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.
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?

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Questions?

- Thank You!