WORKING WITH STATE HEALTH DEPARTMENTS ON MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH

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Working with State Health Departments: The Role of State Health Officials (SHOs)
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VISION
State and territorial health agencies advancing health equity and optimal health for all.

MISSION
To support, equip, and advocate for state and territorial health officials in their work of advancing the public’s health and well-being.

ASTHO: Who We Are

• Non-profit organization representing public health agencies

• Track, evaluate, and advise members on the impact and formation of public or private health policy

• Provide guidance and technical assistance on improving the nation’s health
State Health Officials

- Governor appointed officials
- Chief health officials of their jurisdictions
- Formulate and influence sound public health policy and ensure excellence in state-based public health practice

State Health Agency – Governance Classification

- Centralized: Local health units are primarily led by employees of the state and the state retains authority over most fiscal decisions.
- Shared: Local health units may be led by employees of the state or of local government. If they are led by state employees, then local government has authority to make fiscal decisions and/or issue public health orders.
- Mixed: Some local health units are led by employees of the state and some are led by employees of local government. No one arrangement predominates in the state.
- Decentralized: Local health units are primarily led by employees of local governments and the local governments retain authority over most fiscal decisions.
Engaging Your SHOs

- Share data, evidence-base, and best practices on emerging public health issues
- Inform legislation contributing to better health outcomes for your constituents
- Provide testimonies
- SHO peer networks – what’s happening in other states?
- Legislative Liaisons!
Thank You!

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Working with State Health Departments on Maternal and Child Health

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Louisiana Priorities

Title V (2016-2020)
- Ensure high-performing MCH screening and surveillance systems
- Improve access to and quality of services
- Improve social and behavioral supports
- Support children, adolescents, and CYSHCN through transitions
- Bolster local level capacity to promote and protect health
- Understand and address health disparities
- Actively and meaningfully engage youth and families

Key Issues
- Perinatal quality
- Maternal morbidity/mortality
- Infant and early childhood mental health
- Developmental screening and child health policies
- Improving school based health services
- Informing and complementing state Medicaid policy
Setting State MCH Priorities

- 5 yr Needs Assessment
- Priorities
- Action Plan

- 2014
- Early 2015
- Mid 2015 (Revised Yearly)
Priorities by Domain

Women’s and Maternal Health
- Preventive care increase
- Tobacco use reduction

Perinatal and Infant Health
- Infant mortality reduction

Child Health
- Developmental screening increase
- ACEs reduction
- Overweight/Obesity reduction
- Injury reduction
- Tobacco use reduction

Adolescent Health
- Overweight/Obesity reduction
- Injury reduction

CYSHCN
- Medical home
- Transition services

Louisiana’s MCH Strategy

- Continuously **assess the needs** of Louisiana’s mothers, children, and families
- **Assess the capacity** of the internal and external systems to address those needs
- **Align efforts** to address the most pressing needs
Measurement Framework

- **Evidence-based Strategy Measures (ESMs)**
- **National Performance Measures (NPMs)**
- **National Outcome Measures (NOMs)**

**Measurement Example: Infant Mortality**

- **ESM**: # of birthing hospitals with formal protocols that require new parents to be informed about safe sleep positions
- **NPM**: Infants placed to sleep on backs

Improvement in the ESM should lead to improvement in the...

Improvement in the NPM should lead to improvement in the...

**NOMs**
- SUID mortality
- Postneonatal mortality
- Infant mortality

Improved outcomes!
How We Work With Legislators

Pre-session
- Topics for bill proposals
- Consulting for bill writing/development

During Session
- Subject-matter expertise
  - Talking points
  - Testimony

Post-session
- Study resolutions
- Policy implementation

Year-round
- Boards, Councils, Commissions

TN Legislative Process

1. Educating vs Advocating
2. Governor’s Legislative Priorities – Timeline, Process, and Structure
3. Bill Analysis Process
Examples of Collaboration

Louisiana Commission on Perinatal Care and Prevention of Infant Mortality
Healthy Moms, Healthy Babies Advisory Council
Louisiana’s Early Childhood Care and Education Commission

TN Examples of MCH Legislative Successes

1. Maternal Mortality Review
2. Adverse Childhood Experiences
3. Immunizations
4. Opioid Response/Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome
5. Suicide
We can help you...

- Identify & connect with stakeholders across systems
- Assess the MCH implications of proposed or current policy
- Understand the MCH needs of your constituents
- Identify data-informed, evidence-based options

Thoughts on working together

1. There is significant subject matter expertise in health departments – request a face to face, relationships help

2. The structure, scope, funding, and flexibility of every state health department is unique

3. We are all in this together

4. Help us maintain focus on priorities

5. “Health in all policies” is often our approach
THINK, PAIR AND SHARE

1. Well break into small groups to discuss options.
2. Why do you think we'll be smarter when we're in small groups?
3. That way everyone gets more time to talk.
4. According to your theory, the ideal group size would be one person talking to himself.
5. No, you also need the knowledge and perspective that extra people bring.
6. That would argue for larger groups, not smaller ones.
7. Fine! Just break into whatever size groups you think make sense.
8. I like your style, Dilbert. Thank you for noticing.
BREAK

- Transition to next session in LaForche/Point Coupee
- Joint sessions with Opioid Policy Fellows
  - Medicaid 1115 Waivers
  - Lunch
  - Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs)

#NCSLmchfellows