



### **Title of Design Lab:**

#### **Advancing Strategies to Align Public Health and Healthcare**

### **Topic Champions:**

- Erin Marziale, NNPHI
- Aliyah Ali, NNPHI

### **Short Summary of session**

The passage and implementation of the Affordable Care Act has resulted in unprecedented changes within the health care system and catalyzed conversations exploring the need for increased collaboration between the public health and health care sectors based on the mutual goal of improving population health. NNPHI and several member institutes have been actively participating in these discussions and broadening program areas to include bridging public health and health care. During the design lab, NNPHI and participants shared their experiences and explored opportunities for collaboration within health systems transformation. NNPHI announced a Call for Proposals (CFP) and provided guidance on a CFP opportunity for all NNPHI members. NNPHI is supporting a series of state forums that go beyond the conversation and offer practical, innovative strategies for public health and health care collaboration. Each forum aims to create a path for meaningful collaboration by supporting a shared population health definition, designing mutual goals, and sharing strategies and activities that effectively bridge the public health and health care sectors. NNPHI shared the results from a scan exploring the current nature of bridging public health and health care convenings, which provided guidance on the above-mentioned CFP opportunity and offered insight on effective collaboration strategies.

### **Key Takeaway points:**

- The NNPHI website has a bridging health and healthcare section on the website that will eventually highlight what NNPHI members are doing around bridging health and healthcare.
- Participants discussed current bridging public health and health care initiatives among other session participants from other PHIs and national organizations. Participants discussed innovative, practical strategies for bridging public health and health care. For those PHIs that do not know how to get started with this type of work in their state, just do a part of the work and it can lead to other work, nothing will just come to you. For PHIs, the work is already there in some degree, think about where the avenues are and what's next.
- A challenge is to create a shared definition of population health among individuals, community members, healthcare organizations, states, a region and a nation. Instead of using the term "population health", PHIs use other terms that resonate with the audience, like: resilience, vibrancy, community, fairness, vitality, culture of health, quality of life, holistic community.

### **Action Steps:**

- NNPHI will add the FAQs to the NNPHI website under the CFP [NNPHI: State Forums to Advance Health System Transformation](#).
- NNPHI could do a report or a webinar on lessons learned at the end of the project, and do this periodically to shape ideas and inform others.
- NNPHI could figure out ways that PHIs can use the resources discussed at the conference related to bridging public health and health care and collaboration. NNPHI could support learning across regions.