

Community Health Visioning throughout Greater Franklin County

Priorities established at the past five conferences and resulting actions

Mental health and substance abuse

Year(s) topic was a community priority - 2002, 2000, 1998, 1994

- Nicotine Replacement Therapy available at health centers of HealthReach CHC
- Tobacco Free Franklin Campaign initiated
- Establishment of Evergreen Behavioral Services
- Lean on Me Campaign created
- Increased United Way support for mental health agencies
- Youth to Youth established
- Western Mountains Renaissance School developed
- Mental Health Task Force created
- Friends Together Social Club established

Jobs with affordable wages and health insurance

Year(s) topic was a community priority - 2002, 2000

- Establishment of Franklin County Economic Development Corporation

Expand health education & outreach

Year(s) topic was a community priority - 2000, 1996, 1994

- Automated External Defibrillators on-site at health centers of HealthReach CHC through contracts with Tri-County Emergency Services
- HealthReach CHC - Nursing Services and Health & Dental Education in SAD 58
- Healthy Community Coalition establishment & expansion, includes 14 staff & 3 Community Health Advocates, educators, nurses, dietician and over 200 volunteers
- Healthy Community Coalition purchases Mobile Health Unit bringing health education & preventive services to outlying regions, including 3,700 visits in one year
- Western Maine Alliance's *Sustain Western Maine Project* explored ways in the region to sustain its infrastructure, health & economy, resulting in a local public access television station offering topics on health & wellness
- Education center built at FMH
- Franklin Health Leaders Forum established
- HCC expansion
- Maine Breast & Cervical Health Program
- Safe Visitors Program increases outreach

Suicide prevention

Year(s) topic was a community priority - 2000

- Yellow Ribbon Campaigns, SAD #9, UMF
- The Hope Book developed, over 700 copies distributed
- The Glen Gilchrist Memorial Race held at Titcomb Mountain since 1997

Dental-care

Year(s) topic was a community priority - 2000, 1998, 1994

- A Dental Task Force was developed to explore ways to increase access to dental services for the financially disadvantaged in the region leading to the Franklin County Dental Health Center, now Community Dental
- HealthReach established dental coalition
- United Way increased funding to support Franklin County Dental Health Center
- HealthReach establishment of Strong Area Health Center Dental Program

Specialty Care & After Hours/Urgent Care

Year(s) topic was a community priority - 1998

- New specialty services at FMH including Oncology & Dermatology
Pine Tree Medical Associates, Primary Care & Specialty
- Saturday Women's Health Days run by HealthReach Community Health Centers

Public Health Information/Resource Directories

Year(s) topic was a community priority - 2002, 1998

- HealthReach CHC – Community Resource Directories – printed & electronic
- Health and social service resource guide, franklin1call, renamed to www.TheCommunityConnector.org, expanded and redesigned for launch in 2005
- Expansive Physical Resources Directory created and available on HCC website
- Franklin Resource Network established whose mission is to increase awareness of and access to long term care supports for the elderly, caregivers and the disabled
- HCC hires community building coordinator
- Local Breast Care resource list developed and available on HCC website
- One Call toll free number & on website for health & social service referrals, funded by United Way of the Tri-Valley Area

Primary Prevention in Schools

Year(s) topic was a community priority - 1998

- HealthReach CHC - Nursing Services and Health & Dental Education in SAD 58
- K-12 health and wellness program developed
- A re-examination of the school nurse as a preventive health provider, and placement of mid-level providers in schools
- Franklin County Children's Task Force Bullying Program established
- Youth to Youth Program initiated
- The ZONE in Phillips, after school program created

Elder Care Issues & Prescription Medications/Pharmacy

Year(s) topic was a community priority - 1998, 2002

- Franklin Resource Network partners with HCC
- Prevention "Falls" campaign initiated

- HealthReach CHC – Seniors’ Forum at Mt. Abram Regional Health Center
- (Medicare Drug Card, Maine Care, Advanced Directives, & more)
- HealthReach Community Centers’ 18-month project distributing \$25 vouchers for prescriptions at every office visit

Transportation

Year(s) topic was a community priority - 1998

- Community Concepts transport program for seniors, seed funded by United Way of Tri-Valley Area and newly expanded to include all residents in need. Services include 700 miles a week.

Coordination and efficiency between organizations to provided care & health moderation

Year(s) topic was a community priority - 1996, 1994

- PHO (Western Maine Physician Hospital Organization) became affiliate of FCHN
- Development of Signature Care
- Collaborations with CMMC & MMC for a Pulmonology Clinic
- Consolidation of service area’s emergency transportation system *Lifestar*
- Health Leaders Forum developed to include leaders of all health & social services organizations serving the region
- HCC became leaders in health education, wellness, and prevention initiator in the service area

Special attention paid to the needs of women and children

Year(s) topic was a community priority - 1996

- Martha B. Webber Breast Care Center opened at Franklin Memorial Hospital
- Stereotactic Biopsy Equipment available at FMH’s Martha B. Webber Breast Care Center
- Publication of Tri-County *Local Risk Factors for Adolescent Suicide and Self-Destructive Behavior*, collaborated with Children’s Region Coordinating Committee and Evergreen
- Western Maine Renaissance School developed, serving students with severe emotional handicaps
- Implemented *Contract for Care Project*, an option of paying medical bills by working them off at the hospital for those uninsured and underinsured clients
- Health Leaders Access Program
- Peace in Our Families addressing family violence - HealthReach CHC incorporated domestic violence screening into health center visits and new employee orientation
- Growing Healthy Families developed to offer home visits for all new families - Teen Connection of HealthReach CHC joined with FHCN & FCCTF for a more integrated parenting program
- SAVES school based advocates introduced in local schools
- Jay Church Street Playground installed
- Development of Western Maine Center for Heart Health
- Development of Maine Health Research Institute
- AWAP expands support services for women
- Maine Centers for Women, Work and Community expands services for displaced homemakers seeking their place in the workforce
- New OB unit at FMH
- Positive Turning Points Program’s expansion to include Kerr House, a residential group home for pregnant & parenting teens and their children

- Health Card database had three targeted mailings:
 - Women over 40, the availability of mammograms
 - Uninsured families with children educating them on the eligibility of Medicaid
 - Letters to males over 18, education on domestic violence and endorsement of non-violence against women and children

Participants wanted a “shared vision” with community ownership and support

Year(s) topic was a community priority - 2002, 2000, 1998, 1996, 1994

- The result: Health Quest 2000
- Community Health Visioning process now co-sponsored by Health Leaders Forum, the United Way of Tri-Valley Area, University of Maine at Farmington, HealthReach Community Centers, Franklin Community Health Network, and the Healthy Community Coalition

Promotion of healthy lifestyles, wellness and preventive services

Year(s) topic was a community priority - 2002, 2000, 1994

- The HCC hired a Health Educator to promote wellness and preventive services in the region
- HCC purchases Mobile Health Unit bringing health education and services to the outlying regions
- Community Health Advocates distribute health education & preventive materials
- Research and Strategic Evaluation have occurred. Research has included first year of outcomes measurement and original research submitted for publication in peer-reviewed journals. A survey was conducted at Farmington Fair 2003, which found significant stressors associated with poor health. Strategic evaluation of all HCC programs was begun.

Improved access to primary care

Year(s) topic was a community priority - 2000, 1994

- FMH & HealthReach hires a full time recruiter, to recruit more physicians in service area
- Expansion of physicians in area
- Pine Tree Medical Associates, an affiliate of FCHN now includes 21 health providers and physicians
- Franklin Health Access Project created to improve the health and well-being of uninsured, financially disadvantaged Franklin County residents

Issues on present health care system and affordability

Year(s) topic was a community priority - 1994

- A grant awarded to FCHN and HealthReach Network for development of a managed care delivery system in region, leading to development of the PHO
- A Dental Task Force established to explore ways to increase access to dental services for the financially disadvantaged in the region
- Franklin Health Access Project, to improve the health and well-being of uninsured, financially disadvantaged Franklin County residents

Participants wanted home care services expanded and strengthened

Year(s) topic was a community priority - 1994

- An Aging Task Force created to study assisted living options for the area
- FMH working with Androscoggin Home Health Agency on a collaborative effort to expand home health in the service area

More public activities

Year(s) topic was a community priority - 2002

Participants request health education teams to reach out to special populations and geographies

Year(s) topic was a community priority - 2000, 1996, 1994

- The HCC purchases MHU in 1995 bringing outreach services and Education
- Western Mountain Alliance's *Sustain Western Maine Project* explored ways in the region to sustain its infrastructure, health, economy resulting in a local public access television station offering topics on health and wellness

Need for school systems to provide health services, information and education

Year(s) topic was a community priority - 1998

- HealthReach CHC - Nursing Services and Health & Dental Education in SAD 58
- HealthReach Health Educator working in local schools with health resources
- Franklin County Children's Task Force's Bullying Program established
- School Health Coordinator at SAD #9 through HCC
- Life Skills being taught in most school districts, evidence-based health improvement & curriculum
- Breast cancer resources provided to all area public libraries by HCC
- FMH library expanded and available to public & providers
- Nutrition Task Force writes column in *The Franklin Journal*

Participants wanted more communication with government and in general

Year(s) topic was a community priority - 1994

- *Health Quest 2000* Steering Committee along with Western Mountains Alliance promoted ongoing legislative breakfast series in Farmington
- Initiatives include publication of *Developing a Vision for Health Care Delivery in Western Maine*
- HCC Health Assessments published every other year
- FCHN *Hands on Health* insert
- HCC *Health Beat* Radio Show and column

More attention to the problems of teens

Year(s) topic was a community priority - 2002

- Five Youth Summits held, coordinated by HCC
- Youth to Youth program established for youth in five school districts (HCC)