



## Academic Health Department Learning Community Report

May 25, 2021

### **Overview**

The [Academic Health Department \(AHD\) Learning Community](#) supports development of [AHD partnerships](#) between public health practice organizations and academic institutions. As a national community of practitioners, educators, and researchers, the AHD Learning Community stimulates discussion and sharing of knowledge; the development of resources; and collaborative learning around establishing, sustaining, and expanding AHD partnerships.

### **AHD Learning Community Engagement**

Despite the decrease in AHD Learning Community activities over the past couple of years, the Learning Community continues to see sustained interest and engagement from the public health community. The Learning Community has grown to more than 1,100 members, and the Learning Community and its resources and tools have been accessed more than 4,500 times since the last [Council on Linkages Between Academia and Public Health Practice](#) (Council) meeting in October 2020. Council staff also continue to regularly receive requests for assistance related to AHD partnerships, responding to more than 30 requests from 24 organizations in 14 states and DC during that same time period. More than 200 people participated in AHD partnership webinars and presentations.

### **AHD Webinar Series**

The *AHD Webinar Series* highlights successful AHD partnerships and other topics of interest for developing, sustaining, and expanding AHD partnerships. Since the October 2020 Council meeting, two webinars have been held. In December 2020, the Pima County Health Department (PCHD) in Arizona and the University of Arizona Mel & Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health (MEZCOPH) [shared their growing partnership](#). This was followed in May 2021 by a deeper look into MEZCOPH's AHD internship program with a [presentation by five current student interns](#). All webinars in this series are archived and made available through the [Council website](#) and [TRAIN Learning Network](#).

### **Annual Meetings and Conferences**

The PCHD and MEZCOPH AHD partnership was also featured during a presentation at the [2020 American Public Health Association Annual Meeting](#) in October 2020, along with the AHD partnerships of the Maricopa County Department of Public Health in Arizona and Southern Nevada Health District (SNHD) in Nevada. Upcoming annual meeting and conference sessions include a 2-hour deep dive workshop at the [Public Health Improvement Training](#) with speakers from PCHD, MEZCOPH, Pinal County Public Health Services District in Arizona, and SNHD and a pre-conference workshop with PCHD and MEZCOPH at the [National Association of County and City Health Officials \(NACCHO\) 360 Conference](#) in June.

More information about the AHD Learning Community and its activities is available through the [AHD Learning Community](#) section of the Council website or by contacting Kathleen Amos at [kamos@phf.org](mailto:kamos@phf.org).