Public Health Institutes: Innovators in Public Health Workforce Development

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Public Health Institutes: Fostering Innovation Across the Public Health Landscape

Public health institutes (PHIs) are nonprofit organizations that improve the public's health by fostering innovation, leveraging resources, and building partnerships across sectors, including government agencies, communities, the health care delivery system, and academia. PHIs provide expertise in:

- Population-Based Health Program Delivery
- Health Policy Training and Technical Assistance
- Research and Evaluation; Convening/Partnering
- Innovations in Workforce Development
- Community Health Assessments and Accreditation Technical Assistance
- Fiscal/Administrative Management



Public Health Institutes Across the U.S.





National Network of Public Health Institutes

Mission: Support national public health system initiatives and strengthen PHIs to promote multi-sector activities resulting in measurable improvements of public health structures, systems, and outcomes.

NNPHI Membership:

- Wide range in number of staff and size of budget
- Most are state-based; some are municipal
- Most are 501c3s
- Six are university-affiliated
- Masters of convening and collaborating
- Entrepreneurial and flexible



Two NNPHI Workforce Initiatives

Public Health Leadership Society

 PHLS is an alumni association comprised of graduates of national, state, and regional public health leadership institutes and development programs. PHLS has become a national resource for public health leadership development, leadership consultation, and development of the next generation of public health leaders. PHLS has 556 members representing 49 states and D.C. and two international countries. Members are mid to senior leadership in academia; federal, national, state, local, and territorial levels; and the private sector.

The Future of Public Health Nursing

• Funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, NNPHI has supported a yearlong initiative to understand the current role of public health nurses in public health, their role in the future of public health; and developing strategies to improve the training and development of public health nurses and increase the evidence-base and practice-base of public health nursing.



Workforce Competencies: Health in All Policies



World Health Organization: Required Competencies for Health in All Policies

- understanding the political agendas and administrative imperatives of other sectors;
- building the knowledge and evidence base of policy options and strategies;
- assessing comparative health consequences of options within the policy development process;
- creating regular platforms for dialogue and problem solving with other sectors;
- evaluating the effectiveness of intersectoral work and integrated policymaking;
- building capacity through better mechanisms, resources, agency support and skilled and dedicated staff;
- working with other arms of government to achieve their goals and in so doing advance health and well-being.



Source: World Health Organization. Health in All Policies, Adelaide 2010, Adelaide, South Australia, 13–15, April.

Case Study: Workforce Development through School Food Procurement Change School Food FOCUS



Health in All Policies: Case Study: PHS School Food FOCUS

School Food FOCUS is a national initiative to help large school districts (>40K students) to procure more healthful, more sustainably produced and regionally sourced food to help children perform better in school and be healthier

Key Strategy: Learning Labs of school food professionals

"FOCUS facilitates collaboration between the district's food service department, a district partner and food system specialists. Together the stakeholders analyze the existing school food supply chain and then develop a procurement plan to enable the school district to source, prepare and serve food that is healthier and more sustainable and regional."

--- Kellogg Foundation Newsletter



Why School Food Matters to Population Health

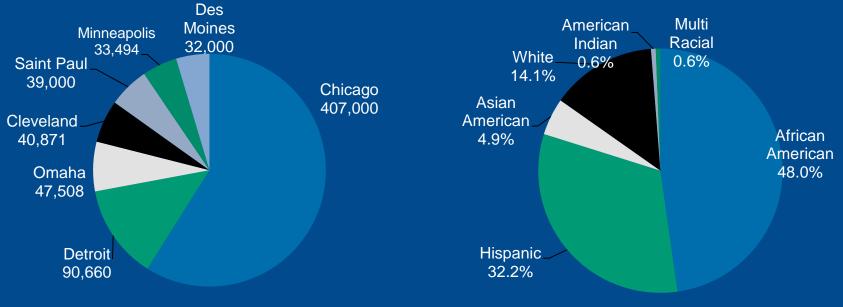
- 31.8 million out of 55.5 million schoolchildren nationwide consume school lunch, and 21 million qualify for free or subsidized meals
- Most will rely on school food as a major source of nutrition from ages 6-18
- School food sector becomes a catalyst to broader foodsystem reform



School Food FOCUS Communities

Enrollment by district, School Year 2012-2013

Enrollment by Race/Ethnicity in Participating Districts



Total Enrollment: 690,533



Workforce Activities of School Food FOCUS' Multi-State Learning Lab

School Food Staff:

Identify procurement change goals, provide food cost data & implement procurement changes

> Re-direct procurement practices to more healthful, more regionally grown & more sustainably produced foods

FOCUS staff:

Coordination & technical support and identify pathways to food procurement change

Community

partner: Technical support in local food system knowledge

Public Health Solutions

Complementary Activities

- Policy
- Advocacy
- Supply chain analysis
- Engagement of food and agriculture industry

Attention to Workforce Development Yields Good Outcomes

- Reformulation of commercial breads purchased by Saint Paul Public Schools to include 53% whole grain, in collaboration with a major manufacturer that supplies schools nationwide
- Purchase of 1M+ lbs of whole-muscle fresh chicken for Chicago Public Schools, with >50% raised regionally without antibiotics, prepared from scratch in school kitchens
- Reduced added sugar in flavored milk from 14 to 10 grams per 8-ounce serving, a 29% reduction in added sugar per serving



PHI Workforce Innovations: Case Study 1: Community Health Workers

The Institute for Public Health Innovation (IPHi) is a leader in the DC-Maryland-Virginia region

- IPHi coordinates an \$800,000/year CHW initiative to increase engagement in medical care among people living with HIV/AIDS
- Funded in part by the Federal Government's Social Innovation Fund, involves over 15 organizational partners across the medical sector and community-based public health
- Role of IPHI is cross-sector convener and systems integrator
- In the last 2 years, IPHi has trained over 40 CHWs and created jobs for 19 of those CHWs through its grant-funded programs (9 CHWs are directly employed by IPHi)
- IPHi has a complementary training program for medical and public health staff who supervise and work alongside CHWs, to help ensure that CHWs are appropriately integrated into teams





PHI Workforce Innovations: Case Study 2: Community Health Workers

Health Resources in Action

- <u>CMS Innovation Grant</u>
 - Train CHWs across New England to conduct home visiting and environmental assessments for families with uncontrolled asthma
 - Insurers may begin reimbursing for CHW home-visiting services if outcomes are met
 - Develop the core competencies for a statewide legislated CHW certification program in collaboration with state health department

<u>StreetSafe Workers Training</u>

- Goal: contribute to a reduction of violence in Boston by focusing interventions on approximately 20 of the City's most active gangs in neighborhoods disproportionately affected by gang violence
- Deploy a team of highly-trained Streetworkers with street and community credibility to establish meaningful relationships with gang involved youth to interrupt violence, mediate and resolve conflicts, and influence individuals to engage in pro-social programs and services



Potential Role of PHIs to Facilitate Local/State Public Health Workforce Development:

California Health Workforce Alliance Model

- Assess current and projected health workforce needs at the regional and state level;
- Convene key stakeholders in undergraduate education, health professions education institutions, and employers to encourage an extra-institutional approach that leverages resources and reduces geographic maldistribution;
- Disseminate & support the institutionalization and replication of innovations;
- Bring focus to health disparities; and
- Encourage strategic resource investments that expand opportunities for those who are under-represented in the health professions.

