Board of Health Orientation

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September 21, 2010

NALBOH
National Association of Local Boards of Health
OBJECTIVES

As a result of this presentation you will be able to:

• Explain the relationship of your local public health agency to the local public health system.

• Relate the public health guiding principles to your work as a board of health member.

• Describe the role of a local board of health.
OBJECTIVES

As a result of this presentation you will be able to:

• Describe the role of a local board of health member.

• Discuss the use of the Public Health Performance Standards and understand Public Health Accreditation.

• Explain NALBOH’s relationship to local boards of health.
Over 70% of local health departments have a board of health
Over 80% of boards of health have governing & policy making responsibilities
Over 3,200 boards of health in the United States
Over 20,000 individuals serving as public health trustees
Over 70% are appointed
44 state codes address local boards of health
INTRODUCTION

• The center of the public health system in your state, your local public health agency:
  ➢ Districts
  ➢ Local departments run by the State
  ➢ Local departments run by the county
  ➢ Municipal departments
PURPOSE OF PUBLIC HEALTH

• Prevent epidemics and spread of disease
• Protect against environmental hazards
• Prevent injuries

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PURPOSE OF PUBLIC HEALTH

• Promote and encourage healthy behaviors and mental health

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PURPOSE OF PUBLIC HEALTH

• Respond to disasters and assist communities in recovery

• Assure quality and accessibility of health services

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Every community must be served by a governmental public health entity

Partnerships in the community

Community system that delivers services that protect and promote the public’s health
PUBLIC HEALTH SYSTEMS

- All public, private, and voluntary entities that contribute to public health in a given area
- Network of entities with differing roles, relationships and interactions
- All contribute to the health and well-being of the community

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CORE FUNCTIONS OF PUBLIC HEALTH

- Assessment
- Policy Development
- Assurance
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- Assessment
- Policy Development
- Assurance
What are the needs of the community, families, and individuals?

What are the public health initiatives the health department will undertake to meet those needs?

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CORE FUNCTIONS OF PUBLIC HEALTH

• Assessment
• Policy Development
• Assurance
CORE FUNCTIONS OF PUBLIC HEALTH

• Assessment
• Policy Development
• Assurance
Board’s Assurances

1) Assure Legal Authority
2) Assure Resources
3) Assure Policy Making
4) Assure Accountability
5) Assure Collaboration
6) Assure Community Input
CORE FUNCTIONS OF PUBLIC HEALTH

• Three core functions of public health represent crucial aspects of your board’s activities and responsibilities:
  ➢ Assessment
  ➢ Policy Development
  ➢ Assurance
CORE FUNCTIONS & ESSENTIAL SERVICES
Power/Duties
Power/Duties
MEMBERS OF LOCAL BOARDS OF HEALTH

- Promote and protect the public health
- Work to link the community to the local public health department
- Advocate for public health
- Buffer between politics and provision of services
MEMBERS OF LOCAL BOARDS OF HEALTH

• Hire and evaluate the health officer
• Develop or make recommendations on policies or regulations
• Establish and approve budget allocations
• Review progress of health department goals and objectives
Role of Individual Members

• Learn as much as possible about the organization
  • Roles and obligations of the board
  • Programs and services offered by the health agency
• What are the community’s health problems
• Address the need – plan for solutions
Role of Individual Members

• Do know the LPHA’s mission, purpose, goals and its programs and services
• Do get to know the LPHA’s strengths and weaknesses
• Do pitch in enthusiastically and willingly
• Do make sure you have all the information before expressing an opinion or a judgment
Role of Individual Members

• Do get acquainted with other trustees, the Administrator and staff
• Do come to meetings – and come prepared to participate
• Do ask questions
• Do support the Administrator and staff, and understand that they are operating with limited resources
Board Chair Responsibilities

• Oversee board meetings
• Work in partnership with administrator to make sure board resolutions are carried out
• Call special meetings if/when necessary
• Assist Administrator in preparing board meeting agendas and conducting new board member orientation
• Oversee searches for new Administrator
Board Chair Responsibilities

• Coordinate Administrator’s annual performance evaluation/appraisal
• Assist in recruiting potential board members
• Act as an alternate spokesperson for the organization
• Periodically consult with trustees on their roles and help them assess their performances
Board Chair Tips

• Learn the Job
• Know Your People
• Build a Team
• Delegate
• Show Up
• Look Ahead
Board and Health Officer Relationship

• As a general rule, Boards Primarily Govern and Administrators Primarily Manage
  • To make this work each party needs to understand its own responsibilities and those that fall in the other’s purview

• Clear expectations for the board and the administrator need to be established and maintained
National Public Health Performance Standards Program

• CDC led collaborative effort - 1998

• Version 1 released June 2002
• Version 2 released October 2007
FOUR CONCEPTS APPLIED IN NPHPSP

1. Based on the Ten Essential Public Health Services
2. Focus on the overall public health system
3. Describe an optimal level of performance
4. Support a process of quality improvement
THREE INSTRUMENTS

• **Governance Instrument**
  - NALBOH represents governing bodies within the partnership

• **State Instrument**
  - ASTHO represents state health departments

• **Local Instrument**
  - NACCHO represents local health partners
DETERMINING RESPONSES

New Response Options for Version 2!

- **NO ACTIVITY**: 0% or absolutely no activity.
- **MINIMAL ACTIVITY**: Greater than zero, but no more than 25% of the activity described within the question is met within the public health system.
- **MODERATE ACTIVITY**: Greater than 25%, but no more than 50% of the activity described within the question is met within the public health system.
- **SIGNIFICANT ACTIVITY**: Greater than 50%, but no more than 75% of the activity described within the question is met within the public health system.
- **OPTIMAL ACTIVITY**: Greater than 75% of the activity described within the question is met within the public health system.
NPHPSPS DATA REPORTS

• Narrative
• Chart of Summary Scores
• Bar Charts by Essential Service
• Table of Indicators
• Pie Charts
USER BENEFITS

• Improves community communication and awareness of potential partners
• Promotes cohesion and collaboration between public health agency and board of health or governing entity
• Supports education and awareness of activities related to improving the public’s health
• Promotes awareness of a board’s range of responsibility
• Provides a benchmark to which boards of health and governing entities can aspire
• Provides information for policy development, program evaluation, and grant-writing
RESOURCES TO GET STARTED NPHPSP

• National Association of Local Boards of Health
  www.nalboh.org

• Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
  www.cdc.gov/od/ocphp/nphpsp

• Public Health Foundation
  www.phf.org/performance.htm
What is PHAB?

PHAB is a non-profit, voluntary accreditation organization whose goal is to advance public health performance by providing a national framework of standards for local, state, territorial, and tribal health departments.
PHAB PARTNERS

• Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO)
• National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO)
• National Association of Local Boards of Health (NALBOH)
• National Indian Health Board (NIHB)
• American Public Health Association (APHA)
• National Network of Public Health Institutes (NNPHI)
• Public Health Foundation (PHF)
BENEFITS OF ACCREDITATION

• Credibility
• Recognition of high performing health departments
• Framework for effective planning
• Culture of quality and performance improvement
• Access to resources for improvement
• Public health services aimed at improving health outcomes
To view the beta test tools and learn more about public health accreditation... visit PHAB’s website www.PHABBoard.org

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NALBOH’S ROLE

Mission is to strengthen and improve public health governance through:

• Education and training
• Advocacy
• Technical assistance
• State Association of Local Boards of Health Support (SALBOH)
• National opportunities for board of health members
WHO CAN HELP?

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