

Merrimack Valley Public Health Alliance



Amesbury, Georgetown, Groveland, Merrimac, Newbury, Newburyport, Rowley

New Roles, New Capacity Across the Region

With Public Health Excellence (PHE) funds, the Merrimack Valley Public Health Alliance onboarded three regional staff members who are **strengthening services across member cities and towns**, from food safety inspections to maternal and child health programming, while also **training the next generation of public health professionals**.

Raising Awareness of Public Health Services

Public health work often happens quietly, behind the scenes, and residents may not always know what services are available to them or how to access them. Leveraging PHE funds, the Alliance partnered with a public relations firm to **develop a communications strategy that helps residents and community partners better understand the full range of services the Alliance offers**.



Investing in the Workforce of Today and Tomorrow

The Alliance is investing in the next generation of public health professionals while strengthening its own capacity today. The Regional Inspector is mentoring a community college intern through MHOA's Pathway to Local Public Health program, giving them hands-on field inspection experience. The Regional Nurse, now a Certified Lactation Counselor, is mentoring a DPH Local Public Health Internship student who supports the Alliance's Maternal, Child, and Family Health initiatives through data collection. **Together, these mentorships are building a pipeline of future public health leaders, even as both staff members continue delivering the services their communities rely on today, from inspections to senior safety screenings.**



"It's been a great experience working in the city I grew up in and it's neighbors. Serving these seven communities gives me a wonderful opportunity to give back to the area I know best. I've really enjoyed collaborating with different health departments, and I've discovered a genuine passion for the field of public health.

Collin Schaefer, Merrimack Valley Public Health Alliance Regional Inspector