



Norfolk County-8 Coalition

July 20, 2026



Community Health Assessment Meeting Agenda

Time: 3:00 pm – 4:00 pm
Virtual Meeting https://hria.zoom.us/j/88016579248?pwd=Qbsm9pQBFEKfOMe7pUZOWa7gtpU5HK.1

Attendees:

Health Resources in Action:

Hannah Carliner
Priyokti Rana
Mithila Farin
Victoria Tran
Allyson Auerbach
Julia Taylor

NC-8 Representatives:

Samantha Menard, Dedham Health Director
Kevin Myers, Westwood Public Health Nurse
Sarah Lavari, Regional Epidemiologist

BME Strategies:

Beth Haefner

I. Community Health Assessment Report Discussion

Participating communities convened to review the Community Health Assessment (CHA) report. Members expressed satisfaction with the report's structure and content, focusing the discussion on refining specific data nuances, ensuring accurate framing, and determining the best approach for community resources and partner acknowledgments.

The group discussed the importance of carefully messaging localized data, particularly where small sample sizes could skew percentages. To ensure the report drives constructive action, the group agreed that town-specific highlights and summaries will be shared internally with coalition members, but will not be included in the full report.

The group also discussed the identified increase in local Lyme disease numbers. Sarah clarified that this apparent spike was actually due to a change in the Department of Public Health's (DPH) surveillance methodology rather than a true increase in infections. To prevent public misconception, the coalition decided to remove this data from the main



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narrative, with the option to place it in the appendix alongside an explanatory note. Sarah offered to connect with DPH to secure the exact definition of this methodology change.

Regarding resources and citations, the coalition discussed how to include local services and resources. The group ultimately decided against a static appendix list, opting instead to feature the Norfolk County-8 (NC-8) website as a single, dynamic reference point for community resources, which will be integrated into the report's acknowledgments.

Finally, the group discussed the importance of transparency and partner recognition. The final draft will explicitly credit the project's funding source, and community partners who assisted with focus groups and interviews will be acknowledged.

Materials Referenced

Draft Community Health Assessment Report