Greetings from the PHAB Board of Directors

Session Objectives

- Provide an update of the national public health accreditation program.
- Discuss the engagement of boards of health in health department accreditation initiatives.
- Describe some early findings on the results and benefits of accreditation.
Current Status

Public Health Accreditation Board

PHAB is national accrediting organization for public health departments:
- State health departments
- Local (city, county, regional) health departments
- Tribal health departments
- Territorial health departments

The goal of the voluntary national accreditation program is to improve and protect the health of the public by advancing the quality and performance of state, local, tribal and territorial public health departments.
What is Public Health Accreditation?

- The measurement of health department performance against a set of nationally recognized, practice-focused and evidenced-based standards.
- The issuance of recognition of achievement of accreditation within a specified time frame by a nationally recognized entity.
- The continual development, revision, and distribution of public health standards.

Assessing Documentation

- Domain
- Standard
- Measure
  - Required Documentation
  - Guidance
Accredited Health Departments

- Central Michigan District Health Department, Mount Pleasant, Mich.
- Champaign-Urbana Public Health District, Champaign, Ill.
- Chicagoland Health Department, Chicago, Ill.
- Columbus Public Health, Columbus, Ohio
- Coshocton County Health Department, Coshocton, Ohio
- Cook County Department of Public Health, Chicago, Ill.
- Delaware County Health Department, Delaware, Ohio
- Deschutes County Health Services, Bend, Oregon
- DuPage County Health Department, Wheaton, Ill.
- Florida Department of Health, Tallahassee, Fla.
- Franklin County Health Department, Frankfort, Ky.
- Hennepin County Human Services and Public Health Department, Minneapolis, Minn.
- Johnson County Department of Health and Environment, Olathe, Kansas
- Kane County Health Department, Aurora, Ill.
- Kansas City Metro Health Department, Kansas City, Mo.
- Licking County Health Department, Lancaster, Ohio
- Livingston County Health Department, Howell, Mich.
- Louden County Health Department, Richmond, Ky.
- Marion County Health Department, Salem, Ore.
- Mecklenburg County Health Department, Charlotte, N.C.
- Missoula City-County Health Department, Missoula, Mont.
- New Orleans Health Department, New Orleans, La.
- Northern Kentucky Independent District Health Department, Covington, Ky.
- Norwalk Health Department, Norwalk, Conn.
- Oklahoma City-County Health Department, Oklahoma City, Okla.
- Oklahoma State Department of Health, Oklahoma City, Okla.
- Oneida County Health Department, Oneida, N.Y.
- Pinellas County Health Department, Pinellas Park, Fla.
- Polk County Health Department, Polk County, Iowa.
- RiverStreets Health District, Yreka, Calif.
- Summit County Combined General Health District, Stow, Ohio
- The Public Health Authority of Calcasieu Parish, Inc., c/o Calcasieu Health Alliance, Alexandria, La.
- Three Rivers District Health Department, Covington, Ky.
- Tuscarawas County Health Department, New Philadelphia, Ohio
- Tuscawarau County Health Department, Spinney, Ohio
- Warren County Health Department, Warren, Ohio
- Washington County Health Department, Yankee Hill, Wash.
- Warren County Health Department, Wisconsin Rapids, Wis.
Accreditation Fees

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Health Department Category</th>
<th>Population Size of the Jurisdiction Served</th>
<th>2014 - 2015 Total Fee</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Category 1</td>
<td>Less than 50,000</td>
<td>$ 12,720</td>
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<tr>
<td>Category 2</td>
<td>50,000 to 100,000</td>
<td>$ 19,525</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Category 3</td>
<td>&gt;100,000 to 200,000</td>
<td>$ 27,030</td>
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<tr>
<td>Category 4</td>
<td>&gt;200,000 to 1 million</td>
<td>$ 33,880</td>
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<tr>
<td>Category 5</td>
<td>&gt;1 million to 3 million</td>
<td>$ 47,700</td>
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<tr>
<td>Category 6</td>
<td>&gt;3 million to 5 million</td>
<td>$ 63,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Category 7</td>
<td>&gt;5 million to 15 million</td>
<td>$ 74,550</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Category 8</td>
<td>Greater than 15 million</td>
<td>$ 95,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

What Do the Fees Cover?

- An assigned accreditation specialist to guide your department through the application process;
- In-person training for your health department’s accreditation coordinator;
- A subscription to PHAB’s online accreditation information system (e-PHAB), making it easier and more cost-efficient for your health department to participate in accreditation;
- A site visit by a team of peer review experts, including a comprehensive review of your health department’s operations against the national accreditation standards;
- A peer review process, including the decision and comments from the Accreditation Committee;
- Annual quality improvement guidance and support over a period of 5 years;
- Support in preparing for re-accreditation;
- Identified opportunities for improvements to help your health department better serve its population; and
- Exclusive contribution to a growing network of accredited local health departments and best practices to enhance the evidence-base for public health.
Version 1.5 (07/01/14)

- Edits and rewording for increased clarity
- Recommendations from the PH Community
- Questions Received from HDs and SVs
- Think Tanks and Expert Panels
  - Health Equity
  - Public Health Ethics
  - Public Health Communication Science
  - Public Health Workforce
  - Public Health Informatics
- Other Resources – Meetings and readings

Think Tanks in 2014-2015

- Accreditation and Quality Improvement
- Public Health and Health Care Intersection
- Vital Records/Statistics
- Army Public Health
- Large City/Metro
- Rural Health Departments

Engagement of Boards of Health in Health Department Accreditation Initiatives
Definition of Governing Entity

1. It is an official part of Tribal, state, or local government.
2. It has primary responsibility for policy-making and/or governing a Tribal, state, or local health department.
3. It advises, advocates, or consults with the health department on matters related to resources, policy making, legal authority, collaboration, and/or improvement activities.
4. It is the point of accountability for the health department.
5. In the case of shared governance (more than one entity provides governance functions to the health department), the governing entity, for accreditation purposes, is the Tribal, state, regional, or local entity that, in the judgment of the health department applying for accreditation, has the primary responsibility for supporting the applicant health department in achieving accreditation.

Domain 12

• Standard 12.1: Maintain Current Operational Definitions and Statements of the Public Health Roles, Responsibilities, and Authorities
• Standard 12.3: Encourage the Governing Entity’s Engagement In the Public Health Department’s Overall Obligations and Responsibilities

Early Results and Benefits
Free Online Issue of JPHMP

Early Evaluation Results

• 97% of health departments that have had their PHAB site visit strongly agree that "Going through the accreditation process has improved the performance of our health department."
• According to HDs that have had their site visit, accreditation:
  – Identifies strengths and areas for improvement
  – Strengthens internal and external partnerships
  – Encourages HDs to prioritize and address long-standing concerns
  – Acts as a "stimulus…for continuous quality improvement and performance management in our daily practice"

From PHAB evaluation of 33 health departments.

Early Evaluation Results

• Among health departments applying for accreditation, 95% or more believe that accreditation will:
  – Stimulate quality and performance improvement opportunities
  – Allow HD to better identify strengths and weaknesses
  – Improve management processes
  – Stimulate greater accountability and transparency within HD

* From NORC at the University of Chicago evaluation survey of 62 health departments that have applied for accreditation.
Early Evaluation Results

- Health departments also reported the following motivators for applying for accreditation^:
  - Accountability to external stakeholders
  - Documentation of HD’s capacity to deliver the 3 core functions and 10 Essential Public Health Services
  - Credibility of HD within community
  - Relationships with community stakeholders
  - Competitiveness for funding opportunities
  - Communication with governing entity

^From NORC at the University of Chicago evaluation survey of 62 health departments that have applied for accreditation.

Why Were The Initial Health Departments Interested in Accreditation?

- Transparency and Accountability
- Most other governmental and health related services are accredited: hospitals, schools, child care centers, police departments, fire departments, etc.
- Provides a priority setting framework
- Commitment to improving their services
- Increased public engagement and support
- Increased staff morale
- Risk Management
- Potential for increased funding in the future; already using their accreditation certificate in grant proposals

ACCREDITED HEALTH DEPARTMENTS ANNUAL REPORTS

*The submission of annual reports is required of all accredited health departments; in an on-line format provided by PHAB. Reports must:
- Include a statement that the health department continues to be in conformity with all the standards and measures of the version under which accreditation was received.
- Include any leadership changes and other changes that may affect the health department’s ability to be in conformity with the standards and measures.
- Describe how the health department has addressed areas of improvement noted in the site visit report.
- Describe how the health department will continue to address areas of improvement identified in the site visit report and/or by the health department in their accreditation action plan.
- Describe work on emerging public health issues and innovations
Results from Initial Annual Reports

Focus areas

- 10 program specific
- 4 administration/financial management
- 3 community partnership
- 3 Governance
- 3 Planning
- 2 Data
- 2 QI Infrastructure
- 2 Workforce

Examples of QI

- Getting into compliance with mandated frequencies of inspections
- Improving a program that works with schools to implement environmental/policy changes
- Improving communications with governing entity
- Procuring an EMR system to get better data for evaluation & performance management
- Improving new employee orientation
- Streamlining & strengthening process for responding to grant RFPs

- Most common efficiency outcomes: Time saved & Reduced number of steps
- Most common effectiveness outcomes: Increased customer/staff satisfaction,
  Quality enhancement of services or programs; Organizational design improvements

Overall Contributions of Board Members to Accreditation

- Key supporters of accreditation and quality improvement
- Committees, expert panels, and think tanks
- Site visitors for PHAB
- Technical assistance providers