

Public Health Systems Research-- It's not just for Ph.D.s anymore!

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Objectives

- Explain the purpose and importance of Minnesota's public health Research to Action Network
- Relate research in Minnesota to national context
- Summarize methods and highlight key findings and benefits of research from multiple perspectives
- Use live polling to guide future directions



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Public Health Systems and Services Research

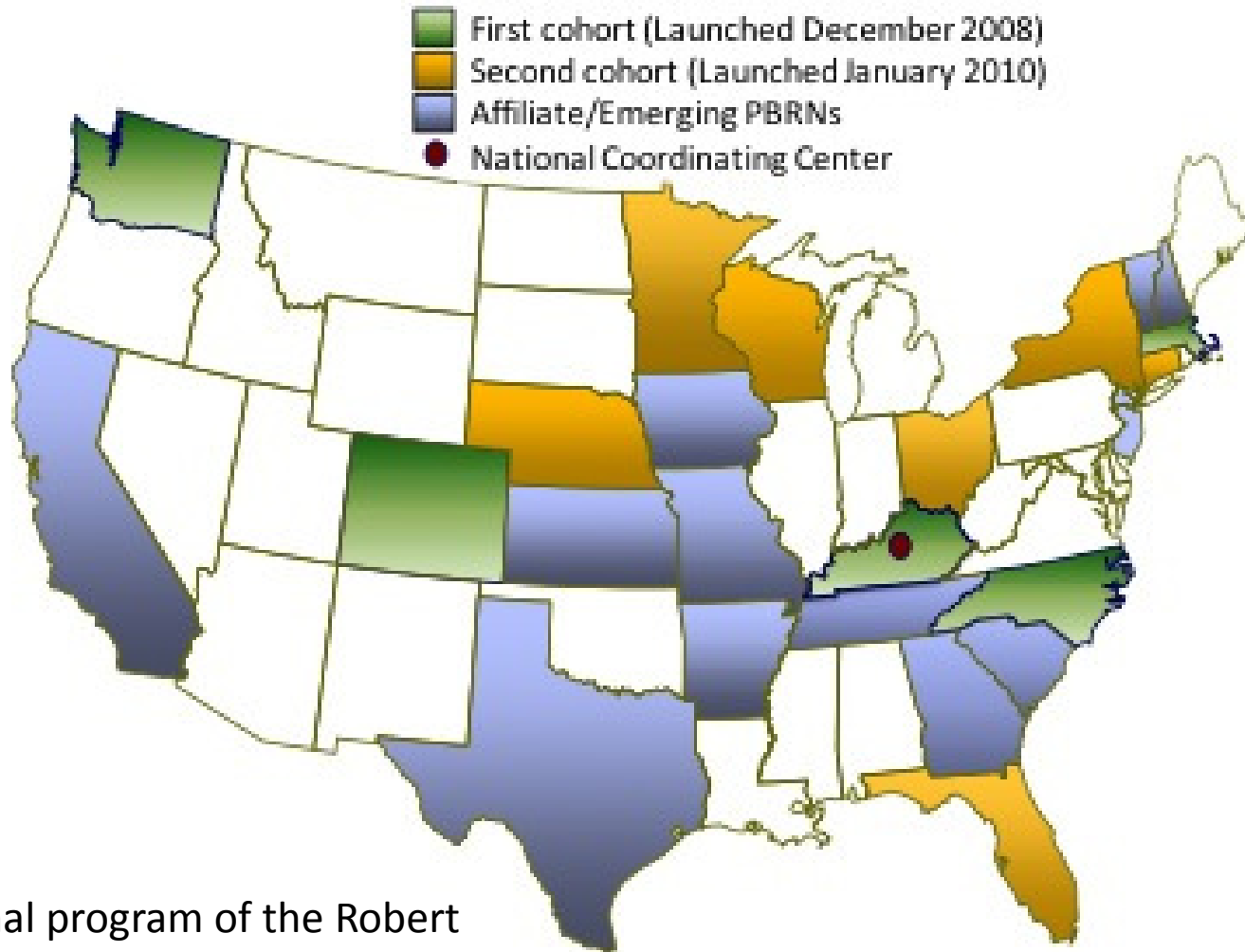
A field of inquiry examining the organization, financing, and delivery of public health services at local, state, and national levels, and the impact of these activities on population health.

Mays, Halverson, and Scutchfield. 2003



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Public Health Practice-Based Research Networks



A national program of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

Research to Action Network

A Network that Works!

Partners from academic and practice settings

Engaged steering committee

Research that is timely and relevant



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Analyze Existing Data

Survey conducted by University of Southern Maine

Question	Findings	Benefit
Can we identify a limited number of questions to measure how fully QI has been integrated throughout a health department?	Yes! Created a 10-item QI maturity score	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Provided baseline data• Incorporated into new Local Public Health Act performance measures• Generated national attention



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Analyze Existing Data

Grantee progress reports from SHIP 2009-2011; Survey data from University of Southern Maine

Question	Findings	Benefit
What factors at the local level contribute to success in implementing evidence-based policy, system and environmental (PSE) changes of SHIP?	Preliminary analysis: The QI maturity of local health departments seems related to success achieving PSE change.	Evidence that attention to QI and QI culture is important to performance on population-based interventions.



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Analyze Existing Data

PPMRS, Tax Levy data from the Office of the State Auditor

Question	Findings	Benefit
In recent years, how has the trend in local tax levy funding for public health compared with trend in total local tax levy?	From 2006-2010, when adjusted for inflation ... Per capita local tax levy in MN increased 16% Per capita local tax levy expenditures of for MN LHDs <i>decreased</i> 2.4%	Crucial to examine trends and factors driving trends in LPH financing



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Analyze Existing Data

Progress reports submitted through state and national QI collaboratives

Question	Findings	Benefit
How can we standardize the way we classify key aspects of a QI project?	Most projects (60%) examined the full cycle of a process from beginning to end.	This study is a crucial step toward studying the link between QI and performance.
What can we learn about the approaches and results achieved in a sample of local QI projects?	Almost 40% achieved breakthrough results (25% improvement).	This study can help us standardize reporting on QI in Minnesota.



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Key Informant Interviews

Local health directors and SHIP coordinators, 2012

Question	Findings	Benefit
What factors at the local level contribute to success in implementing evidence-based policy, system and environmental change (PSE)?	Underway	Help interpret findings from existing data analysis Learn from experience rolling out large, statewide population-based program



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Administer Surveys

Survey of top local public health officials, 2010

Question	Findings	Benefit
<p>To what extent do public health directors and administrators report key authorities related to budgeting and interaction with elected officials? How do these authorities relate to structure?</p>	<p>Most reported all 6 authorities, but important minority did not</p> <p>Association between health department organizational structure and authority</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Framework to discuss authority and structure• SCHSAC Blueprint Work Group• State/local discussions to strengthen MN Local Public Health Act



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So what do YOU think?



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What is the most exciting study presented today?

1. Measuring QI maturity
2. Studying local factors that affect SHIP implementation
3. Examining trends in local public health
4. Creating a more standard way to define and describe QI



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What are the most effective ways for us to communicate future findings to you? (choose up to three)

1. LPHA meetings
2. SCHSAC meetings
3. AMC meetings
4. Post information on-line
5. AMC quarterly newsletter
6. Webinars
7. Other



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What is the most important direction for future research?

1. Financing
2. Workforce
3. System and Structure
4. Quality Improvement
5. Other



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<http://www.health.state.mn.us/divs/cfh/ophp/system/ran/>



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