The Council on Linkages Between Academia and Public Health Practice

Council on Linkages Between Academia and Public Health Practice Virtual Meeting

Date: September 26, 2023, 2:00-4:00pm ET

Meeting Minutes

Members and Designees Present: Kaye Bender, Terry Brandenburg, Michelle Carvalho, Liza Corso, Lori Edwards, Michael Fagen, Leah Gillis, Gary Gilmore, Barbara Gottlieb, Paul Halverson, Nancy Harada, Bill Keck, Amy Lee, Susan Swider, Erin Seedorf, Erica Smith, Serena McCovery, John Wiesman

Other Participants Present: Rocio Arguijo, Jessica Arrazola, Jamal Ashim, Mike Barry, Mark Bertler, Marlene Blakes, Chandlee Bryan, Vera Cardinale, Grace Chong, Emily Dejka, Chris Dowhower, Gerald Duncan, Jocelyn Estiandan, Marie Flake, Rachel Fogleman, Alexander Franklin, Ebony Funches, Dawn Gentsch, Max Gilbert, Adrienne Gill, Kim Grier, Casie Higginbotham, Tanya Honderick, Allison Jacobs, Tamnnet Kidanu, Lexy Kidd, Tom Kollmer, Ethan Lambert, Colin Laughney, Mia Luluquisen, Whitney Magendie, Helen Malcolm, Sara Mendez, Chanis Mercado, Lloyd Michener, Leslie Mitchell, David Morin, Karin Opacich, Beth Ransopher, Lonnie Resser, Carey Riccitelli, Naomi Rich, Daniel Rizik-Baer, Jennifer Romaszewski, Tali Schiller, Lisa Sedlar, Sara Smith, Tara Spencer, Leslie Stalnaker, Nancy Sullivan, Itress Tackett, Carrie Thomas, Patricia Truelove, Graciela Valdez, Kristen Varol, Lora Wade, Meghan Wolfe

Staff Present: Ron Bialek, Mayela Arana, Grace Davis

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action
Welcome and Overview of Agenda	The meeting began with a welcome by Council Chair C. William Keck, MD, MPH. Dr. Keck thanked the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) for the funding support that has enabled current Council activities, reminded participants of the Council's mission, and reviewed the agenda for the meeting.	
Approval of Minutes from June 23, 2023 Meeting	Dr. Keck asked for any changes to the minutes of the June 23, 2023 Council meeting. Gary Gilmore, MPH, PhD, MCHES, moved to approve the minutes as written. Michael Fagen, PhD, MPH, seconded the motion. No additions or corrections.	Minutes of the June 23, 2023 Council meeting were approved as written.
Council Strategic Directions	Dr. Keck informed the Council that the revised *Strategic Directions, 2023-2027* were adopted following an open comment period and vote conducted via email.	
Rebuilding the Public Health Workforce	Council Director Ron Bialek, MPP, introduced a discussion on current efforts to rebuild the public health workforce. Meghan Wolfe, MPP, Associate Director of Capacity Building and Technical Assistance, National Coordinating Center for Public Health Training at the National Network of Public Health Institutes, shared insights and updates	

	on the Public Health Infrastructure Grant Program including examples of technical assistance provided through the PHIVE system. CDC Council representative Liza Corso, MPA shared information and provided a status update about the new National Center for State, Tribal, Local, and Territorial Public Health Infrastructure and Workforce (Public Health Infrastructure Center), including its commitment to and role in workforce development. Mr. Bialek facilitated discussion with Council members and attendees surrounding the Public Health Infrastructure Grant Program and CDC Public Health Infrastructure Center.	
Academic Health Department Learning Community	Grace Davis, Project Assistant, Academic/Practice Linkages, Public Health Foundation, provided an update on Academic Health Department (AHD) Learning Community activities. 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 1,600 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. Thus far in 2023, the Learning Community and its resources and tools have been accessed online more than 4,000 times. This brings online usage of the Learning Community and its resources and tools since its launch to more than 85,000 visits. To date in 2023, Council staff have responded to 19 requests for technical assistance related to AHD partnerships, serving organizations in 13 states and DC. AHD partnerships were highlighted in a webinar held in September entitled *How Academic Health Department Partnerships Support Recruitment and Retention* as part of the AHD Webinar Series. The webinar featured three guest speakers from health departments and academic institutions who shared their experiences working to recruit and retain staff. Ms. Davis invited questions about the AHD Learning Community.	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.

Core Competencies for Public Health Professionals	Ms. Davis provided an update on the Core Competencies for Public Health Professionals (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 US. 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. The Core Competencies are used in a variety of ways, including to guide development of job descriptions and performance objectives, competency or training needs assessments, education and training, workforce development plans, other competency sets, and other tools and resources to support professional development for public health professionals. These competencies also appear in major national initiatives, such as Healthy People and accreditation; are integrated into the TRAIN Learning Network; and are designed to reflect the knowledge and skills needed to deliver the 10 Essential Public Health Services.	
	Thus far in 2023, the Core Competencies and resources and tools that support implementation have been accessed online more than 100,000 times, with more than 53,000 visits to the Core Competencies and more than 50,000 visits to resources and tools. Since the latest version of the Core Competencies was released in October 2021, the webpage has been visited over 183,000 times. In 2023, Council staff have responded to 23 requests for assistance related to the Core Competencies, serving organizations in 15 states and Canada.	
	Since the release of the 2021 Core Competencies in October 2021, Council staff have been working on updating and developing resources and tools that support use of the Core Competencies and help with the transition from the 2014 to the 2021 version. Updated competency assessments are available on the Council website, and the 2021 Core Competencies have been made available on the TRAIN Learning Network as a search filter. A competency prioritization tool that supports organizations in identifying the most important Core Competencies for different public health jobs has been updated to help organizations in determining where to focus competency development efforts. Updated domain definitions are available to describe the contents of each of the 2021 Core Competencies domains. Most recently, the Crosswalk of the 2021 and 2014 Core Competencies for Public Health Professionals was released to illustrate the relationships between specific competencies within these two versions. The Core Competencies Tools page on the PHF website has also	More information about the Core Competencies can

	been updated with a format that highlights resources for the 2021 version. Updates of additional resources and tools are underway. As resources and tools are completed, they will be posted on the Council website and shared through the *Council on Linkages Update*. Ms. Davis invited questions about the Core Competencies.	be found through the Core Competencies section of the Council website or by contacting Mayela Arana at marana@phf.org.
Other Business and Next Steps	Dr. Keck asked if there was any other business to address. This was the last Council meeting scheduled for 2023. Council staff will be in touch soon about scheduling meetings in 2024. More information will be shared when it is available.	Questions can be sent to Mayela Arana at marana@phf.org.