The Future of Public Health

Joanne Fuller, Director,
Multnomah County Health Department

Nichole Maher, President,
Northwest Health Foundation

Liz Baxter, Executive Director,
Oregon Public Health Institute

Tricia Tillman, Public Health Director,
Multnomah County Health Department

Dr. Jennifer Vines, Deputy Health Officer,
Multnomah County Health Department

March 31, 2015

10 Essential Public Health Services

Core Functions*	10 Essential Public Health Services**
Assessment	**Monitor** health status to identify and solve community health problems **Diagnose & investigate** health problems & hazards in the community
Assurance	**Enforce** laws and regulations that protect health and ensure safety **Link** people to health services; ensure provision when otherwise unavailable **Assure** competent public & personal health care workforce **Evaluate** effectiveness accessibility, and quality of services
Policy Development	**Engage** the community to identify & solve health problems **Give** people information to make healthy choices **Develop** p.h. policies & plans that support individual & community efforts
Systems Management	**Research** for new insights and innovative solutions to health problems

Life Course Health Model

- Today's experiences and exposures influence tomorrow's health.

- Health trajectories are particularly affected during critical periods, such as early childhood.

- The broader community environment strongly affects the ability to be healthy.

- While genetics and personal choice can protect us from or put us at risk for poor health outcomes, health disparities reflect more than genetics and personal choice.

Fine A & Kotelchuck M, 2010

Socio-Ecological Model of Health

Progressive Public Health Drivers

- Population size
- Shared resources with other Local Health Departments
- Health Equity
  - Community Engagement
  - Workforce Diversity
  - Community Capacity Building (Direct/Indirect Service Provision)
- Policy Advocacy
- Information Technology and Communications
- Public Health Accreditation
  - Strategic Plan, Community Health Assessment, Community Health Improvement Plan
  - Culture of Quality

County Health Rankings: How Multnomah County Stacks Up

Health Factors	Multnomah County	Top US Performers	Oregon	Rank (out of 34)
Social & Economic Factors				**11**
High school graduation	65%		69%	
Some college	74.3%	71.0%	66.7%	
Unemployment	6.9%	4.0%	7.7%	
Children in poverty	23%	13%	22%	
Income inequality	5.0	3.7	4.6	
Children in single-parent households	33%	20%	31%	
Social associations	11.2	22.0	10.5	
Violent crime	487	59	249	
Injury deaths	64	50	66	
Physical Environment				**34**
Air pollution (particulate matter)	9.7	9.5	8.9	
Drinking water violations	77%	0%	19%	
Severe housing problems	23%	9%	20%	
Driving alone to work	62%	71%	72%	
Long commute - driving alone	28%	15%	26%	

- How can our County best position itself to address the social and economic factors that affect health, given that we have traditionally been in the business of service provision?

- How can we take progressive, upstream steps to address complex disparities, like community violence, that result from the intersection of social, economic, and neighborhood factors?

- What does it look like to focus on achieving health equity among communities at highest risk for poor health outcomes? What are the barriers, and how can we address them in partnership with communities?

- What are ways our County can maintain and expand our investment in public health's historical functions (like our regulatory and health surveillance roles) while addressing emerging public health concerns and a growing population?

- How can we support you in your role as the local public health authority to ensure the strong functioning of this role today and in the future?