

# Modernization of Public Health Update



# What is Modernizing Public Health in Iowa?

- Collaborative effort to improve Iowa's Public Health system.

- Essential Question



“What should every Iowan reasonably expect from local and state public health?”

- Goal of Modernization

To modernize an integrated sustainable public health system that ensures a basic standard of service delivery to all Iowans.



# Call for Redesign

- Comments collected from public health regional meetings held across Iowa in 2003-2004 demonstrated a need for action.
  - PH system is fragmented and lacking formal integration
  - Inconsistent funding streams (categorical)
  - No benchmarks or standards (state or local)
  - Workforce fatigue and aging workforce
  - Inconsistent service delivery statewide
  - Duplication of services
  - Inadequate training for public health workforce

# Redesign Timeline

- 1 year to develop plan
- 2 ½ years to develop standards
  - Organizational Capacity
  - Public Health Services





# Organizational Capacity Components

Without these component areas in place the public health system is without a foundation.

- Governance
- Administration
- Workforce
- Communication & Information Technology
- Community Assessment & Planning
- Evaluation

# Public Health Services Components

- Prevent Epidemics and the Spread of Disease
- Protect Against Environmental Hazards
- Prevent Injuries
- Promote Healthy Behaviors
- Prepare for, Respond to, and Recover from Public Health Emergencies





# Who do the standards apply to?

- **Local standards** apply to Local Boards of Health and their designated local Public Health agency.
- **State standards** apply to the state board of health and Iowa Department of Public Health.



# Public Health Modernization Act

- This implementation plan was developed through local and state collaboration in November 2007.
- Iowa Public Health Modernization Act
- Will increase public health system capacity and provide equitable delivery of public health services
- Signed with HF 811 (Health and Human Services Appropriations Bill)



# Modernization Act – 3 key items

- Public Health Advisory Council
- Public Health Evaluation Committee
- Formation of a voluntary accreditation system



# Public Health Advisory Council

- Charged with finding an organization to provide the voluntary accreditation program.
- Responsible for assuring that the Iowa Public Health Standards are updated as needed.
- Membership includes representatives from each of the 6 regions of Iowa and experts in an area of public health named in the Iowa Public Health Standards.



# Public Health Evaluation Committee

- Responsible for the ongoing evaluation of Iowa's public health system and the accreditation process.
- Members represent the 6 public health regions, the areas of the Iowa Public Health Standards, and include an economist and research analyst.



# Timeline for Voluntary Accreditation System

- IDPH and at least one county will voluntarily pilot the accreditation process by July 1, 2011.
- The bill also provides for the accrediting organization to accept applications for the formal process beginning January 2, 2012.



# A National Movement

- Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) has established a timeline and is working towards established goals.
- Announced year of accreditation is 2011
- Initially accreditation will be voluntary
- In the future, accreditation could be tied to federal funding.



# What are the Benefits to Iowans?

- The health of Iowans improves when local public health professionals and their agencies have the tools and training they need to meet emerging health challenges.
- Public health provides the first line of defense in recovering from natural disaster or taking on a disease outbreak.
- Consistent services will be available in every corner of the state.



# Where can I get more information?

Joy Harris

Modernization Coordinator

515-281-3377

[jharris@idph.state.ia.us](mailto:jharris@idph.state.ia.us)

www. <http://www.idph.state.ia.us/mphi/>

# Questions?

- Thank You!