

Strengthening the Community of Practice for Public Health Improvement (COPPHI) 2011 Open Forum

Day 1: December 12, 2011

[Welcome and Introductions](#)

Les Beitsch, Florida State University, College of Medicine; Sarah Gillen, National Network of Public Health Institutes; Lee Thielen, Thielen Consulting; Jeff Lake, Deputy Commissioner for Community Health Services, Virginia Department of Health

[Community and State Health Assessment and Improvement Planning: Opportunities for Excellence](#)

Lauren Shirey, National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO); Lindsey Caldwell, Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO); and Gianfranco Pezzino, Kansas Health Institute

This session explored the current landscape related to health assessment and improvement planning in public health, including issues related to accreditation preparation and non-profit hospital community benefit requirements. Challenges and opportunities for collaboration were highlighted, with a presentation of the strategic model for health assessment and improvement planning in Kansas

[Policy or Program: Models for Accreditation Prerequisite Laws](#)

Lee Thielen, Thielen Consulting; Lisa VanRaemdonck, Colorado Association of Local Public Health Officials; and Tracy Dolan, Vermont Department of Health

Many states have used law, regulations, or other legal tools to mandate that the prerequisites for accreditation are met. The presenters in this session will share a recent study that showed how policy is being used to improve the public health system and support national voluntary accreditation. The story of one state that has moved even further – passing legislation that mandates the pursuit of PHAB accreditation in law – was also presented.

[Concurrent Sessions:](#)

[You are Not Alone: Collaborative Approaches to Community Health Assessment and Improvement Planning](#)

Mimi Hall, Plumas County Public Health Agency; Anne Barna, Barry-Eaton District Health Department; and Jessica Riccardo, New Orleans Health Department

In this session, representatives from three of the 12 NACCHO CHA/CHIP sites shared about their innovative collaborations to conduct a CHA and develop a CHIP, including co-leading the process with a non-profit hospital, receiving assistance from a local academic institution and engaging a tribe (Plumas County, CA), completing cross-jurisdictional CHAs and CHIPs (Clinton, Eaton and Ingham Counties, MI), and working with a public health institute to synergize multiple health assessment efforts (New Orleans, LA).

[Supporting Tribal Accreditation Preparation Through Statewide Partnerships](#)

Aleena Hernandez, Red Star Innovations; and Nancy Young, Institute for Wisconsin's Health

This session briefly covered how the Institute for Wisconsin's Health, the Wisconsin Division of Public Health, and Tribes in Wisconsin have been working together to support accreditation preparation efforts among Tribes located in Wisconsin. PHAB standards call for Tribal, state and local health department collaboration, and strategies for engaging Tribes were highlighted.

[The Pioneers of Accreditation: PHAB's First Applicants](#)

Susan Ramsey, Washington State Department of Health; Keith Reed, Comanche County Health Department; Georgia Heise and April Harris, Three Rivers District Health Department

In this session, three of PHAB's very first applicants shared about their accreditation journey. Attendees found out what motivated them to be among the first health departments applying, how they prepared, the challenges they faced, and their tips for success.

[Building a Culture of QI in Your Health Department: A Roadmap to Quality](#)

Pooja Verma, NACCHO; and Ty Kane, Sedgwick County Health Department

Pooja Verma presented the "Roadmap to a Culture of Quality Improvement," demonstrating the various points along a continuum regarding the uptake of QI in health departments, and strategies to move health departments toward a culture of QI. Ty Kane discussed the highlights and lessons-learned from the Sedgwick County Health Department's 2010-2011 QI culture initiatives

[State Health Improvement Planning: Strategies for Success](#)

Kristin Adams, Indiana Dep't of Health and Joyce Marshall, Oklahoma Dep't of Health

In this session, the presenters shared about their experience with developing a state health improvement plan in their respective states (Indiana, Oklahoma), including challenges faced, lessons learned, and key strategies for success.

[Driving QI with Research: Conclusions from the PBRN Initiative](#)

William (Bill) Riley, University of Minnesota; Dave Palm, Nebraska Division of Public Health; and William (Bill) Livingood, Univ of FL COM-J, GSU JPHsu College of Health, & Duval County HD

In this session, three Public Health Practice-Based Research Networks (PBRN) projects discussed their work, including the development of a logic model and taxonomy for QI in public health (Minnesota PBRN); a comparative study of the implementation and perceived effectiveness of QI activities in regional vs. single-county public health delivery systems (Nebraska PBRN); and an exploration of the utility of regional QI strategies in strengthening accreditation readiness and attainment among small and rural public health jurisdictions (Georgia PBRN).

[Understanding the Social Determinants of Health for Community Health Assessment and Improvement Planning](#)

Julie Willems Van Dijk, University of Wisconsin, Population Health Institute and Mary Kushion, Central Michigan District Health Department

This session focused on applying the important concept of the social determinants of health to the process of community health assessment (CHA), improvement planning (CHIP), and implementation in communities. Presenters discussed social determinants of health models, practical ways to incorporate these concepts in your work, and a case study of a rural Michigan community that is applying the *County Health Rankings* determinants of health model to their CHA, CHIP, and implementation.

[Advancing Accreditation and Quality Improvement Through the National Public Health Improvement Initiative](#)

Madeleine Shea, Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene; Jamie Dirksen, Chicago Department of Public Health; and Laura Sawney-Spencer, Cherokee Nation

In this session, presenters shared about how they are utilizing NPHII support to improve performance management systems, prepare for national accreditation (including developing accreditation pre-requisites) and improve the overall performance of their health departments.

Public Health Quality Improvement: Perspectives from the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) and the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Preparedness and Response (ASPR)*

Sarah Linde-Feucht, M.D., Chief Public Health Officer, HRSA, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and Nicole Lurie, M.D., M.S.P.H., ASPR, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

**No powerpoint available for this session*

KEYNOTE ADDRESS: Quality in Public Health: A Vision for the Future*

Howard K. Koh M.D., M.P.H., Assistant Secretary for Health, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

**No powerpoint available for this session*

[PHABulous News! The National Voluntary Accreditation Has Launched](#)

Kaye Bender, President and CEO, Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB)

In this session, Dr. Kaye Bender shared the latest news from PHAB's first few months in full swing, and described the key issues currently being explored and the expectations for a bright future.

Concurrent Sessions:

Accreditation Nuts and Bolts: What Questions Remain?*

Kaye Bender, President and CEO, PHAB

In this session, Dr. Kaye Bender, the President and CEO of the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB), engaged the participants in a dialogue about the nuts and bolts of accreditation, including (1) the elements of the national public health accreditation program, (2) the steps in the PHAB accreditation application process, (3) tips for being a successful accreditation applicant, and (4) the connection between accreditation and quality improvement.

**No powerpoint available for this session*

[Cross-Jurisdictional Sharing of Services and Resources](#)

Patrick Libbey, Eld Inlet Associates and Gianfranco Pezzino, Kansas Health Institute

This session examined current issues regarding cross-jurisdictional sharing and regionalization in local public health. The session was informed by current examples of shared resources and service approaches within Kansas and joint undertaking of the accreditation CHA/CHIP prerequisites. Current thinking of PHAB regarding use of shared resources and services in accreditation was discussed. A new 2012 Robert Wood Johnson Foundation initiative to support health officials and elected officials in using cross jurisdictional sharing effectively was also presented briefly.

[Strategic Planning: Strategies for Success](#)

Gwen Dutt, Spokane Regional Health District; and Paul Silverman, Delaware Division of Public Health

In this session, we heard from presenters who are in different phases of the strategic planning process – from early planning (Delaware Department of Health and Human Services) to fully completed (Spokane County Health Department). Challenges faced, lessons learned, and tips for successful strategic planning were shared.

[Building the QI Evidence Base for Public Health Accreditation](#)

Susan Moore, Hennepin County Human Services and Public Health Department and William (Bill) Livingood, Duval County Health Department

In this session, representatives from two local health departments shared about the QI work they have undertaken aiming to improve immunization rates among children (Duval County, FL) and increase the numbers of homeless residents utilizing the health clinic (Hennepin County, MN). The presenters also shared the key lessons and impact of their work, and how their engagement in QI has helped better prepare the health department for accreditation.

Looking Back, Looking Forward

Les Beitsch, Florida State University College of Medicine; Jennifer McKeever, National Network of Public Health Institutes; and Lee Thielen, Thielen Consulting

This closing session reviewed the key highlights from our two days together and the next steps for the Community of Practice for Public Health Improvement, including a review of the COPPHI QI Award Program funding opportunity.