

Local Public Health Departments in NC

NCIOM Future of Local Public Health Task Force

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August 19, 2021

Local Public Health Coverage

100

North Carolina
Counties

85

Local Health
Departments

Some Key Basics:

- Decentralized public health system
 - County Governments are responsible for the provision of local public health services as directed by the North Carolina General Statutes.
- Combination of mandatory services, assured/ensured services and community specific programming
- Multiple funding streams

Local Health Department Services

Local health department MUST provide

- Food, lodging, and institutional sanitation
- Individual on-site water supply
- Sanitary sewage collection, treatment, and disposal
- Communicable disease control
- Vital records registration

Local health department must provide, contract for, or certify available

- Adult health
- Home health
- Dental public health
- Grade A milk certification*
- Maternal health
- Child health
- Family planning
- Public health laboratory



Local Health Department Services

Local health department may provide other services which may include

- Focus on Community Health Assessment priorities
- Best practices/Evidence based for population served
- Wrap-around services to address Social Drivers of Health
- Initiatives addressing emerging health issues or threats
- Collective impact approaches addressing larger multidisciplinary, county-wide initiatives

Community Health Assessment

Goal: Develop strategies to address the community's health needs

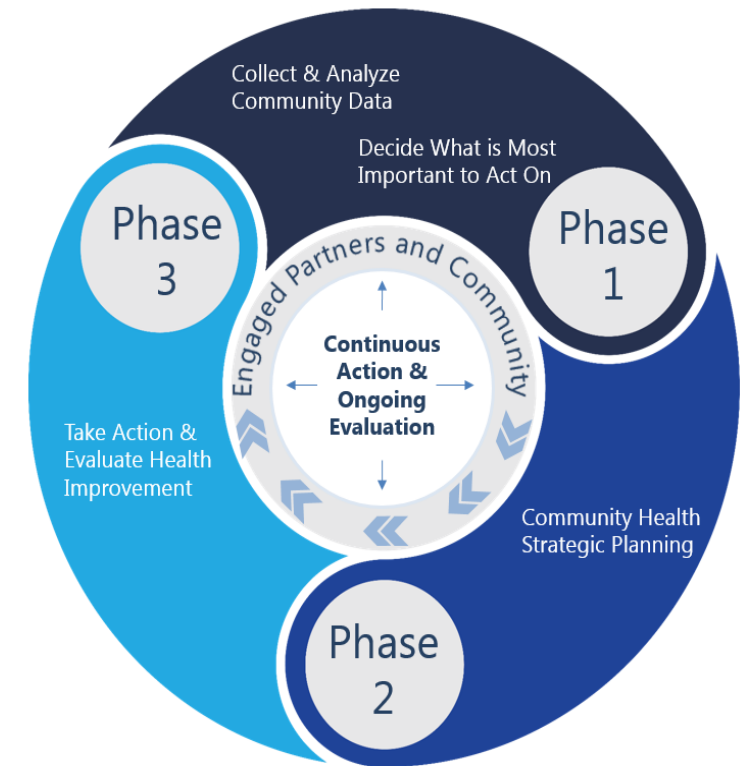
Identifies key health needs and issues through systematic, comprehensive data collection and analysis

Use such principles as:

- Multisector collaborations that support shared ownership
- Proactive, broad, and diverse community engagement to improve results
- Population-wide interventions and measurable results, and includes a targeted focus to address disparities among subpopulations
- Use of evidence-based interventions and encouragement of innovative practices with thorough evaluation
- Evaluation to inform a continuous improvement process
- Use of the quality data

Required by the NC DPH Consolidated Agreement to occur at least every four (4) years

Required for LHD Accreditation



Local Health Department Accreditation

Legislatively mandated in 2006

Assure and enhance the quality of local public health in North Carolina

Evaluate and accredit local health departments on their ability to meet activities

Based on the three core functions of assessment, assurance and policy development and the ten essential services

North Carolina Local Health Department Accreditation



2019-2020 Annual Report Best Practices Supplement

Local Health Departments across North Carolina are implementing innovative strategies to support quality public health in their communities. This report is a compilation of best practices identified by Site Visitors during site visits conducted in fall 2019 and winter 2020. A summary of each best practice is provided along with the name and contact information of the individual to reach out to if you would like to learn more.

Alamance County Public Health Department

Disseminate Community Data and Information **Activity 9.1**

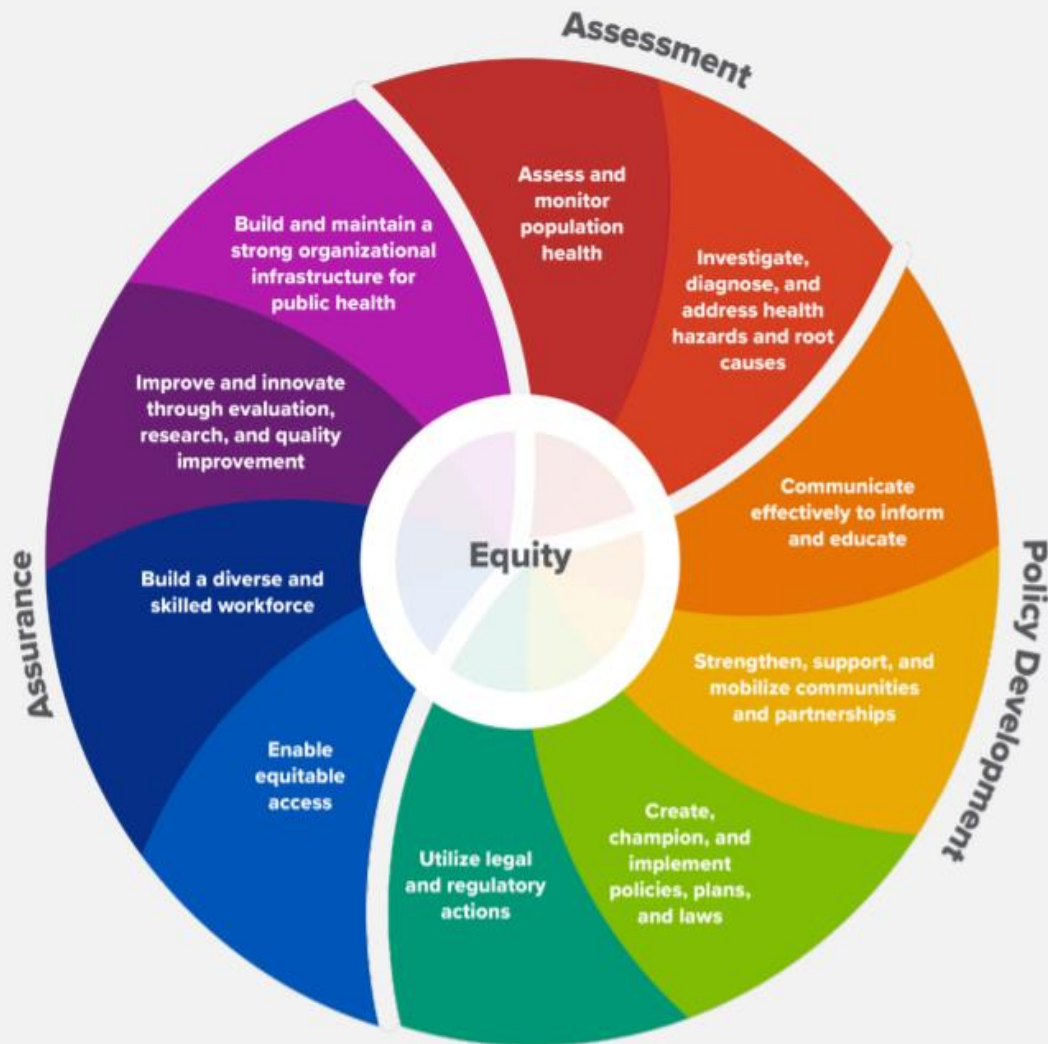
The Alamance County Public Health Department provides information throughout the agency on television monitors that is current and uses visual images and infographics.



Develop Strategic Plans to Guide Work **Activity 15.1**

The Alamance County Public Health department undertook an innovative strategic planning process that involved a core values-based approach incorporating five prioritized core values: integrity, accountability, compassion, communication, and teamwork, and use these value drivers to guide their work. One example in practice is the Teen Friendly focus for their teen clients. In this model, the agency analyzed teen services from the view of teenagers and implemented a teen-friendly waiting

10 Essential Public Health Functions



Provides a framework for public health to protect and promote the health of all people in all communities

Places equity at the core of all essential functions

Actively promote policies, systems, and overall community conditions that enable optimal health for all

Seeks to remove systemic and structural barriers that have resulted in health inequities.

Local Public Health Influence on Community

Through and as a function of the 10 Essential Functions, Local Public Health:

- Responds to emerging health threats in the community
- Carries out foundational public health to prevent and protect
- Provides reliable and quality assessment of priority health issues
- Provides road maps/plans to improve the health of the community
- Acts as the architect of large, collective, community initiatives
- Brokers, convenes and bridges partnerships among diverse entities
- Innovates systems provide health opportunities
- Braids multitude of funding to carry out work
- Invests in skilled and capable workforce

Influences on Local Public Health



Summary and Questions?

Local Public Health:

- Works everyday in ways most people are not aware
- Received significant highlight given current pandemic response
- Charged with mandated services, assured/ensured services and specific services to meet needs of community
- Experienced significant decreases in funding at local, state and federal level
- Funding varies across the state for foundational services
- Underfunded and understaffed...overwhelmed in current climate
- Multiple influences and pressures impact public health
- Critical time to elevate our practice, evolve our discipline and convey the importance