

# Whatcom County Community Health Assessment 2011

## Background

Whatcom County Health Department and PeaceHealth St. Joseph Medical Center both have a regulatory responsibility to produce a periodic community health assessment, and both organizations are committed to producing more than a report that simply lists data. Our aim is to provide in-depth and easily understood information that can help guide us -- as a community -- to set priorities and promote cross-organizational conversations about the targeted use of limited resources to meet serious challenges.

## Assessment Report

The plan is to produce a draft assessment report by spring, 2011. In addition to a set of public health indicators, the report will focus on social determinants of health and health inequities in Whatcom County, and the prevention and management of targeted health conditions. The report will also include a high level review of our community's public health, medical, dental and behavioral health delivery systems.

## MAPP Process

The Health Department and PeaceHealth are working with the WWU Critical Junctures Institute to conduct the assessment as part of a more comprehensive process called Mobilizing for Action through Partnerships and Planning (MAPP). The National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) refers to the MAPP process as *a community-driven strategic planning process for improving community health*. The chart on page 2 outlines the process.

## Community Partners

The health assessment will be guided by advice and consent of a *Community Leadership Group (CLG)*. A *Core Group* will coordinate activities of the CLG and seek review and advice from existing stakeholder groups, including those noted in the diagram to the right. A *Technical Assistance Group*, which will include WWU professors and students, will lend expertise and guidance on data sources and content specific issues.



## Visioning

Vision and values statements provide focus, purpose, and direction to the MAPP process so that participants are positioned to collectively achieve a shared vision of the future. A shared community vision - a statement of what the ideal future looks like - can give shape to community goals. Values are the fundamental principles and beliefs that will guide the planning process.

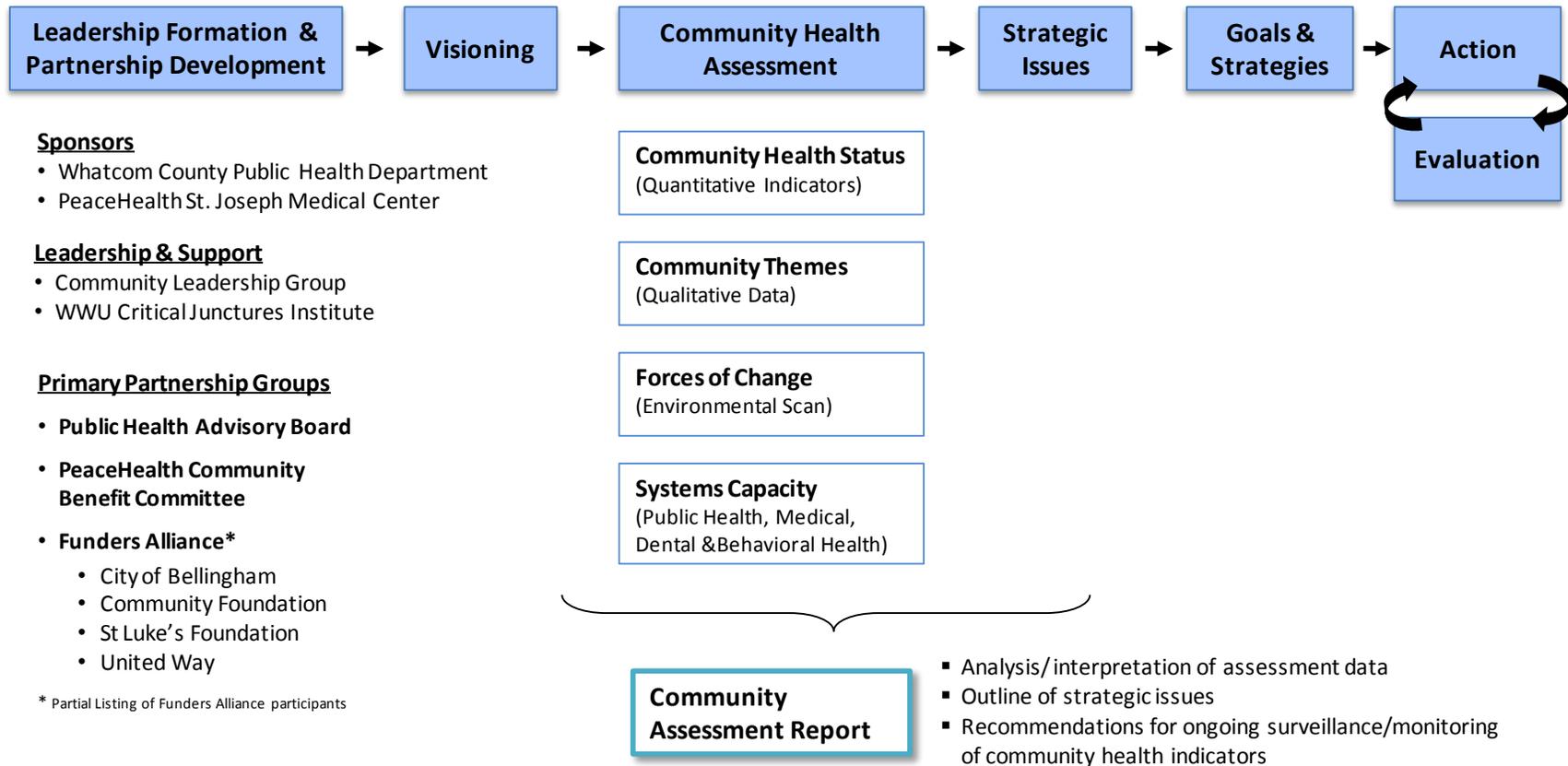
In December 2010 the Community Leadership Group will meet to outline a vision and values statement. Members of the primary stakeholder groups noted above are being invited to participate, along with other community leaders. Drawing from the results of recent Health Department focus groups, and incorporating the current vision and value statements of partner organizations, the Community Leadership Group will outline our vision for a healthy Whatcom County, and the values that can help guide our work together.

# Mobilizing for Action through Partnerships and Planning ~ (MAPP) Process

## Organize for Success

## Community Assessments

## Community Health Improvement Plan



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## Community Health Assessment 2011 Leadership Group

<b>Regina Delahunt</b>	Whatcom County Health Department
<b>Susan Givens-Seymour</b>	Northwest Indian College
<b>Rosalinda Guillen</b>	Community to Community Development
<b>Mike Massanari, MD</b>	WWU Critical Junctures Institute (CJI)
<b>Astrid Newell, MD</b>	Whatcom County Health Department
<b>Chris Phillips</b>	PeaceHealth St. Joseph Medical Center
<b>Sue Sharpe</b>	St. Luke's Foundation
<b>Peter Theisen</b>	United Way of Whatcom County
<b>David Webster</b>	City of Bellingham
<b>Greg Winter</b>	Homeless Service Center/ Opportunity Council
<b>Laurie Brockman, MSW, MPH</b>	CJI/ Assessment Coordinator

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December 1, 2010