



## Reflecting Back on 2017 - Moving Forward in 2018

It was a very busy year for us here at MCD Public Health! Our work continued to take us to local communities and across the nation addressing public health issues that range from healthcare associated infections, antibiotic resistance, oral health, telehealth, accreditation, chronic disease prevention and management, worksite wellness, and so much more. Check out the [short video](#) about MCD Public Health, created by one of our newest team members, Kelsey Schwarz.



While we cannot possibly highlight all of the fantastic work of 2017 here in this newsletter, here are just a few snippets:

- The MCDPH team submitted over thirty proposals and counting, with all but two successfully funded, and more than 10 new projects and programs implemented this year.
- As of December, 2,306 people have registered for the Community Health Worker online training, in 19 different states.
- The NETRC team provided over 700 technical assistance responses across the Northeast and presented at more than 20 regional events.
- WellStarME, our customized wellness platform designed around the wellness goals of a large Maine employer, serves up to 32,000 members. Average customer service ratings were 9 out of 10, where 10 equals excellent service!
- MCDPH's WellStarME team coordinated services including onsite flu clinics and health screenings for more than 3,900 employees state-wide.

As we've shared over the past few months, MCD Public Health had a transitional year as we welcomed more collaboration and synergistic strategic planning with our MCD International colleagues. From our website you can learn more about MCD's [domestic](#) and [international](#) programs, and as always, please reach out if you'd like to discuss opportunities for collaboration in impacting public health locally, regionally or globally.

As we all reflect back on 2017, we recognize that it was at times tumultuous for many of us in public health. That said, the highs far outnumbered the lows, reinforcing that collectively, we are a mighty and resilient workforce that pulls up our bootstraps and finds innovative ways to get the work done as the landscape changes around us. What keeps us going and truly inspires us is the amazing and steadfast work that our team and all public health colleagues do here in Maine and across the U.S. It's with no doubt that 2018 will bring more challenges, but we are confident with strong partnerships and our team of professionals we will continue to move the critical work of public health forward, and that the highlights will win out again!



Elizabeth  
Foley

*Happy Holidays!*

*Elizabeth & Danielle*

Co-Directors, MCD Public Health



Danielle  
Louder



January 1 - April 8



**Are you ready to get moving toward better health?** APHA's [1 Billion Steps Challenge](#) helps build excitement for [National Public Health Week 2018](#) and is the perfect opportunity to promote health and well-being in your community.

The Steps Challenge officially kicks off on Jan. 1 and runs through April 8, the last day of NPHW. To help you and your family, friends and colleagues get moving, all Challenge participants receive free access to Stridekick's fitness-tracking platform.

Ready to get stepping? You can join Team APHA or another existing team. Or create your own team. [Join today!](#)

Not ready to join an existing team or start a team of your own? Share the Steps Challenge with family and friends and encourage them to help you form a team. We make it easy for you to get people moving with the 1 Billion Steps Challenge.

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## Update ...

**Furthering Access to Stroke Telemedicine (FAST) Act** - As of December 6, 2017 - The Committee on Energy and Commerce report favorably thereon with an amendment and recommend that the bill as amended do pass. The Committee on Ways and Means discharged; committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered to be printed.

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## Mark Your Calendars!

**New Year's Resolutions for Public Health: Reflecting Back on 2017 and Moving Forward in 2018** - **January 9, 2018 ~ 4:00 - 5:00 pm ET**. Free Webinar co-hosted by APHA, Prevention Institute, Public Health Institute, and Trust for America's Health. To register, [click here](#).

**National Diabetes Prevention Program and Diabetes Self-Management Training - January 9, 2018 ~ 12:00 - 1:00 pm.** Free Webinar hosted by Maine Quality Counts. To register, [click here](#).

**SAVE THE DATE - National Public Health Week 2018 - April 2-8, 2018.**

Theme: "Healthiest Nation 2030: Changing Our Future Together."

**SAVE THE DATE - QC 2018: Quality, Collaboration, Innovation ... It All Counts! - April 4, 2018.** Keynote: Dr. Sanjeev Arora - Dr. Arora's [Project ECHO@](#) shares knowledge and amplifies best-practice care for underserved people all over the world.

**Global Health & Innovation Conference - April 14-15, 2018** - Yale University, New Haven, CT. For more information and to register, [click here](#).

**SAVE THE DATE - National Network of Public Health Institutes (NNPHI) Annual Conference and Public Health Workforce Forum - May 22-24, 2018** - New Orleans, LA. For more information and to register, [click here](#).

**SAVE THE DATE - Northeast Telehealth Resource Center's 2018 Regional Telehealth Conference - June 5-6, 2018** - Portland, Maine. Registration information will be available in January.

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