

Core Competencies Workgroup Report

August 10, 2015

Overview

The <u>Core Competencies for Public Health Professionals</u> (Core Competencies) reflect foundational skills desirable for professionals engaged in the practice, education, and research of public health and are used in education, training, and other workforce development activities across the country. The <u>most recent version of the Core Competencies</u> was released on the <u>Council on Linkages Between Academia and Public Health Practice (Council) website</u> in June 2014. Since that time, the Core Competencies have been accessed nearly 50,000 times, and resources and tools related to the Core Competencies have been accessed an additional 79,000 times. Development of resources and tools to support public health professionals and organizations in using the Core Competencies continues and is guided by the <u>Core Competencies Workgroup</u>.

New Resources and Tools

Work on Core Competencies resources and tools is ongoing, with several new resources recently being made available through the Council website and others nearing completion. Over the past year, webinars introducing the 2014 Core Competencies were held in collaboration with the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials, National Association of County and City Health Officials, Association of Schools and Programs of Public Health, and Association of Public Health Nurses, collectively attracting more than 500 participants. Each of these four webinars was archived for future viewing, and the archives are now accessible both through the Council on Linkages website and through TRAIN. Brief videos highlighting the Core Competencies and the eight Core Competencies domains are also available. Collections of job descriptions, workforce development plans, and other examples of how public health organizations have used the Core Competencies continued to be enhanced, and a set of Frequently Asked Questions about the Core Competencies was created based on inquiries received from the public health community. Additional tools under development include a crosswalk of the 2014 Core Competencies and the Essential Public Health Services, which updates the existing crosswalk based on the 2010 Core Competencies, and a competency checklist for course providers. New Core Competencies resources and tools will be featured in a presentation at the upcoming American Public Health Association Annual Meeting this fall.

Healthy People 2020 Data Collection

Within <u>Healthy People 2020</u>, the Core Competencies are incorporated into three objectives in the <u>Public Health Infrastructure (PHI) topic area</u>. The Council serves as the data source for the third of these objectives, PHI-3: Increase the proportion of Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH) accredited schools of public health, CEPH accredited academic programs, and schools of nursing (with a public health or community health component) that integrate Core Competencies for Public Health Professionals into curricula, and has been asked to provide data related to this objective by the end of 2015. Data were previously collected for an equivalent objective in Healthy People 2010. A data collection instrument has been drafted, with the goal of keeping this instrument as close as possible to that used in the past so that data can be compared. This draft is included in the meeting materials. Plans have also been made to request assistance from the appropriate Council member organizations with engaging the relevant academic institutions. However, at this time, funding for this activity has not been received, and further work in this area is currently on hold.

Core Competencies Workgroup Members

Co-Chairs:

- > Amy Lee, Northeast Ohio Medical University
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