Annual Report

June 1, 2015

Local Public Health

Mission Possible
Healthy Communities of the Capital Area (HCCA) is a non-profit public health organization working locally to improve the health and quality of life in our communities.

**Mission**
To convene people, organizations and communities to collaborate on quality of life and public health issues.

**Vision**
Happy, thriving, interconnected people, organizations, and communities who are empowered to improve their quality of life.

HCCA serves approximately 70,000 people in the communities of Augusta, Chelsea, Farmingdale, Fayette, Gardiner, Hallowell, Litchfield, Manchester, Monmouth, Mount Vernon, Pittston, Randolph, Readfield, Vienna, West Gardiner, Wayne, Windsor, Winthrop, and Richmond.
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April 2014 – May 2015

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Comments from the Board Chair

On behalf of the Board of Directors I am pleased to present HCCA’s Annual Report. You will find highlights of local public health efforts, summaries of board activities and of HCCA’s financial status. Our work continues to both 1) reflect our mission to convene people, organizations and communities to collaborate on quality of life and public health issues and 2) build upon the Healthy Maine Partnership (HMP) foundation to reduce the most costly chronic diseases by preventing tobacco use and exposure, improving access to healthy foods and low-cost, no-cost physical activity, and reducing substance abuse.

Yet, we continue to have concerns whether this good work will continue. As my comments are being written, the bi-annual state of Maine budget is still in negotiation, with the funding for the 27 local HMPs including HCCA, proposed to be eliminated. Remember, the funding is not from taxpayers, but from the Master Tobacco Settlement also known as the Fund for a Healthy Maine (FHM). This money comes from tobacco company profits as a result of a lawsuit. Maine’s 119th Legislature dedicated the funds to evidence-based prevention including a Tobacco Control line that funds state level efforts, and another, Community/School Grants, that includes the Healthy Maine Partnerships and School-Based Health Centers. The Community/School Grants line was already cut by 1/3 in 2012 resulting in the loss of School Health Coordinators across the state, and a drastic reduction in local prevention funding.

Since 2001, the 27 Healthy Maine Partnerships (HMPs) have served two very important functions:
1. Each HMP collaborates with local advisors and partners to prevent tobacco use and exposure, improve access to healthier foods & physical activity, and prevent substance abuse.
   • The HMP funding is the only source dedicated to reducing tobacco use and exposure locally
2. Each HMP is a local Comprehensive Community Health Coalition providing prevention equitably across the state, covering all municipalities. This system:
   • Guarantees Maine CDC funded public health efforts are the same in Portland as in Presque Isle, in the Western Mountains or the Eastern Coastline
   • Provides a system to disseminate programming and funding equally across Maine
   • Provides a structure to respond to emergencies such as H1N1 Flu
   • Provides a competent public health organization to address both statewide and local issues

The health of our neighbors and our children is greatly impacted by prevention efforts. Our hope is that legislators continue to see the value of the HMPs and local public health now and into the future.

I end my comments by saying thank you to all here today and others who partner with HCCA each year.

Join me in saying thank you to the excellent staff at Healthy Communities of the Capital Area. From the Executive Director, Joanne Joy, to the newest staff member, their professionalism, deep knowledge of prevention and community engagement, personal passions, and creative responses to challenges create a powerful force to address prevention in our towns and across the state. They continue to weather the ups and downs of the budget and commit to the well being of the people of southern Kennebec County.

Jim Wood, Chair
HCCA Board of Directors
HCCA Annual Meeting June 1, 2015
Board Secretary’s Report to the Members and Guests

Board Members: Mary Frances Bartlett; Dan Emery; Rob Gordon, Treasurer; Virgel Hammonds; Kala Ladenheim, Secretary; Barbara Moss; Jane O’Rourke; Emilie van Eeghen, Vice Chair; Tom Warren; Fred White; Jim Wood, Chair.

The Board of Directors: The HCCA Board of Directors (BOD) oversees the policies and finances of the organization, designated as a 501(c)3 tax exempt corporation by the IRS. HCCA serves as the local Healthy Maine Partnership (HMP) and a Drug Free Communities (DFC) coalition, has added a greater focus on local foods including SNAP-Ed programming, and is diversifying programming across the life span. During 2015 the board revised the Management Services Agreement with MCD and revised and added policies on financial management.

Meetings: The BOD meets six times per year, on the 4th Monday, from 3:30-6:00 in January, March, May, July, September, and November. Current members are active and involved in providing direction, policy, programmatic and financial oversight.

- The Executive/Finance Committee meets prior to the full board meetings.
- Other Committees meet as needed.
- Partners presented at most meetings this year, reflecting the importance of collaboration.

Executive Director evaluation was conducted, and leadership succession planning has started.

During 2014-2015 the Board and HCCA carried out strategic planning to set priorities for the next 2 years and identify potential partners and opportunities. Based in part on the MeHAF/TIME project assessment and board priorities, three focus areas were identified for ongoing attention:
1) Substance abuse; MeHAF funding will support planning collaborative interventions
2) Continued focus on local foods as well as food insecurity
3) Housing in instances where HCCA participation would add value

Summary of Programs: The convening and collaborating functions of HCCA have placed us in an excellent position to apply for and be awarded grant funding for prevention efforts. Leveraging partnerships and building networks have been keys to HCCA’s wide range of activities. HCCA balances a community-level perspective and integrating programs while satisfying the requirements of funders. Examples of this approach include ongoing collaborations and integration of Substance Abuse Prevention with funding from a variety of sources; and nutrition and local foods programming, with Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Nutrition Education program (SNAP-ED) at the core.

Sustainability: Core strength of HCCA is the ability to convene and collaborate with key partners: not merely providing programming, but helping to build the capacity of each partner to integrate healthier, doable, viable options. The priorities identified above will guide grant writing and community engagement in the upcoming two years.

Join HCCA: If you are interested in joining our Board of Directors or collaborating with HCCA to reduce tobacco use and exposure, improve physical activity and nutrition, partner with health/mental health care, and reduce substance abuse, contact Karen Tucker at 207-588-5012 or email at ktucker@mcd.org or visit the website at www.hccame.org

Submitted by Kala Ladenheim, Board Secretary, June 1, 2015

Service Area: Augusta, Chelsea, Farmingdale, Fayette, Gardiner, Hallowell, Litchfield, Manchester, Monmouth, Mount Vernon, Pittston, Randolph, Readfield, Richmond, Vienna, Wayne, West Gardiner, Windsor, Winthrop
Board Treasurer’s Summary Report

HCCA is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization and the Local Healthy Maine Partnership (HMP). HCCA hosts a Drug Free Communities Coalition and other prevention initiatives funded by federal, state, and foundation awards. The Local Service Area includes 18 communities in southern Kennebec County and Richmond in Sagadahoc County. This report provides information on both FY14 as HCCA has filed the 990 for that year, and on FY15 as this year is still in progress.

Fiscal Year 2014 990 Return

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Contributions and Grants</td>
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<td>Program Service Revenue</td>
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<td>Investment Income</td>
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<td>Total Revenue</td>
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<td>Salaries and benefits</td>
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<td>Revenue less Expenses</td>
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<td>Net Assets</td>
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Current Budget for HCCA Fiscal Year 2015 which runs from July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015

- The State of Maine contracts start July 1, the Federal fiscal year begins on October 1, and various foundations largely fund for one year from the date of the award, which varies. This budget reflects all contracts awarded between July 1, 2014 and June 30, 2015 regardless of fiscal year of the grantor.
- Personnel are the largest expense, currently there are 6 full time staff members, 3 part-time and a FoodCorps Service Member. Consulting and Contractual Services is the second largest expense.
- HCCA contracts with Medical Care Development to provide financial, IT, HR, and employment services via a Management Services Agreement.
- Healthy Maine Partnership funding comes from the Fund for a Healthy Maine, the Master Tobacco Settlement.
- Substance Abuse Prevention includes the Drug Free Communities & STOP Act grants through SAMHSA at the federal level, and SAMHS prevention dollars at the state level.
- Food and Nutrition efforts include SNAP-Ed, Farm2School, FoodCorps, and Food Policy Councils.

Budget Summary for Fiscal Year 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Healthy Maine Partnership</th>
<th>Substance Abuse Prevention</th>
<th>Food and Nutrition</th>
<th>Other Public Health</th>
<th>Small Grants</th>
<th>Total FY15 Budget</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>Revenue</td>
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<td>268,007</td>
<td>238,715</td>
<td>29,100</td>
<td>13,697</td>
<td>696,761</td>
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<tr>
<td>Expenses</td>
<td>Total Personnel</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Operating Expenses</td>
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<td>3,881</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Consultants and Contractual Services</td>
<td>26,109</td>
<td>68,373</td>
<td>4,712</td>
<td>3,530</td>
<td>102,316</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Expenses</td>
<td>153,642</td>
<td>268,007</td>
<td>238,715</td>
<td>29,100</td>
<td>13,697</td>
<td>696,761</td>
</tr>
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</table>

Comments on the prior Fiscal Year 2014 as reported on the 990:
HCCA’s three major areas of concentration were 1. HMP related strategies to reduce tobacco use and exposure, improve healthy eating, and promote opportunities for physical activity. 2. Substance Abuse Prevention activities that maintain and support a local Drug Free Communities Coalition and other strategies to decrease underage drinking and other drug use through education, policy and environmental changes. 3. Nutrition education and promotion of access to local foods through SNAP-Ed providing education to individuals and families eligible for SNAP benefits; FoodCorps providing agricultural-based nutritional education, school gardens, and local foods in schools; and Farm2School supports for schools through equipment, technical assistance and training.

Submitted by Rob Gordon, HCCA Acting Treasurer: June 1, 2015

Service Area: Augusta, Chelsea, Farmingdale, Fayette, Gardiner, Hallowell, Litchfield, Manchester, Monmouth, Mount Vernon, Pittston, Randolph, Readfield, Richmond, Vienna, Wayne, West Gardiner, Windsor, Winthrop
Highlights: Preventing Tobacco Use and Exposure
Healthy Maine Partnership Efforts, Funded by the Master Tobacco Settlement, not Taxpayer Funds

Tobacco-Free Policies
An important strategy in preventing young people from using tobacco, including e-cigarettes, is to reduce the number of times tobacco use, in all forms, is seen in public environments. By creating Tobacco-Free Outdoor Events, organizations and communities provide a picture of ‘normal’ as tobacco-free, and reduce exposure to 2nd and 3rd hand smoke.

HCCA is pleased to announce new Tobacco-Free Event and other tobacco-free policies in our service area!

2 New Tobacco-Free Outdoor Event policies
- Gardiner Farmers Market
- Viles Arboretum and their Farmers Market

1 Enhanced Tobacco-Free School Policy
- RSU 2 (Dresden, Farmingdale, Hallowell, Monmouth and Richmond) has a newly enhanced tobacco policy that meets the rigorous standards of the Partnership for a Tobacco-Free Maine/Maine CDC standards

1 Faith Based Organization is Tobacco-Free
- Augusta First Church of the Nazarene is the first faith based organization in the area to partner with HCCA to create a tobacco-free policy. They also arranged for a “Talking Tobacco” training and HelpLine materials to be available.

You can borrow the HCCA Tobacco-Free Event Signs to help share the news of your Tobacco-Free Event. These can be loaned free of charge. Contact Joanne at 207-588-5011

Reducing Tobacco Use and Exposure at Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder Service Sites
Maine DHHS took a step forward July 1, 2014 to reduce the impact of tobacco use on Maine’s behavioral health populations. Contracts between provider agencies and Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services (SAMHS) now require written tobacco policies that include tobacco use assessment and best practice treatment planning and referrals.
- Statewide 71% of people in substance abuse treatment in 2014 used tobacco!
- Tobacco use for people with depression & anxiety are twice the rate of tobacco use in the general population.
- People with Serious and Persistent Mental Illness (SMI) die 25 years younger than their neighbors.

HCCA, through its participation with Project Integrate, has engaged in efforts to reduce the impact of tobacco on this population since 2002. This has been the first year that the Healthy Maine Partnership contract included focus on this population as well.

Additional Resources
- The Breathe Easy Coalition of Maine provides on-line resources.
- Partnership For A Tobacco-Free Maine and Center for Tobacco Independence provide trainings, webinars, and Clinical Outreach.
The Alliance for Substance Abuse Prevention (ASAP)

HCCA has been the host site of the local Drug Free Communities Coalition, ASAP, since 2009 when the initial 5 year award was received. The coalition funding is now in year 6 of a maximum of 10 years of funding, providing a stable funding source to continue to address the prevention needs of southern Kennebec County. Core elements of the coalition include:

- A Leadership Team that provides input and oversight into substance abuse prevention planning and implementation
- A focus on preventing substance use by youth and young adults in 4 categories
  - Alcohol
  - Tobacco
  - Marijuana
  - Prescription Drugs

ASAP also benefits from prevention funding through Maine Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services (SAMHS) and the STOP Act Federal grant helping to support the local Law Enforcement Task Force.

The combination of convening local community members from many sectors of the community and implementing specific prevention activities have resulted in reduced youth substance use in most areas of concern. A snapshot of programming is listed below:

- Responsible Beverage Server/Seller Trainings
- Supporting and promoting Prescription Drug Take Back Days
- Promoting Everyday Prescription Take Back sites at local Law Enforcement locations
- Convening and supporting the collaborative Law Enforcement compliance checks and shoulder taps at local establishments that serve or sell alcohol
- Disseminating information such as the “Parents who Host” and Maine Tobacco Helpline brochures (1-800-207-1230)
- Engaging schools to collect and analyze information from the Maine Integrated Youth Health Survey, information that informs school, local and statewide prevention efforts
- Supporting a “building assets” project through worksite visits, because youth with positive adult relationships and plans for the future also reduces their risky behavior.
- Funding youth groups to participate in prevention projects such as Sticker Shock
- Providing education about marijuana’s impact on youth behavior and brain development
- Hosting UMA interns to engage in substance abuse prevention strategies

If you are interested in joining this group, or being connected to the ASAP efforts, please contact Kalie Hess, HCCA/ASAP Substance Abuse Program Coordinator, 207.588.5033, khess@mcd.org
Highlights: The Alliance for Substance Abuse Prevention (ASAP), a Drug Free Communities Coalition comprised of community partners and staff, continues to work on policy, systems, and environmental changes to reduce underage alcohol, tobacco, marijuana, and prescription drug abuse. This report focuses on two particular drugs: one with many bills submitted for legislative action, marijuana; the other an emerging problem locally, the increase of heroin use.

Marijuana: Youth Issues
High school students were asked questions about marijuana. Below are a few of their answers.

- Percent of local high school students have a low perceived risk of harm from smoking marijuana 1-2 times a week (vs. 45% for alcohol)
- Percent of local high school students feel their parents are accepting of marijuana use (vs. 8% for alcohol)
- Percent of local high school students feel their peers are accepting of regular marijuana use (vs. 38% for alcohol)
- Percent of local high school students say that it is easy to obtain marijuana (vs. 66% for alcohol)

Data from the 2013 Maine Integrated Youth Health Survey

There are a lot of mixed messages about the harms of marijuana use. There are ways to influence youth marijuana use, including limiting access, speaking to future goals, and educating influential people on the harms of youth marijuana use. ASAP works in the community to educate about the harms of use and will continue to address the key factors influencing youth marijuana use.

Heroin: Local Concerns and Responses

Members from the Maine Drug Enforcement Agency and the Augusta Police Department spoke at ASAP’s April meeting. They reported that all of southern Kennebec’s law enforcement agencies have seen an escalation of heroin issues in their towns. Heroin is reported to be brought here from out-of-state locations such as Philadelphia, Boston, and New York and sold for a huge profit in this area.

- Local resources such as MaineGeneral’s needle exchange program also report seeing heroin use increases.
- The Augusta City Council and others are seeking ways to address the heroin epidemic and HCCA and ASAP are involved with their efforts.
- Community members in January 2015 identified substance abuse as the #1 health issue that, if worked on collaboratively, would improve the health of people across local communities. ASAP serves on the Planning Team of the Time for Meaningful Engagement (TIME): Addressing Substance Abuse project funded by Maine Health Access Foundation (MeHAF).

Note: Heroin is not one of the drugs specifically addressed in either federally or state funded prevention projects.
Highlights: HCCA is collaborating with more partners and building capacity to increase access to local foods across southern Kennebec County as both a health improvement strategy and a way to increase economic development.

Moving Forward:
Capital Area Food Council
HCCA hosts the Capital Area Food Council, working to affect positive change in the local food system. Capital Area Food Council’s vision is a food system that nurtures our bodies, our communities, the local economy, and the earth. With support from a grant from the Maine Network of Community Food Councils, the group is raising awareness of food system elements and the role of a food council within a community. The group meets monthly, please join us.

Farm to School
HCCA continues to support local and statewide Farm to School efforts. Over the past year HCCA brought hands-on knife skills, food processing, and customer service trainings to school nutrition staff at Gardiner and Maranacook Schools (more trainings scheduled for fall), purchased kitchen equipment to facilitate processing and storage of fresh local foods, and developed a unique partnership with the Cohen Center and the Kennebec Sheriff’s Office to bring donated produce from the Kennebec Restorative Community Harvest to local schools. Find our project on the national Edible Schoolyard Network Map. HCCA is also working with school districts to improve local Wellness Policies to include a focus on Farm to School strategies. Renee Page is serving as Co-Coordinator for the Maine Farm to School Network and state Co-Lead for the National Farm to School Network Northeast Regional Steering Committee.

Food Issues Forum
As part of a Maine Health Access Foundation supported health issue prioritization process, food issues was identified as a primary issue that affects individuals’ health in southern Kennebec County. Food issues range from access to healthy affordable food to skills to grow and prepare food. HCCA convened a forum of key stakeholders to identify which food issues should be prioritized for action. The group identified a need for increased distribution and storage for local foods and an increased need for skills as food issue priorities. Skills include farmers’ ability to effectively market and sell what they produce and consumers’ ability to identify and prepare fresh, local produce. HCCA is working on solutions to these issues.
Highlights: SNAP-Ed provides nutrition education to individuals and families who are eligible for SNAP benefits. Jacqui Stevens, Coordinator since the program’s creation at HCCA in 2012, left this position in February to work closer to home. Four HCCA staff currently contribute to the success of this demanding initiative. Rachael Reynolds has signed on as the coordinator and provides educational sessions in schools and community locations. As of May 2015, HCCA added Emily Knipp, a recent graduate of the University of Maine in Food Science and Human Nutrition, to the staff as a nutrition educator. Renee Page and Jane Hutchinson provide administrative supports. Below are descriptions of four of the current educational offerings.

Pick a Better Snack and Act (PABS&Act): PABS&Act is for grades K-3, allows students to try a new fruit or vegetable every month and gives them the opportunity to learn fun facts about that particular food and how it is helping their bodies. We are currently concluding series at Libby Tozier, T.C. Hamlin, Laura E. Richards, Gilbert Elementary, Riverview Elementary as well as Lincoln, Farrington and Hussey Schools aftercare programs in Augusta. This gives us a total of 30 series of PABS&Act which is up from 17 series last year. Teachers and students all rave about the fun they have during the energized PABS&Act lessons!

Eat Well Play Hard (EWPH): EWPH is for child care settings and Pre-K settings and is similar to PABS&Act in that children can try a new fruit or vegetable during each of the nine class visits. Programming is delivered in a child care setting or preschool classroom. Rachael has been delivering 17 series of EWPH through Head Start in Augusta and Gardiner, classrooms at the YMCA, Laura E. Richards Pre-K classrooms and two privately run child care centers. Within the last year this program has grown from 8 series to 17! Every week, children are excited to explore and try new healthy foods, have discussions about these healthy foods and listen to a story related to what they are trying.

Cooking Matters: Cooking Matters Classes are now serving kids, teens and adults. The classes are going strong in several settings including a Kids series at Augusta Child Care, teen classes at Cony Middle School and one coming this summer at the Augusta Boys and Girls Club, adults at the Augusta Food Bank, Goodwill Lifeworks and Family Violence Project.

Cooking Matters @ the Store Tour Events: New this year are our amazing Store Tour Events. Thanks to our partnership with four of our local Hannaford stores in Augusta, Winthrop and Gardiner we have been able to reach 245 individuals so far, with information on shopping, cooking and eating healthy on a budget. These events would not have been possible without the efforts of Karen Tucker.

Moving Forward: As both Rachael and Emily grow in their new roles they plan to continue to build on the strong connections that have been developed through Jacqui and Rachael’s efforts with community partners, as well as develop new and exciting partnerships in order to best serve participants in our SNAP-Ed programs.
Overview
This fourth year of FoodCorps programming at HCCA was one of great expansion, as FoodCorps now serves Maranacook area schools, in addition to existing partnerships with Augusta and Gardiner. While the new relationship with Maranacook is the most visible change, new partnerships with over ten different teachers in existing schools has dramatically increased school-based support and involvement with FoodCorps, broadening our reach. Through educational programming based in classrooms, cafeterias, and school gardens, FoodCorps at HCCA has encouraged over 1,750 students to connect with their food and eat healthier. See a few snapshots of our service below!

Augusta
Cony Expands Gardens and Partnerships
The Cony School Garden had a very successful (and delicious) first season, as students cooked with garden produce in the classroom through late November! Now we’re expanding again! Strong partnerships with the Augusta Boys and Girls Club, Middle School Life Skills Program, 8th grade health, and high school engineering and biology classes have enabled the building of a gorgeous seed stand and four new raised beds. Plans for the produce include use in classrooms and the cafeteria, as well as the creation of a mini-CSA program for both produce and flowers.

Gardiner
Cook, Plant, Grow expands at Gardiner Regional Middle School
Originally a semester-long after school program, “Cook, Plant, Grow” has become the face of FoodCorps at Gardiner Regional Middle School. While the after school program expanded to provide year-long programming for students, FoodCorps Service Member Caroline Moore brings “Cook, Plant, Grow” to students during the school day, through partnerships with the guidance, math, and life skills departments. In addition to these classroom-based nutrition and gardening lessons, FoodCorps organized taste tests of roasted broccoli and garbanzo beans in all MSAD 11 schools this fall, harnessing the educational potential of the cafeteria.

Maranacook
Students Participate in “Growing Our Lunch”
With the assistance of high school Sustainability Committee members, food service staff, and community volunteers, over 520 elementary students at the district’s four elementary schools started seedlings in their classrooms as part of “Growing Our Lunch,” a project funded by the Maranacook Education Foundation. In early June, students will transplant these seedlings to the raised beds at the high school. Come fall, Food Service Director Jeff Bridges will use the harvest in school meals, allowing students to see the process of planting and harvesting their own food come full circle.
Highlights: There are many ways to engage with community members, organizations and other initiatives to collaboratively create a healthier environment in which to live, work, go to school, and play. This section showcases two such projects.

Restorative Justice

HCCA is partnering with the Restorative Justice Institute of Maine (RJIM) to support emerging restorative justice practices in Augusta. Karen Tucker, drawing on her background in Restorative Justice as the coordinator of the Victim Offender Mediation program in Portland from 2001-2005, is coaching RJ circle facilitators through a structured mentoring process as they enhance and practice their skills.

A little about the Augusta Community Justice Collaborative (CJC)

Through RJIM’s Restorative Response Program, facilitated restorative processes are offered for youth who have committed an act of wrongdoing. Through Restorative Processes, youth can:

⇒ Understand how their actions have impacted others
⇒ Be held accountable with high support and regard
⇒ Have the opportunity to make things right

HCCA is proud and excited to be involved with the CJC, as humane and restorative justice is an important component of a healthy community.

Time for Meaningful Engagement (TIME): Moving to Phase II

Phase I: Pre-Planning-Completed: Maine Health Access Foundation (MeHAF) provided a very unusual grant in October of 2013, an 18 month grant to identify a single health issue that, if addressed broadly across communities, could improve the health of the entire area. A few guidelines were provided of course: 1) a leadership team to set the agenda; 2) local community members must be part of the process; and 3) people need to commit to Phase II, working collaboratively to identify shared interventions.

Fifty-five community members, 25 front line staff and 22 organizational leaders were engaged in the Phase I process, and many sources of state, county and local information were reviewed. Food, housing and substance abuse were identified as the top 3 issues. On January 14, 2015, 40 people from primary care, food pantries, housing, schools, law enforcement, faith communities, behavioral health services, public health and others sorted through all the information and prioritized substance abuse 2-1 over the others.

Phase II: Planning began on May 1, 2015. Twenty-two individuals and organizations have committed to identifying collaborative interventions that, when applied across systems, towns and organizations, will broadly improve the health of people of all ages. The Planning Team will meet every month on the 3rd Thursday and guide the process of gathering relevant information, sorting priorities, and gaining broad community input and support. Stipends will support community members to join the planning process and every step will be evaluated. Stay tuned, you will be hearing more about this project! Phase III includes 3-5 years of funding for identified interventions that reduce the impact of substance abuse in our communities. Contact Joanne Joy, j.joy@hccame.org or 207.588.5011 for more information or to join us.
Joanne E.A. Joy, MA, Executive Director leads the organization with a clear focus on the mission to convene people, organizations and communities to collaborate on quality of life and public health issues. Joanne has been the director of programming since 2001, stepping into the Executive Director Role in 2007.

Kalie Hess, MPH, Substance Abuse Prevention Project Coordinator oversees substance abuse prevention projects funded by state and federal awards including facilitating the Kennebec Alliance for Substance Abuse Prevention (ASAP), a Drug Free Communities Coalition.

Jane Hutchinson, BS, Project Assistant serves as liaison to MCD in implementing our Management Services Agreement to process accounts payable and accounts receivable, and supports all budget management processes.

Holly Kiidli, BA Substance Abuse Program Assistant implements substance abuse prevention strategies through direct engagement with businesses, schools and parents.

Emily Knipp, BS, SNAP-Ed Nutrition Educator, the newest employee at HCCA, implements SNAP-Ed classes in multiple settings.

Neill Miner, MSW, Substance Abuse Prevention Project Director manages two federal substance abuse prevention grants. He brings to this assignment three decades of local and state level experience, developing and implementing substance abuse prevention and recovery support programs.

Caroline Moore, BS, FoodCorps Service Member works within classrooms, cafeterias and school gardens in Gardiner, Augusta and Maranacook schools, teaching children to plant, raise and prepare fresh foods, helping schools create a better food environment for stronger, smarter, healthier students.

Renee Page, MPH, CLC, Assistant Director oversees SNAP-Ed and FoodCorps implementation, is the lead on Farm to School and local foods efforts, and is HCCA’s primary school liaison.

Rachael Reynolds, BA, SNAP-Ed Coordinator coordinates and delivers nutrition education to SNAP eligible community members. Previously, she worked as a SNAP-Ed Educator.

Karen Tucker, MSTD, Communications and Outreach Coordinator, works with municipalities on public health initiatives, is a Restorative Justice Coach, and is the primary liaison with media outlets.
Healthy Maine Partnership statewide is a collaborative effort among 27 local coalitions, the Maine DHHS (Maine CDC and Office of Substance Abuse), supported in part by the Fund for Healthy Maine and federal grants from the US CDC and SAMHSA.