

# Academic Health Department Learning Community Report

Bill Keck, MD, MPH

Council on Linkages Meeting

Washington, DC

September 18, 2013

# Academic Health Department Learning Community

- Launched in January 2011
- Supports development, maintenance, and expansion of academic health department (AHD) partnerships
- Brings together practitioners, educators, and researchers to share experiences and collaborate
- Promotes knowledge sharing, collaborative learning, and resource development

# Membership

- Rapid growth to 300+ members
- Located across the U.S.
- Primarily public health professionals
- Small number of primary care professionals
- Involvement from a variety of public health sectors
  - Federal government
  - Health departments
  - Academia
  - Associations

# Recent Meetings

- Introductory webinar meetings
  - Held 2 in May
  - Provided an overview of AHDs and the AHD Learning Community
  - Aimed at new members
  - Archived for reuse and sent to new members
  - Available directly and through TRAIN

# Upcoming Meetings

## ➤ Conference call meeting

- Focus on potential roles for AHDs in the education, training, and practice of public health workers around health reform, specifically health insurance marketplaces
- Will be held on September 25<sup>th</sup> from 1-2:30 pm ET

## ➤ In-person meeting

- 3<sup>rd</sup> annual in-person meeting of the AHD Learning Community
- Will be held during the APHA Annual Meeting on November 5<sup>th</sup> from 4:30-6 pm
- Working with APHA's Health Administration Section

# Additional AHD Learning Community Activities

- Needs assessment
  - Preparing to conduct
  - Identify activities, topics, and resources desired by members
  - Help guide future activities
- Refining the AHD definition
  - Propose stages of AHD development
- Possible survey on AHD characteristics
  - Learn more about AHD partnerships
  - Working with researchers at the University of Tennessee and Washington University in St. Louis

# Additional AHD Activities

- *Journal of Public Health Management and Practice*
  - Theme issue on AHDs
  - Planned for 2014
- APHA's Health Administration Section
  - Expressed interest in opportunities for supporting AHD awareness and development
- NALBOH's Annual Ned E. Baker Lecture
  - AHDs as a potential topic for April 2014

# Next Steps

- Continue to support AHD Learning Community members and explore ways to better meet member needs
- Establish more regular communications with the AHD Learning Community and encourage communication among members
- Consider AHD Learning Community mentorship program
  - Connect experienced members and those new to the AHD idea
  - Share knowledge on AHD development
  - Help meet the information needs of members
- Keep building connections among people and organizations interested in AHDs