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On behalf of the National Network for Public Health Institutes (NNPHI), we are delighted to present this updated, living *Modular Guide to Developing and Thriving as a Public Health Institute* throughout the country. We invite you to peruse its contents and share your expertise with our growing national community.

Founded in 2001, the NNPHI is an active network comprised of 38 member public health institutes (PHIs), affiliate members, and five emerging institutes in 30 states spanning all ten Department of Health and Human Services regions. NNPHI and its members are nongovernmental organizations that implement public health policy and program initiatives throughout all 50 states. NNPHI is also determining the feasibility of establishing a Tribal Public Health Institute with potential to work with the 566 federally recognized Tribes in 35 states.

PHIs are nonprofits that work with multi-sector partners with a shared interest in creating conditions that lead to improved health. These partners include—but are not limited to—government, community organizations, health care systems, academia, media, philanthropy, and businesses. Together, PHIs and their partners leverage strengths and assets to improve the places where people live, work, worship, and play. PHIs address current and emerging health issues by providing expertise in areas such as fiscal/administrative management; population-based health programs; health policy; training and technical assistance; research and evaluation; health systems transformations; health information services; health equity; and health communications.

We believe our NNPHI model offers significant value, and that PHIs will become even more vital contributors to our nation’s evolving public health systems. We need strong public agencies at state/territorial, tribal, and local levels, and we should continue to support their work. The U.S. also needs a strong private, humanitarian sector to complement public sector action. Working together, we can enhance the network, and expand our reach to ensure that the entire U.S. population is served by institutes—either directly, or through strategic partnerships. Collectively, our current institute members are actively implementing hundreds of millions of dollars programs aimed at improving the public’s health. In our catalyst role as a national organization, in the past six years, NNPHI has distributed nearly \$11M in grants and contracts to our members. Equally important will be our increasing reach across sectors and disciplines that produce health, influencing, experimenting, and adopting models that transcend disease-based frameworks and create the conditions in which all people can be healthy.

We extend our congratulations to our expert contractors and staff who contributed to this living *Guide*. Thank you again for your dedication to protecting and improving the public’s health and well-being, and for your interest in NNPHI. Please let us know how we might be helpful to your PHI’s endeavors.

Sincerely yours in health,



Vincent Lafronza, EdD
President and CEO
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Richard Cohen
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