**Municipal Data Across Sectors for Health (M-DASH)**



**City of Eastport**

**Task Force Meeting**

**August 3, 2021 – 2-4p.m.**

Meeting Recording

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/16RpVHAqjHmg0uyOCsjyJj6aiN26vhKCe/view?usp=sharing>

Attending: Dyan Walsh, Lynn Rutledge, Marianne Moore, John Ferland, Emily Roscoe, Kate Devonshire, Jeanne Peacock, Anne Schroth, Effie Rorke, Jess Maurer

**Meeting Notes**

1. **Update - Eastport Island Fellow: Paige Atkinson** 
   1. Paige will be starting in September, for a 2-year fellowship.
   2. Jeanne and Kate hosted MCOA, ORPC, Island Institute staff in Eastport on 7/26 to discuss the Island Fellow’s work plan.
      1. She will focus her first quarter on getting oriented and M-DASH work.
         1. Training
            1. Working with older people: spend time with EAAA to get steeped in how to interact and engage with older folks, build trust, identify needs without judgment or getting overwhelmed; EAAA has quite a few staff in Washington County who can support her.
            2. Resource education
         2. Building partnerships/community outreach
         3. Collecting data
      2. She will also be working on ETIPP project (microgrid project) with ORPC and Island Institute.
         1. M-DASH and ETIPP: M-DASH looking at issues around poverty and helping people get what they need to live safely and affordably (e.g. better energy efficiency, weatherization, heat pumps). This relates to microgrid project’s goals of increased energy efficiency community-wide.
         2. Goal for microgrid project is to have people understand that this is going to improve their daily life. At basic level, microgrid is bringing back to Eastport the ability to have back-up power (which it used to have). Layering on things like:
            1. Energy efficient homes – how to have lower maintenance costs and increased home value – all part of how energy is managed in the community.
            2. Once microgrid is set up with contemporary technology, enables community to think differently about economic development (business; tourism; public safety; infrastructure).
2. **Discussion** 
   1. Development of Home Repair Project
      1. Convene meeting with Maine Housing, Efficiency Maine, Seacoast Mission, Downeast Community Partners (when Paige arrives)
         1. Describe what we want to do and ask for their input re: options for partnerships, funding (for pilot of some kind).
      2. Subcommittee to work on this with Paige? Who is going to own it?
         1. Chicken and egg problem: Who is going to own project?
            1. If Masons – they direct and supervise repair volunteers
            2. If Housing Authority – they direct and supervise
            3. If Habitat (e.g. Harpswell), they direct and supervise
         2. Is there one organization that can take on process or will we need to knit it together with various partners?
         3. Need to meet with Masons to gauge interest
            1. Local Masons
            2. Maybe county-wide Mason project
         4. New configuration of Senior Center and reinvigorated Board -- maybe they want to take this on? (Jeanne will explore this idea with them.)
   2. Energy audit outreach strategy
      1. Want to normalize process: terrific opportunity to engage people in a community-spirited effort with idea we could help people who are reluctant to ask for help.
      2. How to identify them? How to do outreach? What kind of outreach?
      3. If community members hear about program and are interested, how to prioritize?
      4. Is there a magic number for age of resident and/or house?
         1. Over 75 years old?
         2. Is there information that would help us choose?
         3. Looking at Eastport data: there are 100+ people over age 80. Is that too many homes to evaluate?
      5. Once we decide on age of homes/residents, could pinpoint from tax assessors records.
   3. What sort of home assessment will Paige be doing?
      1. Full “Energy Audit” is big process – we don’t need Paige to be doing this. She is more a community organizer – working on process of getting eyes on homes.
      2. She can collect some data but not do a comprehensive energy audit and then could direct people to energy audit (e.g. by DCP).
      3. We need to create some sort of hybrid assessment (“energy audit lite”)
         1. What are some of the questions that we can ask that will get at the people living in poor conditions because they can’t afford their energy or it doesn’t work?
         2. Need Paige to spend a lot of time with people who know all these pieces – how to assess and how/where to refer?
3. **Next Steps**
   1. When Paige arrives, meeting with Jeanne, Kate, MCOA to connect with training resources, develop ideas, workflow.
   2. MCOA can start gathering examples for her (assessments, etc.) and, once she arrives, she can start developing model assessment with feedback from experts (Dale, Jess, Dyan, Emily, etc.) to try out and fine tune.
   3. **Next Meeting: October 5, 10a.m.-12noon**