



Norfolk County-8 Coalition

April 9, 2026



Community Health Assessment Biweekly Meeting Minutes

Time: 11:00 am – 12:00 pm
Virtual Meeting https://hria.zoom.us/j/83571797838

Attendees:

Health Resources in Action:

Hannah Carliner
Allyson Auerbach
Priyokti Rana
Mithila Farin
Kevin Myers

NC-8 Representatives:

Meg Goldstein, Canton Health Director
Sarah Lavari, NC-8 Regional Epidemiologist
Jenna Conroy, Canton Health Inspector
Samantha Menard, Dedham Health Director
Stacey Lane, Norwood Health Director
Kevin Myers, Westwood Public Health Nurse

BME Strategies:

Aine Studdert-Kennedy
Beth Haefner

I. General Project Updates

Health Resources in Action (HRiA) provided an overview of general project updates for the Community Health Assessment (CHA). The community health survey launched in English, Spanish, and Portuguese, and has received 20 responses so far. The coalition is encouraged to prioritize survey dissemination and outreach in the coming weeks as the survey will tentatively remain open through May 18th.

II. Qualitative Data Updates and Requests

HRiA provided an update on the status of Key Informant Interviews (KIIs) and focus groups as part of the qualitative data collection process. Several interviews and focus groups have been completed or are in progress, and more are scheduled.

III. Community Health Survey Updates and Requests



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The group discussed the use of social media for survey dissemination, with HRiA expressing concern due to bots. The group shared and discussed other ideas for outreach efforts. Regional Epidemiologist, Sarah Lavari, is supporting with in-person flyering and dissemination at community locations. Health Directors are encouraged to connect Sarah with Community Based Organizations (CBOs) as well for collaboration on dissemination.

IV. Secondary Data Updates and Requests

The group discussed the status of secondary data collection. Sarah is working on obtaining data from the MetroWest Health Survey for 2023 and 2025. The group discussed the potential for a dashboard project which could incorporate data from the CHA, and Sarah plans to continue the conversation with the Health Directors and HRiA to align on planning.

V. Discussion of Potential Add-on Services for Addressing Substance Use

HRiA led the group through a discussion about potential additional services related to substance use and opioid abatement. The group also discussed timeline considerations and options, noting that the current survey period is short. The group requested that HRiA prepare a more detailed breakdown of potential options for extending the project, and HRiA agreed to share a menu of options in the coming days.

VI. Miscellaneous, Action Items, and Next Steps

The group aligned on key next steps, including:

- HRiA to prepare a menu of options for additional substance use activities;
- Health Directors to continue warm handoffs to connect Sarah with CBOs;
- Everyone to continue prioritizing survey dissemination and recruitment;
- HRiA to continue qualitative data collection;
- HRiA and Sarah to continue secondary data compilation;
- HRiA and Sarah to reconnect regarding dashboard project planning.

The meeting adjourned at 12:00PM.

Materials Referenced:

Meeting Presentation