Hello Everyone,

In this turbulent time in healthcare and politics, it is difficult to be clear about where we are going and how this all fits together. Uncertainty is natural given the diversity of initiatives and priorities at the national, state and local level in both the public and private sectors.

The profession of public health is changing as well as many of the institutions that are highly impactful on the field. Given that the future is hard to predict and change takes time, it is helpful to look at current policy documents for the field at the national, state and local level.

Two particularly succinct and instructive resources at the federal and state level are: Public Health 3.0 from the Secretary of Health in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and a recent presentation by Paul Francis, New York State’s Deputy Secretary for Health and Human Services on the 3 Buckets of Prevention - Traditional Clinical Prevention, Innovative Clinical Prevention and Community-Wide Prevention. See below a summary and link to our regional PHIP strategic plan for the coming year which is very focused on consumer research, engagement and support resources.

To help us track how we are doing as a region on our prevention efforts, we have developed a new PHIP dashboard for our website. It provides a population health snapshot for the region to monitor our collective efficacy on prevention strategies. See the article below for more.

Our quarterly disparity report on opioid abuse is also summarized below with a link to the full report. Get all the latest data on this important public health topic through the report and on our website which features data and resources on this issue in the coming quarter.

As always, we are very interested in what you think and would like from us. Please write us at PHIP@hcdiny.org to recommend any topics you would like to hear more about in future newsletters.

Happy Holidays,

Kevin Jobin-Davis
Executive Director, HCDI
THE LATEST IN NEW YORK STATE HEALTH INITIATIVES

Population Health Improvement Program (PHIP)

On November 10, 2016, HCDI hosted the Population Health Improvement Program Advisory Committee (PHIPAC) meeting and presented the PHIP strategic plan. The plan highlighted the 2017 goals and strategies to support care coordination activities, increase consumer engagement in care, and support prevention activities with data, evidence-based practices, and broad engagement. Visit the HCDI website and social media networks to keep abreast of the latest updates and resources.

The PHIPAC is a broad-based coalition which provides recommendations on PHIP activities, raises consumer health needs, and identifies data needs, access to care issues and prevention opportunities. Send an e-mail to PHIP@hcdiny.org to be included on the mailing list. Join the next PHIPAC meeting on Tuesday, January 10, 2017, 9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

Use your social media platform to engage populations and stakeholders! Craig Hall of Marketing Wiz will conduct the Social Media Training after the PHIPAC meeting on January 10, 2017, 10:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. For further information, contact Craig Hall at chall@marketingwiz.co

Healthy Capital District Initiative, the Capital District Region PHIP, will work collaboratively with the Mohawk Valley PHIP, the North Country PHIP, and the Regional Planning Consortium (RPC) to establish a Regional Oversight and Management Committee (ROMC) to support the State Health Innovation Plan (SHIP) in the implementation of the Advanced Primary Care (APC) model. Click here to learn more on the Regional Planning Consortium or contact Alexis Harrington, RPC coordinator (ah@clmhd.org)

Delivery System Reform Incentive Payment (DSRIP) Program

The Independent Assessor (IA) for New York’s Delivery System Reform Incentive Payment (DSRIP) Program has completed its Mid-Point Assessment of all twenty-five Performing Provider Systems (PPS). The New York State Department of Health is
pleased with the findings of the review, as all twenty-five PPS demonstrated that they are on a track toward success and effective project implementation. There were no findings for any PPS that would warrant any major restructuring intervention, which is a testament to the hard work and dedication of those who are fundamentally changing the healthcare delivery system in New York State.

Performing Provider Systems (PPS) and the public are invited to submit comments in response to the IA’s initial recommendations through December 21, 2016. All comments should be submitted to dsrip_midpoint@pcgus.com. Click here to access all Mid-Point Assessment reports and recommendations on the DSRIP website.

Congratulations to the Capital Region (Albany, Columbia, Greene, Saratoga, and Schenectady Counties) for being awarded funding from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to implement Comprehensive Primary Care Plus (CPC+). The goal of CPC+ is to improve the quality of care patients receive, improve patients’ health, and spend health care dollars more wisely. Practices in both tracks, will make changes in the way they deliver care, centered on the following key Comprehensive Primary Care Functions: (1) Access and Continuity; (2) Care Management; (3) Comprehensiveness and Coordination; (4) Patient and Caregiver Engagement; and (5) Planned Care and Population Health. To learn more about this opportunity click here.

State Health Innovation Plan (SHIP) and State Innovation Model (SIM)

The New York State Practice Transformation Network (NYSPTN) is a statewide learning network designed to coach, mentor, and assist clinicians in developing core competencies necessary to transform their practices and thrive in an emerging healthcare environment that emphasizes value of care. The NYSPTN embraces and supports the "quadruple aim" of better care, better health, lower costs, and greater provider satisfaction. Click here to learn more.

Practice Transformation Tracking System (PTTS) is a web-based search engine that will support and coordinate practice transformation efforts in the state. The tool seeks to reduce the likelihood of duplication funding for technical assistance across transformation programs and assist in the targeting of technical assistance. Click here to learn more.

Employers and Health Plans continue to collaborate with one another to ensure health care needs of the population are met within New York. Northeast Business Group on Health (NEBGH) has brought both employers and health plans together to
effectively evaluate and manage their plans, and respond to customers’ questions and concerns in a collaborative environment. Click [here](#) to learn more.
Summary

In recent years, addiction to opioids has emerged as a public health crisis across the United States. The Capital Region has been no exception. The Capital Region age-adjusted opioid overdose mortality, hospitalization, and ED visit rates have been increasing over the last decade, with ED visit rates showing the greatest increase.

What are some key findings of the report?

An increase in heroin overdoses is driving the increase in the number of opioid-related hospitalizations and ED visits in the Capital Region.

Columbia and Greene counties were the most affected by opioid-related mortality, hospitalizations, and ED visits between 2013 and 2015.

In the Capital Region, males between ages 25-34 had the highest age-adjusted opioid overdose mortality, hospitalization, and ED rates than any other demographic.

What else is contained in this report?

This report reviews opioid overdose indicators by health equity in the Capital Region. The report takes a broad definition of equity that includes:

- race/ethnicity;
- gender;
- age; and
- socioeconomic status.

HEALTH DISPARITY

A Look at the Opioid Epidemic in the Capital Region

Click here to learn more.

In 2014, opioids claimed 30 Capital Region residents’ lives

In 2015, that number increased by 60%

The First-ever Surgeon General’s Report on Alcohol, Drugs and Health is now available. Click here to view key information and findings.
QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER TOPIC
NEW! County Population Health Snapshot

This curated dashboard contains 19 indicators related to prevention and population health needs in each county and across the Capital Region. Select your county for a snapshot of these indicators compared to the New York State, exclusive of NYC, values (green represents the “best” 50th percentile, yellow represents the 50th-25th quartile, and red represents the “worst” quartile). A comparison to the Capital Region value (better or worse) and, where applicable, a target showing if the indicator meets the 2017-2018 Prevention Agenda objective.

Earlier in the year, the six counties chose to focus on obesity/diabetes, substance abuse, and mental health for their 2017-18 CHIP Priority Areas. This dashboard will provide a snapshot of those issues, including select composite Prevention Quality Indicators, poor mental health days, child and adult obesity, and more.
PHIP Resources You Can Use to Make Your Life Easier

New Website Resources

We are constantly working to add web-based resources tailored to Capital Region needs. In addition to the new Population Health Dashboard, here are some other resources you can utilize.

**Regional Public Health Initiative Resource Directory**
HCDI has developed a Public Health Initiative Resource Directory that includes chronic disease self-management support programs throughout the Capital Region. Click on the link above to search for programs by focus, location and more.

As we enhance this directory to include more initiatives, we would like your public health program to be included. The public health system in New York’s Capital Region is currently undergoing a period of rapid and unprecedented growth. DSRIP, the State Health Innovation Plan (SHIP), payment reform, Health Homes and more are causing local health departments and hospitals to change the way they view and address population health issues. These initiatives and the prevalence of new funding opportunities greatly expand the need for collaboration across all sectors of public health.

**Public Health Indicator Matrix Updated with Latest NYSDOH Data**
The Public Health Indicator Matrix has been updated. The Public Health Indicator Matrix presents a list of over 150 commonly used public health indicators for New York State, excluding NYC, the Capital Region, and each of the six Capital Region counties. The indicators are listed by the Prevention Agenda Priority Areas. The Public Health Indicator Matrix contains rates (age-adjusted or age specific), the size of the population at risk, and identifies if the counties fall into the highest 3rd or 4th risk quartile for all NYS counties.

**Healthy Capital District Initiative Employment**
Healthy Capital District Initiative (HCDI) is a fast growing public health non-profit organization that focuses on improving the health outcomes of communities in the Capital Region of New York State. We are currently seeking dynamic individuals to fill the following vacancies:
An **Accountant** is needed to provide accounting and grant reporting services for our health insurance enrollment programs. Click [here](#) to learn more.

**Health Insurance Navigators** are wanted to assist residents of the Capital Region enroll in health insurance programs available through the Affordable Care Act. Click [here](#) to learn more.

## UPCOMING EVENTS AND RESOURCES

**Albany County Strategic Alliance for Health Meeting**  
*January 19, 2017, 8:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.*  
Albany County Department of Health  
Basement Auditorium, 175 Green Street, Albany NY  
Contact Keshana Owens-Cody at kowens-cody@hcdiny.org for more information

**Rensselaer County Health and Wellness Committee Meeting**  
*January 9, 2017, 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.*  
1600 7th Avenue, Troy, NY  
Contact Keshana Owens-Cody at kowens-cody@hcdiny.org for more information

**Columbia-Greene Chronic Disease Coalition Meeting**  
*January 11, 2017, 1:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.*  
325 Columbia Street, Hudson, NY  
Contact Caroline Troue at ctroue@hcdiny.org for more information.

**Columbia County Public Health Leadership Team Meeting**  
*January 11, 2017, 2:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.*  
325 Columbia Street, Hudson, NY  
Contact Caroline Troue at ctroue@hcdiny.org for more information.

**Greene County Community Services Board Meeting**  
*January 17, 2017, 4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.*  
905 Greene County Office Building, Cairo, NY  
Contact Caroline Troue at ctroue@hcdiny.org for more information.

**Columbia County Community Services Board Meeting**  
*January 25, 2017, 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.*  
325 Columbia Street, Hudson, NY  
Contact Caroline Troue at ctroue@hcdiny.org for more information.

**Schenectady Coalition for a Healthy Community Quarterly Meeting**  
*January 19, 2017, 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.*  
Ellis McClellan Street Health Center Auditorium, Schenectady, NY
Schenectady Coalition for a Healthy Community Diabetes/Obesity Work Group Meeting  
*January 10, 2017, 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.*  
Bonavita Room at Ellis McClellan Campus, Schenectady, NY

Mental Health Substance Use Disorders Stakeholders Meeting  
*January 5, 2017, 8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.*  
Saratoga Hospital, 59D Myrtle Street, 2nd floor, Saratoga, NY

Prediabetes Coalition Meeting  
*December 27, 2016, 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.*  
Saratoga Hospital, 59D Myrtle Street, 2nd floor, Saratoga, NY

Capital Region Public Health Photovoice Project  
Local individuals and organizations in the Capital Region who work to improve health and well-being are invited to participate by submitting a photograph illustrating their public health efforts to improve social and/or environmental influences on healthy living in the Capital Region. The deadline for submissions is February 1, 2017. Click [here](#) to learn more and submit your entry or contact Dr. Janine Jurkowski, Associate Dean for Public Health Practice [jjurkowski@albany.edu](mailto:jjurkowski@albany.edu) for more information.

The United States Attorney’s Office for Northern District of New York, in conjunction with NOPIATES, Rensselaer County Heroin Coalition, Troy Drug Free Community Coalition, RADAR – Rensselaer Area Drug Awareness Reality Coalition, and the New York National Guard Counterdrug Task Force, invite you to continue learning about opiate addiction. Please attend the next event:

*Screening of “Chasing the Dragon: The Life of an Opiate Addict”*

*Followed by Eric Dyer sharing his story and path to recovery*  
*Wednesday, January 18, 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.*  
Bulmer Telecommunications Center  
Hudson Valley Community College, 80 Vandenburgh Ave, Troy, NY

Professional Development Opportunities

National Association for Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Counselors  
Apply Today for the NAADAC Minority Fellowship Program for Master’s Students - Stipends Up to $18,000 Available for This Academic Year! Click [here](#) to learn more.
St. Peter’s Hospital Asthma Educator Program
A two-day preparatory course for the National Certification Exam for Asthma Educators (AE-C) will accept participant registration in April 2017. The Asthma Coalition of the Capital Region (ACCR) promotes quality asthma education by providing financial assistance to Asthma Educator Certification (AE-C) candidates. To learn more, contact Katrese Minor, Coalition Coordinator kminor@hcdiny.org (518) 486-8411

Community Health Workers and Chronic Conditions Training Program
Online program, consisting of five training modules and resources, intended for community health workers and other individuals who assist clients in the prevention, management and self-management of chronic conditions such as high blood pressure, prehypertension, hypertension, prediabetes, diabetes and asthma. Click here to learn more

Grants
NYS Health Foundation 2017 Special Projects Fund. Funding requests range from $50,000 to $400,000. Click here to learn more.

NYS Health Foundation Sponsoring Conference Participation in Support of Healthy Communities. Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis until June 30, 2017. Click here to learn more.

OASAS Community Coalitions Funding – RFP extended to December 15, 2016. Click here to learn more.

Merck Foundation announces funds to improve access to high-quality diabetes care and reduce health disparities for vulnerable and underserved populations. Letters of Intent are required and due on January 2, 2017. Click here to learn more.

*Re-Release* Heath Research Incorporated (HRI):
Request for Applications (RFA), #QPS 2016-02, “Practice Transformation Technical Assistance Services.” The RFA seeks applications from responsive and qualified contractors for services related to Practice Transformation (PT) Technical Assistance (TA). The Contractor will function as part of a larger team that is inclusive of primary care practices, payers, Health Research, Inc. (HRI)/New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) and an Independent Validation Agent (IVA). The Contractor will assist primary care practices and their providers to develop systems and processes necessary to meet the goals of the “Triple Aim”, which are to 1) improve patients’ experience of care (including quality and satisfaction); 2) improve the health of populations; and 3) reduce the per capita cost of care.

Applications are due by January 18, 2017 by 4:00 p.m. Click here to learn more.