



Serving the Towns of Alford, Great Barrington, Lee, Lenox,
Monterey, Mount Washington,
New Marlborough, Otis, Sheffield and Stockbridge

Mission: "To leverage partnerships, provide quality public health services and directly improve the health and well-being of the entire community."

SBPHC QUARTERLY REPORT: APRIL-JUNE 2022

This quarterly report includes the following for each town:

- MAVEN Events: table by town
- COVID-19 Mitigation Projects: List, plus #s served in each town
- Blood Pressure/Wellness Clinics: List by town, plus #s served
- Disease/Injury Prevention Projects: #s served
- Upcoming Projects
- South County Opioid Working Group Updates
- Community Engagement
- SBPHC Policy Updates

MAVEN EVENTS

MAVEN (Massachusetts Virtual Epidemiological Network) are monitored for emerging trends. Diseases requiring immediate follow up and those related to high risk for severe COVID-19 disease or congregate setting spread are contacted by the public health nurses per Massachusetts General Law.

TOWN	DISEASE	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	Q4 DISEASE TOTAL	Q4 EVENT TOTAL
ALFORD	HUMAN GRANULOCYTIC ANAPLASMOSIS			1	1	
	LYME	1		1	2	
	SARS-COV-2	7	12	2	21	
	MONTHLY EVENT TOTAL	8	12	4		24
GREAT BARRINGTON	CALCIVIRUS/NOROVIRUS	3		1	4	
	CAMPYLOBACTERIOSIS	1	1		2	
	GIARDIASIS	1			1	
	HEPATITIS C	2	3		5	
	HUMAN GRANULOCYTIC ANAPLASMOSIS		4	1	5	
	INFLUENZA	6	3	1	10	
	LYME	14	11	10	35	
	SARS-COV-2	79	282	87	448	
	SHIGELLA PRODUCING TOXIN	1			1	
	YERSINIOSIS		1		1	
	MONTHLY EVENT TOTAL	107	305	100		512

TOWN	DISEASE	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	Q4 DISEASE TOTAL	Q4 EVENT TOTAL
LEE	CALCIVIRUS/NOROVIRUS	1	1		2	
	CRYPTOSPORIOSIS			1	1	
	GROUP A STREPTOCOCCUS	1	2		3	
	HEPATITIS C		1		1	
	HUMAN GRANULOCYTIC ANAPLASMOSIS			1	1	
	INFLUENZA	13	2		15	
	LYME	5	6	8	19	
	SALMONELLA	1			1	
	SARS-COV-2	82	135	54	271	
	MONTHLY EVENT TOTAL	103	147	64		314
LENOX	CAMPYLOBACTERIOSIS		1		1	
	HUMAN GRANULOCYTIC ANAPLASMOSIS			2	2	
	INFLUENZA	14	2		16	
	LEGIONNAIRES		1		1	
	LYME	3	3	2	8	
	SARS-COV-2	94	137	50	281	
	MONTHLY EVENT TOTAL	111	144	54		309
MONTEREY	HUMAN GRANULOCYTIC ANAPLASMOSIS	1			1	
	LYME	1	1	4	6	
	SARS-COV-2	15	19	8	42	
	MONTHLY EVENT TOTAL	17	20	12		49
MOUNT WASHINGTON	HUMAN GRANULOCYTIC ANAPLASMOSIS		1	1	2	
	LYME	1	1	1	3	
	SARS-COV-2			1	1	
	MONTHLY EVENT TOTAL	35	42	27		104
NEW MARLBOROUGH	HUMAN GRANULOCYTIC ANAPLASMOSIS			1	1	
	INFLUENZA			1	1	
	LYME			3	3	
	SARS-COV-2	2		6	8	
	MONTHLY EVENT TOTAL	2	0	11		13
OTIS	INFLUENZA		1		1	
	LYME	1	1	1	3	
	SARS-COV-2	9	25	8	42	
	MONTHLY EVENT TOTAL	10	27	9		46

TOWN	DISEASE	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	Q4 DISEASE TOTAL	Q4 EVENT TOTAL
SHEFFIELD	HEPATITIS C		1		1	
	HUMAN GRANULOCYTIC ANAPLASMOSIS			1	1	
	INFLUENZA	1			1	
	LYME	2		5	7	
	SARS-COV-2	17	34	21	72	
	SALMONELLA			1	1	
	MONTHLY EVENT TOTAL	20	35	28		83
STOCKBRIDGE	CAMPYLOBACTERIOSIS		1		1	
	HUMAN GRANULOCYTIC ANAPLASMOSIS			1	1	
	HEPATITIS C	4			4	
	INFLUENZA		1		1	
	LYME	6	4	4	14	
	SARS-COV-2	29	82	14	125	
	MONTHLY EVENT TOTAL	39	88	19		146

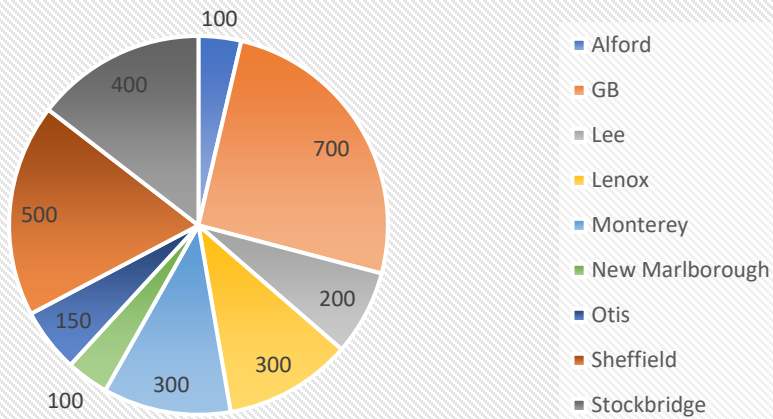
COVID-19 MITIGATION ACTIVITIES

COMMUNITY MASK & AT-HOME TEST KIT DISTRIBUTION

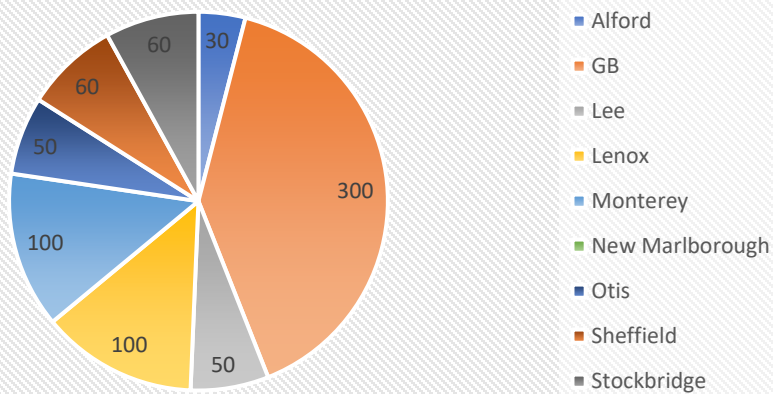
In collaboration with the New England Rural Health Association for Rural Vaccine Equity and the Rural Health Network of Fairview Hospital, the public health nurses continued to distribute KN95 masks and pamphlets to locations that serve populations at increased risk for severe COVID-19 illness and/or those who may face barriers to the purchase of high efficiency face masks. Additional masks from the Massachusetts Emergency Management Association were secured and continue to be distributed by the PHNs to the sites below on an as-needed basis.

COMMUNITY	LOCATION
Alford	Council on Aging (Town Hall)
Great Barrington	People's Pantry, Ramsdell Library, Mason Library, Senior Center, Recovery Center
Lee	Senior Center, Library
Lenox	Library, Community Center
Monterey	Library, Community Center
New Marlborough	Library
Otis	Library
Sheffield	Sheffield Food Pantry, Library, Senior Center
Stockbridge	Stockbridge Library, Heaton Ct

Number of High Efficiency Masks Distributed



Number of Test Kits Distributed



SBPHC PHN COMMUNITY BLOOD PRESSURE/WELLNESS CLINICS

The SBPHC PHN provide blood pressure clinics around the region each month. Heaton Court in Stockbridge was added this quarter. Hyde Place in Lee was paused due to lack of attendance.

SITE	SCHEDULE	APR-JUN 2022 # CLINICS - # ATTENDED
Heaton Court, Stockbridge	1 st Tuesdays	1 clinic – 5 attendees
Lenox Community Center	2 nd Wednesdays	3 clinics – 9 attendees
Monterey Community Center	2 nd Thursdays	3 clinics – 3 attendees
Sheffield Senior Center	2 nd Thursdays	3 clinics – 12 attendees
Great Barrington Senior Center	3 rd Thursdays	2 clinics – 6 attendees
Lee Senior Center	Last Tuesdays	3 clinics – 21 attendees

COVID-19 DATA DASHBOARD AND UPDATES

This summary of local COVID-19 numbers and transmission trends, along with prevention guidance and updates about vaccine and testing availability, has continued to be provided on a weekly basis. The dashboard and update are distributed to a wide audience that includes local leaders, businesses, school administrators, press, etc. They are also posted on the Tri-Town Health Dept. website and on the SBPHC Facebook page. The content is featured in its entirety each week in the Berkshire Edge and is regularly quoted in Berkshire Eagle articles. It is often shared in community newsletters or listservs (Alford, Sheffield, Monterey) as well.

DISEASE/INJURY PREVENTION PROJECTS

- **Establishment of a Vaccine Administration Site:** SBPHC has completed the process of becoming registered as a vaccine administration site, able to receive state-supplied flu vaccine for eligible children, and able to be reimbursed by both private and public insurers.
- **Homebound Vaccines:** SBPHC PHNs are still in the process of identifying homebound residents for a homebound vaccine program, which will start with flu vaccine in Fall 2022. We are planning outreach to local primary care practices later this summer and will advertise in the Shopper's Guide, local community newsletters, etc.
- **Rapid COVID-19 Testing by Appointment:** Individuals who need a rapid antigen test can still get one by appointment in Lee, Sheffield or Great Barrington by reaching out to jill@tritownhealth.org or (413)717-7209. This program has been offered since April. So far there have been 2 participants, both from Sheffield, in May.
- **Car Seat Clinics:** Car seat installation and safety checks are available, as are free replacement car seats received from grants. A marketing flyer has been shared on social media and will be distributed to local pediatrician offices. Individuals who need a car seat checked can make an appointment by reaching out to jill@tritownhealth.org or (413)717-7209. So far 5 car seats have been distributed to 2 families, 1 from Pittsfield and 1 from Becket, in June.

UPCOMING PROJECTS

- **MA DPH Internship Program:** We applied for and received a summer intern, who started in mid-May and will continue through early August. She has been exploring de-identified MAVEN data, with the overall goal of describing epidemiological characteristics and possibly identifying relationships between demographic characteristics for tick-borne and other illnesses. She is also using graphic design skills to help design flu clinic flyers, assist with a project for the Opioid Task Force, and is reviewing local health department websites in order to provide recommendations for a future SBPHC website.
- **Fall 2022 flu clinics:** A total of 1,900 flu vaccine doses have been ordered from private supply (400 high-dose for seniors) for Fall 2022 community clinics in Collaborative towns. We will use a combination of state-supplied and private vaccine for the school clinics. We are also keeping an eye on COVID-19 booster developments and may possibly administer those as well, if there is a need. Clinic planning is ongoing and will include outreach to local school nurses, COA and community center leaders later this summer.

SOUTH COUNTY OPIOID WORKING GROUP (SCOWG) PROJECTS

SBPHC facilitates the SCOWG, which is a group comprised of a wide variety of organizations working a variety of goals around substance use disorder (SUD) in Southern Berkshire County, including:

- Facilitated monthly SCOWG Meetings;
- Organized Drug Take Back efforts, including Drug Take Back Day on April 20th, 2022 and development of additional mail-in and at-home disposal options for narcotics;
- Provided outreach to medical providers to promote Rural Recovery's referral tree- a digital program to identify SUD providers and connection with a recovery coach; and
- Developed open letter supporting harm reduction interventions to educate the public.

COMMUNITY COLLABORATION AND ENGAGEMENT

As members of the South County community, we engage with other meetings to provide a public health nursing perspective and also be able to tie into and enhance other efforts going on in our community. Meetings attended include:

- South Berkshire Community Health Coalition (monthly)
- Southern Berkshire Rural Health Network Leadership Meeting (monthly)
- Southern Berkshire Rural Health Network Mental Health Meeting (monthly)
- SAGE Triad (monthly)
- Southern Berkshire Regional Emergency Planning Committee (monthly)
- SBPHC/BPHA Leader Coordination Group (monthly)
- BCBOHA Friday calls
- Berkshire Community Action
- Community Resource Meeting (Monthly)
- Opioid Settlement Community Conversations

SBPHC POLICY UPDATES

- The SBPHC created a subcommittee to engage stakeholders to identify opportunities to pool opioid settlement funds in a way to maximize efforts to ensure these settlement funds are invested back into the community for those affected with substance use disorder. A South County meeting was held to engage South County town managers to explore ideas. While no decisions were made, we are actively communicating to see if there is a path forward to pool resources.
- The SBPHC clinical staff have been actively engaging with recreational summer camps to ensure they are supported and have access to the right information to include a review of their policies and procedures.
- The 10 town Intermunicipal Agreement is completed and submitted to all town clerks and the DPH.
- The FY22 approved SBPHC workplan was in full compliance and now awaiting instructions for a FY23 workplan to be developed.

Questions? Amy Hardt, Lead Public Health Nurse (amy@tritownhealth.org)
Jill Sweet, Public Health Nurse (jill@tritownhealth.org)
Jayne Smith, Shared Services Coordinator (jayne@tritownhealth.org)
Jim Wilusz, TTHD Executive Director (jim@tritownhealth.org)