Public Health National Center for Innovations

Overview

The Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB), with funding from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF), has established the Public Health National Center for Innovations (PHNCI) to identify, implement, and spread innovations in public health practice to help meet the health challenges of the 21st century in communities nationwide.

As public health departments adapt to meet the growing and changing needs of their communities, experts say there is a need for strategic coordination and a national convener to help incubate and share innovative ideas. PHNCI will foster a multi-sectoral learning community to identify and test new and innovative practices that help improve public health capacity. In this role, PHNCI will serve as the hub for national public health innovations.

PHNCI will encourage innovations in public health, in part, through a National Advisory Committee comprised of representatives from all levels of public health practice and other sectors, including health care.

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For more information and updates, visit *www.phnci.org*.

Current Initiatives

At the core of PHNCI's current body of work is a learning community comprised of three pilot states implementing the systems transformations requisite to providing the foundational public health services and ensuring health equity. The learning community will expand to include ten additional sites through a competitive Call for Proposals in summer 2016.

The *Ohio Public Health Partnership*, a collaboration of five public health associations representing health departments, is working to: determine the cost of the core and foundational services necessary to advance the practice of public health in Ohio; maximize the use of shared services; explore a pathway to PHAB accreditation for small health departments; and implement population health services.

The *Oregon Coalition of Local Health Officials, Inc.*, in collaboration with the Oregon Health Authority and local health departments, is modernizing the public health system through the development of a framework for the foundational public health services in Oregon, and provision of technical assistance to health departments creating implementation plans.

The *Washington State Association of Local Public Health Officials*, in collaboration with the Washington State Department of Health and local health departments, is developing and implementing a comprehensive framework for foundational public health services in Washington, including development of service delivery options, a funding allocation model and accountability system, and statutory language to describe the value of this work in transforming health systems.

Foundational Public Health Services Model Version 1.0

Beginning in spring 2013, public health leaders convened to explore and further define a minimum package of public health services, including foundational capabilities and an array of basic programs no health department can be without, now known as foundational areas. This work resulted in a document defining the foundational public health services, and is now housed at PHNCI. It is expected that the model will be revised based on the work of PHNCI, its learning community, and the field.