Training & TA in Action

A REGIONAL SUMMIT TO TRANSFORM INJURY AND VIOLENCE PREVENTION IN WASHINGTON STATE

The Transforming Injury and Violence Prevention Summit, held in November 2015 near the Seattle airport, enticed attendees with three tracks and a tag line: innovations in policy, practice, and partnerships. The Summit itself was an example of all three tracks. It was made possible by a new partnership between the Washington State Department of Health’s Injury and Violence Prevention (IVP) program and the Northwest Center for Public Health Practice (NWCPHP). NWCPHP is one of 10 regional Public Health Training Centers funded by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA). Together, they form a national Public Health Learning Network whose mission is to strengthen the technical, scientific, managerial, and leadership competence of the public health workforce.

Through their partnership, the Department of Health’s IVP Program and the NWCPHP discovered a shared need for a regional summit to address primary prevention. NWCPHP had resources, technical expertise, and networks beyond the usual IVP crowd; the IVP Program had a wealth of content expertise, connections throughout the region, and access to research and best practices across the IVP spectrum. Neither partner could have supported a Summit of this scale on its own, but together they quickly filled 100 seats with eager attendees.

In addition to the three tracks on innovations in policy, practice, and partnerships, summit plenary speakers also addressed issues beyond IVP – particularly health care reform and health equity. These turned out to be among the most memorable and appreciated by summit participants. As a result of the unique partnership, the summit also drew a diverse crowd: researchers, practitioners, EMS and health care professionals, prosecutors, workers’ compensation experts, and many others. A concrete outcome of the summit was a set of new, cross-cutting networks, spanning not only topic areas and roles but also state borders.

The IVP Program highly recommends reaching out to a regional Public Health Training Center to explore similar win-win opportunities to provide ongoing training and technical assistance. Beyond the summit itself, the partners have collaborated on webinars and training calls, and plan to hold future summits as well.

To find the closest Public Health Training Center, visit http://bhpr.hrsa.gov/grants/publichealth/phtc.html. For a webinar on the Public Health Learning Network (comprised of all 10 Public Health Training Centers), visit http://www.dialogue4health.org/web-forums/detail/the-new-era-of-public-health-training. And for more details about the summit itself, see:

- Links to summit presentations: http://www.nwcphp.org/about/funding/phtc/injury-and-violence-prevention-summit/slides-and-resources
- Summit resource guide that compiles the latest research and best practices across IVP topics: http://www.nwcphp.org/documents/about/2015-ivp-summit/ivp-resource-guide