

**CSTE Executive Board Meeting - January 2017****Cross Cutting I Steering Committee Update**

Steering Committee Chair: Richard Danila, PhD, MPH

CSTE Lead Staff: Megan Toe, MSW, Meri Phillips, MPH

Substance Abuse Subcommittees: Alcohol Subcommittee-Laura Tomedi (NM):

- An assessment of how alcohol consumption information is collected in Emergency Departments, through a partnership with the American College of Emergency Physicians and the Emergency Nurses Association, is ongoing.
- The subcommittee recently started a new project, a state specific analysis of National Violent Death Reporting System (NVDRS) data to identify the variability in state blood alcohol content testing rates and the reason for the difference.

 AOD Subcommittee-Tom Largo (MI):

- The Alcohol and Other Drug Indicators Subcommittee is updating the drug poisoning indicators for recent projects using ICD-10-CM.

 Overdose Subcommittee-Svetla Slavova (KY) & Barbara Gabella (CO):

- The subcommittee conducted an analysis of state data for fentanyl overdose deaths from 2012 – 2015 to collect information on post-mortem toxicology testing for synthetic opioids and fentanyl and promote common definitions, methods, and peer-mentoring. An article for journal submission is forthcoming.

 Substance Abuse Epidemiology Capacity Subcommittee-Michael Landen (NM):

- Michigan, Minnesota, North Carolina, and New Mexico are piloting the CSTE Recommended Indicators for Substance Abuse and Mental Health (released June 2016). The pilots complete by March and each state will produce the data collected and a report on recommendations for other jurisdictions working with the indicators. A How-to Guide will be developed using the updates and recommendations from the pilots.
- The Mental Health Workgroup established in September 2016 is conducting an analysis of hospital discharge data with co-occurring substance abuse and mental health diagnoses.
- CSTE staff participated in the Center for Disease Control's Mental Health Partners Convening on December 15, 2016 to share activities and priorities for mental health and identify opportunities and priorities for collaboration.

 Marijuana-Kathryn DeYoung (CO) and Julia Dilley (OR):

- Subcommittee has created an "Environmental Scan" of state marijuana epidemiology to capture what data sources and methods are being used. Following the Environmental Scan, a narrative case studies document will be developed to identify trends across states and jurisdictions where recreational marijuana is legalized.

 PMP-Ellen Tuazon (NYC) and Jim Davis (NM):

- The PMP Subcommittee continues the PMP Indicator Development Project, with three levels of indicators using 2014 state data.

Other SAMHSA Supported Activities:

- Behavioral Health Surveillance Mobile App Development and Testing
 - Castleton University established a multidisciplinary project team that was awarded the contract to create a mobile application for behavioral health surveillance using university students for focus groups and pilot testing. The Phase I contract completes in March 2017 with an expected new RFP the next phase to release in Spring 2017.
- Small Grants for State, Tribal, Local and Territorial Agencies to pilot novel surveillance projects for emerging behavioral health issues
 - 5 projects awarded in Spring/Summer 2016 and work is ongoing; 5 additional projects were awarded in November/December 2016.

Public Health Emergency Preparedness Subcommittee – Richard Danila (MN), Meri Phillips

- Through a subcommittee priorities survey, new topics for quarterly subcommittee calls and webinars were identified. The next quarterly subcommittee call will occur on February 1 at 1:00 pm (ET) and will feature a discussion on best practices and challenges meeting CDC PHEP Cooperative Agreement capabilities.
- The preparedness meeting of non-profits is tentatively scheduled for March 22-23, 2017 in Atlanta. The meeting will focus on the role of non-profits in a public health emergency response and will lead to the development of a flexible Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP) for CSTE. The meeting will include representatives from CSTE, ASTHO, NACCHO, APHL and CDC/OPHP&R.

2016-2017 Zika Virus Response

- Since February 2016, CSTE has been integrated into the State Coordination Task Force (SCTF) at the CDC EOC for the Zika Virus response. National Office staff participate on weekly SCTF calls and continue to facilitate bi-directional communications.
- Since February 2016, the CDC/CSTE Zika Virus Working Group, comprised of vectorborne and maternal and child health subject matter experts, continue to meet weekly to discuss emerging issues related to the response and provide feedback on new or revised guidance and/or policy documents.
- In January 2017, CSTE hosted a conference call with CDC and AATB to discuss enhancing communications between tissue banks and state health departments. A joint letter encouraging bidirectional communications is being drafted and will be shared with tissue banks and state epidemiologists once finalized.
- In winter 2017, CSTE will hire a consultant to assist with development of new tools and resources for Zika, specifically a Zika training toolkit featuring 'notes from the field' and case studies from STLT agencies.
- In spring 2017, CSTE will deploy a national assessment to identify gaps in human and vector surveillance capacity, as a follow-up to the 2012-13 vectorborne disease epi capacity assessment.
- CSTE has completed six Zika deployments to Puerto Rico with additional support statewide and plans to provide additional consultations before June 30, 2017.

**CSTE Cross Cutting II Steering Committee Update**

CSTE Executive Board Meeting, January 2017

Steering Committee Chair: Marci Layton, MD

CSTE Lead Staff: Jessica Arrazola, MPH, CHES; Brooke Beaulieu, MPH; Valerie Goodson; Amy Patel, MPH; Meri Phillips, MPH; Nikka Sorrells, MPH, Jessica Wurster, MPH

**Health Disparities – Duc Vugia (CA) & James Hadler (CT), Nikka Sorrells**

- The Health Disparities Subcommittee continues to meet every other month to feature presentations of interest to membership.
- The Guide for Sub County Assessment of Life Expectancy (SCALE) was distributed in October 2015 and the workgroup is incorporating feedback received from the Phase II state and local health departments that piloted it. Additionally, a CSTE website was recently launched featuring the SCALE guide, links to resources and past SCALE presentations.
 - CSTE hosted a meeting October 20-21, 2016 in conjunction with the Environmental Public Health Tracking grantee meeting to identify best practices for visualization of local life expectancy estimates and messaging demonstrated effective for raising awareness, catalyzing multi-sector actions, and improving public health practice.
 - A manuscript has been submitted to describe the need, potential value and future public health applications that can result from examination of life expectancy.

**Public Health Law – Mary Kennedy (TN) & Marci Layton (NY), Meri Phillips**

- Marci Layton has accepted the position of co-chair and will co-lead the subcommittee with Mary Kennedy.
- Through a subcommittee priorities survey, new topics for quarterly subcommittee calls and webinars were identified. The next quarterly subcommittee call will occur in February and will feature a discussion on sharing data with external partners (e.g. data use agreements).

**Border / International Health – Ken Komatsu (AZ), Meri Phillips**

- Through a subcommittee priorities survey, new topics for quarterly subcommittee calls and webinars were identified. The next quarterly subcommittee call will occur on February 6 at 3:00 pm (ET) and will feature a discussion on migrant farmworkers and the potential to spread infectious diseases.
- The Binational Toolkit is near completion and will be posted to the CSTE website upon finalization.

**Tribal Epidemiology – Michael Landen (NM), Nikka Sorrells**

- Developing a Tribal Epidemiology Suicide workgroup in conjunction with the CSTE Injury Subcommittee and the CSTE Mental Health Workgroup. The workgroup will be using the CSTE Behavioral Health Indicators and looking at data access issues related to suicide. The first workgroup call will be on January 24, where the project scope will be further defined.
- Currently accepting Tribal co-chair nominations; the next subcommittee call will be on April 11th.
- The manuscript on the TEC-state data sharing assessments submitted to the Journal of Health Disparities Research Practice was not accepted. However, the subcommittee is looking into submitting to another journal.

**Epidemiology Methods – Talia Brown (CO) and Diana Cervantes (TX), Brooke Beaulieu & Jessica Arrazola**

- The Epi Methods Subcommittee convened its most recent call on November 21, 2016, featuring a presentation on vector control initiatives and programs. Subcommittee calls are anticipated to be held on a bimonthly basis once regularity is established in the coming year.
- The 2016-2017 Strategic Plan was finalized and presented to subcommittee members.
- A toolkit of resources for scientific writing has been [posted online](#). The webinar introducing the toolkit had 551 registered to attend and 322 actually attended.

**Workforce (Jessica Arrazola, Valerie Goodson)**

- **AEF**
 - Class XV fellow application closed on January 13, 2017
 - Class XIV – 22 fellows in the field
 - Class XIII – 35 fellows working toward graduation
- **SHINE** - no current plans to recruit fellows to start Summer 2017 due to funding
- **APHIF**
 - Class V – 7 fellows in the field
 - Class IV – 3 fellows participating in population health extension year through July 2017
- **HSIP**
 - Class III – 7 fellows in the field
 - Class II - 3 fellows participating in population health extension year through July 2017
- **I-TIPP**
 - Class IV – 21 fellows in the field; 9 specialize on Antimicrobial Resistance work
- **Epi Info 7.0 Train the Trainer**
 - Epi Info Train the Trainer March 27-31, 2017 in Atlanta
- **Workforce Subcommittee – Bob Harrison (CA) and Beth Daly (NH)**
 - Identified new leads for the Early Career Professionals Workgroup: Erica Smith (Former AEF, current PhD student at Drexel) and Laura Blum (CA).
 - Piloting mentorship program: 11 mentors and 15 mentees
 - MMWR Training Series to increase the quality of submissions by STLT: 3 webinars (March-May) followed by a 2 day in person training (May); anticipating 20 participants
- **2017 ECA**
 - Conducted focus groups with key CSTE staff and members for ECA requirements, October 2017
 - Planning to field core assessment only; individual assessment is not planned at this time – hoping to add to the 2017 PH WINS assessment
 - Pilot is scheduled for Feb 6-24. Full launch of assessment is planned for late April/early May
 - Identified new leads for the Early Career Professionals Workgroup: Erica Smith (Former AEF, current PhD student at Drexel) and Laura Blum (CA)
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