



**Council on Linkages Between Academia and Public Health Practice Virtual Meeting**

Date: May 25, 2021, 1:30-3pm EDT

**Meeting Minutes – Draft**

**Members and Designees Present:** C. William Keck (Chair), Melissa Alperin, Ellen Averett, Kaye Bender, Terry Brandenburg, D. Gary Brown, Liza Corso, Patsy Cunningham, Elizabeth Daly, Leah Gillis, Gary Gilmore, Barbara Gottlieb, Paul Halverson, Doug Joubert, Joneigh Khaldun, Laura Rasar King, Amy Lee, Megan Lincoln, Susan Little, Susan Swider

**Other Participants Present:** Patricia Alcocer, Agnes Attakai, Alan Avila, Antonia Blinn, Debra Bragdon, Vera Cardinale, Siobhan Champ-Blackwell, Rebeka Chance-Revels, Marita Chilton, Alex Coleman, Eric Coles, Ursula Copeland, Laura Daily, Michelle Davis, Alyse DeVries, Patricia Documet, Cynthia Dunn, Ashley Edmiston, Karyn E. Faber, Allison Foster, Warren Friedman, Cheryl Gaddis, Haydee Encarnacion Garcia, Kim Gonzales, Julie Grubaugh, John Herbold, Tanya Honderick, Allison Jacobs, Sam Jarvis, Sonia Jones, Lloyd Jordison, Margaret Karynski, Rita Kelliher, Geri Kemper-Seeley, Kira King, Bonnie Kirsch, Patricia Kittle, David Knapp, Heather Krasna, Sam Kreis, Aleisha Langhorne, Peter Langlois, Patricia Lasley, Alison Lewis, Erika Martinez, Tammy McPherson, Doha Medani, Jessica Neely, Heidi Pfeiffer, Janet Place, Beth Ransopher, Craig Schmid, Carlton Speight, Duane Stansbury, Melanie Sutton, Kristen Varol, Jim VanDerslice, Amber Williams, Jestina Wolo, Amy Yeager

**Staff Present:** Ron Bialek, Kathleen Amos, Abdullah Tauqeer

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action
<p><b>Welcome, Overview of Agenda, and Introduction of New Organizations and Representatives</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <b>Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists: Beth Daly</b></li> <li>➤ <b>National Board of Public Health Examiners: Kaye Bender</b></li> </ul>	<p>The meeting began with a welcome by Council Chair C. William Keck, MD, MPH.</p> <p>Dr. Keck thanked the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) for the funding support that has enabled the Council to reconvene, reminded participants of the Council's mission, and reviewed the agenda for the meeting.</p> <p>Dr. Keck welcomed two new preliminary member organizations to the Council: the Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists (CSTE) and the National Board of Public Health Examiners (NBPHE). CSTE will be represented by Elizabeth Daly, DrPH, MPH, Chief, Bureau of Infectious Disease Control, New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services. Kaye Bender, PhD, RN, FAAN, Executive Director, Mississippi Public Health Association, will represent NBPHE.</p> <p>Dr. Daly and Dr. Bender introduced themselves.</p>	
<p><b>Approval of Minutes from October 20, 2020 Meeting</b></p>	<p>Dr. Keck asked for any changes to the minutes of the October 20, 2020 Council meeting. Gary Gilmore, MPH, PhD,</p>	<p>Minutes of the October 20, 2020 Council meeting were approved as written.</p>

	<p>MCHES, moved to approve the minutes as written. Susan Little, DNP, RN, PHNA-BC, CPH, CPM, seconded the motion. No additions or corrections.</p>	
<p><b>Academic Health Department Learning Community</b></p>	<p>Dr. Keck provided an update on Academic Health Department (AHD) Learning Community activities.</p> <p>The AHD Learning Community is a national community that brings together and supports practitioners, educators, researchers, and others to explore AHD partnerships, share their experiences, and engage in collaborative learning. Since its launch in January 2011, the AHD Learning Community has grown to more than 1,100 members from health departments, academic institutions, and other organizations across the country. The Learning Community offers resources and activities to support AHD partnerships, including a venue for sharing examples and stories of AHD partnerships, webinars featuring AHD partnerships, examples of partnership agreements, a listserv for communication, and technical assistance.</p> <p>Since the last Council meeting in October 2020, the Learning Community and its resources and tools have been accessed online more than 4,500 times. This brings online usage since launch of the Learning Community to slightly over 70,000 visits. Since October 2020, staff have responded to more than 30 requests related to AHD partnerships, serving 24 organizations in 14 states and DC.</p> <p>The <i>AHD Webinar Series</i> highlighted successful AHD partnerships and activities with two webinars – one in December 2020 that shared the AHD partnership between the Pima County Health Department in Arizona and the University of Arizona’s Mel &amp; Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health (MEZCOPH) and the second in May 2021 focused on MEZCOPH’s AHD internship program. All webinars in this series are open to all who are interested and are archived through the Council website, the TRAIN Learning Network, and YouTube.</p> <p>AHD partnerships were also highlighted at annual meetings and conferences, with a presentation at the 2020 American Public Health Association Annual Meeting. More than 200 people participated in these webinars and presentations. Additional conference sessions are being planned for the 2021 Public Health Improvement</p>	<p>More information about the AHD Learning Community and its activities is available through</p>

	<p>Training and National Association of County and City Health Officials 360 Conference.</p> <p>Dr. Keck invited questions about the AHD Learning Community.</p>	<p>the AHD Learning Community section of the Council website or by contacting Kathleen Amos at <a href="mailto:kamos@phf.org">kamos@phf.org</a>.</p>
<p><b>Revising the Core Competencies for Public Health Professionals</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <b>Feedback Received</b></li> <li>➤ <b>First Draft of Revised Core Competencies</b></li> <li>➤ <b>Next Steps</b></li> </ul>	<p>Core Competencies Workgroup Co-Chairs Amy Lee, MD, MPH, MBA, and Janet Place, MPH, and Council Assistant Director Kathleen Amos, MLIS, shared updates about the Core Competencies for Public Health Professionals (Core Competencies).</p> <p>Ms. Place provided an update on use of the Core Competencies. The Core Competencies, a set of foundational or crosscutting skills for professionals engaged in public health practice, education, and research, are used in workforce development activities across the country. The most current data show that approximately 80% of state health departments, 60% of tribal health organizations, 45% of local health departments, 25% of territorial health departments, and 90% of academic programs with a public health focus use the Core Competencies. Since the last Council meeting, usage of the Core Competencies has continued, with more than 40,000 online visits to the Core Competencies and resources and tools that support implementation. This brings online usage since the release of the current version of the Core Competencies in 2014 to around 750,000 times. Since October 2020, Council staff have responded to 37 requests for assistance related to the Core Competencies, serving 26 organizations in 16 states, Guam, and Japan.</p> <p>Dr. Lee provided updates on the Core Competencies Workgroup, which supports and provides guidance for Council activities related to the Core Competencies. This group has been instrumental in the ongoing development and refinement of the Core Competencies and creation of resources and tools for implementing the Core Competencies. The Workgroup is open to all who are interested and includes members from health departments, academic institutions, federal agencies, non-profits, and other organizations representing a variety of focuses within public health. The Workgroup currently has approximately 115 members, with 43 of those members joining since the Council initiated the Core Competencies revision process in October 2020.</p>	

	<p>With the launch of the revision process, the Workgroup has provided guidance and recommendations for how the Core Competencies should be revised to meet the needs of the public health community. The Workgroup has met three times, members have participated in town hall meetings on the Core Competencies, and four subgroups were set up to make suggestions in priority areas identified in feedback from the public health community. The Council is thankful to all Workgroup members who have been providing their time and expertise to support the revision of the Core Competencies.</p> <p>Ms. Amos provided an update on the status of the Core Competencies revisions. The Core Competencies are regularly reviewed and revised to keep pace with changes in the field of public health and ensure they continue to meet the needs of the public health workforce. The Core Competencies are on a three-year review cycle, with the current revision begun in October 2020. The Council is thankful to CDC’s Center for State, Tribal, Local, and Territorial Support (CSTLTS) for providing the funding support to make that possible.</p> <p>Revision of the Core Competencies is heavily informed by the public health community. With the launch of the review and revision process, the Council initiated an open comment period to hear feedback to inform the revisions. This open comment period lasted from October 2020 through March 2021 and generated more than 1,400 engagements. Feedback was welcome online, by email, through social media, and through 17 virtual town halls and other meetings, which were attended by approximately 1,000 participants from at least 49 states, DC, and two territories. More than 100 resources were also gathered to inform the revision.</p> <p>Takeaways from the feedback that have informed the draft revisions include that it would be helpful to create better harmonization between efforts that impact the workforce and workforce development; there was a need to address various topic areas including cultural competency, health equity, racism, and social justice, environmental health and justice, climate change, and sustainability, emergency preparedness, management, and response, policy, advocacy, and lobbying, and administration and management; it would</p>	
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	<p>help to make it easier to use the Core Competencies; and major changes in the Core Competencies may potentially be acceptable.</p> <p>Council staff and the Core Competencies Workgroup have been working to address the feedback received and develop a first draft of the revisions to the Core Competencies. This has involved adding new content and updating or enhancing existing content, considering whether changes are needed to the domains or the tiers, and thinking about how the Core Competencies can become less intimidating and easier to use.</p> <p>Potential changes to the Core Competencies being considered include those focused on improving clarity, making the competencies more current and inclusive of the areas suggested for enhancement, and adjusting how the Core Competencies are structured to better support the variety of audiences who use them and ways they are used. Examples of these changes were shared and feedback invited.</p> <p>It is anticipated that first draft of the revisions to the Core Competencies will be completed and released in June 2021, with a second open comment period over the summer to hear feedback that will be used to further refine the draft. The revised competencies are expected to be presented to the Council for a vote on adoption in October.</p> <p>Ms. Amos invited questions and discussion about the Core Competencies.</p>	<p>More information about the Core Competencies revision and other Core Competencies activities can be found through the Core Competencies section of the Council website or by contacting Kathleen Amos at <a href="mailto:kamos@phf.org">kamos@phf.org</a>.</p>
<p><b>Revitalizing the Public Health Workforce</b></p>	<p>Council Director Ron Bialek, MPP, led a discussion on efforts to revitalize the public health workforce and connections to Council initiatives.</p> <p>CDC Council representative Liza Corso, MPA, shared updates on CDC efforts in this area.</p>	
<p><b>Other Business and Next Steps</b></p>	<p>Dr. Keck asked if there was any other business to address.</p> <p>Dr. Keck updated the Council on administrative aspects of reconvening the Council.</p> <p>The next Council meeting has not yet been scheduled.</p>	<p>Council staff will be in contact to schedule future Council meetings.</p> <p>Questions about Council meetings can be sent to Kathleen Amos at <a href="mailto:kamos@phf.org">kamos@phf.org</a>.</p>