



Pipeline Workgroup Report

July 28, 2011

Overview

The Pipeline Workgroup was established to assist the Council on Linkages Between Academia and Public Health Practice (Council) with identifying strategies for recruiting and retaining a skilled and competent public health workforce. In this capacity, the Workgroup convened an expert forum on recruitment and retention, developed strategies to alleviate worker shortages, conducted literature searches, and collected original data on public health workers. Data collected thus far are being summarized for release in a report currently under development, and data collection will be continued with the 2011 survey of public health workers (to include states not included in the earlier survey). Data from the 2010 survey specific to work settings and types of public health professionals are available for use by Council member organizations.

New Directions

The current economic and political environment presents an opportunity for the Council to consider how it can have the greatest impact on ensuring a skilled and competent public health workforce. As public health positions are eliminated in many health departments throughout the country, focusing on evidence-based recruitment and retention strategies may be less relevant to the immediate needs of the public health community. However, the activities of the Pipeline Workgroup have positioned the Council to explore opportunities presented by the public health and healthcare workforce provisions of the Affordable Care Act (ACA). The Pipeline Workgroup requests that the Council consider refocusing the Workgroup's direction to develop strategies for guiding implementation of the workforce provisions of the ACA. By bringing the public health practice and academic communities together around this important topic, effective strategies can be developed to meet immediate and longer-term needs of health departments and other public health organizations.

Background information about the workforce provisions of the ACA follows this document.



Pipeline Workgroup Members

Chair:

- *Vincent T. Francisco*, University of North Carolina at Greensboro

Members:

- *Susan Allan*, School of Public Health, University of Washington
- *Ralph Cordell*, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
- *Pat Drehobl*, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
- *Clese Erikson*, Association of American Medical Colleges
- *Julie Gleason-Comstock*, School of Medicine, Wayne State University, MI
- *Georgia Heise*, Three Rivers District Health Department, KY
- *Azania Heyward-James*, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
- *Susan Lepre*, Consultant
- *Jean Moore*, Center for Health Workforce Studies, School of Public Health, University at Albany, State University of New York
- *Henry Taylor*, Bloomberg School of Public Health, Johns Hopkins University, MD
- *Tanya Uden-Holman*, School of Public Health, University of Iowa
- *Susan Webb*, College of Public Health, University of Kentucky
- *Marlene Wilken*, School of Nursing, Creighton University, NE