



## **Retention and Recruitment Learning Community Report**

**September 16, 2024**

### **Overview**

The [Retention and Recruitment \(R&R\) Learning Community](#) is a new initiative of the [Council on Linkages Between Academia and Public Health Practice](#) (Council) that was approved during the March 2024 Council meeting. The R&R Learning Community seeks to explore and address factors influencing workforce retention and recruitment, equipping public health agencies with valuable tools and resources for these crucial aspects of public health practice. It aims to foster a collaborative environment where health departments and their partners can come together to share effective strategies, highlight successes, and discuss challenges related to workforce retention and recruitment to support health departments in meeting their capacity needs.

The R&R Learning Community is currently under development. This development is guided by the [R&R Workgroup](#). The R&R Workgroup is comprised of over 60 members from health departments, academic institutions, and national organizations and is chaired by Terry Brandenburg, MBA, MPH, CPH, Director of the Master of Public Health Program and Co-Director of the Doctor of Public Health Program (retired) at the Medical College of Wisconsin and Council representative for the National Association of County and City Health Officials.

### **Progress Toward Establishment of the R&R Learning Community**

Significant progress has been made toward the development of the R&R Learning Community, including articulation of the purpose of the Learning Community; identification of focus areas for the group's learning; brainstorming of potential Learning Community activities; and collection of strategies, tips, and resources for supporting workforce retention and recruitment. These strategies, tips, and resources are currently being transformed into a retention and recruitment toolkit that will be made available on the Council website, providing a valuable starting resource for the Learning Community and others addressing retention and recruitment for the public health workforce.

Planning for the launch and operation of the Learning Community continues, with an aim to launch by the end of the year. Additional details will be shared through the *Council on Linkages Update* as they are available.

More information about the R&R Learning Community and Workgroup is available through the [R&R Learning Community](#) section of the Council website or by contacting Mayela Arana at [marana@phf.org](mailto:marana@phf.org).