PUBLIC HEALTH 101

A Public Health Workforce Initiative
Workforce Training Needs

• Public Health Funding and Policy Committee Recommendations
• DSHS Regional Assessments
Public Health 101 Course - A Workforce Training Initiative
Texas Public Health Practice Network

Background
The Department of State Health Services established the Texas Public Health Practice Network (TPHPN) in response to a workforce training recommendation by the Public Health Funding and Policy Committee. Our network brings academic and practice partners together to develop and train the public health workforce in Texas.

Network Members
- Texas A&M University Health Science Center
- Texas Department of State Health Services
- Texas Tech University Health Science Center
- University of North Texas Health Science Center
- University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston
- University of Texas Health Science Center at Tyler
- University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston

Public Health 101 Course
The first goal of the TPHPN is to design and execute a Public Health 101 Course. This course will provide the basics of public health using didactic teaching methods, interactive sessions, and discussion-based lessons.

Modules will be packaged as “toolkits” and taught by academic faculty or doctoral students in-person at the local health departments.

Methods of delivery can be customized based on the needs of the instructor and audience. For example, trainings sites could choose:
- An all-day workshop covering all modules
- One hour “lunch and learn” sessions with 1-2 modules each session spanning multiple days

Purpose
To increase worker knowledge of public health principles

Evaluation
Course administrators will use pre-tests and post-tests to evaluate an increase in learners' knowledge. Post course evaluations will also solicit feedback regarding perceived knowledge gain and value.

Timeline
August 2018: TPHPN established
September-December 2018: Defined roles of the TPHPN, project plan and proposal, outline of modules
Winter 2019: Create modules, incorporate feedback from stakeholders
Summer 2019: Pilot course at local health departments
Fall 2019: Begin offering course to local health departments

Get Involved!
Use the Feedback Form to give input on what should be covered in the course. Provide your contact information if you are interested in hosting the Public Health 101 training for your staff.

Contact Information:
Courtney Dezendorf, MEd Director, Office of Academic Affairs
Courtney.Dezendorf@dshs.texas.gov
Public Health 101
Curriculum

- Public Health Principles (UNTHSC)
- Epidemiology (TTUHSC)
- Public Health Law, Policy and Ethics (UTSPH)
- Public Health System (TAMHSC)
- Population Health and Health Equity (UTHSC-Tyler)
- Public Health Interventions (UTMB)
Timeline of the Project

- Module Development (summer 2019)
- Instructor Training (summer 2019)
- Pilot Sessions at LHDs/Regional Offices (fall 2019)
- Soft Launch (spring 2020)
Roadblocks and Limitations

• Time
• Funding
• Staff Changes
How will we measure success?

1. Course evaluations
2. Reporting
   a. Number of employees taking course
   b. Number of health departments participating
   c. Number of course offerings
Next Steps

1. Updating all the modules (from feedback from pilots)
2. Platform to house the modules and facilitate registration and evaluations
3. Publicizing the training
4. Development of a “public health dictionary”
Future Impact

• Employee engagement, productivity and morale
• Increased interactions with academia and practice
• Model for other states
• Other training curricula
Thank You

Courtney Dezendorf

Courtney.Dezendorf@dshs.Texas.gov