MA Health Policy Student Forum

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Division of Prevention and Wellness

• The Division of Prevention and Wellness uses an integrated approach to reduce the burden of and disparities in chronic diseases and associated risk factors in Massachusetts.

• Work is focused in three domains/areas:
  – Environmental approaches that promote health and create conditions that support and reinforce healthful behaviors
  – Health system interventions to improve the effective delivery and use of clinical and other preventive services in order to prevent disease, detect diseases early, and reduce or eliminate risk factors and mitigate or manage complications
  – Strategies to improve community-clinical linkages ensuring that communities support and clinics refer patients to programs that improve management of chronic conditions
Increasing Population Impact

- Counseling & Education
- Clinical Interventions
- Lasting Protective Interventions
- Changing Context to Support Healthy Default Decision Making
- Socioeconomic Factors

Increasing Individual Effort Needed

Adapted from T. Frieden, AJPH, April 2010
Are we out of Balance?
Healthy Communities, Healthy Living

For help quitting smoking go to
www.makesmokinghistory.org
or call
1-800-QUIT-NOW
(1-800-784-8669)

Massachusetts Department of Public Health
Division of Prevention and Wellness

- Environmental approaches that promote health and create conditions that support and reinforce healthful behaviors
  - Mass in Motion
  - Healthy Community Design Initiative
  - MA Tobacco Cessation and Prevention Program
Increase Access to Healthy Affordable Foods

• School Nutrition Standards
• Executive Order 509
• Implementation of healthy dining program
• Implementation of healthy corner stores/neighborhood markets
• Establishment of nutritional standards for food pantries and/or meal-programs
• Implement use of EBT system and/or increase use of WIC and SNAP benefits at farmers markets
Increase Opportunities for Regular Physical Activity

- Establish a “complete streets” policy
- Establish healthy/active design standards for all new development
- Incorporate health element in municipal plans (such as comprehensive/master plan, open space and recreation plan, pedestrian or bicycle master plan)
- Establish joint use agreements
- Increase use of parks and recreational space
- Implement active community safe routes to school initiative
Prevent Young People from Starting to Smoke

- Prohibit the sale of tobacco in health care settings, including pharmacies
- Prohibit the sale of e-cigarettes to minors
- End the sale of cheap, single cigars attractive to youth
- Cap the number of tobacco licenses in municipalities
- Increase price of tobacco products
- Enforce sales and signage laws restricting youth access to tobacco
• Enforce the smoke-free workplace law
• Provide additional, local protections around smoking in public places
• Provide support and guidance for tenants, managers, and owners of multi-unit housing as they work to make their properties smoke-free
Prevention and Wellness Trust Fund

• Established under MGL Chapter 224

• How funds are allocated:
  – $57 million in trust for 4 years
  – No requirement for spending equal amounts annually
  – At least 75% must be spent on grantee awards
  – No more than 10% on worksite wellness programs
  – No more than 15% on administration through MDPH
• Reduction in prevalence of preventable health conditions
• Reduction in health care costs and/or growth in health care cost trends
• Beneficiaries from the health care cost reduction
• Employee health, productivity and recidivism through workplace-based wellness or health management programs
• Outcomes in 4 years or less
# Health Conditions Addressed

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Priority Conditions (2 of 4 are required, at minimum)</th>
<th>Optional Conditions (Not Required)</th>
<th>Other Conditions (not specified)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tobacco use</td>
<td>Obesity</td>
<td>To proposed by applicant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asthma (pediatric)</td>
<td>Diabetes</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Hypertension</td>
<td>Oral health</td>
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<tr>
<td>Falls prevention (older adults)</td>
<td>Substance abuse</td>
<td></td>
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**Vulnerable Populations and Co-Morbid Mental Health Conditions**

Plans to address the conditions listed above should also include specific strategies to reduce disparities in the burden of these conditions (e.g., racial and ethnic disparities). Mental health conditions, such as depression, may be viewed as co-morbid to any of the above. Interventions may be proposed and tailored for populations affected by mental health conditions.
Priority and Optional conditions proposed must include interventions in each of 3 domains:

- **Community** – Supports behavioral change to improve health through individual, social and physical environments where people live and work

- **Clinical** – Improves clinical environment – delivery and access

- **Community-Clinical Linkages** – Strengthens connection between community-based services and healthcare providers
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