Tobacco-Free Coalition Meeting

Wednesday, December 9, 2020

Virtual Meeting
10:00 am – 11:30 am

Roll Call: Derek Leshak, Caitlin Cluck, Cesar Bramon, Christina Brasavage, Gabby Hochfeld, Jeanette (Pathway), Jennifer Ochs, Julie Bartol, Lindsey Dietrich, Eileen Panzarella, Kathryn Baglini, Chelsey Hildebrand, Nancy Miles, Savannah Robinson, Tony Delonti, Virginina Matrisciano, Yvonne Kuhbenbeaker, Irussell Burnett.

Welcome & Introductions

American Lung Association Covid-19 Updates- All links to the information below can be found in the attached Covid-19 document, or by visiting the ALA website.

- **Covid-19 Action Initiative:** This action initiative will be used to:
 - Provide free lung health education and masks to those in need
 - Protect Public Health by advocating for COVID and flu vaccines in underserved communities of color
 - Prevent future outbreaks by investing in respiratory virus research
- **Covid-19 Town Hall Series**
 - Next Webinar is Today, December 9th from 3pm-4pm CT- [Register here!](#)
 - Additional save the dates can be found on the website or the attached Covid-19 document
- **Covid-19 Resources**
 - Factsheets, videos, webcasts, podcasts, blogs, and other credible resources are available.
- **Covid-19 and Tobacco Discussion**
 - Looking to partner with Covid-19 test sites to provide tobacco resources and programs at these locations such as pharmacies. Barriers and Successes. What are some ways to provide tobacco resources during Covid-19.
 - Barriers include the potential difficulties providing additional tobacco informing along with an already difficult and new testing experience along with the physical barrier.

- Moving forward we will be working to develop ideas to integrate important tobacco education material and resources at these locations as it relates to Covid-19.
- What LVHN is doing to promote tobacco serives: Consistent with referrals along with reaching out to patients versus the having the interested individual having to reach out themselves. A good suggestion would be to call doctor offices in a service provider's area to provide information to pass along to patients. Some physicians are requiring patients to quit smoking prior to elective surgeries, therefore those specialist surgeons would be great to reach out to to provide tobacco clinic information.
- Dental and eye health specialist are also another great starting point. Provide Please see the attached resource for integrating nicotine dependence treatment with oral health.
- Thoughts on incorporating tobacco resources at Covid-19 test and vaccination sites include providing resources to individuals after receiving vaccination due to the sense of relief of having a vaccination.

Workgroup Updates

- **Directory Update:** Here is the [directory link](#) to update information and to view all resources and services everyone provides.
- **Prevention (Lead: Jennifer Ochs)**
 - No meeting has been held due to lack of responses. Efforts to be made to reengage workgroup members will resume after new year. Please respond after receiving email from lead about your interest.
- **Cessation/Policy (Lead: Valerie Williams)**
 - Meeting held to determine what resources were needed to address MUH cessation and policy. During this discussion it was a start to gather and determine best way to communicate.

Closing Remarks

- ALA was awarded the the DOH contract for all three regions with the upcoming focus being on Disparate populations, Rural Health, LGBTQ, as well as the teen vaping epidemic. Providers will be contacted regarding their budgets and contracts.



- Worksite policy deliverable successes, barriers, and tips.
 - Do everything possible to make it easy enough for a worksite to respond by including a draft of the policy.
 - Focus on those relationships where known businesses exist.
 - Asking for current policies at a worksite is a great start considering making only one update to their policy is considered a success.
 - Establishing a resource list to make available to all providers may be useful. A list will help networking among providers as well as alleviating the burden of finding contact information to worksites.
 - Reaching out to as many contacts as possible per worksite can help better chances to find the right person of interest.

- Please check out our new regional coalition [here](#) where we continue to work on adding ALA resources.

- Please reach out to Julie Bartol at Julie.Bartol@lung.org to be featured in the monthly regional coalition newsletter

- A survey link for the meeting will be forthcoming.