



Academic Health Department Learning Community Report

March 1, 2024

Overview

The [Academic Health Department \(AHD\) Learning Community](#) supports the 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 AHD partnerships.

AHD Learning Community Engagement

The Learning Community continues to see sustained interest and engagement from the public health community. The Learning Community has more than 1,500 members, and the Learning Community and its resources and tools have been accessed over 2,500 times since the last [Council on Linkages Between Academia and Public Health Practice](#) (Council) meeting. Council staff also continue to regularly receive requests for assistance related to AHD partnerships, responding to 16 requests from 16 organizations in 12 states during the same time period.

Webinars and Conferences

AHD partnerships were highlighted during the [Public Health Learning Forum and TRAIN Annual Meeting](#) held in October 2023 in a session titled *Academic Health Department Partnerships*. AHD partnerships were also featured at the APHA Annual Meeting in November 2023 in two sessions: [Strengthening the Public Health Workforce: The Role of the Council on Linkages Between Academia and Public Health Practice](#), and [Academic-Practice Partnerships to Bolster The Workforce: How Academic Health Departments Support Recruitment and Retention](#). Additionally, the AHD Learning Community held webinars in December 2023 and February 2024 as part of the AHD Webinar Series. The December webinar, [New River Academic Health Department 10 Years In](#), featured a guest speaker from an AHD who shared their experiences working to establish their partnership and current initiatives. The February webinar, [Ask Me Anything – Academic Health Department Partnerships](#), allowed participants a chance to ask questions about AHD partnerships and discuss their experiences developing these partnerships.

Planning is underway for the next webinar in the [AHD Webinar Series](#), which is anticipated to be held on April 4th during National Public Health Week. Additional details will be available soon and will be shared through the *Council on Linkages Update*.

More information about the AHD Learning Community and its activities is available through the [AHD Learning Community](#) section of the Council website or by contacting Mayela Arana at marana@phf.org.