

CSTE LEAD Newsletter - February 2022

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Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists

CSTE LEAD: Leading Epidemiologists, Advancing Data

February 2022 Newsletter

Welcome to the CSTE LEAD newsletter! CSTE LEAD: Leading Epidemiologists, Advancing Data provides a 12-month leadership program for mid-career epidemiologists. Program goals for LEAD are to: 1) Enhance the applied epidemiology workforce and 2) Develop leaders for CSTE activities. We hope you'll enjoy this first issue of the LEAD newsletter!

LEADers in Action

In January, CSTE accepted 24 participants into the second cohort of CSTE LEAD. The participants are Rachel Amiya (WA), Bernice Carr (NJ), Dora Dumont (RI), Laura Fox (Maricopa County, AZ), Katrina Hansen (NH), Andrew Hennenfent (IA), Rachel Jantz (Kent County, MI), Sujata Joshi (Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board), Leann Liu (Harris County, TX), Kathryn Lowerre (NM), Chloe Manchester (ME), Natalie Marzec (CO), Lisa McHugh (PA), Laura Newman (WA), Lauren Prinzing (VT), Elizabeth Russo (MA), Amelia Salmanson (UT), Erica Smith (DE), Miranda Smith (TN), Nicole Stone (IN), Lena Swander (WI), Roza Tammer (OR), Kelly Walblay (Chicago), and Elizabeth Wasilevich (MI). CSTE is excited to continue

The curriculum for the second cohort has been adapted from the first cohort to accommodate a 12-month program from an 18-month program. With the shortening of the program, the number of group calls was increased to twice a month to make more time for project sharing and networking among participants.

Call for nominations – If you would like to share the work of a LEAD participant and/or LEAD project team in future newsletters, email Jessica Arrazola at JArrazola@cste.org.

Announcements

- Save the date! The 2022 CSTE Annual Conference will be in Louisville, Kentucky, **June 19-23**. [Register](#) before our early-bird deadline ends **May 5**!
- Coming soon! Cohort 2 Support Team Orientation. Cohort 2 supervisors, mentors, and project sponsors – [indicate your availability in this doodle](#).
- Coming soon! Cohort 1 and Cohort 2 Support Team Networking. [Indicate your availability here in this doodle](#).

Highlights - Cohort 1

The month of October 2021 focused on preparedness and response with an [Introduction to Crisis and Emergency Risk Communication by CDC's CERC](#). Participants learned how to effectively communicate in a crisis/emergency through [building an effective data operation based on teamwork](#) and a self-conducted assessment on strengths and areas of improvement in crisis communication utilizing the [CDC CERC Rubric](#). This month's [case study discussion](#) was led by Daniel Drociuk (SC) highlighting change management as a tool in the context of public

focused on the need for a sustainable workforce, increase salary, and challenges of financial incentives for contractors amongst cohort participants.

Advocacy Works! A Case Study in Effective Outreach was the focus in the month of November 2021, utilizing Epi Data to Drive Policy and support the Data Modernization Initiative. Participants learned how to *build their own advocacy toolbox* and how *policy analysis* and *evaluation* can be integrated into the sphere of public health and sector of *legal epidemiology*, especially in the era of COVID-19. This month's group coaching call focused on navigating different relationships and dynamics with *intuition* while also respecting our own boundaries so we can hold space and deepen our conversations with others.

December 2021 focused on Public Health Politics 101 of *framing public health messages* to *effectively communicate and deliver* intended public health messages between public health experts and professionals in other sectors. Participants reflected how framing messages are not only applicable within the context of public health and *testimonies* but also, in many situations either in our relationships with others or our colleagues and staff. This *month's journal club* was led by Amy Bettano (MA) discussing the intersection of the extreme risk protection order for gun violence and the role of racial disparities and implicit bias impacted by the law.

What does it mean to be an inspiring leader? The month of January 2022 focused on COVID Leadership. Participants reflected on their own models of self-care and workplace mental health by sharing their own techniques. This *month's case study* focused on leading during an emergency and leadership skills such as *decision making*, *expression of empathy*, *staying motivated* and *motivating others during a crisis*.

Highlights - Cohort 2

and [determining their own leadership style](#). The first group call was orientation into the program, where participants were introduced to each other and received an overview of the program. The second group call was facilitated by our professional coaches at Wolf & Heron and was an introduction to group coaching.

If you have feedback on our newsletters, we would like to hear from you. Let us know how we can best support your participation in the program. Email feedback to Jessica Arrazola at Jarrazola@cste.org.



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