



PUBLIC HEALTH CONNECTIONS

December – 2010 Volume 10, Issue 12

Bureau of Local and Rural Health



John Mitchell, Acting Secretary

Mark Parkinson, Governor

WHAT'S INSIDE

HELPING CHILDREN AVOID HOLIDAY WEIGHT GAIN 1

CHANGES IN THE BUREAU OF LOCAL AND RURAL HEALTH..... 3

THE HOT SPOT – CRAWFORD COUNTY IN THE SPOTLIGHT..... 3

FINNEY COUNTY IN THE SPOTLIGHT 4

ANNUAL VITAL STATISTICS SUMMARY RELEASED..... 4

DOWLIN HONORED BY HOME HEALTH CARE ASSOCIATION 5

HERRMANN ADVOCATES FOR UNDERSERVED 6

DO YOU LOVE FOOD BUT HATE THE WASTE? 7

DISABILITY PREPARED 8

NEWS AND UPDATES 8

 Priority Areas for Improvement of Quality in Public Health 8

 New Hampshire Public Health Network 9

 K-State Research and Extension Services 9

 The Center for Community Support and Research 9

 Colorado Public Health Act 9

 CDC Learning Center 9

 Announcing the Quality Improvement ‘Quick Guide’ 10

 Linking Electronic Health Records to MedlinePlus Health Information 10

 Interventions to Reduce Excessive Alcohol Use and Related Harms..... 10

 CMS Health Literacy Toolkit..... 10

 Public Health Preparedness & Response Core Competency Model Released..... 10

 A Resource to Help Communities Address Social Determinants of Health 10

LOCAL HEALTH SECTION 11

HELPING CHILDREN AVOID HOLIDAY WEIGHT GAIN

An Op-Ed Column by Jason Eberhart-Phillips, MD

Kansas State Health Officer, Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE)

We all know how easy it is for most grown-ups to gain weight during the holiday season. Unless we work hard to avoid it, we adults can expect to tack on a pound or two of added weight between Halloween and New Year’s Day. That’s extra bulk that most of us will be fighting to lose for most of 2011, until the next holiday season rolls around.

Now there is evidence that the same risks of holiday weight gain are true for children, especially those who are overweight already. Mix large amounts of tempting holiday foods with more time off from school to indulge in sedentary pursuits like watching television and playing computer games, and you have a “perfect storm” for kids to put on unwanted pounds, just as adults tend to do at this time of year.

Food is an important part of holiday celebrations, and no one wants children to be deprived of the special tastes that are part of many family traditions. Visions of sugar plums and other seasonal treats have a rightful place for children in this magical season – but conscientious parents know that calorie-rich foods must be approached in moderation.

So what can a parent or caregiver do to see that their kids enjoy this year’s festive season without gaining unnecessary weight? Here are some tips:

- Maintain your child’s regular eating schedule, including a hearty breakfast, as best you can. This will make it less likely that later in the day she will devour excessive amounts of holiday candies, cookies and other treats – items that are almost impossible to avoid during the holiday months.



- If you know you are going to a party or another gathering where food will be available, fill your child up a bit beforehand with healthy foods like cut fruit or baby carrots. Again, he will be less tempted to overdo it on the party foods.
- Set a rule with your child that limits her to just one dessert.
- Don't keep non-nutritious holiday snacks and sugary drinks around your house. Make healthy snacks of fruits and vegetables available for your child instead. If you bake your own cookies, use a smaller cookie cutter to reduce the mass of cookies your child will eat.
- Encourage your child to eat slowly at family feasts and other meals. By savoring each bite, he will feel full sooner and be less likely to demand seconds.
- Politely ask friends and relatives not to furnish your child with large amounts of unhealthy foods, or to purchase them as gifts for your child.

Reducing the risk of overeating is just half of the battle. Winning the holiday weight game also requires a stepped-up commitment to helping your children burn their excess calories through physical activity. Here are some tips for parents on that score:

- Set aside at least an hour for the family to engage in moderately vigorous physical activity each day – starting now. Such activity includes games that involve running or jumping, or such activities as biking, swimming or skateboarding.
- Limit screen time to less than two hours per day, and discourage it altogether for children under two years of age.
- Organize backyard football games, neighborhood walks and other outdoor activities before and after holiday feasts.
- Get your children to join into active party games and dances that you include in the holiday gatherings at your home.
- Consider purchasing holiday presents for your child that will encourage physical activity, such as bikes, skateboards, balls and skipping ropes.

The holiday season is fraught with weighty risks for children growing up in today's world. But if you plan ahead, anticipating the risks, the chances are good that you can keep your child on a healthy path without missing any of the fun the season brings.

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED

Please join us to wish
Richard (Dick) Morrissey
congratulations on his retirement &
celebrate his 36 years of service to the Kansas
Department of Health & Environment.

Friday, December 10, 2010
2:00–4:00 pm
Crumbine Room, 5th Floor
Curtis State Office Building
1000 SW Jackson Street
Topeka, Kansas

For more information, contact Nancy Akin at
785-296-1086 or nakin@kdheks.gov.





CHANGES IN THE BUREAU OF LOCAL AND RURAL HEALTH

Dr. Jason Eberhart-Phillips, Kansas State Health Officer, will be the Acting Director for Local and Rural Health after Dick Morrissey retires on Dec. 10. Cyndi Treaster, Director Farmworker, Immigrant and Refugee Health, will serve as Acting Director of the Local Health Section after Shirley Orr departs KDHE in January.

THE HOT SPOT – CRAWFORD COUNTY IN THE SPOTLIGHT

*by Janis Goedeke, Administrator
Crawford County Health Department*



The response of Crawford County Health Department (CCHD) to public health challenges (such as tornadoes, itch mites, mercury spills, lead issues, rhino virus, foodborne disease outbreaks and H1N1) has earned the county a reputation of being a public health hot spot in southeast Kansas. The health department has met the challenges through a very capable staff.

Crawford County is located in extreme southeast Kansas and has a population of approximately 38,000 citizens. The county commissioners serve as the health department's local board of health. Staff includes an executive director, two nurse practitioners, one dietitian, eight nurses, a social worker, two child care licensing surveyors, a public health educator, two Healthy Start visitors, and six clerks. One nurse is a lactation consultant and three of the health department staff are certified breast feeding educators. A breast feeding peer educator is also on staff. As typical in public health, everyone works in multiple programs.

The health department provides an array of services. Some of these programs range from housing the Southeast Kansas Early Detection Works Regional Office to providing nursing services to Discovery Center, a child care organization for at-risk children.

The creation of partnerships is crucial in the current economic climate. CCHD has found that with each public health crisis, its partnerships have increased, along with the community's awareness of public health.

Partnerships:

- Crawford County has found that by working with the regional preparedness group, the Lower Eight, we are able to strengthen health department programs resulting in a stronger public health presence in the community. One of the programs that Crawford County collaborated with the Lower Eight on was the Multi-State Learning Collaborative Project. Through this project, the region was able to learn the steps to completing a community health assessment. In the upcoming year, the Lower Eight will be working together to conduct such an assessment, which will assist each health department in the region in national public health accreditation.
- Crawford County Health Department partners with the dental program of Community Health of Southeast Kansas to provide fluoride treatments to the children attending Women, Infant and Children (WIC) clinics.
- One of CCHD's newest partnerships has been with the Kiwani's organization in Pittsburg when we held a flu vaccination clinic in conjunction with their annual trick-or-treat event held at the YMCA. While we were challenged by locating injection sites wearing Halloween costumes, the children were cooperative and excited to see all the activities at the Trick or Treat Event. Approximately 65 to 70 flu vaccinations were provided.

FINNEY COUNTY IN THE SPOTLIGHT

*by Ashley Goss, Administrator
Finney County Health Department*



Finney County Health Department (FCHD) in southwest Kansas employs 28 employees, including the staff for the Women Infants and Children (WIC) program. The services the agency offers to the Finney County community includes family planning, maternal child health, WIC, Immunizations (we do these every day), child health, tuberculosis management, child care licensing, and refugee physicals. Other agency services include pre-employment physicals and "sick visits" for kids under the age of 18. The agency has a full-time nurse practitioner providing women's health services, and a local physician who volunteers her time for inter-uterine device placement one day a month. FCHD also assists the county emergency medical services department with billing.

Staff also continue to support public health preparedness activities. These activities paid off during the 2009-2010 H1N1 pandemic. During the H1N1 event, the staff provided influenza vaccinations at points of dispensing sites (PODS) two days each week, seeing more than 1,200 people on some days.

FCHD is fortunate to be able to partner with Saint Catherine Hospital, which provided additional nursing and clerical staff for the PODs. Health department staff not only ran the PODs, but kept normal health department functions running at capacity during this time. Without everyone working as a team, we would have never pulled it off. As many of you know when times are stressful, working as a team can be challenging. This was something that we never had to worry about, as the staff was truly amazing throughout the entire event.

The agency continues to work to improve preparedness competency by completing technical assistance reviews, improving and updating standard operating guides, and completing annual POD exercise. The preparedness region, Western Pyramid Public Health Region which includes FCHD, is composed of eight counties that have been able to work well together and have consistently shown improvement every year.

As the agency prepares for national public health accreditation coming in 2012, the staff has been working with another organization that was formed recently within the community to perform a community health needs assessment. The organization has designed a community health needs survey and are determining how the survey will be distributed to the public, whether through focus groups, one on one interviews, mail, telephone interviews, etc. The goal is to have the majority of the community completing the needs survey so the results include a cross representation of the county's diverse population. The community health assessment organization is looking forward to the survey results to see how we can best benefit the community in the future.

Upon completion of the survey, planning and implementing an improvement plan will become a priority for the health department as we continue to move forward to become an accredited health department.

As the FCHD looks to a new era of public health, the agency is excited about the ability to better serve the public. We find ourselves at time where enthusiasm for change is dependent on keeping thoughts on the goal. If the past is any proof, the staff at Finney County Health Department will achieve the accreditation transition with positive improvement in the public health system and the community we strive to serve.

ANNUAL VITAL STATISTICS SUMMARY RELEASED

by Office of Vital Statistics, Bureau of Public Health Informatics, KDHE

The 2009 Annual Summary has been released of Vital Statistics. "This report serves as a baseline document that will be used to assess the health of Kansans," said John W. Mitchell, Acting Secretary of Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE). "Two key highlights of the report show that there is a decrease in both heart disease and the infant mortality rate."

In 2009, a total of 290 infant deaths occurred (7.0 infant deaths per 1,000 live births), 13 less than in 2008. The age-adjusted death rate for heart disease dropped 6.3 percent from 2008 to 2009, a statistically significant decrease. Thus for the first time in recent



history, cancer passed heart disease as the leading cause of death in Kansas in 2009.

"It's certainly too early to tell whether cancer surpassing heart disease as the leading cause of death will become a trend, but it is an area we will continue to watch," said Dr. Jason Eberhart-Phillips, State Health Officer and Director of KDHE's Division of Health. "Both causes of death have been declining in recent years, with mortality from heart disease falling faster than mortality from cancer." He added that "a particularly troubling public health issue in Kansas is the high infant mortality rate – despite a decline from 2007 to 2009, the rate still remains too high."

Other highlights for 2009 include:

- In 2009, a total of 41,388 births were registered to Kansas residents, 427 less than in 2008.
- The percent of Kansas mothers receiving inadequate prenatal care (14.9) decreased 5.7 percent between 2008 and 2009.
- Out-of-wedlock births followed national trends, increasing to 37.6 percent (15,572 live births).
- The Kansas 2009 teen pregnancy rate (26.8 per 1,000 female teens) has decreased 6.3 percent from 28.6 in 2008.
- The disparity in the infant, neonatal and post neonatal death rates between white non-Hispanics and black non-Hispanics continues to be a public health concern. The black non-Hispanic infant death rate (15.5) is 2.6 times higher than the rate for white non-Hispanics (6.0).
- Kansas increased in population to 2,818,747 residents in 2009 from 2,802,134 in 2008.
- In the last five years (2005-2009) frontier and rural counties continued to lose population; while semi-urban and urban counties gained in population.
- In the last 20 years, population increases of 71.9 percent in residents 45-54 years of age and 51.7 percent in residents 55-64 years of age reflected the aging of the baby boomers.
- In 2009, unintentional injuries were the leading cause of death for Kansas residents 1-4 and 15-44 years of age. For the first time, cancer was the leading cause of death for children 5-14.

The annual summary, available at <http://www.kdheks.gov/hci/annsumm.html>, contains six new tables.

- Live Births by Initiation of Breastfeeding (Table 20), reports the number and percentage of women who started breastfeeding their infant before discharge.
- Live Births by the Mother's Reported Cigarette Use (Table 21), provides county-level statistics on smoking use before and during pregnancy.
- Live Births by Birth Weight Category for Gestational Age (Table 22), provides information on infants that are small for their gestational age.
- Mother's Weight Gain in Pregnancy by Pregnancy BMI Category (Table 23), addresses whether women have sufficient weight gain during pregnancy.
- Deaths by Number and Percent Related to Tobacco (Table 65), reports on the deaths where the certifying physician said the death was related to tobacco.
- Deaths from 39 Selected Causes by Number and Percent and Sex of Decedent (Table 66), reports the impact of tobacco on the leading causes of death in Kansas.

Each of these new tables are made possible from information that is now collected on the birth and death certificates. The tables and charts contained in this report represent only a glimpse of the insight that can be gained from the data reported on live births, deaths, stillbirths, marriages, marriage dissolutions (divorce and annulment) and abortions recorded annually. Persons needing additional data can call (785) 296-8627.

DOWLIN HONORED BY HOME HEALTH CARE ASSOCIATION

*by Debbie Whitmer, Public Health Nurse Specialist,
BLRH, KDHE*



Mitchell County Health Department Administrator Patricia Dowlin was recently honored at the annual Kansas Home Care Conference, where she was presented the Home Care Administrator of the Year award.

The award is made to administrators who have exhibited distinguished performance in teamwork and staff relations, coordination of patient care, delivery of patient care, special event coordination and participation, or agency management. Margarete McReynolds, RN, Home Health Coordinator for the North Central Kansas Home Health Agency (HHA), stated that Dowlin has displayed leadership in all of those areas.

Dowlin has been active in trying to provide the services to those who need them, and always helps wherever she can. The main special event that the county health department par-

ticipates in is the Health Fair in the spring, which is made possible because of Dowlin's efforts. She leads the planning for the fair.

"Patricia's always very supportive of all the things we have here," McReynolds said. In her nomination letter, McReynolds wrote, "This administrator has gone beyond the call of duty to procure needed health care, medications, and adequate food and housing for clients, employees, and their families if needed."

Dowlin, who will retire March 2011, has been the administrator of the North Central Kansas Home Health Agency for over 21 years. She has seen many changes and challenges in the health care system in her 40 years of nursing. "The evolution of home care is one of the many changes and challenges she has guided this home health agency through. She has given the agency growth opportunities with her adaptability, knowledge and understanding of home health care," wrote McReynolds.

"Home health care is changing nearly every day and every week," Dowlin said. "Compared to years ago, everything is more complicated, including the pay sources, patients' conditions, and regulations covering service to clients and the administration of agencies."

McReynolds said that Dowlin has compassion and much concern for everybody - both clients and employees. Dowlin was unaware that she was the award's winner until her name was announced at the conference in Wichita. McReynolds was informed of Dowlin winning the honor in May or June, but she and her coworkers kept the news a secret. "That was not only challenging, but also a lot of fun," McReynolds said. Dowlin said that she was very surprised that she won the award, and at seeing her mother, son, grandson, daughter, sister, brother-in-law, and niece there to celebrate her award.

"I'm not sure I deserve it," Dowlin said if receiving the award. "It's the wonderful staff that's made me look good I'm very honored it couldn't have come at a better time. It's a wonderful way to retire."

HERRMANN ADVOCATES FOR UNDERSERVED

*by Bridget Koan, School of Nursing Public Relations
University of Kansas Medical Center*



Mary Beth Herrmann, RN, registered nurse, administrator and health officer for Pawnee County Health Department, in Larned, KS, was one of 10 winners selected Fri., Oct. 22, at the Hyatt Regency Crown Center, Kansas City, Mo., from more than hundreds of Nursing the Heart of Healthcare award nominees.

Putting a face on the underserved and less fortunate in the community has been part of Herrmann's job for 22 years at the health department. But it's more than that for her. "This organization works to promote and keep a health care system in our small rural county," Herrmann said.

Herrmann has been doing public health nursing for a total of 33 years. She said she's tried other types of nursing, but is always drawn back to public health. She is the administrator, staff supervisor, county health officer, HIPAA privacy officer, HIPAA security officer, public relations person, public information officer, human resource manager, facility infection control manager, identity theft prevention officer, purchasing officer, finance manager, grant writer, staff development trainer, OSHA compliance officer and the public health preparedness coordinator.

"One minute I am working on the yearly grants and the next minute I am giving flu shots, doing a pregnancy test or maybe weighing and measuring a one week-old baby," Herrman said.

"I enjoy introducing and mentoring new staff to the world of public health," Herrmann said. "You have to really like this type of work and be able to see the broad reaching impact that it makes on people's lives down the road," Herrmann added.

In nominating Herrman, one person wrote, "She is dedicated to finding a solution to the problems that the community faces. Pawnee County is lucky to have a nurse such as Mary Beth who not only sees future needs but also pays attention to the needs at hand, and is always striving to make our county one of the healthier communities in Kansas."

When the parent company of the local hospital decided to close it, Herrmann worked with others in the community for a year to ensure this did not happen. The hospital is now owned by the county and in no danger of closing its doors.

Herrman doesn't see herself doing anything other than what she's doing right now. "Public health nursing is a little-known profession, and it has and continues to be a wonderful special experience with each and every day being new and challenging," Herrmann said.

Established as a public service by the University of Kansas in 1989, Nursing the Heart of Healthcare celebrated 19 years of recognizing outstanding registered nurses. Nominations are accepted from their patients, colleagues, supervisors, families and friends. Over the years, there have been 190 winners from more than 6,900 nominations.

A committee composed of former award winners and health care and business leaders selected the 10 winners.

DO YOU LOVE FOOD BUT HATE THE WASTE?

*by Megan MacPherson, Program Consultant
Bureau of Waste Management, KDHE*

Reduce – Homeowners can reduce the amount of food they waste, such as planning meals around leftovers. Not only will this reduce waste, but it will make your food dollars go further.

- Plan your menu and shop for just those things on your menu.
- Buy in quantities that you realistically need and will use. If you buy in bulk, make sure to have a way to keep the food from spoiling before you use it. An entire head of lettuce may be cheaper than bagged or the salad bar pound for pound, but if you end up throwing most of it out because you didn't use it all, you may have just thrown away those savings.
- Think "what do we have to eat?" instead of "what do I want to eat?" Use up the food you already bought and have in the house instead of buying more. You already paid for it – so use it.



Reuse – Use up your leftovers – take leftovers from dinner to work for lunch. This can save you a bunch of money over buying your lunch every day. Turn leftovers into a completely different meal. For example, extra cooked rice makes great fried rice. Many websites offer recipes for whatever food and ingredients you have leftover and on hand such as "Love Food, Hate Waste." Click the image above to view receipts. Search "leftover recipes" on-line and see all the great ideas that come up for leftover food. Challenge your kids to find a recipe for a leftover and have them help you make it. Check out Green Planet's "Eat Your Trash to Improve Your Cooking" for tips and tricks on recovering food waste. Click the image on the left to learn more.

Donate – You got a great deal on multiple packs of something, only to get home and find it's just way too much for you to be able to use before it expires, or you just don't care for it. If the food (or anything else) is still in good condition, contact your local food rescue, pantry or shelter and see if they can use it. There are more hungry and needy in your community than you realize, so donate your extras to those in need — you may even be able to get a tax deduction for donation. You can find a food bank in your area or Food Bank Locator work directly with your local agency or charity. To find those and other programs in your area, check the government and community services pages of your phone book or just search "food donations" along with your town and state on-line.

Recycle: Compost! – Homeowners and other small scale generators of food waste can (compost). More and more communities across the country have begun collecting food waste – often it is combined with yard waste collection bins. Check for information on local composting resources and if they don't offer collection for composting, suggest that they start. Or check out findacomposter.com by clicking the image to the right for a composter near you who may be able to take your food scraps and yard wastes. Better yet – compost at home. Turn your food scraps and yard trimmings into compost that in turn feeds your soil and plants. Compost is an incredible soil additive that you can easily make right at home. Composting at home saves your wallet by eliminating the need to buy expensive soil conditioners for your garden it also saves your nose – since most of your food scraps will no longer be sitting in the trash can stinking up your house waiting for trash day.



DISABILITY PREPARED

by Cat Howland, Project Manager and Tiffany Huggard-Lee, Forum Designer
Research and Training Center on Independent Living, University of Kansas

The staff at the Research and Training Center on Independent Living, University of Kansas, is excited about launching a new website. You're invited to check it out by clicking the image to the right and get involved in the forum feature.

The aim of the training center is encourage to share what works, what challenges they've faced, and unmet needs they've identified for addressing the disaster-related needs of people with disabilities. Ideas that are identified as best practices are then added to the lists of best practices on the website to share with others.

Please join us in spreading the news about this site on your listservs, newsletters, and other means with people in the emergency management, health, safety and disabilities fields, across the U.S. Click the image to the right to view their website.



Save The Date

Governor's Annual Public Health Conference

**Reducing Health Disparities:
Partnerships for
Progress**

April 19-20, 2011

Wichita, KS

Orientation to MCH

April 18, 2011

Save The Date

Kansas Medical Reserve Leadership and Training Summit

**Kansas Highway Patrol
Training Academy**

April 8-9, 2011

Salina, KS

News and Updates

Submitted by the Local Health Section, BLRH

Priority Areas for Improvement of Quality in Public Health

Improving the health of our nation remains a noble societal goal. Yet, for too long, people across America have not reached their full health potential. We need revitalized efforts to move toward a healthier nation. The advent of the Affordable Care Act serves as a catalyst for such change by promoting quality, access to care, and community and clinical prevention. We should maximize this transformative opportunity to elevate the health of our society. Click the U.S. Health and Human Services logo to view the complete report.



New Hampshire Public Health Network



The New Hampshire Public Health Network (NHPHN) works to assure coordinated and comprehensive delivery of essential public health services and serves as a local liaison with state agencies involved in the public's health and safety. To view more on the NHPHN, click the logo to the left.

The network is comprised of community-based partnerships involving broad public health interests including local health departments and health officers, fire, police, emergency medical services, health care providers, social service agencies, schools, media and advocacy groups, and leaders in business, politics and faith working together to address complex public health issues.

New Hampshire began funding community partnerships in 2000 to improve local public health capacity throughout the state. Currently, there are 15 public health partnerships serving all of New Hampshire towns and residents. To view the NHPHN public health infrastructure click the Local Public Health System image on the right.



K-State Research and Extension Services



Looking at models for districting/regionalization efforts? Check out the model implemented by the Kansas State Research and Extension Services by clicking the K-State Wildcat logo. The website includes a [map of the districts](#) that have been formed in Kansas, how the extension districts are formed, operational agreements, evaluation of the model and more.

The Center for Community Support and Research



The Center for Community Support & Research (CCSR) works with a variety of individuals and groups, including non-profit, faith-based and community-based organizations and utilizes a multidisciplinary, vision-driven approach to build and enhance capacity within these organizations and communities. To learn more about CCSR, click on the Wichita State University logo.

Colorado Public Health Act

The Public Health Act SB 08-194, authorizes the Office of Planning and Partnerships of Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment to create a Statewide Public Health Improvement Plan, including core services and standards that will set priorities for the public health system in Colorado, and will provide the basis for local public health improvement plans. Click the image on the right to view the information.



CDC Learning Center



The CDC is excited to announce the launch of a new website, the *CDC Learning Connection*, which aims to make high-quality learning products available to the public health community. The *CDC Learning Connection* website is the first step in an initiative to improve how CDC manages learning.

Through the *CDC Learning Connection* the public health community can

- Access over 150 products in this growing collection of public health-related learning
- Find e-learning, podcasts, electronic publications, webcasts, and more
- Locate courses that offer continuing education (CE) credits
- Access featured e-learning that met specific selection criteria

Over the coming months, the *CDC Learning Connection* will continue to evolve as CDC partners with the TRAIN learning management system, the Public Health Foundation and affiliates to establish the CDC TRAIN portal.

Please take a minute and explore the initial version of this website. Your recommendations for additional useful links to include are greatly appreciated. Click the CDC logo to learn more.



Announcing the Quality Improvement 'Quick Guide'

The Public Health Foundation (PHF) has launched a free, online Quality Improvement (QI) Quick Guide for public health practitioners. The QI Quick Guide addresses a need identified by practitioners for assistance in determining which resources to use as they pursue QI initiatives. The QI Quick Guide consists of a free web-based QI user guide and a tutorial, which provide a gateway to hundreds of resources linked from PHF's Online Resource Centers - the Public Health Improvement Resource Center and the National Public Health Performance Standards Program Online Resource Center. The tutorial introduces basic QI concepts and walks through a Plan-Do-Check-Act problem-solving model using a real-world case example. Click the PHF logo above for more information.

Linking Electronic Health Records to MedlinePlus Health Information



In keeping with its mission to provide reliable health information to consumers, the National Library of Medicine (NLM) announces the debut of MedlinePlus Connect, a free service that allows electronic health record (EHR) systems to link users to MedlinePlus. Click the image to learn more.

Interventions to Reduce Excessive Alcohol Use and Related Harms



The CDC has released two reviews from the Guide to Community Preventive Services (Community Guide) assessing the effectiveness of limiting the days and hours of alcohol sales for preventing excessive alcohol consumption and related harms. Click the image on the left to read the reviews.

CMS Health Literacy Toolkit



Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) provides a detailed and comprehensive set of tools to help make written material in printed formats easier for people to read, understand, and use. Click the CMS logo to view the toolkit.

Public Health Preparedness & Response Core Competency Model Released



Associations of Schools of Public Health (ASPH) and CDC's Office of Public Health Preparedness and Response, working in partnership under a cooperative agreement, developed a draft model of core competencies for the public health preparedness and response workforce. The competency model fulfills a mandate in the 2006 Pandemic and All-Hazards Preparedness Act to develop "a competency-based training program to train public health practitioners." The competency model aims to provide a proposed national standard of behaviorally-based, observable skills for the workforce to prepare for and respond to all-hazards scenarios. To view the model, click the ASPH logo.

A Resource to Help Communities Address Social Determinants of Health



This workbook is for public health practitioners and partners interested in addressing social determinants of health in order to promote health and achieve health equity. In its 1988 landmark report, and again in 2003 in an updated report, the Institute of Medicine defined public health as "what we as a society do to collectively assure the conditions in which people can be healthy." To view the workbook, click the logo on the left.

*Wishing you
Happy Holidays
from the
Bureau of Local and Rural Health*



**LOCAL HEALTH SECTION
OFFICE OF LOCAL & RURAL HEALTH**

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