



# State Health Improvement Plan Steering Committee Meeting MINUTES

## Details:

**Date:** February 27, 2023, 8:00 am–12:30 pm

**Address:** Orlando Marriott Lake Mary  
Grand Ballroom  
1501 International Parkway  
Lake Mary, Florida 32746

**Facilitator:** Mirine Richey, MPH, IBCLC

## Meeting Objectives:

1. Provide an update on implementation of the 2022–2026 State Health Improvement Plan
2. Discuss priority-level progress for Quarters 1 (July–September 2022) and 2 (October–December 2022)

## Member Participation:

Member Name	Member Organization	Attendance
Jason C. Weida, JD	Agency for Health Care Administration	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Jeanette Estes, Esq. for Taylor Hatch	Agency for Persons with Disabilities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Ginnifer Barber for Robin Safely, JD	Feeding Florida	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Cynthia M. Harris, PhD, DABT	Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University – Institute of Public Health	<input type="checkbox"/>
Paul Rowley	Florida American Indian Health Advisory Council	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ben Browning, MPA	Florida Association of Community Health Centers	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mike Hill	Florida Association of Health Planning Agencies	<input type="checkbox"/>
Agency Head or Designee	Florida Association of Health Plans	<input type="checkbox"/>
Melanie Brown-Woofter	Florida Behavioral Health Association	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Kelli Tice, MD	Florida Blue	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mark Wilson, CCE	Florida Chamber Foundation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Alexandra Abboud, DPL	Florida Dental Association	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Agency Head or Designee	Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services	<input type="checkbox"/>



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Member Name	Member Organization	Attendance
Shevaun Harris, MSW, MBA	Florida Department of Children and Families	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Debbie Smiley	Florida Department of Economic Opportunity	<input type="checkbox"/>
Peggy Aune	Florida Department of Education	<input type="checkbox"/>
Michael Wickersheim for Michelle Branham	Florida Department of Elder Affairs	<input type="checkbox"/>
Britney Moore	Florida Department of Environmental Protection	<input type="checkbox"/>
Melissa Jordan	Florida Department of Health	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Joseph A. Ladapo, MD, PhD	Florida Department of Health	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Kenneth A Schepcke, MD, FAEMS	Florida Department of Health	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Sarah Quaranta, MPH	Florida Department of Health – Rural County Health Department	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
R. Matthew Dobson, MS	Florida Department of Health – Medium County Health Department	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Aaron Kissler, MPH	Florida Department of Health – Large County Health Department	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Ulyee Choe, DO	Florida Department of Health – Metro County Health Department	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Rita Smith, DNP, MPH, APRN, NP-C	Florida Department of Juvenile Justice	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Lora Hollingsworth, PE	Florida Department of Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Doug Roberts for Luke Strickland	Florida Division of Emergency Management	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Kim Streit for Mary Mayhew	Florida Hospital Association	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Elaine Roberts	Florida Housing Finance Corporation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Joseph West, ScM, ScD	Florida Institute for Health Innovation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Elena Bastida, PhD	Florida International University – Robert Stempel College of Public Health and Social Work	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ashley Heath Dietz, MS	Florida Philanthropic Network	<input type="checkbox"/>
George Rust, MD, MPH	Florida State University – Center for Medicine and Public Health	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Ana Palacio, MD MPH	University of Miami – Department of Public Health Sciences	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Gary Howze	Office of Attorney General Ashley Moody	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>



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Member Name	Member Organization	Attendance
Rick Owen, MA	United Way of Florida	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cindy Prins, PhD, MPH, CIC, CPH	University of Florida – College of Public Health and Health Professions	<input type="checkbox"/>
Leslie Pearsall	VISIT FLORIDA	<input type="checkbox"/>

State Health Improvement Plan Steering Committee Meeting  
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Meeting Notes:

Topic	Summary of key points, decisions, and action items	Presenter
<b>Welcome</b>	<p><b><u>Donna Walsh, MPA, Health Officer, Florida Department of Health in Seminole County</u></b></p> <p>Health Officer Donna Walsh welcomed everyone to beautiful Lake Mary, Florida and highlighted many of the public health initiatives that are underway in Seminole County and the surrounding areas. She also introduced State Surgeon General, Dr. Ladapo, who made opening remarks.</p>	<p><b>Donna Walsh, MPA Health Officer Florida Department of Health in Seminole County</b></p>
<b>Opening Remarks</b>	<p><b><u>Joseph A. Ladapo, MD, PhD, State Surgeon General, Florida Department of Health</u></b></p> <p>Dr. Ladapo discussed how the SHIP demonstrates a thoughtful way of approaching health—through its unique and systematic design. He said that we should all be immensely proud of the SHIP; and he is proud to be a part of the SHIP process. Dr. Ladapo commented on the recent passing of Robin Napier, the Health Officer for the Florida Department of Health in Hernando County and SHIP Steering Committee Member. He stated how much he admired her and that she was a bright light. He added that she was with the Department of Health for over 20 years; that the work she supported will live on, and she is with us today. Dr. Ladapo shared that as Floridians, we are doing special things and it is an honor to be a part of it. He closed by saying that he is looking forward to hearing from the workgroups about their efforts.</p>	<p><b>Joseph A. Ladapo, MD, PhD State Surgeon General Florida Department of Health</b></p>
<b>Steering Committee Introductions</b>	<p>The Steering Committee members introduced themselves, their respective agencies, and organizations. Ms. Richey gave an overview of the new SHIP website. She stated that additional information would be added to the website as the SHIP plan progresses. Ms. Richey made a special reference to the contact page for staying in touch with the SHIP planning and logistics team and described how the community can use this contact page as well. Lastly, Ms. Richey recapped the seven SHIP priority areas.</p>	<p><b>Mirine Richey, MPH, IBCLC  Steering Committee members</b></p>
<b>State Health Improvement Plan Overview and Updates</b>	<p>Ms. Julia Fitz-Gibby gave an overview and visual of the SHIP process. She indicated that for today’s meeting, the group would be discussing the monitoring of initiatives, activities, and progress. Ms. Fitz-Gibby continued by discussing the implementation process and that workplans were created through collaborative discussions. Strategies/activities were agreed upon, and monitoring has begun. She stated that progress is measured by changes across objectives as of December 2022. Ms. Fitz-Gibby shared that there are a total of 102 SHIP objectives. Seventy-six percent of objectives are on track and 21% are not on track (not progressing at the desired pace);</p>	<p><b>Julia S. Fitz-Gibby, MPH Chief, Bureau of Community Health Assessment  Florida Department of Health</b></p>

Topic	Summary of key points, decisions, and action items	Presenter
	<p>but there is still a chance for these objectives to be successful. Three percent of the objectives face a decision point, where guidance is needed, which will be discussed further today.</p> <p>Ms. Fitz-Gibby explained to the group a graph displayed on the screen regarding progress by priority area. She shared with the group that the PAWS (Priority Area Workgroups) participate with monthly check-ins where Chairs/Champions offer their input. She discussed the desire to increase awareness of the SHIP plan and added that the SHIP plan is a vehicle to address overarching issues. Ms. Fitz-Gibby also mentioned that a communications plan will be developed to promote the SHIP website. She stressed that alignment between state and local health improvement plans can be better documented by the new SHIP plan; and that the SHIP serves as a blueprint for counties throughout the state. Ms. Fitz-Gibby suggested that data sharing with sister agencies is a possible solution for the development of partnerships that are essential for the success of the SHIP. She concluded by saying that we should give Floridians what they need when they need it most; and then thanked the group.</p>	
<p><b>2022-2026 State Health Improvement Plan Objectives Presentation and Discussions</b></p>	<p><b>ALZHEIMER’S DISEASE AND RELATED DEMENTIAS (ADRD) PRIORITY AREA</b></p> <p>PAW Chairs Anne Chansler and Alex Anderson presented updates on the objectives for Alzheimer’s Disease and Related Dementia’s priority area.</p> <p>Presenters announced to the SHIP Steering Committee that Governor Ron DeSantis issued a proclamation designating November as Family Caregiver Appreciation Month. Additionally, they shared that all three goal groups within ADRD had completed successful surveys that helped identify much-needed resources. The first survey received over 100 responses. The results revealed that education was needed for families and caregivers about how to communicate with doctors about ADRD and how professional assistance can be found. An additional survey was also developed and released for caregivers. The results showed that at least 67% of the respondents were not a part of any caregiver support group. Furthermore, some survey respondents reported spending more than 40 hours a week providing care. The results demonstrated that caregivers’ mental health suffers due to the demands required when providing care.</p>	<p><b>Priority Area Workgroup Chairs</b></p>

More than 80% of the caregivers said their physicians failed to give them a care plan after diagnosis.

Goal 1 for this PAW is to create toolkits that would cover topics such as brain health, dementia warning signs, and symptoms and assessments. Goal 2 focuses on three areas, deficiencies related to long-term care facilities, Florida's long-term care resources for families, and the Florida age-friendly program initiative. This goal would also examine ADRD-friendly business designations. Goal 3 is focused on maintaining the comfort of people with in-home respite. Information, including legal and financial planning, will be provided for each stage of the disease. Presenters discussed how the workgroups were working to ensure that resources become available in different languages and that a caregiver "checklist" be developed. This includes the usage of visual aids. Upcoming efforts include creating a landing page that would house resources for specific communities, with an added volunteer component. A program of support mentioned was "A Pathway to Purpose," which assists seniors in need. The presenters emphasized the importance of educating volunteers as well as evidence-based data and community support.

The discussion portion from the Steering Committee resulted in positive feedback about grants and partnerships between the Department of Health (DOH) and the Department of Elder Affairs (DOEA). The BOLD application was discussed as an opportunity for future funding opportunities. Survey data from the PAW would also be shared with the Steering Committee.

### **CHRONIC DISEASES AND CONDITIONS (CDC) PRIORITY AREA**

PAW Chair Dr. Christopher R. Cogle presented updates for the Chronic Diseases and Conditions priority area.

As of 2021, heart disease is the number one cause of death in Florida; cancer is the second but is declining. Strokes and chronic lower respiratory disease, mostly emphysema, are the third and fourth leading causes of death, respectively. The fifth leading cause of death is diabetes.

Goal 1 focuses on cancer and cancer related illnesses. Declining cancer deaths appear to be aided by tobacco cessation work and new oncology agents. Good strides are being made in the cancer field.

Goal 2 centers around cardiovascular health and related illnesses. Satisfactory progress is also being made in this area as the survival rates of stroke patients continue to improve.

A well-known leader in the Florida health arena, Dr. Ralph Sacco, recently passed away. He had over 1,000 peer reviewed publications and was the president of two national organizations. He had a vision of Florida Health and brought people together. There are about 170 stroke centers in the collaborative due to Dr. Sacco's work. His team is very appreciated and are his legacy.

Goal 3 involves palliative care, and the PAW seeks to increase the number of board-certified providers.

Goal 4 focuses on diabetes and there are currently 46,500 Floridians that are in diabetes education programs. The number of diabetes prevention programs remain stable, but hospitalization for diabetes has worsened. Hospitalization numbers across the board may appear worse for about a year due to COVID.

Goal 5 deals with respiratory health and the percentage of smokers who are quitting smoking has remained stable at 54% every year. Hospitalizations for asthma have worsened. Goal 5 also looks at radon levels. Marion County has the highest and Gilchrist County has the lowest levels of radon. Collier County has the highest radon testing rate.

Goal 6 deals with nutrition and physical activity. There have been improvements in adults eating more fruits and vegetables.

Goal 7, oral health, has had mixed results. There has been an increase in emergency room visits for tooth decay and data collection on other oral health measures continues. Coming out of the pandemic, some of the measures may be misleading for at least another year.

CDC PAW activities include partnership building, statewide initiatives, and health system implementations. Synergy is an AHCA cancer screening initiative with private companies and nonprofits. Kits for cancer screening are driving cancer screening rates up. Grants are available to nonprofit cancer collaboratives if they can implement activities from the plan. Examples of these activities include recruitment and enrollment

in heart programs, AHCA diabetes program, AHCA and DEA on senior home modification efforts (grab bars, ramps, etc. – fulfilling needs in homes).

Next steps for the PAW are to consider designating SHIP captains and giving SHIP awards. The idea behind the rewards is to encourage synergistic activity. The PAW is also discussing the creation of a cardio-vascular disease council for heart disease. There is a need for a unified message on health initiatives. They would like to see where the SHIP will go in terms of the data. Public health needs partnerships with student programs, and opportunities to mentor students. Public health needs more leaders. There are many opportunities to bring mentees into public health and to teach them to be advocates.

There was discussion that Dr. Sacco broke silos and doubled the survival rate of stroke patients. There was also discussion around sub-teams and mentorships such as TOES (Teams of Excellence).

#### **INJURY, SAFETY AND VIOLENCE (ISV) PRIORITY AREA**

PAW Chairs Dr. Robert Karch and Dr. Joseph Pepe presented the updates on the objectives for Injury, Safety and Violence priority area.

Unintentional injury is the leading cause of death and disability for all ages and statuses. Unintentional injury is also the most predictable and preventable cause of death in Florida for people ages 1-45. The four primary goals for ISV include: Child injuries, adult injuries, vulnerable population injuries, and prevention. Presenters reported that the goals for each of these appear to be on track.

Presenters discussed Sudden Unexpected Infant Death Syndrome (SUIDS), which affects one in every 1,000 infants, along with the dangers of co-sleeping. SUIDS activities focus on maternity care hospitals and counties with the highest instances of SUIDS. Orange County is on track to being “sleep certified.” In discussing child fatalities, that the presenters noted that 86.3% of them are connected to drowning. In addition, 22.2% of adults have experienced four or more advanced childhood experiences (ACEs).



Presenters mentioned that a “Keep Kids from Drowning Initiative” is in development; this would be comprised of print materials, alarms, and educational information that will be distributed to eight counties with the highest incidence of drowning. Efforts to address maternity education include the “Cribs for Kids” certification. Orange County is on track to have all hospitals “safe sleep” certified this year.

Additionally, the presenters discussed partnerships on aging initiatives. Significant challenges exist for older adults, such as vehicle crashes and in-home injuries. Presenters noted that Union, Bradford, and Columbia Counties have initiatives surrounding education for older adults and working on the continuum of care. One strategy is developing partnerships with Area Agencies on Aging (AAA) to support safe mobility and education for older adults. Other collaborative responses include the Uber Safe Ride program to address challenges with transportation, including victims of both sexual and domestic violence and prevention of human trafficking. They emphasized the importance of using data centers and dashboards, as well as recruitment of partners/consultants.

Remarks from the Steering Committee reference ACES categories, health disparities in minority populations, and data banks that could be utilized since this was an essential priority for the committee and the PAW.

**MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH PRIORIY AREA**

Updates regarding the MCH PAW were given by Erica Harrel.

Data from 2021 showed the infant mortality rate was 5.9 per 1,000. The PAW hopes to lower the rate to 5.0. Furthermore, the current percent of children who have mental/behavioral health issues is 42.5%.

The MCH PAW efforts focus on four goals: (1) Increasing access to quality primary preventative and sub-specialty care for infants, children, and adolescents, (2) Reducing infant morbidity and mortality, (3) Reducing maternal morbidity and mortality, and (4)

Improving preconception and interconception health. MCH goals 1 and 2 are currently not on track.

The current activities of the PAW were discussed in detail. The PAW would like to increase access to care for children with special needs. The presenters discussed Patient-Centered Medical Homes (PCMH) physician champion as a model to assist with provider outreach, recruitment, and preparation for PCMH accreditation. A Learning Action Network model will be developed to increase provider access and readiness for PCMH transformation in collaboration with UCF HealthARCH.

A transition plan has been drafted to improve newborn care and the Florida Perinatal Quality Collaborative (FPQC) kicked-off an initiative in October of 2022 to improve maternal health and post-partum care in 77 hospitals. The PAWs partnership with the Florida Dental Hygienists Association continues and training and workforce development is being carried out.

The next steps for the MCH PAW include building more partnerships and increasing access to care. Communication tools for outreach are being developed using a data-driven approach to assist in this effort. The PAW is currently working with dental associations to provide presentations on available job opportunities. Information regarding infants born with opioid exposure and screening and treatment plans are being reviewed.

The MCH PAW needs champions for several objectives as well as a new co-chair since Dr. Sappenfield will be retiring in August 2023.

#### **MENTAL WELL-BEING AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE PREVENTION PRIORITY AREA**

Jennifer Johnson provided updates for the Mental Well-being and Substance Abuse Prevention PAW.

The presenter discussed 2021 data that shows that 15.2 percent of adults reported having poor mental health on 14 or more of the past 30 days. Data also shows a 0.7

rise in suicide deaths from 2020 (13.1) to 2021 (13.8) similar to rates 15 years ago. Also in 2021, there were 8,903 drug overdose deaths due to the rise in fentanyl laced drugs which can cause immediate death. Data implies that more work needs to be done.

The MWSAP focuses of four goals: (1) Reducing the impact of adult mental, emotional, and behavioral health disorders, (2) Reducing the impact of pediatric mental, emotional, and behavioral health disorders, (3) Reducing the incidence of substance use disorders and drug overdose deaths, (4) Reducing the incidence of suicide behaviors and deaths. One objective under goal 3 is currently not on-track due to staffing and workforce issues.

The PAW encourages its members and respective agencies to align with the state strategic plan and to avoid duplicative work. Across all the goals and objectives, the PAW members are trying to undertake landscape analysis and mapping to identify gaps and see where the SHIP can be used to focus on improvement.

The MWSAP PAW is currently working on four activities: (1) Implementation of an education campaign for hospitals on Screening, Brief Innovation and Referral Treatment, Medication-Assisted Treatment, and naloxone. Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome efforts are being continued to advance this work; (2) The development of a regional data surveillance and analysis plan on suicide prevention; (3) Promotion of the Florida Pediatric Mental Health Collaborative, an integrated behavioral health model, to increase access to pediatric mental health services; (4) Implementation of the CORE program in 12 counties with hopes to expand to 25 counties over the span of the SHIP. Along with implementation, there are established treatment teams within hospitals and training for emergency medical technicians.

Next steps for the PAW involve the development of educational media campaigns surrounding suicide prevention with emphasis on veterans, youth, and the elderly population. A workgroup will be created to identify approaches and initiatives for improving efficiency and effectiveness of care coordination for children and adults with mental, emotional, or behavioral health conditions. Engagement with physician residency programs and medical associations will assist with capacity building. Additional work to identify task forces and coalitions for substance abuse will be completed to increase distribution of naloxone.

Secretary Shevaun Harris emphasized that the CORE program is a key initiative of the Department of Children and Families moving forward. Funding for services for substance use disorder is coming to the state of Florida. Dr. Kenneth Scheppke added that Palm Beach served as the pilot county for the program and suggested that other participating counties need to be benchmarked. The incorporation of emergency medical services and emergency rooms will provider service providers with education on treating substance disorders. A comment regarding procedure codes to pay doctors for screenings and referrals was made by Secretary Jason Weida. In the discussion, a suggestion was made that a free continuing medical education course on the CORE program be offered in clinical practices and Secretary Weida offered that the Agency for Health Care Administration will support the idea. Expansion of the CORE program to other clients not just Medicaid clients was suggested by Ms. Johnson. A question regarding the work status, collaboration opportunities as well as stakeholder landscape and leverage was asked by Melissa Jordan. The closing remarks were given by Ms. Johnston reiterating avoiding duplicative work, working with the Commission on Mental Health and Substance Abuse, and the use of subgroups.

**SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC CONDITIONS IMPACTING HEALTH PRIORITY AREA**

Mrs. Julia Fitz-Gibby, Chief of the Bureau of Community Health Assessment, Florida Department of Health, addressed the group on behalf of the Social and Economic Conditions (SEC) Impacting Health priority area.

According to 2021 data, 11 percent of Floridians aged 25 years and older did not have a high school diploma. Regarding health care, 22.3 percent of adults in Florida did not have a medical checkup in the past year, and 12.1 percent of adults in Florida could not see a doctor in the past year due to cost. Lastly, 56 percent of people living in rental housing reported rental costs 30 percent or more than the household income in Florida.

The SECIH PAW has four goals: (1) Expanding access to high-quality educational opportunities across the lifespan, (2) Improving access to high-quality health care services across the lifespan, (3) Supporting communities to promote healthy, interconnected, and safe environments, (4) Enhancing opportunities to foster economic

vitality and resilience for all people. The status of the objectives is a mix of “On-Track” and “Not on Track.”

Current PAW activities include working to build partnerships to address the Goals and Objectives with organizations including the American Association of Retired Persons, Florida Department of Transportation, and others. The PAW is currently working with Feeding Florida to increase farmer’s markets that accept Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program benefits. The PAW is also working on issues related to community infrastructure and housing.

The PAW needs guidance from the Steering Committee on several Objectives:

- SEC 2.1 “By December 31, 2026, increase the rate of licensed Florida physicians from 314.0 per 100,000 population (2021) to 376.8 per 100,000 population”. Increasing the number of physicians does not necessarily translate to increased/improved access to health care for Floridians.
- SEC 4.3 “By June 30, 2026, increase the percentage of qualified dwelling needs met for weatherization assistance from 11% (2021) to 30%.” This goal may not represent the current needs of Floridians.
- SEC 4.4 “By June 30, 2026, increase the percentage of government loan funds obligated compared to total funds available at the beginning of the reporting period for small business and targeted industries from 19% (2021) to 75%.” This goal may not represent the current needs of Floridians.

Next steps for the PAW are to restructure the direction of the workgroup and create new activities to address the Goals and Objectives. The PAW is excited to have two new co-chairs. The PAW chairs will be meeting with representatives from several different agencies.

The broader discuss included various topics, e.g., various partnerships that assist with homelessness and reliance on public assistance and telehealth for reaching rural populations. Speakers noted that for telehealth, broadband service is a concern in certain areas. Speakers also discussed the important of health care providers and physicians in rural areas. The state should bring the emergency room to the patient by increasing emergency medical services availability in rural areas to help with access to health care. There are pilot programs in Duval and Orange counties that are working to

increase access to health care. Further discussion included a possible partnership with the Department of Veterans Affairs and merging data from multiple agencies. The need for leadership for some of this PAW's Objectives was also discussed. Other possible partners like the Florida Supportive Housing Coalition and the Florida Council on Homelessness were suggested.

### **TRANSMISSIBLE AND EMERGING DISEASES (TED) PRIORITY AREA**

PAW Chair Daniel Chacretton presented the updates on the objectives for the Transmissible and Emerging Diseases priority area.

The presenter provided updates for the Transmissible & Emerging Diseases (TED) workgroup. There are four identified goals that this PAW is focused on: HIV, STIs, vaccine-preventable diseases, and emerging health threats.

An estimated 8% of PAW activities were reported as completed. Educational presentations have been developed on the risk of contracting STIs, proper protection techniques, and syphilis identification in pregnant women. A technical assistance manual to expedite care and reduce transmission of newly diagnosed STI cases by the STD section. Additional protocols are in the development stage for rapid syphilis and HIV testing. The effort also includes modifying STD and viral hepatitis section operations and the technical assistance manual. Further efforts regarding ventilator-associated events, toolkits, and webinars will spread awareness of ventilator events and increase access to education materials. Speakers addressed the importance of partnerships as a critical factor for engagement regarding vaccines and training series that would benefit providers and patients.

In discussing issues encountered by the PAW, employee turnover was mentioned as having been a challenge, with eleven members leaving and 30 new members joining from various partners. The focus is to enhance existing partnerships while increasing participation as well. Future efforts include launching the Stop Syphilis Florida website to provide educational campaigns which target health care providers and women of childbearing age. This would increase training in the public health workforce through the USF partnership. The Florida Association of Health Plans described one other potential

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	<p>barrier to increasing the rate of infants receiving their first dose of the Hepatitis B vaccine.</p> <p>The discussion portion from the Steering Committee mentioned training for individuals that are not Department of Health staff. Other topics included the Emergency Preparedness and Response objective and its appropriate placement. Lastly, a conflict between two goals of the PAW was discussed; increased testing programs will raise the number of new diagnoses as such that goal should be connected to care to expand that continuum of care.</p>	
<p><b>Steering Committee Highlights</b></p>	<p><b><i>Discussion Question: How can we leverage available resources to be more responsive in meeting the needs of communities?</i></b></p> <p>Mapping was discussed as a good technique to reduce specific health outcomes and improve overall health. It can also be used to identify ways leverage of resources and provide real-time surveillance data for several priority areas.</p> <p>Clarity and precision are important when discussing goals listed in SHIP.</p> <p>Benchmarking and mapping resources will be beneficial when comparing counties and programs as well as identifying best practices. A question was asked regarding sharing feedback with the PAWs and steering committee.</p> <p>Mobile opportunities for LHDs can be used to host events specifically in rural areas regarding health and access to care. Need assessments that occur locally may not find the same gaps and opportunities. There is a need to collect the data and see where the synergy lies.</p> <p>There is also a need for more opportunities for agencies to learn about one another. It is important to make more accurate referrals and definitive ways that they can work with each other.</p> <p>The conversation concluded with the question “How many providers are aware of rural medicine programs?”</p>	<p><b>Steering Committee members</b></p>

***Discussion Question: What activities is your organization currently engaged in that may be of interest to the State Health Improvement Plan?***

The Florida Dental Association (FLDA) is addressing strategies in the MCH and CDC PAWs. The FLDA is seeking \$1.77M to fund dental coverage and \$1M for water fluoridation for counties and cities which is a grant-based program and a \$5M grant program that sponsors free dental care for veterans. Doctors in rural areas only make \$0.25 on the dollar, which is low for student loan debt and other expenses they have acquired.

House Bill 939 provides funding for the Pathway to Impact Initiative, which targets youth academic achievement and post-secondary success. The Florida Scholars Academy helps link students to college and technical training.

Florida is offering postpartum coverage for up to 12 months to mothers to improve infant health. For cancer, Florida is developing a statewide initiative to increase colorectal screening. AHCA is currently contacting cancer centers that may be willing and able to help. Currently, 10,000 additional seniors are eligible for Medicare and Medicaid. There are also efforts in place, such as senior home modification programs to make senior homes safer. AHCA is shifting to take a “whole person perspective,” which includes doing a lot of work on data infrastructure.

Work is being done at the Department of Health on Florida Reimbursement Assistance for Medical Education (FRAME) funding. Pharmacy access is a part of overall health and there are a lot of health centers that have a pharmacy in-house. FHA is currently creating community coalitions to address chronic conditions, opioid use, and other health issues. Loan forgiveness has high support especially for professionals working in rural areas.

There is almost 100% participation from all the members of the Florida Behavioral Health Association in CORE. Mobile response teams and several mobile units provide substance use disorder treatments, maternal and child health, HIV screening and prevention, and others. Measurement-based care; working to identify best practices to support increased outcomes is being utilized.



APD is working to enhance a better customer experience and is reaching out to other partners such as faith-based organizations and additional non-profit organizations. APD has a legislative budget request for specialized mental health service programs and resources (mobile units, case managers, and behavioral health professionals) for individuals who have developmental disabilities and mental health needs.

***Discussion Question: What are some ways the SHIP can support your organization's priorities?***

Being at the table is strengthening relationships and that many of the priority areas reflect those of the Department of Education.

Feeding Florida is always looking for partnerships. Healthier Together Produce Prescription Program (HTFVRx), a USDA grant, where Feeding Florida partners with health care service providers and DCF SNAP-ED to expand access points to community farm direct locations with fruits and vegetable vouchers and strengthen digital nutrition education opportunities.

The SHIP can provide communication materials to keep members regularly engaged and attract more public health workers.

AHCA is hosting a job fair on Wednesday, March 1, 2023.

***Discussion Question: What would you like to see accomplished in the next six months?***

What kinds of data should we be capturing? Can SHIP be involved in framework for data collection and dissemination?

There are a lot of opportunities to be thinking about data and the idea of having specialty workgroup to address the data.

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<p><b>Next Steps and Timeline</b></p>	<p><b><u>Julia Fitz-Gibby, MPH Chief, Bureau of Community Health Assessment Florida Department of Health</u></b> Ms. Fitz-Gibby thanked Donna Walsh from Seminole County for her welcome. She listed the SHIP’s next steps, including working to build awareness, developing a communications plan, promoting data sharing, and fostering engagement among partners. Monitoring will continue. She also mentioned the SHIP annual review meeting will be held around September 2023 as well as July 2024.</p>	<p><b>Julia S. Fitz-Gibby, MPH Chief, Bureau of Community Health Assessment Florida Department of Health</b></p>
<p><b>Public Comment</b></p>	<p>No public comments were made.</p>	<p><b>Members of the public</b></p>
<p><b>Introduction of Lieutenant Governor</b></p>	<p><b><u>Joseph Ladapo, MD, PhD, State Surgeon General, Florida Department of Health</u></b> Dr. Ladapo thanked Ms. Fitz-Gibby for wearing so many hats. He also acknowledged everyone’s accomplishments and work on the SHIP. Dr. Ladapo introduced Lt. Governor Nuñez and mentioned she is committed to health.</p>	<p><b>Joseph A. Ladapo, MD, PhD State Surgeon General Florida Department of Health</b></p>
<p><b>Closing Remarks</b></p>	<p><b><u>Jeanette M. Nuñez, MPA, Lieutenant Governor of Florida</u></b> Lt. Governor Nuñez said it was an honor to be present. Governor DeSantis asked her to oversee the Department of Health following the 2018 election.</p> <p>She mentioned several takeaways from today’s meeting and that the silos are falling and so many people are committed to the process. She also mentioned Heart Month is wrapping up. One person dies every 34 seconds in the country from heart-related issues. She thanked everyone for their work.</p> <p>The meeting adjourned at 12:23 p.m.</p>	<p><b>Jeanette M. Nuñez Lieutenant Governor State of Florida</b></p>