

March 2022 Community of Practice Summaries

To receive invitations to register for future community of practice meetings and other ways to participate in the State Health Improvement Plan, please sign up for the A Healthier Montana mailing list at dphhs.mt.gov/ahealthiermontana.

Communities of Practice are open to anyone. They are opportunities to become more aware of work going on around the state on our shared priorities and connect with other individuals and organizations interested in the topic. You must register in advance to attend.

Overall

All communities of practice received an update on implementing the State Health Improvement Plan (SHIP).

- The SHIP highlights shared statewide priorities for improving the health of Montanans.
- It includes objectives for monitoring improvement over time and proposed prevention and health promotion, clinical, policy, and health equity strategies for driving improvement.
- [Visit the A Healthier Montana website](#) for recording 30-minute webinars shared during 2021, SHIP orientation materials, annual reports, and other resources.

Additionally, the Public Health and Safety Division is writing the next State Health Assessment (SHA) this year. The SHA will provide a comprehensive review of the current health of Montanans with an emphasis on how the places people live, learn, work, and play have an impact on their health. This will allow the next State Health Improvement Plan to continue the conversation on how to ensure all Montanans have equal opportunities to make healthy choices for themselves and their families.

Chronic Disease Prevention and Self-Management

March 1 (occurs on the first Tuesday of every 3 months at 9 AM)

- June 7, 2022
- September 6, 2022
- December 6, 2022

The focus of this call was on the Diabetes Prevention Program and the new distance learning/telehealth tool providing Montana-specific programming through an app called HabitNu. Montanans can participate in an online cohort starting from any Diabetes Prevention Program site in the state. Contact the [Montana Diabetes Program](#) for more information.

Other telehealth approaches being seen in Montana included:

- BlueStar, an app-based supplement for Diabetes Self-Management Education,
- Cardiac rehabilitation app that supports in-home approaches,
- Pharmacy apps for medication adherence,
- Larger, more effective patient monitoring systems that can track progression after hospitalization, such as improvements after hip surgeries,
- The UM School of Pharmacy received a grant for remote pharmacy screening events.

Updated May 11, 2022

HHSHealthierMontana@mt.gov

<https://dphhs.mt.gov/ahealthiermontana/>

Telehealth was identified as a top area of concern in the SHIP COVID Addendum process. Attendees see the identification of telehealth as justification to continue to work on enhancing remote access to services, train staff and contractors in telehealth tools, and build trainings regarding remote tools in as a priority in their work to improve access for their clients (such as [this toolkit from the Montana Diabetes Program](#).)

Behavioral Health

March 2 (occurs on the first Wednesday of every 3 months at 9 AM)

- June 1, 2022
- September 7, 2022
- December 7, 2022

The focus of this call was on updates from the Behavioral Health and Development Disabilities Division (BHDDD), which is the new Montana Dept of Public Health and Human Services Division built from the previous Addictive and Mental Disorders Division (AMDD) and Development Disabilities Division, which merged August-September 2021.

Courtney Geary (Program Evaluator, Courtney.Geary2@mt.gov) gave a presentation on Prevention Evaluation, the [State Epidemiological Outcomes Workgroup \(SEOW\)](#), and Marijuana Terminology. This work is funded out of the Montana Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant.

Ki-Ai McBride (Opioid Prevention Program Manager, ki-ai.mcbride@mt.gov) provided an overview of Naloxone, Recovery Residences, and Behavioral Health in Detention Facilities.

- Naloxone, the medication that can reverse an overdose from opiates, can be accessed via a [standing order in Montana](#).
 - Montanans can go to organizations with bulk Naloxone on hand to access the medication for themselves or a loved one.
- By the end of September, Montana hopes to have 10 homes certified as recovery residences that meet national standards for evidence-based services and best practices. 6 have already been identified.
- As part of the HEART Initiative, eligible county and federally recognized tribal governments will be able to apply for funding to implement behavioral health services in local detention facilities, including assessments, therapy, peer support, care coordination, medication services, and medication for opioid use disorder.

Healthy Mothers, Babies, and Youth

March 8 (occurs on the second Tuesday of every 3 months at 9 AM)

- June 14, 2022
- September 13, 2022
- December 13, 2022

The focus of this call was on the 2022 WIC Needs Assessment from Kate Girard (WIC Director, kgirard@mt.gov) and an overview of the MOMS Program from Amanda Eby (MOMS Program Specialist, Amanda.Eby@mt.gov).

- [2021 Montana WIC Needs Assessment](#)

- MOMS Program
 - Health Resources & Services Administration (HRSA) Maternal Health Innovation (MHI) Grant: \$10 million over 5 years, September 2019 – September 2024
 - Addresses maternal morbidity and mortality
 - Administered under the Title V Maternal & Child Health Block Grant Project Director in the Family and Community Health Bureau (FCHB), within the Early Childhood & Family Support Division (ECFSD) at DPHHS
 - Two subgrantees
 - **Billings Clinic** to implement the demonstration project including training and provider support innovations
 - **University of Montana Rural Institute** to provide research, data collection/analysis support and evaluation

Additionally, the working group on [Adverse Childhood Experiences \(ACEs\) and Resiliency shared the new online resource](#) to provide a landing page for Montana-based tools and programs to prevent ACEs and promote resiliency.

Motor Vehicle Crashes

March 9 (occurs on the second Wednesday of every 3 months at 9 AM)

- June 8, 2022
- September 14, 2022
- December 14, 2022

The focus of this call was on the continued work to link data between EMS and trauma data systems and the new Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) program in Montana.

- [Excellence in Prehospital Injury Care \(EPIC\) for Traumatic Brain Injury \(TBI\)](#) to reduce mortality for patients with traumatic brain injuries through emphasizing maintenance of oxygen saturation and blood pressures and monitoring ventilation to prevent hyperventilation through a train-the-trainers model.
- New annual reporting structure being established for EMS and Trauma system data:
 - [2021 Montana Trauma Registry Annual Report](#)
 - View more data products on EMS and Trauma here:
<https://dphhs.mt.gov/publichealth/EMSTS/data>
 - Community Integrated Health (CIH), emergency cardiovascular care (stroke and cardiac), falls prevention, motor vehicle and seatbelt safety, opioids, poison control, and firearm safety are examples of the topics available.