

Initiatives to Enhance the Capacity of Public Health Nurses

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Provide



- Updates on Connecticut's Public Health Nursing Initiative

- Highlights of national efforts concerning
 - National Public Health Performance Standards Program
 - Focus on Accreditation
 - Public Health Nursing Organizations' involvement and response



National Public Health Leaders

- Institute of Medicine (1988, 2000, 2003)
- Operational definition of local health departments
 - “Prevents, minimizes, and contains adverse health effects from communicable diseases, disease outbreaks from unsafe food and water, chronic diseases, environmental hazards, injuries, and risky health behaviors.” (NACCHO, 2005)
- Defined 10 Essential Functions with criteria measures
- Accountability
 - Professional Core Competencies
 - A National Voluntary Public Health Accreditation Program: Striving for Consensus

Public Health Nursing Leaders

Quad Council of Public Health Nursing Organizations

- Association of State and Territorial Directors of Nursing (ASTDN)
- Association of Community Health Nurse Educators (ACHNE)
- American Public Health Association – Public Health Nursing Section (APHA, PHN Section)
- American Nurses Association (ANA)

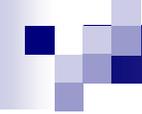
Quad Council of Public Health Nursing Organizations Response

- Formation
- Scope and Standards of Practice (1986, 1999, 2007)
- Core Competencies (2003)
- Collective voice
- Position Papers



Enhancing the Capacity of PHN through Partnerships: ASTDN, CDC and Partners' Cooperative Agreement

- Document impact
- Build base support within CDC and other partners (e.g., ASTHO, NACCHO, Quad Council)
 - Assure effective PHN leadership
 - Assure competent PHN
 - Articulate PHN role in implementation
 - Presence of number of PHN
- Develop evidence-based for PHN practice
 - “Intervention Wheel”
 - Programs

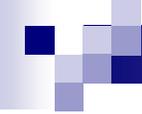


Vision, Voice, and Visibility Campaign

- **APHA, Public Health Nursing Section**
- **Campaign Goal** -- Educate the public and other health professionals about public health nursing and its essential evidence-based role in the health care delivery system.

ACHNE

- Joint 2007 annual conference with ASTDN
 - Utilizing Partnerships to Enhance Practice and Education
- Graduate Education for Advanced Practice Public Health Nursing: At the Crossroads



ANA

- 2007 Public Health Nursing Scope and Standards of Practice
- Recognition at the 2007 ANA Annual Conference

Connecticut's Public Health Nursing Initiative

■ Participation

- National organizations
- National surveys

■ Formation of VOPHN

■ Developing

- Profile
 - Baseline Assessment
 - Defining criteria
 - Data Collection
- Portfolio of CT's Public Health Nurses in Action

■ Building bridges

- Strengthening collaborations and partnerships
- Bi-Annual Meetings with community based nurses (e.g., local health partners, nurse educators)
- Offering continuing education opportunities



To move forward ...



- We need your participation for ...
 - Feedback
 - Input
 - To foster “Collective Voice”
 - Team for review of reports and/or position papers
 - Planning future programs
 - Identifying needs to enhance systems
 - Support
 - Foster learning opportunities for the next generation of nurses (i.e., the students)
 - Validation of effectiveness of the evolving network

In conclusion

- Building bridges starts with a...
 - Needs Assessment
 - Team with a strategic plan
 - Commitment of dedicated team with professional expertise
 - One step at a time





For additional information...

- American Nurses Association (ANA) via <http://nursingworld.org/books>
- American Public Health Association (APHA), PHN Section via <http://www.apha.org/extranet/phn>
- Association of Community Health Nursing Educators via <http://www.achne.org>
- Association of State and Territorial Directors of Nurses (ASTDN) via <http://astdn.org>
- Connecticut Association of Public Health Nurses via <http://caphn.org>
- Connecticut Department of Public Health via www.dph.state.ct.us/
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