



Aligning with the Plan

Population Health Regional Meetings

Local health departments (LHD) play a central role in orchestrating the partners and identifying the resources required to impact local public health priorities. It is critically important that the work of state and local public health entities be coordinated to ensure the best use of limited resources and to provide timely response to public health challenges. In 2014, KDHE hosted a series of seven regional population health meetings (Chanute, Hutchinson, Oakley, Garden City, Beloit, Topeka, Kansas City/Olathe) with LHD's and other local partners to review the priorities of the Kansas Health Improvement Plan (KHIP). Partners identified areas where local priorities aligned with proposed objectives and engaged in group discussions regarding the strengths, assets and challenges to addressing these issues locally.

State Health Coalitions - Partners in Improving Health

The HK2020/KHIP Framework has proven to be an effective guide for state level coalitions in developing categorical and/or chronic

disease state plans. Kansas has a successful record of developing state plans through stakeholder engagement. Participants in categorical state planning processes typically include representatives from public and private agencies and organizations with expertise in clinical care, communications, surveillance and epidemiology, community outreach, program development, health disparities, evaluation and fiscal accountability as well as individuals with the condition and their families.

Two examples of recent efforts of categorical state plans that built from HK2020/KHIP include development of the state's first Chronic Disease State Plan and the Kansas Cancer Prevention and Control Plan.

Development of the Kansas Chronic Disease State Plan (http://www.kdheks.gov/bhp/download/CD_State_Plan_2014_Reduced.pdf) capitalized upon the HK2020 Framework, with leadership from several categorical state coalitions participating, including the Heart Disease and Stroke Alliance of Kansas, Kansas Cancer partnership, Kansas

Diabetes Action Council and Tobacco Free Kansas Coalition, representing a combined membership of more than 250 state and local public health professionals and advocates. The partners convened in 2013 to review the burden of chronic disease more broadly and to look for cross cutting chronic disease issues that aligned with the high level priorities outlined in the HK2020 Framework. Objectives and activities related to community-clinical linkages, community health promotion, health systems, surveillance, epidemiology and evaluation were developed in alignment with the three cross-cutting themes of HK2020. Incorporating the HK2020 themes has already resulted in streamlined efforts toward chronic disease reduction and control in Kansas. For example, the Heart and Stroke Alliance of Kansas and the Kansas Diabetes Action Council decided to combine all their efforts, becoming the Chronic Disease Alliance of Kansas to maximize their collective efforts focused sharply on achieving state health objectives for healthy living, healthy communities and access to care.

Similarly, the Kansas Cancer Partnership (KCP) updated its State Cancer Prevention and Control Plan (http://www.cancerkansas.org/cancer_plan.htm) with objectives for 2016 to serve as a roadmap to reduce the burden and suffering of cancer and to enhance the lives of all Kansas cancer survivors and their families. Representatives of KCP leadership were actively engaged at multiple levels of the HK2020 planning process, providing expertise in the continuum of cancer prevention, early detection and diagnosis, treatment, survivorship and quality of life. As a result, the state cancer prevention and control plan also is aligned with the three cross-cutting themes of HK2020 and provides a robust and integrated approach to achieving state health objectives. For example, the 200+ members of the KCP mobilized to actively engage in efforts to reduce exposure to secondhand smoke, leading to environmental protection from a known set of carcinogens, as called for in the Healthy Kansans 2020/KHIP.