

NPHPSP USER CALL SERIES
THE NPHPSP AS A PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENT TOOL FOR STATE AND LOCAL PRACTICE
December 15th, 2009 at 2:00 PM ET

Introduction: Jennifer McKeever (National Network of Public Health Institutes)

Jennifer McKeever welcomed the participants to the NPHPSP User Call Series and provided users with a brief overview of Microsoft Live Meeting features as well as multiple ways they can access the presentation slides and ask questions.

The NPHPSP as a Performance Improvement Tool for State and Local Practice

Elissa Bassler, CEO of the Illinois Public Health Institute shared how the NPHPSP has been used to drive Performance Improvement in Illinois, including the development of their State Health Improvement Plan.

Links to Presentation:

Click [here](#) to access the presentation slides

Click [here](#) to access the presentation audio, including live meeting slides

Questions:

Q: Did you share the results from the first NPHPSP assessment and the work done on the strategic priorities developed as a result of that assessment with the people that were involved in doing the second NPHPSP assessment (version 2)?

A: The results from the first assessment and the way they were used in the state health improvement process and eventually in the State Health Improvement Plan (SHIP) were published and most of the people who were involved in the second NPHPSP assessment were involved in the first process or in SHIP in some way. There was discussion of this in the orientation we did; we talked about how we did the assessment in the prior years and how it would be used this time. I don't think we spent a great amount of time on the results specifically, partly because the Version 2 NPHPSP assessment tool was different than the first one.

Q: You had mentioned how action had taken place on some of the priority areas identified in the first State Health Improvement Plan and less had taken place on some of the other priority areas, so this time you are going to be extensively developing an implementation plan to guide next steps to be taken on priority areas. Do you have any insight into what that implementation plan might include?

A: We are trying to figure that out at the moment. There are a lot of ideas out on the table that are being discussed. One is this idea that there will be some ongoing group that is resourced to be the managers of this process; doing the outreach and promotion, the engagement efforts associated with this process. A couple of other ideas that have been talked about is narrowing the scope; If you narrow the scope in some way and focus it more this second time around, will it be easier to move forward with initiatives from it? The third area that has been discussed is how we can build very specific accountabilities. Again, it's a challenge because it's a voluntary planning process, people in this process are not necessarily in a position to sign up their organizations to do x or y on a big level; giving you our data for your system is a huge, complex, and long-term kind of process that needs to be discussed thoroughly. The last thing that we are looking at is are there formats or planning frameworks that may be more useful to this process? Last time we used the logic model format.

Q: How would you see the national partnership assisting the State Health Improvement Plan in Illinois?

A: We got a lot of support for the NPHPSP from the national partners, ASTHO, NACCHO, and CDC. They were at our retreat, they provided technical assistance when we implemented and on our analysis, etc. One of the things that I didn't mention in the presentation is what we have accomplished around the accreditation of state and local health departments. We know now that the prerequisites to apply for accreditation will include a state health improvement plan and an assessment, so obviously we've done a big part of this already and have it in state law. So as the development of accreditation goes forward and as national systems get developed around this activity of health improvement planning at the state and local level, I think that those will be helpful resources for this initiative as it goes forward in the coming years. I am hopeful that there will be more tools that can aid in this process from the national partners.