



Academic Health Department Learning Community Report

October 2, 2017

Overview

The [Academic Health Department \(AHD\) Learning Community](#) supports development of [AHD partnerships](#) between public health practice organizations and academic institutions. As a national community of practitioners, educators, and researchers, the AHD Learning Community stimulates discussion and sharing of knowledge; the development of resources; and collaborative learning around establishing, sustaining, and expanding AHDs.

Staged Model of AHD Development Released for Feedback

Earlier this year, the AHD Learning Community began drafting a [staged model of AHD development](#), with the aim of better articulating how AHD partnerships might develop. This model illustrates the potential development of such partnerships on a continuum, and the current draft is now [available for public comment](#). Initial feedback on the draft model was gathered during the [National Association of County and City Health Officials' Annual Meeting](#) in July 2017 and the [AHD Learning Community's most recent meeting](#) in September 2017, and additional feedback is welcome. Feedback will be used to refine the draft. Suggestions related to the model may be shared with Kathleen Amos at kamos@phf.org.

Update on AHD Learning Community Activities

In addition to the September meeting, the AHD Learning Community held a meeting in [July 2017](#) that featured the AHD partnerships in which East Tennessee State University is engaged. Meetings continue to be planned on a bimonthly basis. The third column of the quarterly *Ask the AHD Expert* series was published on the [PHF Pulse blog](#) in September 2017, following on the successful publication of the [first column](#) in March 2017 and the [second](#) in June 2017, and an [article](#) describing the development of the [AHD Research Agenda](#) appears in the September 2017 issue of the *American Journal of Public Health*. The [AHD Mentorship Program](#), which connects individuals seeking guidance in an area of AHD development or operation with those having experience in that area, continues to develop, and additional participants are welcome. Expressions of interest in participating in the program as either a mentor or mentee can be sent to Janelle Nichols at jnichols@phf.org.