

The Connector

Inspiring strategic direction for diabetes prevention & control

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Seven States and District of Columbia Stay Committed and Energized to Collective Action During the Public Health Emergency

The National Association of Chronic Disease Directors (NACDD) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) have been supporting states and partners to implement the State Engagement Model since 2012. The primary purpose of the model is to enhance stakeholder engagement and cultivate diverse, lasting partnerships that include commitment and action to achieve shared goals. One of the key pieces of applying the State Engagement Model is to convene a State Engagement Meeting. The COVID-19 pandemic prohibited seven of the most recent states and the District of Columbia from doing so. Despite this, these states and district were able to pivot to achieve quality partner engagement outcomes through virtual platforms.

In 2020 and 2021, [diabetes](#), [oral health](#), and [physical activity and nutrition](#) partners in Delaware, District of Columbia, Hawai'i, Illinois, Iowa, North Dakota, Vermont, and Wisconsin persevered. While the public health landscape rapidly changed right before their eyes, partners in these states stayed committed, flexible, and energized. Utilizing approaches that address equity and disparities, they successfully identified diverse stakeholders, creatively engaged partners, collaboratively developed action plans, and collectively committed to action in preventing chronic disease in their states or District – all done without ever meeting in-person. Each of the following Virtual State Engagement Model (vStEM) summaries highlight select successes from each state and district's vStEM experience.

"Super impressed with the collaborative effort with national support and local [Hawai'i Department of Health] coordinators of this meeting. Collective impact was evident and executed."

State Engagement Meeting Participant, Hawai'i



Delaware – Delaware convened 50 key partners for a three-part vStEM meeting series in March 2021. Following the development of their state action plan, Delaware and their partners had an early win in August 2021, onboarding seven healthcare delivery sites to pilot a protocol to increase screening, testing, and referrals for adults at high risk for type 2 diabetes, exceeding the originally planned six sites. Additionally, Delaware has made strides with coverage of the National Diabetes Prevention Program (National DPP) lifestyle change program, assisting the City of Wilmington with [adding the benefit for approximately 3,000 employees, retirees, and their families](#). Delaware is continuing employer engagement in partnership with the Greater Philadelphia Business Coalition on Health.



District of Columbia – The District of Columbia engaged a core group of partners in a strategic, three-part vStEM series from October to November 2021. DC Health has drafted the District of Columbia’s Diabetes Action Plan and is convening meetings with their diabetes stakeholders to finalize the plan. The final diabetes action plan will focus on implementing a standard protocol to facilitate community and clinical screening, testing, and referrals of adults at high risk for type 2 diabetes into the National DPP lifestyle change program. Furthermore, they plan to identify and implement at least five new or enhanced outreach and engagement activities designed to increase enrollment and retention in the lifestyle change program. Each of these initiatives prioritize residents in areas disproportionately affected by diabetes (Wards 5, 7, and 8) to align community needs with access to evidence-based diabetes prevention services.



Hawai’i – Hawai’i’s vStEM was integral to convening early childhood care and education (ECE) providers and stakeholders around increasing opportunities for healthy eating and physical activity for the youngest keiki (children). With facilitation support from NACDD, Hawai’i was able to convene ECE stakeholders to draft a Healthy Keiki in ECE Settings (HKES) Action Plan. Participating in the vStEM process allowed Hawai’i to apply to and be selected for the Healthy Kids, Healthy Future Technical Assistance Program from Nemours Children’s Health. Hawai’i now has funding and technical assistance to implement the HKES Action Plan and move this important work forward.



Illinois – Illinois convened more than 50 partners for its vStEM meeting series throughout 2021. In a notable activity among many, Illinois partners are working to develop umbrella hub arrangements across the state. To do this, they surveyed existing and potential delivery organizations about their current work and needs, and the Illinois Public Health Institute drafted a landscape assessment that outlines potential umbrella hub organizations in Illinois. The vStEM generated learning opportunities, increased access to resources and funding, and encouraged collaboration and communication among diabetes prevention stakeholders. Illinois plans to keep the momentum going by reconvening partners in spring 2022.



Iowa – Iowa’s [physical activity and nutrition vStEM meeting](#) focused on strengthening nutrition and physical activity policy, systems, and environmental change (PSE) work through Iowa’s SNAP-Ed school grant program. Highlights from the first year include: surveying principals on PSE priorities in their schools, providing training to contractors on PSE, and conducting a quality improvement adventure to dive deeper into the structure of the program and ways it could be modified to support PSE work.

“As a ‘newer’ State Oral Health Program Director, I learned so much more about oral health and my strengths as a leader throughout this [vStEM] process. The vStEM meeting was an opportunity for our state to reinvigorate the North Dakota Oral Health Coalition. [It was also an opportunity] to convene stakeholders across North Dakota to collectively bring forward new energy, innovative ideas, and strategies that would become our action plan, despite the challenges we all faced with the COVID-19 pandemic and strengthen oral health for all community members in North Dakota.”

Cheri Kiefer
Oral Health Program
Director, North Dakota



North Dakota – In May 2021, North Dakota convened a vStEM meeting that was attended by more than 60 participants. The purpose of the meeting was to bring together key partners from across the state to create momentum, identify strategies for implementation, and foster partnerships that will lead to increased availability, accessibility, and utilization of oral health services for Medicaid eligible children and adults. Six-months following the vStEM meeting, a new Oral Health Coalition was formed to implement the action plan that was developed at the meeting.



Vermont – The Vermont vStEM meeting, hosted by the Vermont Department of Health and the Vermont Association of Planning and Development Agencies, was a momentum-building event for advancing capacity for the design of inclusive communities that support health, wellness, social connectedness, and economic vibrancy for all. A preliminary action plan was developed through the vStEM. Now in the implementation phase, participants are working to engage more partners and will center the priorities of those experiencing health inequities by honoring lived experience, shifting power in community planning, and coordinating delivery of health and racial equity trainings.



Wisconsin – The Wisconsin physical activity and nutrition vStEM meeting brought together a diverse group of partners from across the state to develop a road map for advancing physical activity and nutrition policy, system, and environmental changes. The resulting [road map](#) seeks to be community-centered and community-driven with a focus on addressing systemic and institutional racism leading to health inequities. Following the vStEM meeting, partners received funding from CDC to develop a Social Determinants of Health Accelerator Plan and tribal partnerships have grown into a collective effort supporting an intertribal food system for greater access to traditional foods.

Starting in April 2022, NACDD is pleased to be working with members and partners from the District of Columbia, Indiana, and North Dakota on a new Physical Activity and Nutrition Partner Engagement Learning Lab. During the Learning Lab, states will learn about and apply some of the vStEM processes and tools to design and implement a tailored state partner engagement approach to advance their physical activity and nutrition equity goals. The State Engagement Model, originally designed for scaling and sustaining the National DPP, has been adapted for a variety of public health programs and continues to be a valuable model to engage partners working collaboratively to achieve common goals.

For more information contact info@chronicdisease.org.

Findings from the 2022 National Diabetes Statistics Report



In a [recent letter](#) to diabetes prevention and management colleagues, Dr. Christopher Holliday, CDC's Director of the Division of Diabetes Translation, highlighted key findings from the recently published [National Diabetes Statistics Report 2022](#). In his letter, Dr. Holliday notes the latest diabetes and prediabetes data around prevalence, incidence, mortality, health complications, risk factors, and diabetes risk factors related to COVID-19 complications. He also calls specific attention to higher diabetes prevalence among individuals in certain racial, ethnic, and socio-economic groups. To reduce the impact of diabetes and health disparities, "CDC remains committed to working with our partners to prevent type 2 diabetes and manage diabetes," says Dr. Holliday.

"The data in the National Diabetes Statistics Report 2022 reflect that diabetes continues to impact both the individual and the U.S. health system. Additionally, the report notes racial, ethnic, and socio-economic health disparities among people with diabetes. CDC is committed to reducing the impact of diabetes and combatting these health disparities."

Christopher S. Holliday, PhD, MPH, MA, FACHE
Director, Division of Diabetes Translation
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Read Dr. Holliday's [full letter](#) for more information about CDC's commitment to diabetes prevention and management. Also, be sure to read and share widely the [National Diabetes Statistics Report 2022](#).

Building a National Network of State Specialists

NACDD, in partnership with CDC and other partners, developed and launched two networks of diabetes State Specialists to address the growing need to expand access and availability to diabetes programming in communities that are in most need of these services. The networks are each comprised of a workforce equipped with specialized training to become either a National Diabetes Prevention Program (National DPP) State Quality Specialist or a Diabetes Self-Management Education and Support (DSMES) State Specialist. State Specialists receive intensive training and ongoing support to provide technical assistance to diabetes programming delivery organizations and partners to increase access and enrollment to the National DPP lifestyle change program or DSMES services.

The need for this network of State Specialists has been reinforced by both the COVID-19 pandemic (which poses a significant risk of severe complications for people with and at risk for diabetes) and the continued underutilization of diabetes prevention and education services among those populations most at-risk. This comprehensive approach offers a unique opportunity to equip a public health workforce with specialized skills and knowledge in diabetes to grow and expand diabetes services nationally.

The DSMES and National DPP State Specialist networks have an intentional focus on health equity with a goal of improving access and availability to groups of people who are disproportionately impacted by diabetes. For example, a landscape analysis activity for each training asks participants to examine where people at highest risk for diabetes and prediabetes live and work and to determine critical partners for reaching them with programming.

Contact nacdd.diabetes@chronicdisease.org to learn more about the support State Specialists can provide to you.



National Diabetes Alert Day: NACDD Highlights Partners' Commitment to Diabetes Prevention

In observance of National Diabetes Alert Day 2022, the NACDD Diabetes Portfolio “took over” the Association’s social media channels for 12 hours with messages that encouraged people to assess their risk of developing type 2 diabetes by taking the [Do I Have Prediabetes Risk Test](#). NACDD hoped to reach people who are at highest risk of developing type 2 diabetes and those organizations that work with them. These populations include: people with disabilities, Medicare and Medicaid populations, people who live in rural areas, and people who are part of historically oppressed and marginalized racial and ethnic groups. Key highlights from the campaign include promoting the work of Black Women’s Health Imperative, Conemaugh Health System, the Vermont Department of Health, and the Florida Department of Health.



Diabetes Alert Day is observed annually on the fourth Tuesday in March. It is a one-day “wake-up call” that focuses on the seriousness of diabetes and the importance of understanding your individual risk. This event urges the American public to take the diabetes risk test, an online test that helps individuals discover if they are at risk for developing type 2 diabetes.


2021 PreventT2 Curricula

In early 2022, DDT launched the National DPP [2021 PreventT2 Curricula and Handouts](#), updated from the original 2016 curriculum. The 2021 update aligns the curriculum with current evidence for nutrition, physical activity, and weight loss toward the prevention of type 2 diabetes, builds on wellness coaching and best health practices, and incorporates feedback and lessons learned from Lifestyle Coaches.

The 26-module 2021 PreventT2 curriculum is based on lessons learned from the original Diabetes Prevention Program study and follow-up effectiveness studies. It reflects the latest science and best practices for addressing prediabetes and lowering the risk of type 2 diabetes. It features updates to format, content, tools and resources, and handouts. For example, updates to nutrition and weight loss content, virtual delivery guidance, [2021 Diabetes Prevention Program Recognition \(DPRP\) Standards](#), flexible approaches to healthy eating and weight loss, and active coaching strategies. A revised layout, additional graphics, participant guides and profiles, updated cultural representations of people and food, and suggestions for integrating the Personal Success Tool provide a new feel to the 2021 curriculum.

Additional details about the changes can be found in the [2021 PreventT2 Update Summary](#) and in the [PreventT2 Curriculum Crosswalk](#) that highlights specific changes to the content of the original curriculum. The Spanish version of the [2021 National DPP PreventT2 Curricula and Handouts](#) and [Supplemental Materials](#) are also available at the National DPP Customer Service Center.





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Keep up to date on the latest news, events, and more by following NACDD on [Facebook](#), [LinkedIn](#), [Twitter](#), [Vimeo](#), and [SoundCloud](#).

NACDD Increases Focus on Health Equities

To further the National Association of Chronic Disease Directors' (NACDD) [strategic goal](#) of becoming an anti-racist public health



organization, [Robyn Taylor](#), MBA, has been hired to serve as the Senior Director of Health Equity. NACDD carefully developed the Senior Director of Health Equity role in response to continued widening health disparities among historically marginalized and oppressed communities.

“We are thrilled to have Robyn join us in this prominent role,” said NACDD CEO John W. Robertscher, MPH. “Robyn has done significant work for the Association as our Health Equity consultant and as a leader in our [Health Equity Council](#). She brings a wealth of experience and expertise to the Association, and the work she will continue to do is vital to our mission. As the Senior Director of Health Equity, she will help ensure that we have a consistent focus on social and racial equity across our portfolio of work and in the Association’s operations.”

Taylor also will lead the development of a center for health equity at NACDD. Her previous work at NACDD includes a project to increase enrollment of minority men in the National Diabetes Prevention Program and a project to reduce breast cancer disparities. She also co-wrote [the Moving to Institutional Equity: A Tool to Address Racial Equity in Public Health](#) tool, and is a founding member of NACDD’s Racial Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (REDI) Alliance, which was established in 2020 to focus on promoting equity, diversity, and inclusion within NACDD’s internal culture and practices.





New Medicare Diabetes Prevention Program Resources Available

A new page on the National DPP Coverage Toolkit, [Medicare Diabetes Prevention Program \(MDPP\) Implementation Resources](#), features webinars and resources for MDPP suppliers. Topics include referrals and recruitment, marketing, promoting the MDPP during the public health emergency, working with Medicare Advantage plans, and billing and claims.

Business Influencers Receive Grants to Expand Diabetes Prevention

As NACDD's commitment to scaling and sustaining the National DPP deepens, the Diabetes Technical Assistance and Support team, with funding support from CDC, recently awarded five grants to business influencers who are committed to partnering with State Health Departments to advance employer-sponsored coverage of the National DPP lifestyle change program. With the addition of these five organizations, NACDD is now working with a total of 10 organizations in the business influencer space.

Business Influencers, Winter 2022

[Diabetes Alliance of Idaho](#)
[Florida Alliance for Healthcare Value](#)
[Health Links™](#)
[St. Louis Area Business Health Coalition](#)
[Mid-America Coalition on Health Care](#)

Business Influencers, Summer 2021

[Greater Philadelphia Business Coalition on Health](#)
[Midwest Business Group on Health](#)
[Nebraska Safety Council](#)
[Wellness Coalition of Southern Indiana](#)
[YMCA of Metropolitan Milwaukee](#)

The "Supporting State Health Department Participation in the National DPP" grant asks recipients to work in close partnership with the State Health Department in their region to engage employers in increasing awareness of prediabetes and employer coverage of the National DPP lifestyle change program. Recipients have committed to activities such as: hosting executive briefing sessions and broker trainings; conducting an employer market assessment to identify employers in their region who already cover or are interested in learning more about covering the National DPP lifestyle change program; and providing one-on-one technical assistance to employers who demonstrate readiness to cover the program.

"This grant is a good example of how non-traditional partners can make a world of difference in the national effort to prevent diabetes," says Sara Hanlon, NACDD's lead consultant for employer-based coverage of the National DPP lifestyle change program. If your organization is interested in joining the effort to prevent type 2 diabetes, here are three actions you can take:

- **Walk the talk:** Does your organization offer coverage of the National DPP lifestyle change program for its employees? Present the [business case for coverage](#) to your benefits department. All employers who are interested in diabetes prevention for their employees should sign up for [NACDD's Employer Network](#) to gain access to events, news, and resources.
- **Connect with a business influencer near you:** Help increase access to and enrollment in the National DPP lifestyle change program for the communities in your region by connecting with a business influencer on the list above to identify ways your organizations can partner with each other to achieve shared goals.
- **Learn more about employer coverage of the National DPP lifestyle change program:** The [Coverage Toolkit's participating payers page](#) is an excellent one-stop-shop for resources related to employer coverage. Find everything from fact sheets to return on investment calculators and success stories on this webpage.

Happy “Aspirement” to Susan Lopez-Payan, Our Connector Behind The Connector



In January 2022, Susan Lopez-Payan officially retired (or as she prefers to say, “aspired”) from NACDD. Since 2015, Susan served as a subject matter expert and Lead for communications on NACDD’s Diabetes Technical Assistance and Support team. Susan’s contributions to the team spanned beyond supporting NACDD and its Members with effective communications strategies; she really dug deep into the work by fostering strong partnerships that allowed the Technical Assistance and Support Team to support states’ diabetes prevention and management goals in meaningful ways.

Susan has helped the NACDD Diabetes Technical Assistance and Support team provide gold standard services to Members. She pioneered how communications should be integrated into NACDD’s public health work. She understood what was “news” and should be shared with Members and partners. The integrated communications foundation she laid for the NACDD Diabetes teams is used as an example of excellence across NACDD.

Prior to consulting with NACDD, Susan served in several communications, marketing, and public health roles. During her time as the Administrative Program Manager of California’s Diabetes Program, she also served as Chair of NACDD’s Diabetes Council Leadership Group.

Susan, you truly brought an eagle's eye to editing, gracefully navigated partnership development, and found the true story in every tale. You didn’t just write and edit The Connector... you were The Connector. Thank you for your years of public health service. We wish you the best in your aspirement!

HALT Empowers States and Organizations to Succeed in Diabetes Prevention

In February 2022, NACDD’s General Member Webinar featured [Health and Lifestyle Training \(HALT\)](#), an online platform offering states the opportunity to provide public health education interventions. Available in English and Spanish versions, HALT is a highly affordable and equitable tool to deliver behavior change programs.

During the webinar, NACDD staff and state chronic disease practitioners discussed how HALT fills a gap in delivering the National DPP lifestyle change program. Panelists shared how states have

customized HALT to make it their own and serve diverse populations. Participants were given a demonstration of HALT and learned how to bring the HALT platform to their state. The [webinar](#) is available to view online.



Health Equity and the Health Debt Explored at NACDD's Chronic Disease Showcase

Nearly 400 hundred guests attended NACDD's [6th Annual Virtual Program Showcase](#) held on January 20, 2022. The NACDD Showcase featured a live stream opening from Chief Executive Officer John Robitscher, who spoke about the critical need to discuss health equity and the health debt accrued during COVID-19. Robitscher defined [health debt](#) as the “cumulative public health impact of missed [preventive care](#) and screenings due to the pandemic.” The NACDD Showcase featured public health luminaries and thought leaders on emerging issues in the field and a special message on the importance of preventative screenings from Senator Amy Klobuchar of Minnesota.

Two panels of experts grappled with current issues and solutions. The first panel shared ideas about the health debt, rebuilding trust in public health, building resiliency, and identifying and addressing the root causes of health inequities in our nation. In the second panel, four experts discussed the “Frontlines of the Backlog” where they shared ideas for State Health Departments on how to address the health debt and choose intentional equitable leadership to address issues of health disparities and health equity.

In addition, more than 60 [projects and programs](#) that demonstrate innovations in chronic disease prevention and control and health promotion were discussed in break-out sessions. The NACDD portfolio of projects addressing diabetes joined forces with oral health and vision and eye health to demonstrate the relationship of these conditions and the exciting and innovative work that is being implemented to increase the health of states and U.S. Territories.



**We welcome your
contributions to
The Connector!**

To submit story ideas for future issues
of The Connector, email
NACDD.Diabetes@chronicdisease.org.

To read past issues of The Connector, visit
the [NACDD Diabetes Library](#).



Board President Announces 2022 President's Challenge

Kristi Pier, President of NACDD's Board of Directors, launched the annual President's Challenge during the NACDD Showcase. Originally started in 2016, the annual challenge highlights one focus area that NACDD would like Chronic Disease Directors and their programs to focus on. Health debt and racial inequities have impacted Americans' ability to adapt and to be resilient. Building from prior years' focus around racial equity and health equity, the 2022 focus is on building resilience across the socioecological model at the societal, community, interpersonal, and individual levels by addressing both external and internal (chronic disease staff) communities.

For more information on the [President's Challenge](#), watch the [Showcase video announcement](#) or read the [transcript](#).

The following stories highlight the work of
NACDD [Diabetes Council](#) Members and the
Diabetes Council Leadership Group.

CDC Hosts 1815/1817 Virtual Showcase

CDC's Division for Diabetes Translation (DDT) Program Implementation Branch hosted a virtual diabetes showcase for 1815/1817 Category A recipients from Feb. 1-3, 2022. NACDD and Deloitte assisted CDC in hosting the three-day event. More than 250 participants attended this Showcase that provided opportunities to reflect on the accomplishments and collective impact of the 1815 and 1817 cooperative agreements to date, learn effective approaches for implementing type 2 diabetes prevention and management strategies, share promising practices, and network with fellow recipients.

CDC's new DDT Director, Dr. Christopher Holliday, welcomed attendees. Keynote speaker Dr. Jeanne Alongi, NACDD's Vice President for Public Health Practice and Director of the Center for Public Health Leadership, led a discussion on promoting health equity in diabetes management and prevention. Another keynote session featured a review of the revised U.S. Preventative Services Task Force (USPSTF) recommendations on prediabetes and type 2 diabetes screening and provided an overview of the National Clinical Care Commission Report recommendations on leveraging federal programs to prevent and control diabetes and its complications.

Breakout sessions topics included: the case for employer coverage of the National DPP, featuring the NACDD/CDC Employer Learning Collaborative; use of telehealth; engaging Community Health Workers; the role of pharmacists; and strategies for boosting participation in the National DPP lifestyle change program and DSMES. Showcase attendees also had the opportunity to participate in National DPP and DSMES office hours, a DDT Town Hall, and networking.

Insights from the CDC Showcase will help to inform how 1815/1817 recipients can best address strategic objectives during the remainder of the cooperative agreement and beyond. The [welcome message and day one keynote speech](#), [day two keynote speech](#), [Town Hall](#), and [breakout session recordings](#) are available to view.

"State diabetes programs have been at the forefront of innovating Medicaid reimbursement via 1115 waivers to do some of the social determinants of work. Kudos to you for leading the charge on that."

Dr. Jeanne Alongi
NACDD Vice President
for Public Health
Practice and Director
of the Center for Public
Health Leadership



New FAQ: States Can Promote the Use of USPSTF Recommendations

In August 2021, USPSTF updated its recommendation for [prediabetes and type 2 diabetes screening](#). Key changes to the recommendation include:

- Lowering the starting age for screening from 40 to 35 years
- Adding specification on BMI for Asian Americans (23 or greater)
- Broadening referral recommendation from “intensive behavioral counselling interventions” to “effective preventive interventions”
- Changing from screening for “abnormal blood glucose” to screening for “prediabetes”
- Changing language references from populations “who are overweight or obese” to populations who “have overweight or obesity”

Following the updated recommendation, the [Diabetes Council Leadership Group](#) worked with NACDD and Leavitt Partners to update a [frequently asked questions](#) fact sheet. The Leadership Group also discussed practical uses for the new screening recommendation. State Health Department staff and partners can play a critical role in helping build the case for coverage of the National DPP lifestyle change program by:

- Sharing with employers and health plans that the recommended screening age has been lowered to include people who are 35 and older. This may have an impact on screening events.
- Ensuring employers know that it is recommended that the National DPP lifestyle change program be covered by insurers to facilitate discussions with the insurers they work with.
- Supporting a Medicaid State Plan Amendment to meet Grade A and B recommendations. If state Medicaid agencies cover the National DPP lifestyle change program and meet both Grade A and B recommendations, they are eligible for to receive a federal match of 1% increase in their federal Medicaid matching funds.

“I will share the FAQ with employers and health plans to make sure they are aware of the changes to the recommendations and requirements for coverage.”

Pam Geis
Health Promotion Specialist,
Wisconsin Division of Public Health

Consider Running in the 2022 Leadership Group Election

Each year, the Diabetes Council Leadership Group election season kicks off with nominations in April, the election in May, and new terms beginning in July. The Leadership Group will have six open positions this year. Serving on the Diabetes Council Leadership Group is an excellent way for State Health Department diabetes staff to gain leadership experience, have an impact on a national scale, and work with peers to navigate opportunities and challenges in the diabetes prevention and management realm. A few activities that Diabetes Council Leaders have worked on recently include:

- Prepared public comments for multiple national policies
- Hosted workplan clinics for all Diabetes Council Members
- Supported the development of and presented on national webinars
- Provided input on the process to gather 1815/1817 diabetes recipient experiences



An email announcement about open nominations was sent to Diabetes Council Members. Both colleague-nominations and self-nominations are accepted. To learn more about the requirements for each position, refer to the [Leadership Group Roles and Responsibilities](#).

Scholarship Recipients Share Key Takeaways from National Conferences

Last fall, the Diabetes Council Professional Development Workgroup awarded several conference scholarships to Diabetes Council Members. Recipients virtually attended a conference of their choice to support their state's diabetes prevention and management activities and to contribute to their individual professional development as it pertains to NACDD's chronic disease competencies. For conference scholarship recipients Lauren Neely of Michigan and Julie Cleaton of Alaska, addressing health equity in policy and evaluation was a common theme. During a recent meeting of the Diabetes Leadership Group, both Lauren and Julie shared that they were reminded that one step to achieving health equity is to include the communities who are impacted by the activities. Complicated topics require multiple perspectives, and individuals impacted by the decisions made must be a priority. Additionally, Julie learned that including people affected by evaluation outcomes in the planning and implementation of an evaluation can go a long way toward ensuring that results are more useable and relevant.

The Diabetes Council Professional Development Workgroup will offer conference scholarships in April 2022 and again in July 2022. For more information, Diabetes Council Members should contact nacdd.diabetes@chronicdisease.org.

Scholarship Recipient Insight



Julie Cleaton
Alaska State
Department of Health

The theme of the American Evaluation Association (AEA) Eval21 Reimagined Conference was "Meeting the Moment," interpreted from multiple perspectives to include COVID-19 response, racial equity, and technology use. Julie's top three takeaways were:

- community-based participatory research is essential to making an evaluation meaningful and accurate,
- federal programs (OMB, EPA, Homeland Security, Administration for Community Living) are working to integrate equity into their evaluations by lessening reporting burdens on grantees and adopting new standards and,
- a variety of evaluation terms and methods are not taught in public health, so AEA was valuable for learning about things like outcome harvesting, collective sense-making, qualitative comparative network analysis, and social return on investment.

Scholarship Recipient Insight



Lauren Neely
Michigan State
Department of Health

The Society for Public Health Education Advocacy Summit impressed upon Lauren the need to continue efforts to advocate for population health. Her most important takeaways included:

- understanding advocacy is a critical piece of public health, and states may be able to support efforts through community-based and grassroots partnerships,
- approaching policy change strategically; consider the audience of your message, how you will accomplish the goal, and the tools you will use to be successful,
- considering ourselves as "the system," and even without large-scale advocacy efforts, we can still work with communities to make impactful changes and,
- leading considerations of community-based participatory evaluation; "not for us, but with us," is a useful refrain to remember from the logic model to the final report out.

NACDD's Redesigned Database is Ready for Your Success Stories

NACDD has redesigned and enhanced its popular [What's Working in Chronic Disease Prevention and Control Success Stories Database](#), an interactive database and collection of success stories showcasing state and territorial chronic disease prevention and health promotion work. The database is available via NACDD's website, chronicdisease.org or via the direct link publichealthsuccess.org and is designed to educate policymakers, funders, and Members on evidence-based and innovative programs to reduce the burden of chronic disease in their communities.

“NACDD is committed to helping states demonstrate their impact in creating a healthier nation, and the What's Working Database is a powerful tool that helps our Membership enhance their capacity and secure support for their programs.”

NACDD CEO John W. Robitscher, MPH

The database features more than 500 success stories and case studies on a variety of topics dating back to 2013. One of the most recent diabetes submissions was [Delaware Boosts Diabetes Prevention Referrals Using EHR and Academic Detail](#) from 2021. We encourage you to continue to share successes from your current diabetes efforts.

As state and territorial diabetes program recipients head into their last year of 1815 and 1817 cooperative agreements, NACDD invites recipients to share their successes by [submitting a story](#) to the database. Success stories are easy to submit via a form on publichealthsuccess.org and can include images and links to other resources. Reach out to the [Diabetes Technical Assistance and Support team](#) if you need assistance submitting a program success story or case study about diabetes.



Announcements and Resources

NACDD CEO Co-Publishes Commentary Article About the Impact of Disinformation and Misinformation

Dr. David Hoffman (NACDD Policy Committee Chair) and John Robitscher, MPH, (NACDD CEO) co-authored [Disinformation, Misinformation and the Multiplying Impact of the Pandemic and Beyond](#), a commentary article published in the Annals of Bioethics and Clinical Applications. The article discusses the resulting damage of misinformation, such as the avoidance of evidence-supported vaccines and other methods to reduce coronavirus contagion, the growing burden of health debt, and the impact on relationships – personal, professional, and collective trust.

New Report to Congress from the National Clinical Care Commission

The National Clinical Care Commission submitted their [Report to Congress on Leveraging Federal Programs to Prevent and Control Diabetes and its Complications](#) in January 2022, nearly 50 years after the last report was submitted in 1975. The report outlines the Commission's evidence-based findings and recommendations for improving federal diabetes prevention and treatment programs.

Are you Signed up for the National DPP Customer Service Center's Newsletter?

[CDC's Customer Service Center newsletter](#) is a quarterly publication featuring recently published resources, upcoming technical assistance and training events, and updated information on the status of the National DPP.

Webinar Recording: Your Prescription for Success with Pharmacies, Parts 1 and 2

The Diabetes Council Professional Development Workgroup offered two webinars designed to increase 1815/1817 recipient capacity to work with pharmacists and pharmacies to increase access to and enrollment in DSMES and the National DPP lifestyle change program. The webinar recordings are available on [NACDD's diabetes library webpage](#) and at these direct links:

- [Your Prescription for Success with Pharmacies, Part 1](#) (August 2021)
- [Your Prescription for Success with Pharmacies, Part 2](#) (January 2022)

Wondering Where to Go for the Latest COVID-19 Public Health Resources?

CDC's webpage for [COVID-19 Communication Resources for Health Departments](#) is a great resource for Public Information Officers and other health department and public health professionals. It includes toolkits with social media messages, crisis and emergency risk communications, and resources for specific groups like migrants, refugees, and other Limited-English Proficient populations, and travelers. NACDD also offers a [resource list](#) specifically for Chronic Disease Units.

CDC Diabetes and COVID-19 Study Published in Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report

Children and teens 18 years of age and younger who have had COVID-19 are up to 2.5 times more likely to be newly diagnosed with diabetes after infection. Preventing COVID-19 among children

and teens is important to slow the spread and protect them from other possible effects of the disease. Read the full study: [Risk for Newly Diagnosed Diabetes >30 Days After SARS-CoV-2 Infection Among Persons Aged <18 Years](#).

New Paper in Journal of Diabetes Research Assesses Enrollment Differences in Delivery Mode of the National DPP

A new paper titled [Delivering the National DPP: Assessment of Enrollment in In-Person and Virtual Organizations](#), was published in the Journal of Diabetes Research in February 2022. The paper was co-authored by subject matter experts at CDC, Deloitte Consulting, and Cyberdata technologies. It describes and analyzes "cumulative enrollment in the National DPP lifestyle change program, with an emphasis on assessing differences by delivery mode."

NACDD Co-Authors Public Health Surveillance Column in the Journal of Public Health Management & Practice

The Journal of Public Health Management & Practice released its March/April issue featuring a new Management Moment column titled, "[New Directions in Public Health Surveillance: Using Electronic Health Records to Monitor Chronic Disease](#)." The column, co-authored by NACDD and other subject matter experts, provides a new direction in public health surveillance in which data from electronic health records are used for chronic disease surveillance.

The "Diabetes Technical Assistance and Support for State Health Departments" project is supported by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as part of a financial assistance award totaling \$6,600,000 with 100 percent funded by CDC/HHS. The contents are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the official views of, nor an endorsement, by CDC/HHS, or the U.S. Government.

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