Healthy Food in Health Care Workgroup

New Hampshire

NEW ENGLAND TEAM

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CORE PARTNERS

NH Foundation for Healthy Communities
NH Healthy Eating Active Living (NH HEAL)
NH Hospital Association
NH Community Loan Fund
Farm to Institution New England
Healthier Hospitals Initiative
HCWH Global Climate Initiative
Farm to School Network
Real Food Challenge

Healthy Food in Health Care Program

Healthy Food in Health Care (HFHC) is a national initiative of Health Care Without Harm (HCWH), developed in conjunction with its member organizations. We harness the purchasing power and expertise of the health care sector to advance the development of a sustainable food system. Founded in 2005, the program provides education, tools, resources, and support for facilities to implement programs that explicitly connect all aspects of the food system with health. We catalyze sustainable procurement efforts, create clinician advocates, and inspire health care institutions to become leaders in shaping a food system that supports prevention-based health care. The HFHC program also helps to coordinate the Healthier Food Challenge of the Healthier Hospitals Initiative (HHI), a national sustainability initiative for the healthcare sector.

New Hampshire HFHC Work Group

This is one of 7 health care food service learning collaboratives underway in New England. Work Group Co-Conveners are Terry Johnson from NH HEAL and Debbie Augustine from NH Hospital Association. This workgroup is composed of representatives from New Hampshire health care facilities that are currently engaged in healthy food work and are considered leaders in the implementation of innovative healthy food and beverage strategies. Participating facilities utilize this forum for peer learning and to identify opportunities to mobilize the groups' collective power and social influence to improve environmental and population health, support the local economy, and achieve the goals of the Healthy Food in Health Care

New Hampshire Food Facts

- New Hampshire Farm to Plate Food Policy and Principles legislation is underway SB 141-FN "Establishing the Granite State Farm to Plate Program," This bill elevates NH agricultural enterprises and local, state, and regional food systems as a vital component to the health and economic well-being of the public.

Currently NH produces only about 6 percent of the food it consumes.

- The local food system in NH contributed $3.3 billion in Gross State Product (GSP), or 5.7% of NH's economy *(Home Grown: The economic Impact of Local Food Systems in New Hampshire, 2010)*
- NH is below average in the contribution of food from manufacturing *(0.8% NH vs. 3.3% U.S. average)*, and significantly below average in contribution of local agriculture *(0.28% NH vs. 1.0% U.S. average)*
- 25.8% obese, 9.1% diagnosed with diabetes,4.2% diagnosed with coronary heart disease*(2012 NH Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance Survey)*

Return on Investment

As a result of the Affordable Care Act, ACO providers now have an incentive to promote population health. Activities of this work group aim to:

- Increase access to healthy food
- Create an environment of health for hospital staff and visitors
- Communicate demand to the supply chain to make healthy food affordable
- Reduce the overuse of antibiotics to impact the emergence of antibiotic resistant infections
- Reduce individual and community exposure to environmental toxins in our food system that promote chronic illness
- Promote disaster resilience by building a regional food system

As a result, your facility becomes a key player in prevention-based care. Healthier staff and community means lower health care costs

New Hampshire Healthier Hospitals Initiative (HHI)

The New Hampshire Hospital Association is a formal support organization of the national Healthier Hospitals Initiative (HHI) offering hospitals support in the Energy and Food Challenges



Resource Needs

As a leader in this work, the path to success needs to be paved by champions in the sector. Time, money and support are the 3 key resources of success. The following is necessary for us to support your internal efforts:

Food Service Director participation
Work group and sub-committee meetings are held on a quarterly basis and may require interim participation for follow up communication, information gathering, and shared strategies as agreed on by workgroup to move this work forward

Hospital Leadership Support
Regular touch-base meetings are suggested for participants to connect with hospital leadership on progress and potential needs. Support for compliance with contracted food service management companies or vendors

Budget Flexibility
Although many sustainability initiatives yield a cost savings there are times when product shifts or new purchasing pathways require an initial investment. Working with your team to determine a manageable margin during this transition period will assist in shifting the broader market. By showcasing this demand, you are playing a critical role in shifting the food system towards increased accessibility and lower costs for healthy foods like antibiotic free meats.

Getting Involved

FOOD SERVICE DIRECTORS & PURCHASING AGENTS
Contact Us to participate in Work Group activities.

CLINICIANS
Contact HCWH Senior Clinical Advisor to join the growing network of clinicians active in policy and supporting institutional change.

ADMINISTRATORS
Enroll in the NH Healthier Hospitals Initiative
www.healthierhospitals.org

Healthier Hospitals INITIATIVE

Learn more at:
www.healthyfoodinhealthcare.org