

Issue #105

Public Health PBRN Review | August Supplement 2012

PBRN Grantees: Please circulate relevant information to network members. To request additional information or make suggestions for future items, please contact the Public Health PBRN National Coordinating Center (NCC) at publichealthpbrn@uky.edu or (859) 218-2094. Past issues are available in the [newsletter](#) archive.

Stat of the Month: Wisconsin local health departments that operate as part of human service agencies are projected to experience a 5.5% increase in per-capita revenue during 2009-2012, as compared to a 1.5% decline in revenue among independent agencies. Source: Wisconsin PBRN Quick Strike Study on Public Health Revenue Forecasting; 2012.

PBRN NEWS

Forecasting the Public Health Impact of the Economic Recession: During the August Public Health PBRN Virtual Meeting, Wisconsin's Andrew Reschovsky and Susan Zahner shared findings from a Quick Strike research project that developed a model for forecasting future revenue streams for local health departments within the state. The model produces information to help local public health officials anticipate the financial effects of the recession and recovery, and to plan strategic actions in response. The model accounts for macroeconomic effects on local property tax receipts, state aid to local governments, and federal funding sources, while also incorporating the effects of projected population dynamics. Findings from the model reveal that the agencies likely to experience the largest reductions in per-capita revenue during the 2009-12 period include agencies serving populations over 100,000 residents, agencies offering a limited scope of services (defined as Level One agencies in Wisconsin), and independent agencies that do not operate as part of human service agencies. All of these agencies are projected to experience some degree of "bounce-back" in revenue growth during the 2013-14 period, although the level of growth varies considerably. The information generated by this model promise to be of considerable value to local public health professions and their collaborators, particularly as part of their strategic planning and community health improvement

planning initiatives.

Synergies Between PBRN Research and Workforce Training: The U.S. Health Resources and Services Administration convened the annual meeting of its Public Health Training Centers Program in Rockville, MD late this month to discuss new horizons in workforce development and training. For the first time, HRSA included a session devoted to public health services and systems research (PHSSR) and its current and potential roles in shaping workforce development strategies. As part of this session, the Coordinating Center's Glen Mays profiled the workforce research currently underway through the Public Health PBRNs and the ways in which these types of studies and their findings can be translated, disseminated, and expanded through collaboration with Training Centers. Among the projects profiled were: (1) the Ohio PBRN's Quick Strike study to examine variation in the position descriptions for public health nurses across the state and their concordance with national practice standards; (2) the Washington PBRN study of the effects of a quality improvement intervention to improve workforce diversity in a large local health department; and (3) the Kentucky PBRN's randomized trial of a cultural competency training intervention for local public health staff. The meeting included presentations from several of PBRN leaders and collaborators who are also leaders within HRSA-funded training centers, including Elaine O'Keefe from Yale University and the Connecticut PBRN, Ed Baker from UNC and the North Carolina PBRN, Susan Allan from University of Washington and the Washington PBRN, and Pauline Thomas from UMDNJ and the New Jersey PBRN. The presentation by Glen Mays can be accessed [here](#).

Massachusetts Releases Regionalization Toolkit: Boston University along with their colleagues in the Massachusetts PBRN recently released a [toolkit](#) to help stakeholders conceptualize and plan for regional cooperation agreements in public health service delivery. Based on their synthesis of research and related experiences regarding the design and implementation of regionalization models, the toolkit offers valuable guidance and examples for communities interested in developing regional public health districts and other models of shared service delivery.

More PBRN Network Analytics Released: The Coordinating Center recently

released customized reports for each public health PBRN containing a more granular battery of measures of network structure and patterns of interaction, based on surveys completed by network participants. These measures can be very useful to PBRNs in revealing with greater clarity the roles that each network participant plays in research collaboration, and in identifying opportunities for expanding and improving this collaboration. Coordinating Center staff are available to provide more customized assistance to individual PBRNs in using their network data. A compendium of the individual PBRN network analysis reports is available [here](#).

MPROVE Networks to Submit Comments on Measure Inventory by August 31: Friday is the deadline for PBRNs who are participating in the Multi-Network Practice and Outcome Variation (MPROVE) Study to submit their comments, edits, and additions to the latest version of the service delivery measure inventory. More than 300 candidate measures have been proposed for inclusion in the inventory. A multi-phase Delphi stakeholder rating process will be initiated next month to select the final set of core measures to be collected and analyzed consistently across local public health settings.

PBRN Quarterly Update Calls. Beginning next week, personnel from the National Coordinating Center will contact each network to ensure that our records and website have the most up-to-date information possible about your ongoing projects and technical assistance needs. Networks will be asked to edit their online [overviews](#) to reflect the most recent information about their research, to provide updated partner and contact lists, and to talk with the Coordinating Center about progress, challenges, information dissemination, and translation of outcomes. This will be a terrific opportunity for grantees to raise any concerns or make suggestions about how the Coordinating Center can best support your efforts. We look forward to speaking with you soon.

Urban Institute External Evaluation of RWJF PHSSR Activities. The Public Health PBRNs also can expect to be contacted by Harry Hatry and Randy Bovbjerg, external evaluators for the Urban Institute, who are working closely with the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the Public Health PBRN National Coordinating Center to evaluate RWJF's Public Health Services and Systems

Research enterprise. This effort provides an excellent opportunity for all of us to learn what we are doing well, what we can do better, and how we can continue furthering the field. Member networks could be contacted to participate in interviews and/or a network-wide survey. If you have any questions, please contact [Anna Hoover](#), deputy director of the PBRN National Coordinating Center.

PBRN Research to Address Gaps in the Science of Improvement: Several recent systematic reviews of the research literature have documented gaps in the evidence concerning the effectiveness and impact of quality improvement strategies used both in [health care](#) and [public health settings](#). To help reduce these evidence gaps, the September issue of *Frontiers in Public Health Services and Systems Research* will feature findings from a series of PBRN studies conducted over the past year to investigate the implementation and impact of quality improvement (QI) initiatives, accreditation preparation activities, and public reporting initiatives exemplified by the County Health Rankings program. These three types of initiatives represent promising approaches for mobilizing efforts to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of public health delivery. To date, relatively little systematic evidence has been produced about how these approaches are operationalized in public health settings, how public health stakeholders respond to them, and ultimately how they impact service delivery and outcomes. Subscribe to [Frontiers](#) to stay up to date on emerging evidence on these and other important delivery system issues.

New Leadership in Connecticut: The PBRN Program welcomes Moira Lawson, PhD., M.P.H., who is assuming a new leadership role within the Connecticut PBRN as the primary representative for the Connecticut Association of Health Directors. Dr. Lawson is a health program associate in health equity for CAHD. She replaces Jennifer Kertanis, who served as a powerful mobilizing force for the PBRN during its initial two years of development.

Keep up with PBRN News and Conversations Online at:

Our website: www.publichealthsystems.org/pbrn.aspx

LinkedIn Group: [Public Health PBRN National Coordinating Center LinkedIn Group](#)

Public Health PBRN Twitter: [@PH_PBRN](#)

RELATED NEWS

NIEHS Unveils Strategic Plan

On August 1st, NIH's National Institute for Environmental Health Science unveiled its new Strategic Plan, [Advancing Science, Improving Health: A Plan for Environmental Health Research](#), which sets forth eleven goals across eight themes to guide the Institute over the next five years. Goals of specific interest to the Public Health PBRNs include:

- identifying and responding to emerging environmental threats to human health, on both local and global scales;
- establishing an environmental health disparities research agenda that defines and supports public health and prevention solutions to disparities;
- using knowledge management techniques to create a collaborative environment for the environmental health sciences community;
- increasing scientific literacy nationwide, particularly as it relates to knowledge of environmental exposures;
- evaluating the economic impact of policies, practices, and behaviors that reduce exposure to environmental toxicants and investing in research programs to test how prevention improves public health and minimizes economic burden; and
- promoting communication and collaboration among researchers and stakeholders to advance research translation in the environmental health sciences.

Comments Sought on PCORI Methodology Report: The Patient Centered Outcomes Research Institute seeks public comments on its draft methodology report through September 14, 2012. PCORI is poised to become one of the most powerful forces in health research in the U.S., and a very relevant funding source for PHSSR scholars and public health PBRNs. Help to shape the types of studies this institute funds by reviewing the report and commenting on its proposed approaches. The report and public comment mechanism can be accessed [here](#).

ON THE HORIZON

September Edition of PBRN virtual meeting: The September 2012 edition of the Public Health PBRN Virtual Meeting will be conducted on Thursday, September 21, from 1:00-2:30pm ET and will feature a presentation by the New York Public Health PBRN.

WEBINARS

Electronic Data Methods Forum Medical Care Special Supplement Webinar

Series: *The Electronic Data Methods (EDM) Forum is a three-year grant from the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) to collect, synthesize, and share lessons learned from 11 projects using electronic clinical data for comparative effectiveness research (CER) and patient-centered outcomes research (PCOR). The EDM Forum aims to use this knowledge to inform methods for conducting CER and PCOR. This webinar series will discuss the recent AcademyHealth [Electronic Data Methods \(EDM\) Forum](#) free, open access [special supplement](#), featured in *Medical Care* July 2012. Part I: *Protecting Human Subjects and Their Data in Multi-Site Research*, August 16, 2012. Part II: *Clinical Informatics, CER, and PCOR: Building Blocks for Meaningful Use of Big Data in Health Care*, September 26, 2012. Registration information [here](#).*

PCORI Webinar on Draft Methodology Standards: *Earlier this month the Patient Centered Outcomes Research Institute held a webinar on the draft methodology standards outlined in its methodology report. PCORI now seeks public comments on the standards. View a recording of the webinar [here](#).*

DISSEMINATION

Nominate Someone for the HSR Impact Award by August 31: Has your research made an impact on health policy or practice? Nominate yourself or a colleague for the AcademyHealth HSR Impact Award. The deadline for this award, which recognizes health services research that has been successfully translated into health policy, management, or clinical practice, is August 31, 2012. The winner will receive an award, and the research will be widely disseminated as part of AcademyHealth's ongoing efforts to promote the field of health services research and communicate its value for health care decision-making. The HSR Impact Award is a unique opportunity to highlight research that has made a difference—that has positively influenced health policy and/or practice. If you are aware of research that meets these criteria, please don't delay in providing a nomination

for this award. Nominations for the HSR Impact Award will be accepted until August 31. For complete details about this award, including eligibility requirements, please visit www.academyhealth.org/hsrimpactaward.

Public Health PBRNs at APHA. With APHA around the corner, we would like to keep everyone abreast of when and where the Public Health PBRNs will be presenting. If you will be presenting PBRN-related research, please let us know by emailing the session title, date, and time to NCC deputy director [Anna Hoover](#) no later than September 30th.

Publish Rapidly and Publish Often at the Frontiers. Take advantage of the open-access, peer-reviewed journal *Frontiers in Public Health Services and Systems Research* to publish early research findings and to highlight the practice and policy implications of your work. When you submit your brief manuscript to *Frontiers*, you will benefit from a three-stage approach to rapid and widespread dissemination. Stage One: your manuscript will be processed through a rapid, 10-week cycle time between submission, peer review, and publication of accepted manuscripts. Stage Two: After manuscripts appear in *Frontiers*, they are highlighted in a special department of the *American Journal of Preventive Medicine* (print and electronic versions), allowing you to reach an even larger audience and helping to drive that audience to your original *Frontiers* article. Stage Three: if you develop a full scientific manuscript after publishing the initial findings in *Frontiers*, your full scientific article is eligible to receive expedited review at the *American Journal of Preventive Medicine*. No other journal offers this level of intensity in dissemination.

Please make sure that you and your PBRN colleagues: (1) sign up to receive article alerts from *Frontiers*; (2) submit your early findings to *Frontiers* as soon as you have them in hand, because data are perishable; and (3) agree to serve as a peer reviewer for *Frontiers* submissions, and occasionally agree to write a commentary for *Frontiers* on articles that fall within your areas of expertise. *Frontiers* is your dissemination vehicle – your part of the “open science” movement – so please use it and share it with your colleagues and collaborators.

Calls for Papers and Products

PCD Seeking Papers from Health Departments

Preventing Chronic Disease Journal (*PCD*) is seeking article submissions from state, tribal, local and territorial health department practitioners who are on the front lines working to improve the health of the public. *PCD* is committed to providing a forum for the open exchange of information and knowledge among researchers, practitioners, policy makers, and others who strive to improve the health of the public through chronic disease prevention. Publishing the work done by state, tribal, local and territorial health departments is central to the journal's mission and vision ([about the journal](#)). Submissions should showcase practice-based evidence from the field of public health and can include original research, community case studies, systematic reviews, special topics, or briefs. Articles should present research results to a broad audience of public health professionals and others who are dedicated to helping practitioners and policy makers inform research and researchers help practitioners and policy makers more effectively improve the health of the population. For complete submission requirements, visit www.cdc.gov/pcd/for_authors. Submissions are due by **September 25, 2012**.

Call for Comments: EPA Office of the Science Advisor

The EPA Office of the Science Advisor (OSA) announces a 60-day public comment period for the external review draft of "A Framework for Human Health Risk Assessment to Inform Decision Making." This document was developed as part of an agency-wide program by the EPA Risk Assessment Forum. All comments received will be shared with an external peer review panel for their consideration. To read the draft, and submit your comment, visit the [Federal Register](#). All comments must be received by **September 28, 2012**.

Journal of Public Health Management and Practice Special Issue on Academic Health Departments

Deadline: **September 30, 2012**

The Journal of Public Health Management and Practice (JPHMP), in collaboration with the [Academic Health Department Learning Community of the Council on Linkages Between Academia and Public Health Practice \(COL\)](#), the [National Association of County and City Health Officials \(NACCHO\)](#) and the [Association of State and Territorial Health Officials \(ASTHO\)](#) invites practitioners and researchers to submit abstracts for articles to appear in the November-December 2013 issue

of the JPHMP; co-edited by Paul Campbell Erwin, MD, DrPH, Professor and Department Head, Department of Public Health, University of Tennessee and C. William Keck, MD, MPH, Professor Emeritus, Department of Family and Community Medicine, Northeast Ohio Medical University; under the theme of Academic Health Departments. Abstracts providing case examples of relationships between public health academic and practice organizations are solicited. Submission of abstracts (approximately 500 words) is invited for consideration for the development of an article (12 double-spaced pages) to be published in the November-December, 2013 edition of the JPHMP. Selection and Notification: Abstract authors selected to submit a full article will be notified by October 30, 2012. Full manuscripts (2000-3000 words) will be due by February 1, 2013. Abstracts should be submitted to Lloyd F. Novick, MD, MPH, Editor, Journal of Public Health Management and Practice at novickl@ecu.edu

Call for Abstracts: Environmental Health 2013

The Environmental Health 2013: Science and Policy to Protect Future Generations conference will be held in Boston, MA on **March 3-6, 2013**. Abstracts are being accepted for a wide variety of environmental health topics including: urban environments and health, environmental inequalities and justice, emerging substances and mixtures, and omics and health outcomes. For more information, [visit the conference website](#). Abstract submission deadline: **October 12, 2012**.

Health Services Research Special Issue on Mixed Methods in Healthcare Delivery Systems Research Deadline: **October 15, 2012**

Health Services Research and the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) are publishing a Special Issue on Mixed Methods in Healthcare Delivery Systems Research. For more information about this call for papers, please see the announcement at the [HSR website](#), or consult the "[Instructions for Authors](#)" prior to [submission](#). For questions, please email HSR Managing Editor, [Meighan Schreiber](#).

RESOURCES

CDC STACKS: The CDC's document repository system--known as CDC Stacks--is now available to the public. CDC Stacks contains documents spanning the history of CDC from issue 1 of the Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report to the most current CDC guidelines and recommendations. The repository can be found at

<http://stacks.cdc.gov>.

Speaker Presentations from Berkeley CEH Symposium Now Available

Videos of presentations made at the Symposium on Children's Environmental Health Research and Implications for Risk Assessment and Public Policy are now available on the [Berkeley SRP YouTube website](#). The meeting was held January 11-12, 2012 in Oakland, CA. Topics covered at the Symposium include children's exposure to chemicals, how the environment changes the development of the brain and nervous systems in children, and childhood leukemia.

NIEHS Resource Page for Wildfire Preparedness: The [Worker Education and Training Program \(WETP\)](#) at NIEHS collected a number of resources related to government and public preparedness and response to wildfires. The [WETP Emergency Resources page](#) includes an NIEHS training tool, CDC public service announcements and brochures, as well as safety and health information from NIOSH.

PCORI Workshops on Community Engagement and Research Prioritization. The Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI) will host three workshops in Washington, D.C., this fall as part of its effort to engage patients and other health care stakeholders as meaningful and active partners in its efforts to build a patient-centered research community and refine its research agenda. The workshops are designed to obtain input from patients, caregivers and other stakeholders on PCORI's draft process for generating and selecting specific research topics. Once implemented, the process will lead to topic-specific funding announcements that correspond to the five priority areas for research outlined in PCORI's [National Priorities for Research and Research Agenda](#) and complement the broad [Funding Announcements](#) that PCORI issued in May. Each workshop is designed to encourage participation from a specific group within the health care community. Attendance will be limited, but each workshop will be accompanied by a public, interactive webcast. PCORI is prepared to support travel and related expenses of invited attendees. Workshops:

- **[Transforming Patient-Centered Research: Building Partnerships and Promising Models](#)** *October 27-28*. This workshop will focus on the patient's role and perspective in PCORI's work, and provide an opportunity

for patients, caregivers, advocacy groups, researchers and other stakeholders to start working together as a community to discuss potential ideas for future research. It also will support PCORI's efforts to raise the standards in the science of patient engagement by developing promising policies for identifying research questions, reviewing funding proposals and ensuring patient participation throughout the process. Attendance is limited to 150 people; 75% of workshop invitations will be reserved for patients, caregivers and organizations representing them.

- **What Should PCORI Study? A Call for Topics from Patients and Stakeholders** *December 4*. This workshop will be an opportunity to solicit recommendations for specific research topics and test PCORI's draft process for determining which could be the basis of future funding announcements. Attendance is limited to 100 individuals; 25% of invitations will be reserved for patients, caregivers and the organizations that represent them.


- **PCORI Research Prioritization Methods Workshop** *December 5*. Research methodologists, patients and stakeholders will further test the process for selecting research questions and address a number of methodological issues that will help PCORI refine the process to ensure that it addresses the needs of patients and those who care for them. Attendance will be invitation only and limited to 50 individuals due to the event's format.

More information about each workshop is available on the [PCORI website](#).

Glen Mays Selected Works in PHSSR: online repository for papers, presentations, and works-in-progress related to PBRN and PHSSR research by Glen Mays.

Public Health Information Access Project: pre-formulated search strategies (structured evidence queries) that search PubMed to identify research evidence for selected [Healthy People 2020](#) objectives. [?](#)

A New Taxonomy for Stakeholder Engagement in Patient-Centered Outcomes

Research (PCOR)  Journal of General Internal Medicine article that addresses stakeholder issues in PCOR.

FUNDING

New Listings

CMS State Innovation Models: Model Design Applications: Due September 17, 2012, by 5 p.m., EDT. The [State Innovation Models initiative](#) is a funding opportunity for States to design and test multi-payer payment and delivery models that deliver high-quality health care and improve health system performance. www.innovations.cms.gov/Files/x/StateInnovation_FOA.pdf

National Institutes of Health

[Time-Sensitive Obesity Policy and Program Evaluation \(R01\)](#)

Letter of Intent Due: September 12, 2012 (See RFA for additional dates)

Proposal Due: October 10, 2012 (See RFA for additional dates)

This announcement establishes an accelerated review/award process to support time-sensitive research to evaluate a new policy or program expected to influence obesity related behaviors (e.g., dietary intake, physical activity, or sedentary behavior) and/or weight outcomes in an effort to prevent or reduce obesity. This FOA is intended to support research where opportunities for empirical study are, by their very nature, only available through expedited review and funding. All applications to this FOA must demonstrate that the evaluation of an obesity related policy and /or program offers an uncommon and scientifically compelling research opportunity that will only be available if the research is initiated with minimum delay. For these reasons, applications in response to this time-sensitive FOA are eligible for only one submission. It is intended that eligible applications selected for funding will be awarded within 3-4 months after the application submission/receipt date.

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

[Scholars in Health Policy Research](#)

Proposal Due: October 16, 2012

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Scholars in Health Policy Research program develops and supports a new generation of creative health policy thinkers and researchers within the disciplines of economics, political science and sociology. Each year the program selects up to nine highly qualified individuals for two-year fellowships at one of three nationally prominent universities with the expectation that they will make important research contributions to future U.S. health policy.

NIOSH Exploratory/Developmental Grant Program (R03) and (R21)

Proposal Due: October 16, 2012

The purpose of this grant program is to develop an understanding of the risks and conditions associated with occupational diseases and injuries, to explore methods for reducing risks and for preventing or minimizing exposure to hazardous conditions in the workplace, and to translate significant scientific findings into prevention practices and products that will effectively reduce work-related illnesses and injuries.

National Institutes of Health

2013 NIH Director's New Innovator Award Program (DP2)

Proposal Due: October 17, 2012

The NIH Director's New Innovator (DP2) Award initiative was created in 2007 to support a small number of early stage investigators of exceptional creativity who propose bold and highly innovative new research approaches that have the potential to produce a major impact on broad, important problems in biomedical and behavioral research. The New Innovator Awards complement ongoing efforts by NIH and its Institutes and Centers to fund early stage investigators through R01 grants, which continue to be the major sources of NIH support for early stage investigators.

National Institutes of Health

Research Infrastructure for Demographic and Behavioral Population Science (R24)

Letter of Intent Due: October 30, 2012

Proposal Due: November 30, 2012

The purpose of this funding opportunity announcement (FOA) is to promote science within the mission of the NICHD Demographic and Behavioral Sciences

Branch by providing research infrastructure to population science research centers. Types of research infrastructure provided include administrative and technical research support, developmental infrastructure, and public infrastructure. This FOA supports three types of applications: (1) General Center applications, for centers with three to six signature population science research themes; (2) Specialized Center applications, for centers with one or two signature research themes; and (3) Translation/Dissemination Center applications, for centers that request funding only for public infrastructure.

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality

AHRQ Grants for Health Services Research Dissertation Program (R36)

Proposal Due: November 1, 2012

The overall goal of the AHRQ Health Services Research Dissertation Grant Program is to help ensure that a diverse pool of highly trained health services researchers is available in adequate numbers and appropriate research areas to address the research mission and priorities of AHRQ. This program is authorized by 42 U.S.C. 299a(b), which provides that AHRQ may provide training grants in the field of health services research. The mission of AHRQ is to improve the quality, safety, efficiency, and effectiveness of health care for all Americans in the United States.

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality

AHRQ Individual Awards for Postdoctoral Fellows (F32) National Research Service Awards (NRSA)

Proposal Due: December 8, 2012

The purpose of this individual postdoctoral research training fellowship is to provide support to promising fellows with the potential to become productive, independent investigators in health services research, with a research interest in areas and priorities relevant to the mission of AHRQ. Mechanism of Support. This FOA will use the Individual Postdoctoral National Research Service Award (NRSA) grant mechanism (F32). Funds Available and Anticipated Number of Awards. The total amount to be awarded and the number of F32 fellowships awarded will depend on the quality and scientific merit of the applications received, their relevance to the program priorities of AHRQ and the availability of funds.

Previous Listings

National Network of Public Health Institutes [Quality Improvement Award Program, Cycle Two](#)

August 20, 2012 (3:00 PM ET): Intent to Apply Deadline. **September 10, 2012 (3:00 PM ET): Award Proposal Deadline.**

NNPHI will provide health departments with \$5,000 awards, coupled with 15 hours of individualized quality improvement (QI) assistance from an experienced QI Coach, to conduct a QI project that results in measureable change. The QI Award Program is being implemented as part of the [Strengthening the Community of Practice for Public Health Improvement](#) (COPPHI) program, an initiative funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and managed by NNPHI that seeks to facilitate the exchange of best practices and build capacity among the nation's public health departments to conduct QI and to become accredited. The purpose of this *QI Award Program* is to support health departments to become more proficient in the adoption and application of QI and to meet the accreditation standards and measures set by the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB). Selected health departments will also be provided with additional opportunities, such as educational webinars with QI experts and sponsored attendance at a national accreditation and QI-focused meeting (the "Open Forum" meeting). Sites will be notified of selection in late October 2012. View the full [Call for Proposals](#) and [FAQs](#). Please direct additional inquiries to QIAward@nnphi.org.

[HRSA Maternal and Child Health Research Program](#). HRSA has announced the FY2013 iteration of its "R40" MCH research program that "supports applied research relating to maternal and child health services including services for children with special health care needs, which show promise of substantial contribution to advancement of the current knowledge pool, and when used in States and communities should result in health and health services improvements. Findings from the research supported by the MCH Research Program are expected to have potential for application in health care delivery programs for mothers and children. Research proposals should address critical MCH questions such as ***public health systems and infrastructure (italics added by PBRN Coordinating Center)***, health disparities, quality of care, and promoting the health of MCH populations, which also support the goals of the Health Resources and Services Administration." Proposals, which are limited to secondary data analysis projects,

are due September 12, 2012.

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

Health Impact Project: Advancing Smarter Policies for Healthier Communities

Program Grants Brief Proposal Deadline: September 14, 2012

Demonstration Project Grants Proposal Deadline: September 28, 2012

Health Impact Project: Advancing Smarter Policies for Healthier Communities, a collaboration of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and The Pew Charitable Trusts, encourages the use of health impact assessments (HIA) to help decision-makers identify the potential health effects of proposed policies, projects, and programs, and make recommendations that enhance their health benefits and minimize their adverse effects and any associated costs. This call for proposals supports two types of initiatives: 1) HIA demonstration projects that inform a specific decision and help to build the case for the value of HIA; and 2) HIA program grants to enable organizations with previous HIA experience to conduct HIAs and develop sustainable, self-supporting HIA programs at the local, state, or tribal level.

NIH Research to Action Grant Opportunity

Standard Deadlines Apply

Expiration Date: September 8, 2015

Submissions are now open for NIEHS R01 grants for "Research to Action: Assessing and Addressing Community Exposure to Environmental Contaminants." Applicants will use community-engaged research to investigate potential health risks of environmental exposures and to implement an action plan based on research findings.

NIH: Rapid Assessment Post-Impact of Disaster (R21)  *Expiration Date: October 4, 2015*

ADMINISTRATION

Remember to Route All Questions on Grant Budgeting, Reporting, and Administration to the Public Health PBRN Coordinating Center: The PH PBRN National Coordinating Center is your one-stop source for information and assistance on the administrative aspects of your Public Health PBRN grants, including budgeting, expenditures, subcontracts, and reporting. Please make sure

that you send your network's questions to the Coordinating Center (email publichealthPBRN@uky.edu or telephone **859-218-2094**) to ensure the fastest response. All requests for no-cost extensions, budget modifications, and other changes regarding your network's Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Public Health PBRN grants must be submitted to and reviewed by the PH PBRN National Coordinating Center before they can be considered by the Foundation.

Remember to Route all PBRN Grant Reports and Products to the Coordinating Center and the Foundation: Your network's narrative and financial reports should be submitted electronically to the Public Health PBRN National Coordinating Center and to the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation following the Foundation's reporting guidelines. All products from your network should be submitted electronically as well, as soon as they are completed. Remember to follow these reporting guidelines:

RWJF guidelines for annual and final narrative reports & bibliography:
http://www.rwjf.org/files/publications/RWJF_GranteeReportingInstructions.pdf

RWJF guidelines for financial reports:
http://www.rwjf.org/files/publications/RWJF_FinancialGuidelinesReporting.pdf

RWJF guidelines for electronic submission of grant products and reports
www.rwjf.org/files/publications/RWJF_ElectronicSubmissions.pdf

CALENDAR

Response, Recovery, and Resilience to Oil Spills and Environmental Disasters: Engaging Experts and Communities. Baton Rouge, LA, September 5. [More information.](#)[?]

International Conference on Occupational Health and Safety Summit. Philadelphia, PA, September 5-7. [More information.](#)

Honoring the Career of Bunyan Bryant: The Legacy and Future of Environmental Justice hosted by The University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI, October 4-12. [More information.](#)

APHA Annual Meeting. San Francisco, October 27-31. [More](#) information.

Public Health Law Conference. Atlanta, GA, October 10-12. [More](#) information.

September PBRN Monthly Virtual Meeting. New York Public Health PBRN, Thursday, September 21, 1:00-2:30pm, ET

October PBRN Monthly Virtual Meeting. Ohio Public Health PBRN, Thursday, October 18, 1:00-2:30pm. ET

November PBRN Monthly Virtual Meeting. Minnesota Public Health PBRN, Thursday, November 15, 1:00-2:30pm, ET

December PBRN Monthly Virtual Meeting. Massachusetts Public Health PBRN, Thursday, December 20, 1:00-2:30pm, ET

MPROVE Monthly Meetings. Thursdays, 2:00-3:00pm, ET. September 13, November 8, and December 13.

Environmental Health 2013: Science and Policy to Protect Future Generations. Boston, MA, March 3-6, 2013. [More](#) information.²