Public Health Systems, Services and Research at the Public Health Institute

Making public health more effective and efficient

Today’s public health systems are challenged to do more with fewer resources. PHI works to strengthen state and local public health departments with a focus on building capacity, adopting evidence-based population health improvement approaches, and integrating data for decision making.

Since 1964, the Public Health Institute’s partners, programs and researchers have focused on what they do best: their work. They rely on PHI’s comprehensive operational infrastructure to quickly move their public health programs from concept to implementation to impact.

PHI’s approach includes:

Supporting practice-based research to study the financing, organization and delivery of public health services by health departments and their community partners.

Building the capacity of state and local health departments by providing organizational development tools and leadership development opportunities.

Increasing data sharing for planning and program implementation by providing tools and platforms that allow public health practitioners to translate and act upon health data.

Advancing health in all policies, an approach to improving population health that incorporates health considerations into decision-making across sectors with the goal of achieving health equity.

The Public Health Institute (PHI) is an independent, nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting health, well-being and quality of life throughout California, across the nation and around the world.

Headquarters  555 12th Street, 10th Floor, Oakland, CA 94607  tel: 510.285.5500

www.phi.org
Supporting health departments to advance health equity PHI’s Bay Area Regional Health Inequities Initiative (BARHII) is a nationally recognized leader in transforming public health practice to advance healthy equity. BARHII’s Organizational Self-Assessment for Addressing Health Inequities Toolkit helps local health departments (LHDs) identify the skills, organizational practices and infrastructure needed to reduce health disparities. PHI will study how these and other tools are used by LHDs to improve capacity and service delivery.

Improving public health services Geocoding and mapping services provided by PHI’s California Environmental Health Tracking Program have been used by a variety of public health departments to identify vulnerable populations for emergency preparedness planning, to predict outbreaks of West Nile virus and to better coordinate breast cancer screenings.

Strengthening leadership in health departments PHI’s Center for Health Leadership and Practice has trained hundreds of senior personnel from local and state health departments to become effective leaders in cutting edge approaches to public health such as Health in All Policies and addressing the social and environmental factors that determine health.

Translating data into action PHI’s Public Health Data Solutions (PHDS) combines PHI’s expertise in population health improvement with online data platforms for GIS mapping and reporting. PHDS facilitates efficient data sharing and translates program results and community outcomes into actionable information for health departments, community stakeholders and elected officials.

Supporting practice-based research PHI studies how funding and incentives for health information technology and meaningful use criteria impact disease reporting at the local and state levels. PHI is also developing a state-wide practice-based research network to better understand public health organization and service delivery needs from the practitioner perspective.

Other PHI programs working in public health systems, services and research Advancing the State of the Art in Community Benefit • California Cancer Registry • California Health in All Policies Task Force • Survey Research Group

For more information about PHI’s work in public health systems, services and research, visit www.phi.org or contact PHI communications at communications@phi.org.