



PHIP

NEWSLETTER

PUBLIC HEALTH IMPROVEMENT PARTNERSHIP (PHIP)

APRIL 2013 (1)

2012 PHIP Report

In 2010, the Public Health Improvement Plan recommended system transformation to better respond to economic uncertainties and changing population health. To address these recommendations, the Public Health Improvement Partnership created the Agenda for Change workgroup, which developed an action plan to transform governmental public health in Washington State. In late 2012, the Partnership adopted the Agenda for Change action plan as its 2012 Public Health Improvement Plan.

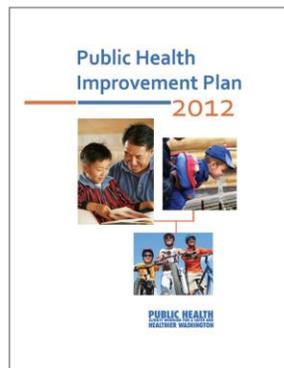
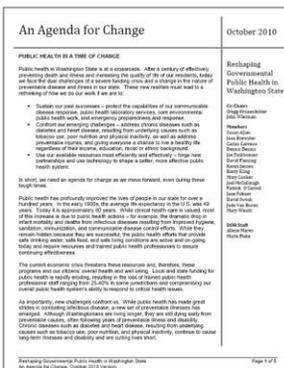
The Partnership will continue its mission of building a culture of accountability and quality improvement; measuring and improving public health services, and strengthening the public health system to address the demands of a changing environment in our state.



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The partnership welcomes new members to bring fresh perspective to all of its workgroups. The experience will provide exposure to a rich learning environment where you can engage in system wide thinking and opportunities to forge new collaborations and advance public health practice in Washington.



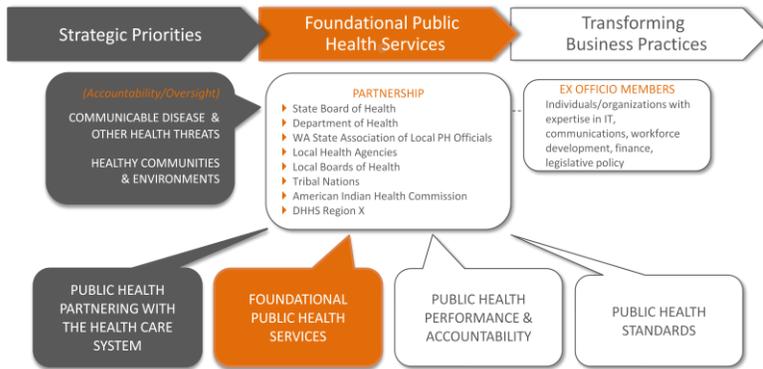
The 2012 Public Health Improvement Plan outlines work accomplished in the past two years. It also charts a roadmap for the next two years:

1. Focus on strategic priorities
2. Develop foundational public health services
3. Transform business practices

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New Partnership Structure



To carry out the work of the 2012 Public Health Improvement Plan, in March 2013, the Public Health Improvement Partnership approved a new structure. It will include new responsibilities for the Partnership and the following new or revised workgroups:

- ▶ Public Health Partnering with the Health Care System
- ▶ Foundational Public Health Services
- ▶ Public Health Performance and Accountability
- ▶ Public Health Standards

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Each of the Agenda for Change strategic priority areas is developing an implementation action plan which will be completed in May 2013. A review process, partner engagement and synchronization between the plans will follow before approval by the Partnership in June.

Communicable Disease and Other Health Threats

This work is already underway and will continue under existing partnerships established by the former subgroup under Agenda for Change.

Implementation will be led by the Disease Control and Health Statistics Division at the Department of Health and progress will be reported to the Partnership.

Healthy Communities and Environments

These efforts are also well underway in the Prevention and Community Health Division at the Department of Health where existing and new partnerships are leveraged to achieve results. This work also will be reported regularly to the Partnership.

Public Health Partnering with the Health Care System

The Partnership decided to re-establish a workgroup to build on the accomplishments of the Agenda for Change Public Health Partnering with the Health Care System subgroup. Its renewed focus will be on engaging with the rapidly moving health reform landscape, and responding to what we have learned from a recent local health agencies' survey of health reform activities and needs.

OBJECTIVES

- ▶ Increase immunization rates
- ▶ Standardize and prioritize communicable disease surveillance and response activities
- ▶ Develop, maintain and integrate a data collection system for communicable disease tracking, monitoring and response

OBJECTIVES

- ▶ Implement policy, environmental, and system changes that give all babies a planned, healthy start in life
- ▶ Implement policy, environmental, and system changes that prevent or reduce the impact of adverse childhood experiences (such as abuse and neglect) on children and families
- ▶ Implement policy, environmental, and system changes that help adults make healthy choices for themselves and their families

OBJECTIVES

- ▶ Provide more information about the community's health care system and the health of local communities
- ▶ Improve information about the capacity of the health care delivery system within the community
- ▶ Increase information about how people use the health care system in the community

FOUNDATIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

In 2012, the Institute of Medicine endorsed in its report on public health funding the concept of foundational public health services. Washington State is using this concept to define basic public health services to be delivered by state and local governmental public health and funded with state and local general funds. The list is defined through the lens of population health services.

A Foundational Public Health Services Workgroup was created by the Public Health Improvement Partnership in 2012 and with the help of a consultant is developing a model for estimating the cost of delivering foundational public health services statewide. Cost estimates are being collected from nine local health agencies and the Department of Health.

To achieve these goals, the workgroup will use the foundational public health services and the cost model and other data to better understand the current funding situation, identify and explore funding options, work with partners to agree on these options, and align Washington's public health chart of accounts with foundational public health services. The group will also work on exploring opportunities for system efficiencies and begin to define performance measures for foundational public health services.

OBJECTIVES

- ▶ Describe the funding history, current funding situation, and future funding options of the public health system in our state
- ▶ Implement a state and local government system of sustainable funding of foundational public health services statewide

TRANSFORMING BUSINESS PRACTICES

Public Health Performance and Accountability

A new workgroup will focus on performance and measurement. It will look at activities and services, local public health indicators, performance measures and population based targets. It will work with policymakers and the Public Health Improvement Partnership to set health outcomes and performance and accountability measures, and modernize the capabilities to collect, analyze, and share information.

Once the performance measures and outcomes have been identified, the workgroup will focus on workforce development. Because of the breadth of work under the auspices of this group, subgroups may be identified to work on specific tasks.

OBJECTIVES

- ▶ Review the list of local public health indicators and update if it is determined that they provide necessary information
- ▶ Approve annual public health activities and services inventory, administer surveys and prepare report
- ▶ Analyze public health activities and services data for trends to inform performance management
- ▶ Develop performance measures for public health activities and services and begin to identify targets
- ▶ Assess system workforce development needs based on performance measures and population based target

Public Health Standards

The already existing Public Health Standards Workgroup will continue the work of quality improvement across the public health system, strive to meet public health standards, plan for statewide reviews and accreditation efforts, and explore a meaningful review option for local health agencies that do not plan to apply for national accreditation.

A proposal to develop and test a system capable of measuring the extent to which local health agencies address the foundational public health services, and to begin to apply performance measures to those activities, was made by Barry Kling from Chelan-Douglas Health District at the March Partnership meeting. This innovative proposal aligns the aspects of foundational public health services with specific national Public Health Accreditation Board standards, public health activities and services data, existing performance measures and local public health indicators with recognized 'targets' like Healthy People 2020.

A subset of the Public Health Standards Workgroup has begun to develop a crosswalk between available sources of data. The Partnership agreed that tying these measurements together is promising. The Partnership also recommended that the work continue with the support and input from the Public Health Standards, Public Health Performance and Accountability, and Foundational Public Health Services workgroups.

OBJECTIVES

- ▶ Improving performance across the public health system
- ▶ Increasing the knowledge and use of quality improvement tools across the system
- ▶ Explore development of a system to measure the extent to which local health jurisdictions address foundational public health services and how to apply performance measures to these activities