

CONSOLIDATING TRAINING TO BUILD PUBLIC HEALTH WORKFORCE CAPACITY

Offering training sessions to a wide audience maximizes training resources

Public Health Problem

- State health departments are responsible for providing essential public health services.
- Successful implementation of these essential services depends on the knowledge and capacity of the public health workforce.

Program

- The Prevention Services Division of the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment which includes chronic disease, health promotion, maternal-child health, and nutrition programs reorganized into functional units to increase coordination and integration of program efforts, support staff in applying best practices, improve communication, preserve core public health functions and position the Division for the future.
- A Training Center was formed with resources and staff from Division programs to enhance the CAPACITY to achieve these objectives. Staff from many branches within the division serves on the Training Project Team, which develops and implements a division training plan.

Impact

- Organizing training for all of the Division's chronic disease programs at once rather than having each program develop individual sessions is a wise use of resources to build capacity for program accomplishment.
 - Two trainings have been provided on topics with universal application to Division programs: an introduction to public health and user-friendly evaluation. More are in development and may be offered to external partners as well, increasing partner capacity.
- Where appropriate, grantees of Division chronic disease programs - the Cancer, Cardiovascular Disease and Pulmonary Disease Competitive Grants Program, LiveWell Colorado and the State Tobacco Education and Prevention Partnership - receive training that is offered by one program to grantees from many programs, as a way of extending resources into the community and building capacity to support state program efforts.

Contact

Diane Brunson

Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment

303-692-2428

diane.brunson@state.co.us